

StageNOTES

LTVB is starting our 72nd season with the classic play *Present Laughter*, written by Noël Coward, a well-known theatrical figure. Coward's legacy is still evident in today's world. Many of his plays are produced yearly - so I thought it would be nice to learn a little more about him.

Sir Noël Peirce Coward (16 December 1899 - 26 March 1973) was an English playwright, composer, director, actor and singer, known for his wit, flamboyance, and what Time magazine called "a sense of personal style, a combination of cheek and chic, pose and poise".

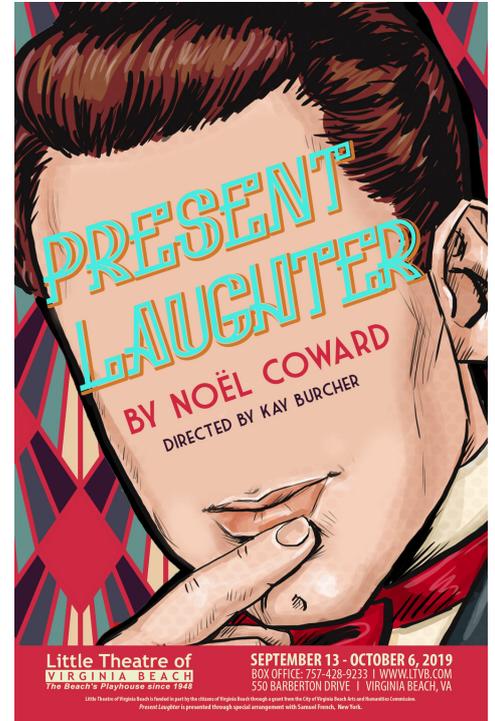
Coward attended a dance academy in London as a child, making his professional stage debut at the age of eleven. As a teenager he was introduced into the high society in which most of his plays would be set. Coward achieved enduring success as a playwright, publishing more than 50 plays from his teens onward. Many of his works, such as *Hay Fever*, *Private Lives*, *Design for Living*, *Present Laughter* and *Blithe Spirit*, have remained in the regular theatre repertoire. He composed hundreds of songs, in addition to well over a dozen musical theatre works (including the operetta *Bitter Sweet* and comic revues), screenplays, poetry, several volumes of short stories, the novel *Pomp and Circumstance*, and a three-volume autobiography. Coward's stage and film acting and directing career spanned six decades, during which he starred in many of his own works.

At the outbreak of the Second World War Coward volunteered for war work, running the British propaganda office in Paris. He also worked with the Secret Service, seeking to use his influence to persuade the American public and government to help Britain. Coward won an Academy Honorary Award in 1943 for his naval film drama, *In Which We Serve*, and was knighted in 1969. In the 1950s he achieved fresh success as a cabaret performer, performing his own songs, such as "Mad Dogs and Englishmen", "London Pride" and "I Went to a Marvellous Party".

Coward's plays and songs achieved new popularity in the 1960s and 1970s, and his work and style continue to influence popular culture with his life philosophy - "Work hard, do the best you can, don't ever lose faith in yourself and take no notice of what other people say about you."

I encourage you to come see *Present Laughter* at LTVB to enjoy the wit and style of one of the theatre's greats - Noel Coward.

KAY BURCHER
DIRECTOR



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COMMUNITY

PRODUCTIONS

\$ 13 Opening Weekend All Seats

\$ 13

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Publicity

MELISSA MANIGLIA

Set Coordinator

GEORGE HORVATH

Technical Coordinator

ROBIN MARTINEAU

Volunteers

SANDY FORTE- NICKENIG



Our Volunteers are Special!

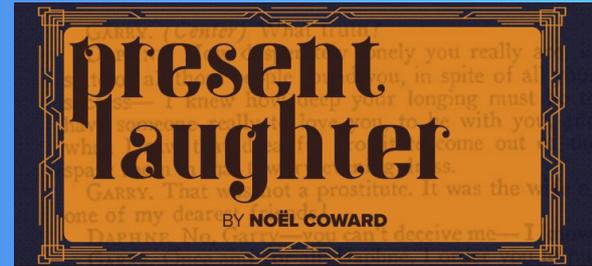
Over the past several months, the Little Theatre has been blessed with many amazing volunteers. Aside from the many people involved with the productions, we have had several functions which have required the help of these special people. Most notably has been our big move from one storage center to a new one, in which several truckloads of stored props and set pieces were transported over a three-hour period. In addition, we had membership mailings where season passes were assembled and sent out to all subscribers thus far for this season, as well as the new brochures that needed to be addressed and mailed. And then there is the recurring StageNotes newsletter that requires addressing and folding for mailing. These are but a few examples of the many things our volunteers do "outside" the great productions we produce.

So, if this sounds like something you want to be a part of, we would love to have your help. Contact volunteers@ltvb.com and join in on the fun now!

2019-2020 Membership Drive is here!

It is because of our members and your financial support of Community Theater that LTVB is able to produce the quality productions for which we have become known!

LTVB



September 13, 2019 - October 6, 2019



November 15, 2019 - December 8, 2019



January 17, 2020 - February 9, 2020



March 13, 2020 - April 5, 2020



May 15, 2020 - June 7, 2020

Automatically become a member when you purchase a season pass!

You can also become a member for a donation of \$10.

As a member, you will receive an invitation to the LTVB, Inc. Annual Membership Meeting, held each June where you get a sneak peek at our coming season, and vote on our annual budget and new board members. Season pass holders will also receive a copy of these informative Stage Notes which come out prior to each show! Please note that beginning in September 2019, Stage Notes will be emailed to season pass holders who have an email address in our database. Those without email will continue to receive a paper copy via postal mail. Subscribers with email may choose to have the newsletter postal mailed – just let us know!

A season pass is the best entertainment deal in town!

Each Season Pass subscription includes five passes for LTVB's 2019-20 season September 13, 2019 through June 7, 2020 (summer show is not included). You can redeem one pass per show, or in any combination that you wish. Bring your friends!

With your season pass you also receive a bonus ticket to Little Theatre of Norfolk (LTN), the Peninsula Community Theatre (PCT), and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)! These bonus tickets are in limited supply so order your passes early!

Season passes make a great gift too! Gift Certificates are available.

Please Note: Season Passes are available for purchase now through December 2019.

Have questions? We are here to help.

Contact us at membership@ltvb.com or call our box office voicemail 757-428-9233

Little Theatre of VIRGINIA BEACH

The Beach's Playhouse since 1948

P.O. Box 1053, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Virginia Beach, VA
Permit No. 336



Seen our parking lot lately? It is not pretty. We are trying to raise money to totally re-pave it. If you can help, donate now!

The Little Theatre of Norfolk

Sweet Charity

Sept. 6 - Sept. 29, 2019

One Slight Hitch

Nov. 1 - Nov. 24, 2019

Peter and the Starcatcher

Jan. 10 - Feb. 2, 2020

A Piece of My Heart

March 6 - March 29, 2020

A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder

May 15 - June 7, 2020



ROE

Aug. 23 - Sept. 15, 2019

Macbeth

Oct. 4 - Oct. 27, 2019

Dog Sees God

Jan. 10 - Jan 26, 2020

Constellations

Feb 7 - March 1, 2020

A Chorus Line

June 26 - July 19, 2020

Peninsula Community Theatre

Taking Leave

Oct. 4 - Oct. 20, 2019

The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge

Dec. 6 - Dec. 22, 2019

Rock of Ages

Feb. 28 - March 15, 2020

Indoor / Outdoor

May 1 - May 17, 2020