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2022 Season

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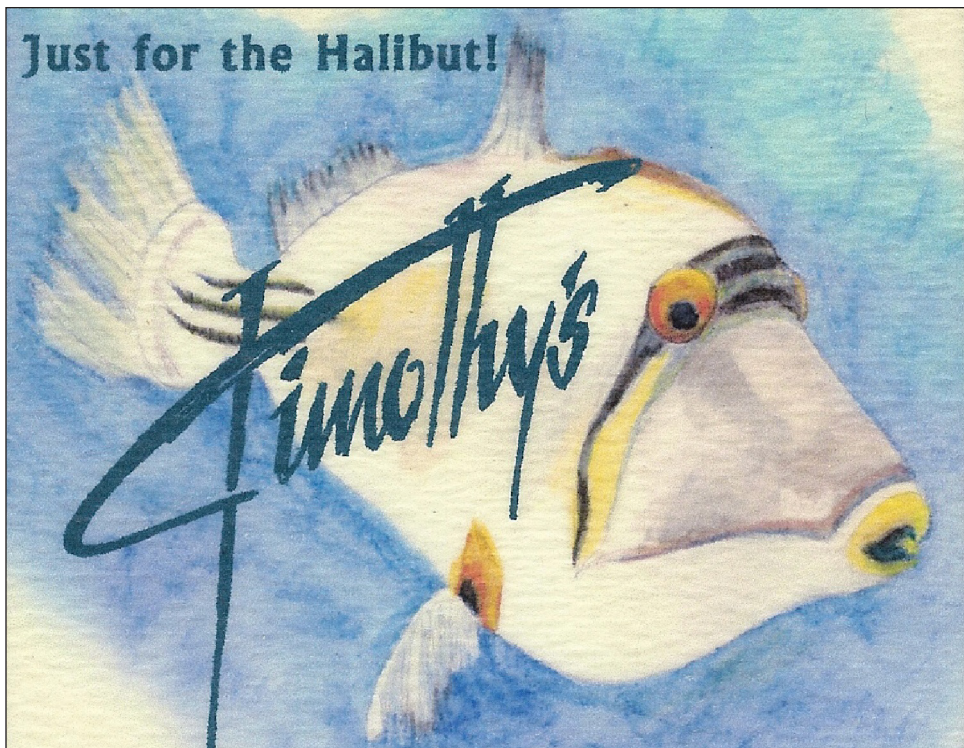
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Executive Director | Marty Hesse
Interim Executive Director | Ed Tracy
Artistic Director | Paul Mow
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our staff

THE
GHOSTLIGHT
THEATRE

Just for the Halibut!



A NOTE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR PAUL MOW

A beautiful, heartfelt classic musical story. A contemporary, edgy comedy. A visceral premiere by an up-and-coming playwright. An intimate, country-rock musical that takes us on a thrilling ride through the civil-rights-era south.

Welcome to The GhostLight Theatre's 2022 Summer Season! The four wonderful and diverse offerings we have in store for you are proof-positive that GhostLight is alive and well and ready to continue telling important and meaningful stories.

Please take a moment to read about the talented designers, directors, actors and interns of our 2022 company who have been working for months in preparation for the show you are about to see. Our 3rd full season would not be possible without the support of a committed board, enthusiastic staff members and volunteers, and the investment of sponsors, donors and patrons like you. Thank you for your support!

I would like to recognize and personally thank our retiring Executive Director and Co-Founder Marty Hesse for her dedicated service in establishing and managing GhostLight through our formative years. What started as a dream in 2017 is now flourishing and Marty has been the driving force in the administration whose tireless enthusiasm and support is a model for us all.

The GhostLight Theatre is YOUR regional theatre. Please consider becoming involved this season in any way you choose. There are opportunities backstage, in front of house, box office, building sets, costumes, and many other ways to be involved. Our goal is to enliven and enrich the Benton Harbor community and spread the importance of theatre from the inside out of the arts district and then to the rest of the SW Michigan community. And that message starts with you.

Thank you again for joining us. We hope you enjoy this show and look forward to seeing you throughout the season.

Bravi tutti!!
Paul Mow



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Marty Hesse

Executive Director

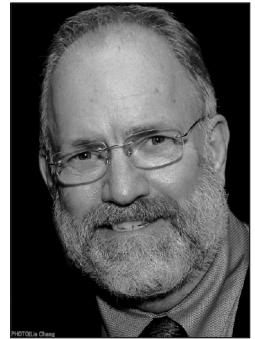
Marty is humbled and grateful for the incredible five year ride – The GhostLight Theatre was a dream in June 2017 as Paul Mow and Marty, sitting on her boat with drinks in hand, talked about a theatre they wanted to create. Five years later, it has become a thriving theatre and a creative home to people from all backgrounds, ages, and experiences.

Marty and her husband Don will soon move to their new home an hour north of Benton Harbor. Marty vacillates between the emotions of sadness for leaving the role of Executive Director, pride for what they have accomplished, and excitement for GhostLight’s future. She says there are SO many people to

thank, the list would fill this entire program. So she simply says ‘Thank You for the ride of a lifetime!’

Appointed by the Board to succeed Marty Hesse in April 2022, Ed brings a strong background in executive management and organizational development to The GhostLight Theatre.

Over a 30-year career in nonprofit management, Ed has served as the founding executive director, later President/CEO, of the Pritzker Military Library in Chicago and on the advancement and capital campaign staff at Norwich University in Vermont. A member of the American Theatre Critics Association, Ed has been reviewing theatre in Chicago for many years, is the recipient of a Chicago Midwest Regional Emmy Award and author of “Gorilla in the Room and Other Stories.”



Ed Tracy

Interim Executive Director

He and his wife Denise McGowan Tracy, an event producer, playwright and performer, moved to Benton Harbor in 2021.



Paul Mow

Artistic Director

An award-winning opera singer, voice teacher, and stage director, Paul Mow was on the roster of the New York City Opera for five years. He has also performed numerous concerts at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York City. In addition to NYCO, he has performed domestically with Opera Orchestra of New York, Glimmerglass Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Bard Summerscape, Berkshire Opera, Opera North Carolina, Anchorage Opera, Tulsa Opera, Utah Festival, Summer Opera, Lyric Opera Colorado, as well as internationally with the Folkstheater Rostock (Germany).

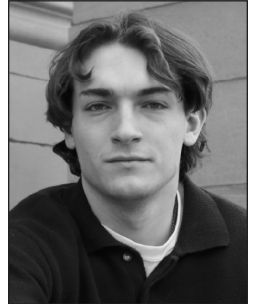
Since returning to Southwest Michigan in 2009, Paul has directed dozens of theatrical productions, cabarets and performances throughout the region. He has also directed the summer musicals with SMSO on Silver Beach since their inception in 2010 (Carousel), and, in addition to his work at The GhostLight, is the Theatre Coordinator at Lake Michigan college.

MEET THE 2022 SEASON INTERNS



Kelly Collins
Long Island, NY

Kelly Collins (*she/her*) is delighted to be returning to The GhostLight for the 2022 season! You may remember her from The Light in the Piazza (Franca) or Much Ado About Nothing (Margaret) last summer. Other recent credits include Mamma Mia! (Sophie), The Last Five Years (Cathy), and The Laramie Project (Trish). Kelly is a senior in college, returning to Long Island University this fall to continue earning her BFA in Musical Theatre. She is so excited to be working on all four of The GhostLight's fantastic productions this summer!



Seamus Doyle
Spring, TX

Seamus Doyle (*he/him*) is ecstatic to be at The Ghostlight Theatre this summer! Seamus is a Sophomore at The University of Nebraska Lincoln where he is getting his BFA in acting for stage and screen. Some notable roles include The Way to the Way (Turtle) originated, Clown Bar (Timmy), Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (The Player), and The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Captain Phoebus). He is pumped for an amazing summer of theatre and new friends!

Break-A-Leg Tonight, Ghostlight!



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Paige Mulick

Kalamazoo, MI

Paige Mulick (*she/her*) is a senior at Western Michigan University pursuing both a BFA in Dance and a BA in Arts Administration. An alumna of the Citadel Dance Company, Paige is passionate about teaching, performing, and choreographing. Paige has worked with choreographers such as Seyong Kim, Kelsey Paschich, and Lari Lawrence-Gist. In addition to her studies, Paige has worked as Production Manager for Orchesis Dance Society and is the student representative for Partners in Dance at WMU since 2020. Paige is overjoyed to be working with Ghostlight this summer to further her work in arts administration.

Cecilia Petrush (*she/her*) is thrilled to be interning at The Ghostlight this summer! She is a senior at the University of Michigan working towards her BFA in Musical Theatre and a minor in Performing Arts Management. Originally from Pittsburgh, PA, Ceci has been participating in community and regional theatre for over a decade and is incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work and engage with the fantastic communities in beautiful Southwestern MI. She would like to thank her amazing family, friends, and the wonderful GhostLight Team!



Cecilia Petrush

Ann Arbor, MI



Christian Roose

Darien, CT

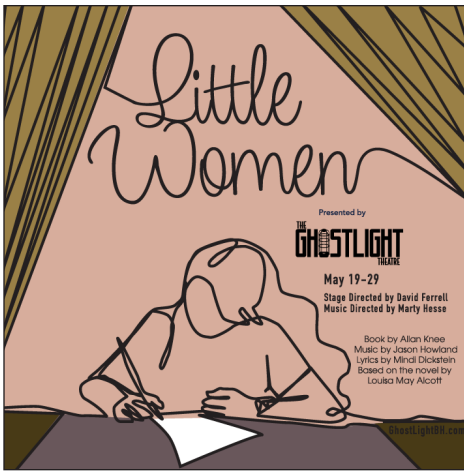
Christian Roose (*he/him*) is a senior at Interlochen Arts Academy majoring in Theatre/Acting. He caught the acting bug after being cast as Ratty in *The Wind in the Willows* musical in 7th grade and has never looked back! Christian was cast in two productions this year, *Lower Depths* and *The Process*, and is excited to expand his acting and theatre experiences outside of the high school setting this summer. He is thrilled to be a part of The Ghostlight Theatre team!

Lucas Seven (*he/him*) is excited to be here in SW Michigan. He is a native of Birmingham, Alabama, and attends the University of Montevallo where he is a sophomore BFA Acting student. Some of his most recent credits are Ali in *Anon(ymous)* by Naomi Iizuka and Adam in *As You Like It*. Along with being an actor he is also a dramaturg. His favorite dramaturgy credit is *A New Brain* by William Finn. If you would like to keep up with him you can follow him on Instagram @seven_eleven.1229



Lucas Seven

Montevallo, AL



Little Women

*Book by Allan Knee, Music by Jason Howland, Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein.
Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott.*

Directed by David Ferrell
Music Directed by Marty Hesse

May 19th - 29th

Thurs | Fri | Sat @ 7:30pm

Sunday @ 3:00pm

Based on Louisa May Alcott's 1868–69 semi-autobiographical two-volume novel, the musical version of *Little Women* focuses on the four March sisters—traditional Meg, wild, aspiring writer Jo, timid Beth and romantic Amy—and their beloved mother Marmee, at home in Concord, Massachusetts, while their father is away serving in the military. The GhostLight production is set during the Vietnam era and in the wake of the Women's Rights Movement, featuring a touching score and vignettes in which the women's lives unfold within the short stories Jo writes in her attic studio.



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Significant Other

An American play written by Joshua Harmon.

Directed by Les Rorick

June 9th - 19th

Thurs|Fri|Sat @ 7:30pm

Sunday @ 3:00pm

The play concerns the lives of four friends in their late 20s and their search for relationships in 21st century New York City. Playwright Joshua Harmon explained the premise by saying: "How do you make life work for yourself when you feel that you're not living the life you're supposed to be living or want to be living? And how do you deal with that when the changes that you need to make are in some ways outside of your control?"





Lewiston /Clarkston

*A Diptych - Two One-Act plays
performed consecutively.
A play by Samuel D. Hunter.*

Directed by Spencer Diedrick

July 14th - 24th

Thurs|Fri|Sat|Sun @ 6:00pm

This play includes two acts in two distinct settings – Lewiston will be staged in our outdoor theatre space, and the second act Clarkston will be staged indoors in our black box theatre. During intermission, we are offering a catered dinner. In our theatre lobby, there will be a cash bar, and catered desserts.

LEWISTON: Alice and Connor sit by their roadside stand selling cheap fireworks while developers swallow the land around them. Promised a condo in the new development, their future is secure. Enter Marnie, Alice’s long-lost granddaughter, proposing to buy the land to save her family’s legacy. Marnie and Alice will become reacquainted with each other’s deeply held secrets, uncertain pasts, and hopeful futures. Hunter, a 2014 MacArthur Fellowship recipient, explores the emotional frontiers of a family struggling to make a home in the vastness of the American landscape with affection, poignancy, and a profound sense of empathy.

CLARKSTON: Jake meets Chris when they are assigned to the same night shift at Costco in Clarkston, Washington. Chris has a hard life; his mom is a meth addict, and living in Clarkston has forced him down a dead-end road. He has promise, but he’s “stuck.” Jake went to a liberal arts school, is gay and out, but fled his Connecticut town when he was diagnosed with a fatal illness. Wanting to see the ocean, he came to Clarkston, but was sidetracked by his illness. He and Chris form an awkward bond: both are gay, but have led completely different lives. Can they learn to help each other?



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Violet

Music by Jeanine Tesori, Lyrics and Book by Brian Crowley. Based on "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts

Directed by Paul Mow.
Music directed by Joshua Goines

August 18th - 28th

Thurs|Fri|Sat @ 7:30pm

Sunday @ 3:00pm

Set in 1964 in the Deep South during the early days of the Civil Rights Movement, *Violet* follows the growth and enlightenment of a bitter young disfigured woman. In hopes that a TV evangelist can cure her, she embarks on a journey by bus from her sleepy North Carolina town to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Along the way, she meets a young black soldier who teaches her about beauty, love, courage and what it means to be an outsider.



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Pat and Pete Hahto
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Earnest Hudson
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