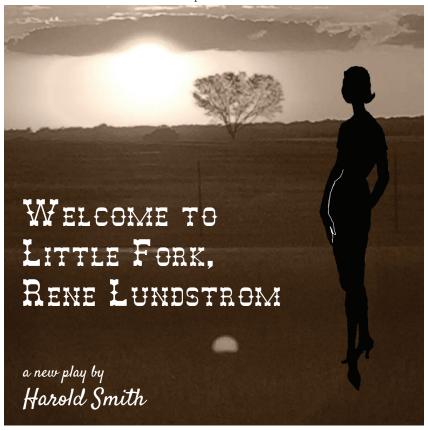


presents





directed by

JanLee Marshall

# GRANT STREET PUB & PIZZERIA

(just across Concord Blvd, on the corner of Grant Street)



Bring in this program for 10% off your meal

While you're there, try the Rene Lundstom specialty cocktail!

### ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Sacramento-based Harold Smith is a retired math teacher who took up playwriting in 2005. Welcome to Little Fork, Rene Lundstrom is the second of his plays to receive their World Premiere as a production of B8 — his work Zelda's Mama's Cookin' debuted in December 2008 for Butterfield 8. In 2010, another of his plays, Dick Strickland's Sycamore Service, won 2nd place and a staged reading at Stage West Theatre's Texas Playwright's Competition in Fort Worth.

He maintains everything he knows about playwriting he learned from Gary Graves and all of the playwrights at Central Works Playwriting Workshop.

#### B8 Theatre Company presents

### WELCOME TO LITTLE FORK. Rene Lundstrom

by Harold Smith



Daphne Dorman

Nicole Thordsen

Deborah Black

Shay Geraghty

Kyle Goldman

Max Minton



#### Scenic Design

JanLee Marshall

#### LIGHTING DESIGN

Andrea Swartz Lighting Design

#### **P**ROPERTIES

Phoebe Jones JanLee Marshall Maureen-Theresa Williams

#### COSTUME DESIGN

JanLee Marshall Maureen-Theresa Williams

#### SOUND DESIGN

IanLee Marshall Maureen-Theresa Williams

#### SOUND & LIGHT OPERATIONS

Phoebe Jones

### Specialty Hairstyles

Indigo Whiteley

#### STAGE MANAGER

Phoebe Iones

Directed by

Janfee Marshall

### PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES

In the Sos. While writing a play about revenge, I began to think about how those same people might have handled a situation completely out of the normal, everyday occurrences in their lives. This play incorporates my memories of specific people from that era and what I imagine their reactions would have been.

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am thrilled to have been given this opportunity to serve as Artistic Director for B8 Theatre Company. It is an honor to Welcome you to our new performance space and home of our Education program. We have big plans for this small space and hope you will continue to join us throughout our season.

I am drawn to *Welcome to Little Fork*, *Rene Lundstrom* because it wasn't what I had expected when I first began reading it, and because it is filled with characters that really do still exist in our world. I love plays that might appear to be one thing and when performed become so much more. I like surprises and we get a couple of those in *Little Fork*. I'm drawn to the expressions of love in this play and seeing which ones draw you closer and which ones turn you away.

Whether you are a new or returning audience member I thank you for joining us and I welcome your feedback.

Enjoy the show!

Jangel Markall

### THE CAST

(in order of appearance)					
Nola Phillips Employee of Valerie's Beauty Shoppe	Shay Geraghty				
Valerie Johnson	Nicole Thordsen				
Olga Sonderberg Customer	Deborah Black				
Doug Johnson	Kyle Goldman				
Rene Lundstrom	. Daphne Dorman				
Reverend WALLACE (Wally) NICHOLS	Max Minton				



### THE SETTING

The West Texas town of Little Fork, Summer, 1958.

The action takes place in Valerie's Beauty Shoppe, and the parlor of the Sonderberg ranch.



### There will be one 15-minute intermission

A variety of complimentary refreshments are available for you to enjoy before, during, and after the show. Donations are gratefully accepted.

### ABOUT THE CAST

eborah Black (Olga Sonderberg) is honored to be in B8's first full production with their new name and space. Previous B8 shows include Pygmalion, Christmas Carol, and readings of New Works - The Lady Scribblers, and The Man in The Box, among others. Recently she was Lady Somerset in *Bloody Murder*, directed by fellow B8 company member Edwin Peabody III for Onstage. She appeared as Domina in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum for the Vagabond Players, who bring shows to their audience of seniors. In CCMT's award winning Music Man she was Eulalie Shinn; for Magic Theatre she was Singing Woman in the premier of  $Tir na n \acute{O}g$ , a fascinating experience with playwright and The Country Girls author Edna O'Brien in residence. For two years (that's well over 500 performances) she was Earth Mother in the San Francisco company of Menopause the Musical. Deborah currently sings with Dotter's Knot, a women's ensemble led by B8 member Kathleen MacKay. Deborah's next project for B8 is Man of Letters with her husband Gary who has nurtured her dreams for over 45 years.

Daphne Dorman (Rene Lundstrom). Philadelphia native Daphne Dorman's career began with a 12-year journey as a stage and TV actress, including a two-year stint on QVC where she represented the Memorex line of consumer electronics. She served as the Director of Operations for The Actors Center of Philadelphia where she also spent several years teaching improvisation and stage combat. After years of acting and running her own web development agency, Daphne moved to Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, an island 30 miles off the coast of Cameroon in Africa where she spent two years establishing a wildlife preserve and research station for primates and sea turtles. She volunteers at the San Francisco LGBT Center serving as the instructor for Transcode, a series of classes aimed at training transgender members of our community for a career in technology with specific emphasis on programming for the internet.

**Shay Geraghty** (Nola Phillips) is very excited to perform in such a meaningful show! This is the first of what Shay hopes will be many shows with B8 Theatre Company. Theatre is a huge passion of Shay's and they hope to pursue it as a career, adding the *Welcome to Little Fork...* story to their ever growing resume. Credits include *North Pole Revue* (Jolly Jingler, Molly Mint) and *Wonderland* (Hatta) with Center Stage,

### ABOUT THE CAST (CONT'D)

Dracula (Dracula's Bride) with Orinda Starlight Village Players, You're A Good Man Charlie Brown (in her favorite role to date, Sally Brown) with Crosslight, and Reefer Madness (understudy Sally) with Onstage Theatre. Shay would like to thank B8 for the opportunity to be a part of the telling of a wonderful story with such a wonderful, welcoming company.

Kyle's ninth theatre production of this year. 2016 has seen him in Good People (Role Players Ensemble), The Great Gatsby (Role Players Ensemble), Six Degrees of Separation (The Custom Made Theatre Company), a staged reading of Bound East of Cardiff (Eugene O'Neill Foundation), Seascape (Role Players Ensemble), The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (Town Hall Theatre), Night of the Living Dead: A Radio Play (Town Hall Theatre), and most recently, a staged reading of Our Names in Water (B8 Theatre Company).

Award for playing Charlie in Contra Costa Civic Theatre's August:
Osage County, he recently directed the acclaimed White Guy on the Bus
for Oakland's theatre aluminous, which will return for a second run at
The Flight Deck in March. He will next be seen in The Elephant Man
at Alameda's Alterena Theatre. Favorite past roles include Henry II in
The Lion in Winter, Felix in The Odd Couple, Max Prince in Laughter on
the 23rd Floor, and Fagin in Oliver! He is currently writing his first play,
MoMo's Education.

Nicole Thordsen (Valerie Johnson). Credits include: The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Rosa Bud) at Town Hall Theatre, The Last Five Years (Cathy) and ... Spelling Bee (Olive) at the Raven, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Truly Scrumptious) and Sweeney Todd (Johanna) at Bay Area Stage, The Iceman Cometh (Margie) at the Eugene O'Neill Festival, Cabaret (Fraulein Kost) at North Bay Stage Company, Children of Eden (Yonah) at CCCT, King John (Jane Gurney) at Marin Shakespeare, Quadrille (Lillianne) at Butterfield 8, and Promises, Promises at SF Playhouse. Next she can be seen in Company (Amy) at Novato Theater Company.



### PRODUCTION STAFF

TanLee Marshall (Director & B8 Artistic Director) received her Bachelor's degree in Theatre from Ohio Wesleyan University and her MFA in Dramatic Art from the University of California, Davis. JanLee's broad experience in theatre encompasses the roles of actor, director, teacher and administrator, fulfilling these in a spectrum of companies and academic institutions nationwide. Most recently JanLee wrote, directed and performed in her one-woman show, *Indecency* (& and Other Bawdy Bits), exploring the public and personal life of Mary Frith, a.k.a. Moll Cutpurse. Over the last 25 years JanLee has directed over 30 productions. She served as an Actor/Educator with KEY Players of North Carolina and Kaiser Permanente's Educational Touring program in the Washington, DC region. JanLee's passion for Theatre Education led her to teaching, directing and administrative positions with Florida Studio Theatre, Artz for Kidz, Montgomery Blair H.S., California Theatre Arts, The Meher Schools, and as an Associate Instructor at UC Davis. JanLee's background as actor, director and instructor reveal a deep appreciation for working in multiple genres and a passion for collaborative and devised performance. She is a graduate of the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Clown College, and although rarely seen "in face" these days, she brings her love of clowning and comedy to life throughout her theatrical endeavors. JanLee is most excited by collaborating with theatre artists who believe that theatre can change the world. Let us support one another and make theatre that draws us to listen with heighten attention and respond in mind, body and spirit as theatre makers and audience.

Phoebe Jones (Stage Manager) has been performing for audiences and involved in collaborative art since 2011, when she was cast in an improvisation troupe in Atlanta, Georgia. She continued her pursuit when returning to school to finish her degree in 2012. Though her studies were focused in acting both on stage and in film while attending the University of North Alabama, she also enjoys working behind the scenes. Phoebe's stage managing career began in 2014 when she stage managed Alfred Hitchcock's *The 39 Steps* at the University of North Alabama under director, Randal Myler. Under his direction she went on to stage manage Sam Shepard's *True West* in 2015, then served as assistant stage manager for the world premiere of an original written by Randal himself, *I'll Take You There: The Music of Muscle Shoals*.

### PRODUCTION STAFF (CONT'D)

She is honored to be a part of a project as meaningful as *Welcome to Little Fork, Rene Lundstrom*, and would like to thank the playwright Harold Smith for his words, the actors for their inspiring work, and B8 Theatre Company for allowing her the opportunity to help give life to such an important piece of art. She also extends her gratitude to her friends and family for their unwavering love and support over the years.

Andrea Swartz (Lighting Design). Drea received her Bachlors degree in theatre from San Francisco State. She has been a professional designer working throughout the Bay Area for the past eight years. She hopes to see B8 thrive and will help them achieve their goals in any way she can.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Elinor Bell • Roy Bell • Jackie Bell • Guy Black Cameron Blackwell • Paul Breitkopf Inspection Pros Browman Development Company Martinez Campbell Theater • Paul Chastain Michael Snow, and the City of Concord Contra Costa Civic Theatre • Lisa Danz • Lisa Dias-Martin Liz Martin, Pink Depford Design Studio Grant Street Pub & Pizzeria • Lisa Wise & Chris Gordon Marcia Hetzler • David & Joan Marshall Orchard Supply Hardware, Concord Jill Gelster, David Dierks, and Orinda Starlight Village Players Quynh Pham • Jerry & Judy Potter Matthew Gardner & Reed Smith LLP Sally Schroers • Bethany Struth • Lisa Tateosian David Tateosian • Andrea Swartz Lighting Design Grace Teo • The Turcious family • James Walker



### B8 ARTISTIC STAFF

Kerry Gudjohnsen (Managing Director) has worked with B8 since 2006, serving principally as an actor, fundraiser, and promoter for various productions. In addition to her collaborations with B8, Kerry has served as co-Artistic Director and Producer for 3RPT Theater Company, and Producer and Director for Barewitness Films. Her 20 years of experience as a Marketing Director for the private sector provides Kerry with a strong foundation for her role as B8's Managing Director. Kerry has built her career on successfully managing complex project schedules and budgets; recruiting, training, and retaining talent; conducting public relations outreach and communications programs; and designing and implementing effective marketing plans and social media campaigns. She holds a BA in English/Creative Writing from San Francisco State University.

Manager Theresa Williams (Company Manager) is a founding member of New Urban Dance Company/B8, and has served as Company Manager since its inception. She assisted Founding Artistic Director John Butterfield as B8 Co-Artistic Director from 2006 to 2015. In addition to Maureen's work with B8, her Arts Administration experience includes Office and Company Management, Administrative Assistance, and Grant Writing with the Diablo Regional Arts Association and the Willows Theatre Company. She holds an Associate of Business degree from Heald Business College, and a Bachelors of Arts in Liberal Studies, with an option in Theatre, from California State University, East Bay (Hayward). On the Production side, Maureen has worked as Stage Manager, Assistant Director, Assistant to the Choreographer, Script Adaptor/Dramaturge, and Fight Choreographer; in Props Design/Construction, Costume Construction, and Sound Effects Design; and as Sound Operator, Lighting/Follow Spot Operator, and Deck Crew, in addition to acting.



# **B8 THEATRE EDUCATION**12-WEEK WINTER SESSION

JAN. 9 - APR. 1, 2017

#### **Creative Kids**

Pre-K to K
Mondays 10:00am to 10:45am
(no class Jan. 16 or Feb. 20)
\$150.00

#### **Little Theatre**

1st through 3rd grades Thursdays 4:00pm to 5:00pm \$180.00

### **Young Actors**

4th & 5th grades Mondays 4:00pm to 5:00pm (no class Jan. 16 or Feb. 20) \$150.00

#### **Drama Club**

6th through 8th grades Tuesdays 4:00pm to 5:00pm \$180.00

#### **Teen Acting**

Tuesdays 5:00PM to 6:30pm \$180.00

### Homeschool Acting Techniques

Wednesdays 10:00am to 11:00am \$180.00

### **Adult Acting**

Saturdays 11:00am to 1:00pm \$360.00

As teaching artists, we offer a safe, creative, and inclusive environment in which actors of all ages and levels can explore the craft of theatre at their own pace and comfort level. The courses we offer are designed to not only teach the skills required for performance, but also to enhance each student's self-esteem, public speaking skills, and self-confidence. By participating in the performing arts, students become in tune with their mind and body.

### \$88 FOR B8

In June, B8 launched our \$88 for B8 campaign to raise the necessary funds to secure a performance space. We would like to thank all those individuals who heeded our call to **BE GENEROUS** and donated at the \$88 level or above:

Alan Jenkins • Alex Wentworth • Alverna Bautista • Angela Allen
Barry Welsh • Becky Potter • Beth Chastain • Carol Keane
Carole Woods • Carolyn Heier • Deborah Doyle • Elinor Bell
Elizabeth K. Wise • Gary Schoofs • Gracie Vega • Greg Dutson
Harold Smith • James & Carol Hatch • James Slawson
Jean Butterfield • Jennifer Peabody • Jennifer Roberts • John Teixeira
Jonathan Spencer • Jude Feldman • Julie Liu • Kathi Spaulding
La Fey Productions • Lois Boynton • Marcia Hetzler • Mark Hinds
Matthew Gardner • Michael Rost • Molly McEnerney
Patrick Worsham • Ronald W. Pickett • Scarlet Hepworth
Steven Wiesner • Sue Trigg • Thomas Reilly

A special thank-you to these individuals, who went above and beyond and chose to **BEBRAVE** in support of B8 by donating \$500 or more:

David & Maureen Williams • Deborah Black & Gary Mutz Dorothy Anderson • JanLee Marshall and Erik Whiteley Jeremy Cole • Jerry & Judy Potter • Joan & David Marshall Kerry Gudjohnsen • Thomas O'Brien

### Corporate and Matching donors

Amazon Smile • Bank of America Matching Gifts eScrip • Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Inc

Does your company have a matching gifts program? Won't you consider a donation? B8 is the theatrical branch of New Urban Dance Company, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.

If we have missed your name or made an error on your donation level, please accept our apologies. Please contact Company Manager Maureen Williams at maureen@b8theatre.org with your information.

### Coming up in our 2016-2017 Season

#### Man of Letters

World Premiere Production by Alan Cameron directed by the Playwright February 9 - 25, 2017

### Glengarry Glen Ross

All Female Cast by David Mamet directed by Kerry Gudjohnsen April 6 - 22, 2017

### King Lear

by William Shakespeare directed by Jeremy Cole June 8 - 24, 2017





The Mission of B8 Theatre Company is to provide audiences a fresh take on established plays, and foster the creation and production of new works.

Our Vision is to present audiences with new interpretations of established works, and to pioneer new theatrical creations.

Our productions aim to take an intersectional look at the works we explore - examining perceptions of gender, race, class, age, sexual orientation, and abilities within the framework of the play and the larger context of society as a whole. We strive to create an immersive, inclusive environment for our patrons, believing the audience's involvement is an integral part of every production.

We are always looking for people to be active members of our Board of Directors. We welcome everyone who has an interest in supporting the arts in our community and helping us grow as a theatre company. If you would like to help us achieve our vision, please contact Artistic Director JanLee Marshall at 925.890.8877 or janlee@b8theatre.org.

BE HONEST — BE ENGAGED — BE CONNECTED — BE HEARD
BE INCLUSIVE — BE GENEROUS — BE CURIOUS — BE BRAVE — B8



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