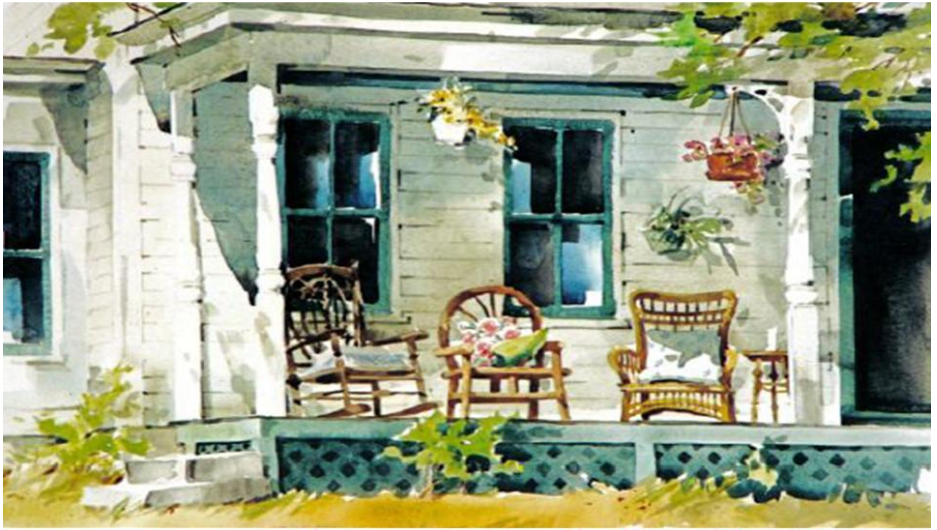


BACKSTAGE

UMASS Lowell Inn & Conference Center

THE PORCH



written and directed by JACK NEARY

The UMASS LOWELL Center for the Arts and Ideas

presents an

ACTORS inc

production of...

THE PORCH

Written and Directed by **JACK NEARY**

STARRING

CORINNE HICKEY

ANDREA GRANDE

as Marjorie

as Alma

JOAN CURRAN

as Gert

ROGER DUBOIS

as Leo

TOM HICKEY

as Pat

Executive Producer
Stage Manager
House Managers

Box Office Managers

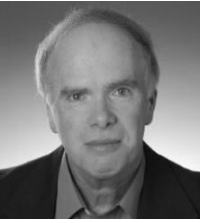
Playbill/Graphic Design
Corporate Sponsor Chair
Set/Lighting/Sound Designer
Costumes
Make-up Artist
Properties
Hairstyles

Public Relations/Group Sales
Website
House Staff
Membership Chairperson
Original Logo Artwork

CORINNE HICKEY
LISA COSSEBOOM
STEPHEN NELSON
KAREN NELSON
MARIE DICIACCIO
LISA COSSEBOOM
MATT THOMAS
JOAN CURRAN
THUNDER & LIGHTNING PRODUCTIONS
RALENE CLARK
HOLLY MILLER
CAST & CREW
CREATIVE CUTTERS
MATIBO'S HAIR SALON
STEPHEN NELSON
KEVIN REGAN (THINGAMAWEB)
MEMBERS OF ACTORS inc
RALENE CLARK
ART SCHOLZ

June 2, 3 and 4, 2011

From the Author/Director, Jack Neary



THE PORCH was born as a ten-minute play at the Boston Theater Marathon in the mid-1990's. Over the years, I have added and subtracted characters and scenes to get the play to where it is today, and where, I think, it will stay. When the curtain comes up, we hear Sinatra singing "That's Life." There is a reason for this. "You're ridin' high in April, shot down in May." The people who sit on **THE PORCH** know this very well.

As you spend a couple of hours on **THE PORCH** today, I believe you'll recognize the characters as people you know, or relatives you have. And it's possible you'll laugh a lot as these folks let us into their lives at an age when what they have to say passes through very few filters. They say what's on their mind. And what's on their mind is often a little off-the-wall. But they don't care. They've been there, done that, and they're way past the time when they apologize for their opinions.

So fasten your seats belts. It's Labor Day weekend, 2004. And something seems to be wrong with Alma....

Jack Neary
Author/Director

A Special Thanks...

ACTORS inc would like to send a special thanks to the following people and groups for their never-ending support:

Chancellor Marty Meehan, UMASS Lowell
Paul Marion, UMASS Lowell Community & Cultural Affairs
Nancy O'Rourke, UMASS Lowell Inn & Conference Center
Rob Clark
Stan Finer
Eric Gingras
Fr. John Hanley, OMI
Lisa Panagopoulos
Sharon Piendak
Laura & Tony Rocha
St. Williams Church Parish

Who's Who in the Cast

JACK NEARY (Author, Director) has written plays that have been produced all over the United States, and in Canada and Europe. He is the author of *First Night*, *To Forgive*, *Divine*, *Jerry Finnegans Sister*, *Kong's Night Out* and many other plays. His most recent script, *Auld Lang Syne*, is currently being considered for a summer production in Los Angeles. He has directed at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, the Stoneham Theatre and elsewhere, and is the co-founder and was the first Artistic Director of New Century Theatre, currently in its 21st season at Smith College. As an actor, he can be seen, briefly but significantly, in Ben Affleck's *The Town*. Jack is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, Actors' Equity Association and the Dramatists Guild. Please visit his web sites: jacknearyonline.com and stageadaptations.com

JOAN CURRAN (Gert) is delighted to be performing in *The Porch*. Joan is a retired Emergency Room Nurse who returned to theater, her first love, in 1994. Her theatrical career began at age 8 with E. Virginia Williams of the Boston Ballet. At 17 she appeared as Gianetta in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers* and was chosen by Sarah Caldwell to perform with the Boston Opera. Other productions include *My Fair Lady*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Sweeney Todd*, *An Evening of Rogers, Hammerstein & Hart*, *Mame* and *Brigadoon*. Previous roles in local productions include *Widow Corney in Oliver!*, *Aunt March in Little Women*, *Lenya in Fools*, *Emily Brent in Ten Little Indians*, *Mickey in The Odd Couple (Female Version)*, *Annie in BDC's Who Dunit*, *Patsy Price in Christmas Belles*, *The Bailiff in Sandbag*, *Stage Left*, *Louise in Nasty Things*, *Murders* and *Monica Chaney in the ind film Gloria*. She has directed *A Christmas Carol*, several shorts for television and established the Irish show *Celtic Voyage*, which she wrote, directed and performed. "It has been my good fortune to work with some of the best talent in theater and I am delighted to be performing with such a terrific cast."

ROGER DUBOIS (Leo) is excited to be returning to the stage as Leo in the ACTORS inc production of *The Porch* after a very long absence from live theater. His prior credits include *Krapp in Krapp's Last Tape* with The Onstagers, *John Proctor in The Crucible* also with The Onstagers and *Biff in Death of a Salesman* with the Garrett Players.

ANDREA GRANDE (Marjorie) comes to this production with an eclectic theatrical past. Favorite roles include *Nancy in Oliver!*, *Olive in The Odd Couple (Female Version)* and *Miss Clairee in Steel Magnolias*. She is ecstatic to be working with the esteemed playwright/director Jack Neary, even if he does insist that she recite each line as he has written it. Andrea is honored and humbled to be wife to Leon, and mother to his amazing children *Laura*, *Gina*, *Kate*, and *Chris*. Here's to the "wicked hahd" task of recapturing the Somerville accent of my youth!

CORINNE HICKEY (Alma) is a veteran performer, director and choreographer who comes with an impressive list of theatre experience. She has appeared with various stage companies and dinner theatres throughout New England. As a director and choreographer, her credits include: *42nd Street*, *Sugar Babies*, *Grease*, *Oklahoma*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Gypsy*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Carousel*, *Kismet*, *Anything Goes*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *L'il Abner*, *How to Succeed in Business*, *A Little Night Music*, *Cole*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and *Lend Me A Tenor*. Some of her major roles include *Velma Kelly in Chicago*, *Anita in West Side Story*, *Bonnie in Anything Goes*, *Charity in Sweet Charity*, *Adelaide in Guys & Dolls*, *Fraulein Schneider in Cabaret*, *Golde in Fiddler on the Roof*, *Edna Edison in Prisoner on Second Avenue (Pro-Am Stage)*, *Mavis in Stepping Out*, *Truvy in Steel Magnolias*, *Mrs. Gibbs and Mrs. Webb in Our Town*, *Betty in The Foreigner* and *Nurse Ratched in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. One of her favorite roles is *Florence in The Odd Couple (Female Version)*. Corinne has choreographed for the Miss Teen USA Pageant and has been a judge at the Miss Teen New Hampshire Pageant. She recently directed our spring production of *Twelve Angry Men*. Theatre is definitely her passion!

TOM HICKEY (Pat) is a versatile stage performer in comedies, dramas, musicals, and variety shows throughout the Greater Lowell and Greater Boston areas for over 35 years in venues ranging from professional summer stock productions to dinner theatre to community theatre. He has played featured roles for the Winthrop Playmakers: *Dr. Gibbs Our Town* and *Howard Wagner Death of a Salesman*; the Play by Players Theatre Co.: *Henry Saunders Lend Me A Tenor*; the Camelot Players: *Elwood P. Dowd Harvey* and *Andrew Makepeace III Love Letters*; and The Paint 'N Powder Club: *Vitorio Vidal Sweet Charity*. His most recent appearances for ACTORS inc include: *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *Sandbag*, *Stage Left*, *Christmas Belles*, *Nonsense: The Mega Musical* and *Juror #3 in Twelve Angry Men*.

RICK BROOKS (Set/Lighting/Sound Designer) is the owner of Thunder & Lightning Productions. Thunder and Lightning is located in Southern New Hampshire and has been providing lighting, sound, and sets for professional and community theatre, concerts, and corporate functions throughout the New England region for over 6 years. We have provided services to over 50 companies in the area and would like to help you make your function or performance run smooth and look professional. Feel free to pick-up our business card near our production booth. Enjoy the show.



ACTORS inc would like to thank Art Scholz for allowing the use of his original painting, “Three’s Company”, that is seen in *THE PORCH* logo...

Artist **Art Scholz** was a freelance illustrator whose versatility and experiences spanned the fast paced world of advertising art. He was recognized as a leading illustrator/designer with many styles and techniques for nationally known products and promotions, leading to a successful, creative and exciting career.

Now established as a fine watercolorist, Mr. Scholz is expanding his reputation by exhibiting his vibrant paintings. They skillfully capture the countryside and seashores of New England, paintings of people and human interest scenes set in their natural surroundings. All in close harmony with nature. Each is portrayed with freshness, rich in color and expressive style.

Born and raised in the exciting vitality of New York City, he attended the prestigious School of Industrial Art. Now residing in Tolland, Connecticut, Mr. Scholz finds the tranquil beauty of the rural area inspirational for his many works.

Art is a member of the Connecticut and Rhode Island Watercolor Societies, Connecticut River Valley Artists and Tolland County Art Society; his art has been extensively exhibited in art shows and galleries. Having been recognized with national awards and one man shows, his paintings now hang in many private and corporate collections.

Quoted: “Painting in watercolors, allows me to envision on paper the needed vibrancy and colors of a beautiful world. Art is but a fingerprint of my imagination”

Examples of the artist’s work can be viewed on: Scholzart.com and Fineartamerica.com

