

**The Theatre of
Western Springs
Presents**



This program is partially
sponsored by a grant from the
Illinois Arts Council

The Enchanted April
By Kane Campbell
Directed by Cal Turner

Cast

(in order of appearance)

- Mrs. Lotty Wilkins**
..... Susan Cardamone
- Mrs. Rose Arbuthnot**
..... Jan Mahlstedt
Clerk
- Gini Welch
- Lady Caroline Dester**
..... Linda Lee Cunningham
- Thomas Briggs**
..... Clark Schirle
- Mrs. William Fisher**
..... Charron Traut
Domenico
- David Valenta
- Francesca**
..... Tricia Madison Boren
- Mellersh Wilkins**
..... Jim Hannigan
- Ferdinand Arundel**
..... Craig Mahlstedt

Prologue Late afternoon, February 5, in an ante-room of the Shaftesbury Avenue Women's Club, London.

ACT I An April morning in the main living room in the castle in Italy.

ACT II Late afternoon, two days later.

Act III After dinner, two hours later.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Special thanks to:
The Fruit Store, Western Springs and Hinsdale, for providing apple cider at cost with free delivery.

Starbucks, Western Springs, for providing decaf coffee for the Thursday performances.

The photographs illustrating this program are from The Theatre of Western Springs' archives.



Jean Campbell and Ray Borkenhagen
Holiday for Lovers
TWS, April, 1960



Director's Corner

By Cal Turner

It all started with Elizabeth Von Arnim's book in 1922. Since then there have been two movies and two plays adapted from the novel. The version we are presenting is the 1925 adaptation by Kane Campbell. My research on the internet indicated to me that the most produced version of this play is the later adaptation by Matthew Barber. So, although you may know the story, including the predictable ending, there may be a few surprises along the way.

When *The Enchanted April* was included in the Theatre of Western Spring's slate of plays for our 80th season, I must admit that I had never heard of it. Since it was decided that I would be directing this play, I have lost count of how many people have indicated to me how much they enjoy this story.

"Oh, I loved the movie...."
"I'm not going to miss that one."
"Be sure to tell me the dates."

So...the pressure was on!

Fortunately for me, I was given a very talented cast and group of designers to help me through the process. I am sure that the contributions of all will be recognized and appreciated. I know I do.

Enjoy the show!

Dramaturg's Diary

By Peggy Carlson

My first encounter with *The Enchanted April* was in 1992 when my husband took me to see the movie. The 1992 film is based on the 1922 novel *The Enchanted April* by Elizabeth von Arnim. The stage play we are presenting by Kane Campbell was adapted from the same novel in 1925.

Elizabeth von Arnim (August 31, 1866 – February 9, 1941) was born Mary Annette Beauchamp in Australia. The family later moved to England. In 1889 she traveled abroad to Rome with her father where she met and later married a German nobleman, Count Henning August von Arnim (1851- 1910). The Arnims moved to Berlin where they had four daughters and one son. Writing was a refuge for Arnim in what turned out to be an incompatible marriage. They were living on the vast and somewhat neglected von Arnim estate in Pomerania. During this time she created her pen name 'Elizabeth' and launched her career as a writer by anonymously publishing her semi-autobiographical, *Elizabeth and her German Garden* (1898).

Count von Armin died in 1910, and in 1916 Elizabeth married John Francis Stanley Russell, the Second Earl Russell, elder brother of Bertrand Russell. The marriage ended in disaster, with Elizabeth escaping to the United States. The couple separated, but never divorced. In the 1930's, Armin lived in London, Switzerland, and at her villa in France, where she entertained many friends and continued to write. On February 9, 1941, Elizabeth von Arnim died



Come to the Cattell for our Late Night

CABARET

Our next performance of The Late Night Cabaret Series is "The Romantic Music of Rogers and Hart" and will be **Saturday, January 24th** in Cattell. The singing starts 30 minutes after "The Enchanted April". Admission is \$10 and includes one free beverage.

Beverages and desserts will be served only in the Cattell lobby up until curtain. Buy tickets at the door. All profits go to the theatre.

Come hear the romantic music of Rogers and Hart with TWS Actives Corinne Alexander, Lori D'Asta, Amanda Ragan, and Mary Ellen Druyan.

from complications of influenza at age 74 in Charleston, South Carolina. She had published 21 novels.

In the first film version (1935) of her novel, four women who are strangers to each other share a life-changing vacation in San Salvatore, a castle overlooking the Mediterranean in Italy. Those who have seen the 1992 remake or read the novel will notice that the two husbands in the 1935 film have switched roles. The reason is that the film was based on the 1925 stage adaptation, not on the novel. The standout performances in the 1935 film version are by two comic veterans. As the formidable Mrs. Fisher, Jessie Ralph steals every scene she is in, and Reginald Owen

turns his every scene into a comic aria as the barrister with delusions of grandeur.

My favorite movie is the 1992 remake of *The Enchanted April*, starring Josie Lawrence as Lottie, Miranda Richardson as Rose, Joan Plowright as Mrs. Fisher, Polly Walker as Lady Caroline, Alfred Molina as Mellersh, Michael Kitchen as Mr. Briggs and Jim Broadbent as Ferdinand. Miranda Richardson won a Golden Globe for Best Actress and Joan Plowright won the same for Best Supporting Actress.

I never tire of watching the film. It is my comforter on a quiet afternoon. Welcome to *The Enchanted April*. Enjoy!

Production Credits

Director

Cal Turner

Technical Director

Thad Hallstein

Stage Manager

Greg Maurer

Assistant Stage Manager

Dave Bremer

Costume Designer

Patti Roeder

Costume Chair

Andrea Imes

Costume Crew

Cindy Blaszak, Linda Bremer, Carol Dapogny, Karin Kramer, Sandra Rasnak, Carolyn Redding, Ginny Richardson

Dramaturg

Peggy Carlson

Hospitality Chair

Carol Clarke

Hospitality Crew

Dorothy Attermeyer, Jan Benedict, Ayn Boerboom, Hedy Bosch, Ruth Cekal, Penny Choice, Denise D'Asto, Amery Ezeldin, Rosa Fries, Mary Smith, Izzy Gandarilla, Dan Herndon, Bonnie Hilton, Karen Holbert, Donna, Eleanor and Rich Kanak, Heinz Karplus, Joyce and Charles Lankton, Cheryle McKay, Bridgett Murray, Joan Roeder, Pat Rotz, Carol Suda, Donna Sauers, Jane Stacy, Kimberly Thompson, Merrillyn Tomchaney, Dick Traut, Suan Valentz, Sarah Vanikiotis, Susan Waldschmidt, Mallory Whitlock

Lighting Designer

Linda Bugielski

Lighting Crew

Joanne Brychel, Jennifer Jermano, Rachel Payne, Paul Roach

Makeup Designers

Jackie Siwek, Marilyn Weiher

Makeup Crew

Lori D'Asta, Susan Mauer, Susan Valenta

Set Dresser

Mary O'Dowd

Properties Designers

Sue Hannigan, Arlene Page

Properties Crew

Karen Arnold, Philip Conway, Mark Cunningham, Adele Davis, Judy DiVita, Jim Gary, Tom Gess, Darla Goudeau, Dennis Hudson, Mike Mallon, Dave Santchi, Mary Van Nest

Set Construction Chair

Heinz Karplus

Set Construction Crew

Grace Abrahamson, Kit Bogan, Anne Cahill, Mary Ellen Druyan, Bob Erck, Tim Feeney, Michael Huth, Jeff Miklos, Jon Mills, John Mueller, Jack Phillips, Paul Roach, Bill Rotz

Set Designer

Michael Huth

Set Painting Chair

Rob Pold

Set Painting Crew

Linda Auer, Cindy Blaszak, Kathleen Cawthon, Rob Cramer, Joe and Denise D'Asto, Amany Ezeldin, Tom Frohnappfel, Rich Kropp, Jim Miller, Martha Niles,

Rick Pavia, Amanda Ragan, Jennifer Schmidt, Rob Snyder

Sound Designer

Stephanie Williams

Sound Crew

Peggy Solick, Betsy Stiles

Sandwich Sunday Crew

Dorothy Attermeyer, Cindy Blaszak, Patricia Huth, Pat Rotz

Box Office Chair

Mary Ellen Schutt

Box Office Crew

Linda Bremer, Danna Durkin, Kelli Kopp, Patti Roeder, Mallory Whitlock, Marilyn Wilson

House Manager Chair

Bill Wilson

House Managers

Cindy Blaszak, Jack Calvert, Peggy Carlson, Kathy Cawthon, Penny Choice, Rob Cramer, Mike De Kovic, Joe Delaloye, George Dempsey, Karla Hudson, Mike Janke, Donna Kanak, Heinz Karplus, Terry Locke, Mike Mallon, Kevin McGrath, Jon Mills, Rick Pavia, Diane Oppenheim, Bill Rotz

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