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By Scott Mullen

**THE GREATEST CARD TRICK**

By Hugh MacKay

**SCARS**

By Pamela Kingsley

The Open Eye Theater, 960 Main Street, Margaretville NY 12455  
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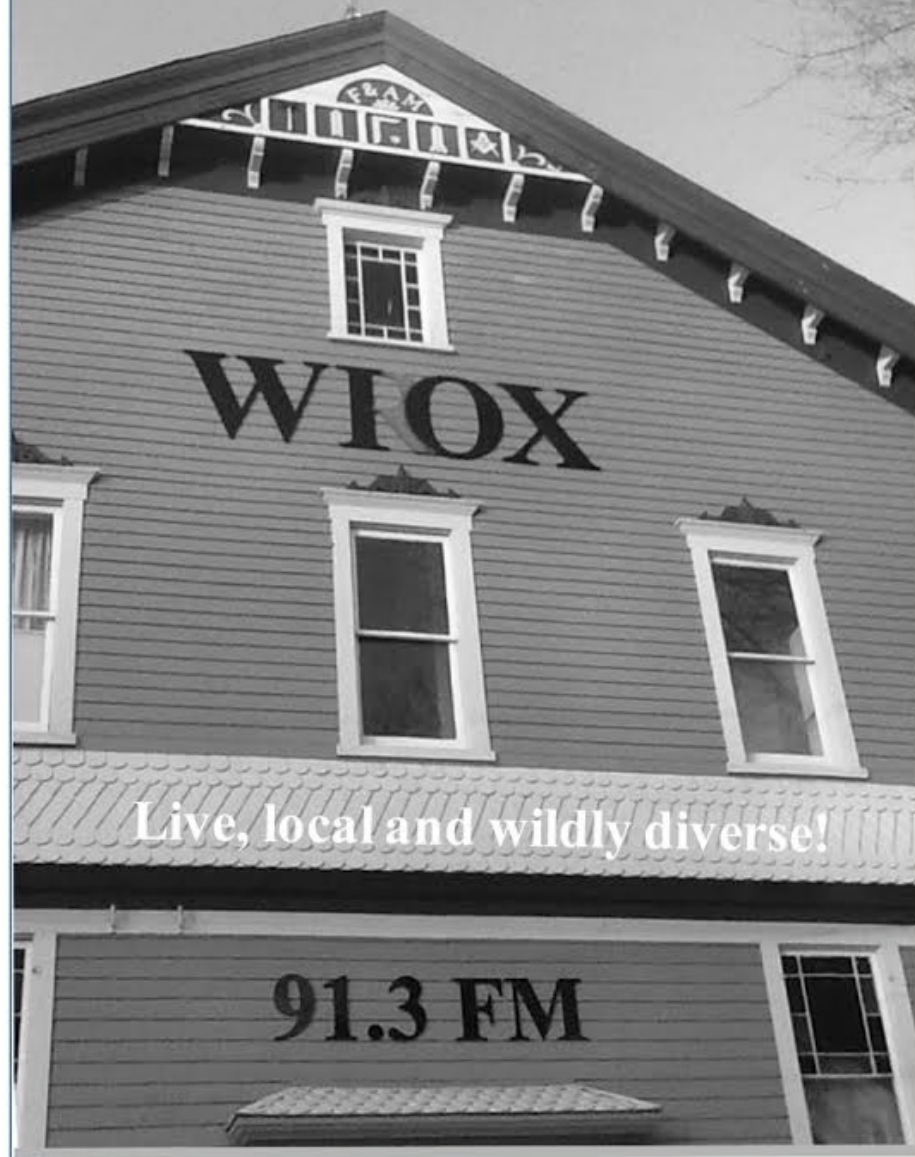


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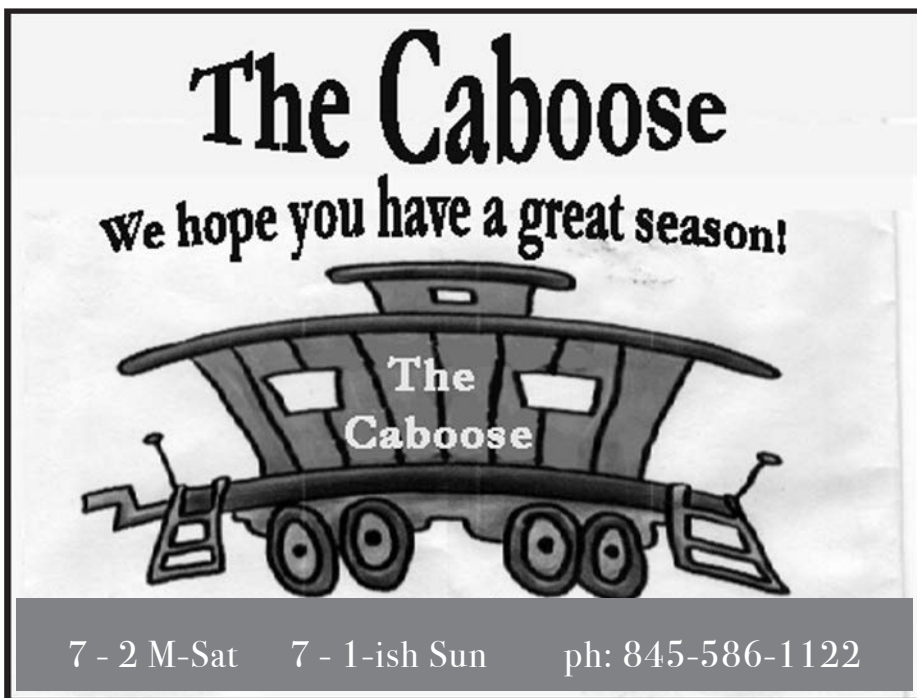


### **Mission**

Our mission is to produce high quality theater performances and other educational programming for a diverse population in the rural Catskill Mountain region and beyond — enriching the quality of life for theater artists, students, and audiences of all ages.

### **Programs**

- Professional Theater Productions of New Plays and Classics.
- Developmental Workshops and Rehearsed Readings
- Student Matinees of Selected Productions
- Arts-in-Education Partnership and School Residency Programs
- Acting and Playwriting Workshops
- The Open Eye Theater Playtime on WIOX Radio in the Catskills, 91.3 FM
- Special Events



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Reservations and more information call: 845-586-1660  
email: [openeye@catskill.net](mailto:openeye@catskill.net)



Amie Brockway, Producing Artistic Director  
960 Main Street, P. O. Box 959  
Margaretville, NY 12455  
845-586-1660  
openeye@catskill.net

Winner of  
AATE's Sara Spencer Award 2015 for Artistic Achievement  
Berilla Kerr Award for work on new American Plays  
and the  
Prestigious Aurand Harris Grant from  
the Children's Theatre Foundation of America

## History

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> year of new play production at The Open Eye Theater. We were founded in New York City as Theater of the Open Eye in 1972, by the late famed dancer-choreographer Jean Erdman and her husband, the renowned mythologist Joseph Campbell. Renamed

The Open Eye Theater, we relocated to the Catskill Mountains in 1994, where, under the leadership of producing artistic director Amie Brockway, we performed in eighteen villages and hamlets before creating a permanent home for theater in Margaretville NY, in 2006.

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jessica olenych  
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*Continued from previous page*

- “Play Ball: Stories from the All American Girls Professional Baseball League”**  
by Lesley Sawhill-Aja
- “This Property is Condemned”** by Tennessee Williams
- “The Actor’s Nightmare”** by Christopher Durang
- “Tartuffe”** by Moliere
- “Today I Am”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “Looking for Louie”** by Stacie Chaiken
- “The Hobbit”** by Edward Mast/J. R. R. Tolkien
- “Can’t Believe It”** by R. N. Sandberg
- “Family Matters”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “The Secret School”** by Dr. John Newman
- “Pinocchio”** by William Glennon/Carlo Collodi
- “The Frog Prince”** by David Mamet
- “Duck Variations”** by David Mamet
- “Patio”** by Jack Heifner
- “Porch”** by Jack Heifner
- “Hello Out There”** by William Saroyan
- “The Sapphire Comb”** by Moses Goldberg
- “The Conference of the Birds”**  
by Jean-Claude Carriere/Peter Brook /Forid Uddi Attar
- “A Christmas Carol”** by John Jakes/Charles Dickens
- “The Secret Garden”** by Pamela Sterling/  
Frances Hodgson Burnett
- “As You Like It”** by William Shakespeare
- “Summertree”** by Ron Cowen
- “Seven Years of Bad Luck”** by Wilma Mazo
- “Slip Covers”** by Vesti Snyder
- “Dorian Gray”** adapted from the novel by Oscar Wilde
- “The End of Oz”** by Dr. John Dilworth Newman/Frank Baum
- “Keeping Mr. Lincoln”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “Steel Magnolias”** by Robert Harling
- “Shirley Valentine”** by Willy Russell
- “A Year Down Yonder”** by Dr. John Dilworth Newman
- “The Princess and the Goblin”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “The Tempest”** by William Shakespeare
- “A Christmas Party”** by various writers
- “Pepacton”** by Amie Brockway/Patricia McKillip

- “Ancestral Voices”** by A.R. Gurney
- “Summer Shortcuts”** by various writers
- “Walking Toward America”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “Summer Shortcuts II”** by various writers
- “Holiday Musings”** by various writers
- “February Fantasia”** by various writers
- “Irving Berlin’s America”** by Chip Deffaa
- “Too Many Frogs”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “Summer Shortcuts III”** by various writers
- “Flowers In The Desert”** by Donna Hoke
- “One Night With Fanny Brice”** by Chip Deffaa
- “Summer Shortcuts I IV”** by various writers
- “Death Valley...A Love Story”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher
- “Dulce Domum with The Reluctant Dragon”**  
by Amie Brockway
- “Anne of Green Gables”** adapted by R.N. Sandberg
- “Summer Shortcuts V”** by various writers
- “Summer Shortcuts VI”** by various writers
- “The Man Behind The Curtain”** by J.D. Newman
- “Sandy and the Weird Sisters”** by J.D. Newman
- “A Christmas Carol”** adapted by Tania Myren
- “The Road To Riverbank”**  
a radio play by Amie Brockway
- “Midsummer Madness”** by Tania Myren
- “Summer Shortcuts VIII”** by various writers
- “The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane”**  
adapted by Dwayne Hartford from the book by Kate DiCamillo
- “Amber Waves”** by James Still
- “Summer Shortcuts IX”** by various writers
- “The Belle of Amherst”** by William Luce
- “Louisa May Alcott, The Power of a Woman”**  
by Pamela Sterling
- “Summer Shortcuts X, Part I”** by various writers
- “Summer Shortcuts X, Part II”** by various writers
- “Monologue Free-For-All”** by various writers
- “A Wing and a Prayer”** by Anne Barone
- “Summer Shortcuts XI”** by various writers
- “Our Town”** by Thornton Wilder
- “Fidelio”** by Sandra Fenichel Asher

## SUMMER SHORTCUTS XII

Project Director: Marge Helenchild  
Technical Director and Set, Lighting, Sound Design: Erwin Karl  
Stage Manager: Darlene DeMaille

### THE BACK-PORCH GANG

By Ben Scranton (*Springfield MA*)  
Directed by Elizabeth Sherr

#### CAST

(in order of speaking)

LESTER HIGGINS.....Ron Brockway  
BESS BENNETT.....Darlene DeMaille  
WILMA JESSUP.....Alice Zigelis  
MYRTLE TUTTLE.....Kathy Taylor

Time: June. Mid-morning.

Place: The back porch of the Bluebonnet Village Retirement Community.  
A rural setting.

### A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY

By Philip Middleton Williams (*Palmetto Bay FL*)  
Directed by Marge Helenchild

#### CAST

(in order of speaking)

MICHELLE.....Elizabeth Sherr  
PAUL.....Ward Stevenson  
ADAM.....Roy Moses

Time: The Present

Place: A living room in a condominium  
in a retirement community in South Florida.

*Produced with permission by ArtAge Senior Resources.*



## HOME

By Scott Mullen (*Burbank CA*)

Directed by Pip Merrick

### CAST

(in order of speaking)

DEB.....Alice Zigelis  
JULIE.....Kathy Taylor

Time: The Present  
Place: A Living Room

## WEAVING A TAPESTRY

By Enid Cokinos (*Carmel IN*)

Directed by Pip Merrick

### CAST

(in order of speaking)

FUNERAL DIRECTOR.....Pip Merrick  
GEORGETTE.....Elizabeth Sherr  
TILLY.....Darlene DeMaille

Time: The Present  
Place: The Sitting area of a funeral home.

## — INTERMISSION —

## THE GREATEST CARD TRICK

By Hugh MacKay (*Jamaica Plain MA*)

Directed by Amie Brockway

### CAST

(in order of speaking)

MAN.....Roy Moses  
WOMAN.....Patricia Brannen

Time: The Present  
Place: A quiet park.

# The Open Eye Theater Productions:

In the Catskills

1991-Present

“Mother Hicks” by Suzan L. Zeder

“The Wise Men of Chelm” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Amber Waves” by James Still

“Winter in the Catskills and Other Delights”  
by various Catskill Mountain writers

“Remember my Name” by Joanna Halpert Kraus

“The Adventures of Halvor Askelad”  
by Tony Howarth

“The House of the Seven Gables”  
Bryan Williams/Nathaniel Hawthorne

“Once in the Time of Trolls” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Blueprints from Space” by Mark Leiren-Young

“Reading Louis” by Walt Vail

“Tales of Hiil and Hollow”  
by various Catskill Mountain writers

“The Dunbar Murders” by Walt Vail

“Adam and Eve (somewhat later)” by Bill Green

“Pops” by Philip Potak

“I Will Sing Life” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Across the Plains” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Selkie” by Laurie Brooks Gollobin

“A Certain Raquel” by Nora Glickman

“The Bog Witch” by Anne McGravie

“The Wolf and Its Shadows”  
by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“The Nightingale” by William Electric Black/Amie Brockway/  
Hans Christian Andersen

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream”  
by William Shakespeare

“A Liar’s Stew” by Mark Rosenwinkel

“Pipe Dreams” by Evelyn Ellsworth

“Swan Song” by Ellie Serena

“No One’s Home” by Philip Potak

“Onteora” by Philip Potak

“A Letter From Mary” by Amie Brockway with  
*The Delaware County Historical Assoc. Archives*

“Homeless Woman with Van” by Ellie Serena

“Plane Crash” by Ellie Serena

“That’s Why They Call Us Colored, Bless  
Their Hearts” by J. e Franklin

“Shacking Up Gray” by J. e Franklin

“Mrs. Jones and the Man From Dixieland”  
by Steven Sater

“Benediction” by Steven Sater

“Hymns of Zacharias” by Steven Sater

“Thunder Mountain” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Rip’s Journey on the D&U Railride”  
by Philip Potak

“Noah’s Wife” by Sybil Rosen

“Relative Strangers” by Sheri Wilner

“Hedges” by Philip Potak

“Duet for Bear and Dog” by Sybil Rosen

“Pipe Dreams” by Evelyn Ellsworth

“Swan Song” by Ellie Serena

“Sundiata” by Edward Mast

“Hoax!” by Pamela Monk

“The Cretaceous Cabaret Presents Hieronymous  
Bones in the Case of the Vanishing Dinosaurs”  
by Dennis Livingston

“The Weaver and the Sea” by Julia Steiny

“Frost in the Valley” poems by Robert Frost

“Home Safe” by Ellen Cooper

“Freddy, the King of Detectives”  
by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Romeo and Juliet” by William Shakespeare

“The Reluctant Dragon” by Mary Hall Surface

“You Alice and Me” by Amie Brockway/Lewis Carrol

“Wiley and the Hairy Man” by Suzan Zeder

“Anne of Green Gables” by R. N. Sanberg/L. M.  
Montgomery

“Gary Grinkle’s Battles with Wrinkles and  
Other Troubles in Mudgeville” by Stefan Lanfer

“A Woman Called Truth” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“Tell Me a Story, Sing Me a Song”  
by various Catskill Mountain writers

“Once, in the Time of Trolls” by Sandra Fenichel  
Asher

“The Wide Awake Princess” by David Paterson/Katherine  
Paterson

“John Chapman and The Devil” by Mary Barile

“Shame the Devil!” by Anne Ludlum

“Our Town” by Thornton Wilder

“The Tomato Plant Girl” by Wesley Middleton

“A Cricket on the Hearth” by Amie Brockway/Charles  
Dickens

“The Emperor’s New Clothes”  
by Ric Averil/ Hans Christian Andersen

“Pixies, Kings and Magical Things”  
by Ric Averil/Hans Christian Andersen

“Speckled Birds” by Shirley Lauro

“Ragamuffin” by Amie Brockway-Henson

“Twelfth Night” by William Shakespeare

“Crow and Weasel” by Jim Leonard

*Continued on next page*



# The Open Eye Theater Productions:

## In New York City

### 1972-1994

“**Moon Mysteries**” a program of plays by W. B Yeats:  
*“The Cat and the Moon”*; *“A Full Moon in March”*  
*“Calvary”*; *“The Only Jealousy of Emer”*  
*“Rapid Transits”* by Jean Erdman

“**An Event in the Time of Moulting Swans**” poetry

“**Haitian Suite**” by Teiji Ito

“**Fire and Ice**” celebrating Robert Frost

“**Hernani**” by Victor Hugo

“**The Women of Trachis**” by Sophocles/Ezra Pound

“**Orpheus**” by Jean Cocteau

“**Sun Door**” by Dan Erkkila

“**Raven’s Dance**” by Eric Bass

“**OP Odyssey**” arranged by Valerie Hammer

“**Gauguin in Tahiti**” by Jean Erdman and Teiji Ito

“**A Taste of East and West in Dance**”

Leslie Dillingham and Ari Darom

“**The Wanderings of a Good Soul Interiors**”

by Tamar Rogoff and Ari Darom

“**Fontana**” created by Valerie Hammer

“**Moon on Snow**” by Ken Gaertner

“**The Shining House**” by Jean Erdman

“**The Coach with Six Insides**” by Jean Erdman

based on James Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake*

“**Masque of Dawn**” by Eric Bass

“**George and the Dragon**” by John Patrick Shanley

“**A Memorial for Michio Ito**”

with Satora Shimazski and Co.

“**Demeter’s Daughters**”

conceived by Nancy Allison/Robert Mahaffay

“**Three NOH Plays**” by Ulich O’Connor

“**Damien**” by Aldyth Morris

“**Redeye**” by Steven Tenney

“**Holiday Dance Festival**”

“**The Sun Gets Blue**” by William Electric Black

“**Punch with Judy**” by Rosemary Foley

“**The Ditch**” by Ann Scofield adapted from Jakob Lind

“**Behind A Mask**” by Karen L. Lewis/Louisa May Alcott

“**Phantom Limbs**” by Charles Borkhuis

“**LaBelle Au Bois**” by Jules Supervielle/Irma Brandies

“**A Cricket on the Hearth**” by Amie Brockway

adapted from Charles Dickens

“**Under Heaven’s Eye...Till Cockcrow**”

by J. e. Franklin

“**Presque Isle**” by Joyce Carol Oates

“**Scapin**” by Amie Brockway, adapted from Moliere

“**She Also Dances**” by Kenneth Arnold

“**The Dream of Kitamura**” by Philip Kan Gotanda

“**Miss Julie**” by August Strindberg/Harry G. Carlson

“**The Legend of Sleepy Hollow**”

by Alice Hale, adapted from Washington Irving

“**Jean Erdman Retrospective 1942 – 1985**”

“**The Bone Ring**” by Donald Hall

“**The Alchemist**” by Amie Brockway/Ben Jonson

“**The Nightingale**” by William “Electric” Black/Hans  
*Christian Andersen*

“**A Taste of Honey**” by Shelagh Delaney

“**The Odyssey**” by Amie Brockway/Homer

“**A Folk Tale Quartet**” by William “Electric” Black/  
 folk literature

“**A Circle on the Cross**” by Thomas Cadwaleder Jones

“**The Angel of Warsaw**” by Marisha Chamberlain

“**Angalak**” by Walt Vail

“**The Wall Inside**” by Thomas Cadwaleder Jones

“**Red Monkeys**” by Richard Strand

“**Leander Stillwell**” by David Rush

“**The Bog Witch**” by Anne McGravie

“**Just Somewhere a Rainbow**” by Robyn Dana Guest

“**Gardenia’s ‘n Blum**” by Nicholas A. Patricca

“**Earth and Sky**” by Douglas Post

“**Til the Fat Lady Sings**” by Scott McPherson

“**Tell You Tomorrow**” by Thomas Cadwaleder Jones

“**At the Hawg Rock Café**” by Thomas Cadwaleder Jones

“**On the Road to East L.A.**” by Thomas Cadwaleder Jones

“**Calling Me Home**” by Bruce Tracy

“**Dearest Cousin**” by Enid Rudd

“**The Contrast**” by Royall Tyler

“**A Woman Called Truth**” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“**On the Move**” by Tony Howarth

“**Dolls**” by Anne McGravi

“**Cotillion**” by David Rush

“**This Unfinished Reach**” by Robyn Dana Guest

“**Hanging By a Pinstripe**” by Richard Strand

“**An Uncertain Hour**” by Nicholas A. Patricca

“**A Place Beyond the Clouds**” by Sandra Bianco

“**Eagle or Sun**” by Savina Berman

“**Children Last**” by Ann McGravie

“**The Idea of Chaos (Sex, Death, Life, and  
 Order) at Key West**” by Nicholas A. Patricca

“**Houston’s Blood**” by Ron Mark

“**The Wise Men of Chelm**” by Sandra Fenichel Asher

“**The Death and Life of Sherlock Holmes**”

by Suzan L. Zeder/ Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

“**The Chimes**” by Conrad Bishop and Elizabeth Fuller/  
 Charles Dickens

“**Just Before Sleep**” by James Still

“**Freedom Is My Middle Name**” by Lee Hunkins

“**And the Tide Shall Cover the Earth**”  
 by Norma Cole

“**Bocon!**” by Lisa Loomer

## CANYON’S EDGE

by Barbara Lindsay (*Shoreline WA*)

Directed by Amie Brockway

CAST

(in order of speaking)

CORAL.....Pip Merrick  
 ROY.....Ward Stevenson  
 KATHY.....Kathy Taylor

Time: Late afternoon. Spring.

Place: The rim of the Grand Canyon

## MORE PASTA

By Leon Kaye (*Hyde Park NY*)

Directed by Elizabeth Sherr

CAST

(in order of speaking)

GINA.....Amie Brockway  
 MIKE.....Erwin Karl  
 CARLO.....Roy Moses

Time: The Present

Place: The Dining Room

## SCARS

By Pamela Kingsley (*Spokane WA*)

Directed by Marge Helenchild

CAST

(in order of speaking)

LINDY.....Alice Zigelis  
 BABS.....Patricia Brannen  
 CHAR.....Kathy Taylor  
 DIZZY.....Darlene DeMaille

Time: The Present

Place: A Tattoo Parlor

## REMEMBERING MACK OLIVER



1959-2022

**Board Member, Actor, Assistant Teaching Artist, Friend**

Mack attended Vanderbilt and the University of Arkansas before getting his chemistry and engineer degrees from Christian Brothers University and University of Memphis. He went on to continue his studies at University of Florida. He had homes in Proctor AR and Roxbury NY. Mack loved chemistry, engineering, and acting. His son Mack Jr. has continued his love of theater and singing; his daughter Catherine continues that love with writing and singing songs. Mack is survived by his son Mack Jr., daughter Catherine and fiancé Beth Sherr.



Scene from Flowers In The Desert, 2014.

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Pip Merrick  
Bonnie Mitchell  
Ron Nash  
James & Andrea Nelkin  
John Newman  
Rose & Allan Reed  
Arnie & Carol Schwartz  
George E. Suess  
Sally Simon  
Josie Stern  
Linda & Ward Stevenson  
Patricia VanTassel

## IN MEMORY OF MACK OLIVER

Amie & Ron Brockway  
Anne Carter  
Darlene DeMaille  
Jerry Huff  
Jim Pugh  
W. T. Rook  
Irene Smith

## In Kind Service

Adrienne J. Brockway

## Meet the Artists:

**PATRICIA BRANNEN** (*Babs in SCARS and Woman in THE GREATEST CARD TRICK*) is a retired case manager for the Delaware County Office for the Aging. She has participated in various ways at The Open Eye Theater, including light board operator twice (thank God for Erwin) and stage manager for eight productions. She was keyboard player for the Christmas productions in 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015. She is the organist at the Andes United Methodist Church. Her first acting role at The Open Eye Theater was Tilly Slowboy in THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH. She went on to be Ouiser Boudreaux in STEEL MAGNOLIAS, and since has been in fourteen roles in the SHORTCUT productions. Her last role was Mrs. Soames in OUR TOWN.

**AMIE BROCKWAY** (*Producing Artistic Director of The Open Eye Theater, Director for THE GREATEST CARD TRICK AND CANYON'S EDGE, Gina in MORE PASTA*) is the proud recipient of the Sara Spencer 2015 Award of Artistic Achievement from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE), and winner of the 2006 Children's Theater Foundation Aurand Harris Grant, and Artistic Visionary Award from The Working Theater. She was a nominee for the Orlin Corey Award for Artistic Excellence in 2020. Her directing credits at The Open Eye include OUR TOWN, AMBER WAVES, SENECA FALLS, THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE, ONE NIGHT WITH FANNY BRICE, IRVING BERLIN'S AMERICA, WALKING TOWARD AMERICA, ROMEO & JULIET, THE TEMPEST, A WOMAN CALLED TRUTH and numerous other productions of full-length and ten-minute plays, American and world classics, and musicals. Her own plays THE ODYSSEY, and THE NIGHTINGALE are published by Dramatic Publishing Company. She has directed new works and participated in new play development projects at the Bonderman National Youth Theater Playwriting Symposium, New Visions/New Voices at The Kennedy Center, Write Now in Tempe AZ and Indianapolis IN, the Coterie in Kansas City, and ALAP (Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights). She has performed in Open Eye productions of MIDSUMMER MADNESS, KEEPING MR. LINCOLN, ANCESTRAL VOICES, A YEAR DOWN YONDER, A CHRISTMAS CAROL, among others. She is co-host of The Open Eye Theater Playtime on WIOX Radio in the Catskills 91.3 FM. She is a member of SAG/AFTRA, The Dramatists Guild, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, and is a past co-president of the League of Professional Theater Women.

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# Meet the Artists

## Meet the Artists (continued)

**RON BROCKWAY** (*Lester in THE BACK-PORCH GANG*) is new to The Open Eye Theater. While not a stranger to theater, this is his first acting role in many years. Ron has worked in several theater groups in New Jersey previously as designer, and as technical director. While in New Jersey, Ron was Installation Coordinator for McCarter Theater's concert series on the Princeton University campus, and designed stage productions at the University's Theater Intime. He also spent ten years at New Jersey Public Television as studio carpenter and in remote installation. In Florida, Ron's experience led him to the Vero Beach Museum of Art. His role as Director of Operations included designing for and overseeing the installation of many types of art.

**ENID COKINOS** (*Playwright for WEAVING A TAPESTRY*) is excited to include WEAVING A TAPESTRY in The Open Eye Theater's Summer Shortcuts XII. Based on a story of maternal pragmatism shared by her dear friend Norma, TAPESTRY is, in part, based on a peculiar real-life fabric discovery, but also a search for deeper understanding in the strangest of places. Above all, it is a testament to open yourself up to whatever counsel life might offer. Since discovering playwriting in 2014, Enid's plays have been performed in Indiana, New York, California, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, and Kansas. In addition to writing plays, her short fiction and non-fiction pieces appear in various online journals including Flying Island Literary Journal, Medium (formerly 1:1000), and Story Circle Network's Anthologies. A native of southwest Michigan, Enid has gathered a treasure-trove of material while crisscrossing the country for family and career, and currently lives in central Indiana with her husband and editor-in-chief, Todd. Enid is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Indiana Playwrights Circle, and Indiana Writers Center. Her work can be found on [newplayexchange.org](http://newplayexchange.org) and [www.enidcokinos.com](http://www.enidcokinos.com).

**DARLENE DEMAILLE** (*Stage Manager for SUMMER SHORTCUTS XII, Bess Bennett in THE BACK-PORCH GANG, Tilly in WEAVING A TAPESTRY, Dizzy in SCARS*) was born Darlene Prince, in Liberty NY, attended Fallsburg Central High School where she acted in many of the school's plays, including OUR TOWN and DEATH TAKES A HOLIDAY, under the direction of Andrew Neiderman (a now renowned author and ghost writer). She also sang in the school chorus and church choir. After high school, she headed to Long Island where she pursued her singing and musical talents. She plays guitar and electric bass, and sings lead vocals. For many years on Long Island, she performed and fronted not only her own bands, but had the opportunity of opening for the country music legend George Jones. She also performed with country music stars, Jack Greene and Merle Haggard. She currently plays bass and sings with the local band, Country Express. At The Open Eye she has performed in several plays, has been stage manager for many and serves on the staff as Administrative Assistant. She lives in Halcottsville with her husband, John.

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## Meet the Artists (continued)

**PHILIP MIDDLETON WILLIAMS** (*Playwright for A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY*) has written over sixty plays ranging from one-minute to full-length. A MOMENT OF CLARITY AND A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY were finalists in the City Theatre National Award for Short Playwriting. ALL TOGETHER NOW won first place in the 2016 Playgroup playwriting contest and was produced as part of the Willow Theatre 2017-2018 season and will be published by Next Stage Press on July 1, 2022. CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU was his first play to receive an off-off Broadway production in January 2008 and was produced by The Playgroup for their 2018-2019 season at The Willow Theatre in Boca Raton, Florida. CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU is published and licensed by Next Stage Press, and three monologues from the play are included in The Best Men's Monologues for 2019. DARK TWIST is published and licensed through Next Stage Press. THE SUGAR RIDGE RAG will be published by Next Stage Press on September 1, 2022. HOME-STYLE COOKING AT THE GATEWAY CAF" has been selected for inclusion in the Smith & Kraus anthology The Ten Best Ten-Minute Plays of 2022, to be published in December 2022. A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY is published and licensed through Senior Theatre Resources. His work has been seen in the South Florida One-Minute Play Festivals, the Midwest Dramatist Conference, the William Inge Theatre Festival New Play Labs, Bartell Theatre of Madison, Wisconsin, Odenbear Theatre of Taos, New Mexico, Theatre Roulette of Columbus, Ohio, the Short+Sweet Festival of Sydney, Australia, the Valdez Theatre Conference of Alaska, Vermont Pride Theater, Silver Tongued Stages of Miami, Seaside Players of Lauderdale by the Sea, Theatre Arts Productions of Palm Beach, The Open Eye Theater of Margaretville, New York, Bendigo Theatre Company of Bendigo, Victoria, Australia, and LAB Theater Project of Tampa. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

**ALICE ZIGELIS** (*Wilma Jessup in THE BACK-PORCH GANG, Deb in HOME, Lindy in SCARS*) has been performing in SUMMER SHORTCUTS for several years. She has enjoyed her acting with The Open Eye which has been her only stage experience. A Classicist by training, Alice has always had an interest in theater from Aeschylus to Hnath. She has seen some of the Greats on stage from Lillian Gish to Zero Mostel, and is moved to be a spear-carrier in their ranks.

Next at The Open Eye Theater

SYLVIA by A.R. Gurney

September 15-25

## Meet the Artists (continued)

**DR. ELIZABETH SHERR** (Director for *THE BACK-PORCH GANG* and *MORE PASTA*, Michelle in *A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY*, Georgette in *WEAVING A TAPESTRY*) is excited to be directing and acting in *SUMMER SHORTCUTS XII*. In Summer of 2021 she acted in Thornton Wilder's *Our TOWN* and many of the previous *OPEN EYE SUMMER SHORTCUT* productions. In the past she has portrayed such characters as Elmire in Moliere's *TARTUFFE*, Stephano in Shakespeare's *THE TEMPEST*, *TWELFTH NIGHT*, *AS YOU LIKE IT*, Sandra Fenichel Asher's *DEATH VALLEY: A LOVE STORY*, M'Lynn in Robert Harling's *STEELE MAGNOLIAS*, and Eddie in A. R. Gurney's *ANCESTRAL VOICES* and various characters in different productions of Charles Dicken's *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*. She portrayed Brigett in the World Premier of Donna Hoke's *FLOWERS IN THE DESERT*. She acted in Sue Fabisch's *MOTHERHOOD OUT LOUD!* produced by Performance Plus in Stamford, NY. She has written and performed monologues for the Middletown Historical Society's *CEMETERY TOURS*. She has worked with The Open Eye Theater's educational partnerships since 2003, developing curriculum-based theater projects, directing and writing plays for students. Currently she is an instructor at SUNY Delhi. She serves as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for WIOX Radio Station in Roxbury NY, and Trustee on the Board of The Open Eye Theater in Margaretville NY. She lives in Roxbury, and loves hiking with her dogs in all kinds of weather.

**WARD STEVENSON** (Paul in *A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY*, Roy in *CANYON'S EDGE*) founded Imago Theatres and Equity showcases under initial auspices and guidance of Theodore Bikel. He has played several roles at The Open Eye Theatre in Margaretville, and has toured and recorded as a singer-songwriter. He worked as a book editor, and studied acting at The Hillberry Classic Theatre in Michigan, and in Manhattan with Connie Van Ess of The Actors Studio.

**KATHARINE TAYLOR** (Myrtle in *THE BACK PORCH GAN*", Julie in *HOME*, Char in *SCARS*, Kathy in *CANYON'S EDGE*) is making her acting debut at The Open Eye Theater. In a wish to pursue a change to her life's path, she quit her job, left her husband, sold her house and threw or gave away almost everything she owned. With only her clothing, crafting supplies, and beloved chihuahua, "Pebbles", Kathy recently left Rhode Island, relocating to Roxbury, NY. Previously, she was a professor of computer science at Johnson & Wales University. She enjoys gardening, crafting, and spending time with friends and family while keeping an open mind to whatever may come her way in the future.

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## Meet the Artists (continued)

**MARGE HELENCHILD** (Project Director for *SUMMER SHORTCUTS XII*, Director for *A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY* and *SCARS*) is a performing and visual artist and currently serves on the board of The Open Eye. She has worked with The Open Eye for over ten years as an actor, director, assistant stage manager, costume design, choreographer, and this year as the project director of *SSXII*. Being an active feminist in NYC propelled her into becoming a founding member of many organizations including: THE WOMEN'S INTERART CENTER, SOHO 20 FEMINIST ART GALLERY, GARDEN VARIETY MIME THEATER, THE RADICAL LESBIAN FEMINIST TERRORIST COMEDY GROUP AND SHOCK OF GRAY THEATER COLLECTIVE, which brought their production of *Smoke And Mirrors* to the Roxbury Arts Group stage. Two of her favorite roles were Carol from Ann Epner's three-act play "THE LETTER" and Lucretia Mott in The Open Eye's *SENECA FALLS*. In 2019 she created her debut cabaret show *I'M NOT THAT GIRL* performed in NYC clubs which was nominated for a MAC award. This summer she is accepted into the Eugene O'Neill Cabaret Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford CT. "Thank you to everyone who answered my questions (I had a lot of them!) during this run. And thank you to the many talented people who consistently contribute to creating and supporting rural theater. I believe art is life and to live is an art. We have that right, privilege, and choice to make something beautiful and worthwhile for ourselves and others."

**ERWIN KARL** (Technical Director and Set, Lighting, Sound Design, Mike in *MORE PASTA*) has designed and operated lights and sound, designed and built sets, and served as technical director for many productions at The Open Eye, and for outdoor productions throughout the Catskills. He built the walkway extension from The Open Eye Theater building to the back parking lot. He has appeared on stage in numerous Open Eye productions. He is chair of the Board of Trustees of Foundation for The Open Eye. Other activities include co-hosting the Farm Hour and The Open Eye Theater's Playtime on WIOX Radio in the Catskills (91.3 FM), and serving as volunteer or trustee for a number of other non-profit organizations based in the Catskills.

**LEON KAYE** (Playwright for *MORE PASTA*) has written several plays and a musical. *WHERE THERE'S NO WILL* was produced off Broadway and along with the popular, *MURDER WITH GRACE* and *GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SEDER*, is published by Concord Pub. Leon's musical, *STEALING SHAKESPEARE* has been produced by Padua Franciscan High School and is awaiting word on a potential grant. Other titles include *PLAIN AS JANE*, *THE WORST LAW FIRM IN MERRY OLD ENGLAND*, (both with Off the Wall Pub.), *RELATIVELY DANGEROUS*, and *CRIMINALLY INSANE*. One acts and ten-minute plays can be found with Playscripts, Heuer, Brooklyn, and Off the Wall, the latter has published *MORE PASTA*.

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## Meet the Artists (continued)

**PAMELA KINGSLEY** (*Playwright for SCARS*) has had plays produced in theatres around the U.S., most recently in Boston, Cleveland, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Haven, NYC, the State University of New York (Brockport), San Francisco, Santa Fe, and Spokane. Her play MOTHER'S DAY was a 2019 finalist for the James Stevenson Prize for Short Comedic Plays and won the Audience Choice Award at the Pacific Northwest Playwrights' Forum Festival 2019. In July 2021, Pam was commissioned to write and perform a piece, SLEEPWALKING, which was featured in the EMPOWER WOMEN Festival and streamed online. SLEEPWALKING is now part of the New Media online segment of Irondale Ensemble's July 2022 On Women Festival in NYC. Last October, Pam had three new works produced by Stage Left Theatre's MASTERPIECE MONOLOGUES series. This June 2022, Pam's plays FINDING MOTHER COURAGE and BOXES were chosen to be produced as part of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Playwrights' Forum Festival. BOXES won the Audience Choice Award. Pam is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, NPX and Women Playwrights Honor Roll. She holds a BFA in Theatre Performance and an MA in Theatre Education and has taught acting and playwriting throughout the Pacific Northwest. Pam is also a veteran actress and director with more than 200 productions to her credit. Originally from the Finger Lakes of New York, Pam splits her time between Seattle and Spokane.

**HUGH MACKAY** (*Playwright for THE GREATEST CARD TRICK*) is a Boston based playwright. His plays include THE GREATEST CARD TRICK, BASIC WAIT, HERO DAY, and JACQUES OF THE NIGHT. Hugh's work has been produced by Break A Leg Productions, Salem State University, Theatre Southwest Houston, and Players Workshop San Miguel. Hugh is a member of the Dramatist Guild of America.

**PIP MERRICK** (*Director for HOME and WEAVING A TAPESTRY, Funeral Director in WEAVING A TAPESTRY, Coral in CANYON'S EDGE*) is a cell biologist with a PhD from NYU and a BM in music theory from Manhattan School of Music. Stem cell research and teaching has taken up most of her professional life at UNC in Chapel Hill NC. Her acting life started 15 years ago with a tapdancing audition for the Prime Time Players in Chapel Hill NC. Since then, she has acted, directed, and written for them. She hopes to restart directing rehearsals this fall for the CHINESE-AMERICAN WEDDING that she wrote before the pandemic. This is her third season with The Open Eye Theater.

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## Meet the Artists (continued)

**ROY F. MOSES** (*Adam in A LIFE ENRICHING COMMUNITY, Man in THE GREATEST CARD TRICK, Carlo in MORE PASTS*) has appeared in TALES OF HILL AND HOLLOW in 1996, followed by A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM, TWELFTH NIGHT, AS YOU LIKE IT, OUR TOWN, ANNE OF GREEN GABLES in 2001 and 2015. Numerous holiday productions and several SUMMER SHORTCUTS and Judge Daniel Cady in the premier of SENECA FALLS. I am delighted that The Open Eye Theater will be offering these performances and thankful that I can take part in them.

**SCOTT MULLEN** (*Playwright for HOME*) is a playwright and occasional screenwriter, who co-wrote the recent Lifetime movie LINE SISTERS; his thrillers STALKER, THE SUMMONING, IN BROAD DAYLIGHT and BLOOD ON HER BADGE aired on TV One. His short plays have been produced over 600 times around the world, including at the South Pole. An evening of his comic plays, A NIGHT OF S.M., had a two-week run in Hollywood.

**BEN SCRANTON** (*Playwright for THE BACK-PORCH GANG*) is a New England-based playwright and actor. He has written numerous plays, including The Back-Porch Gang (full-length, one-act, and 10-minute version), Blessings, Field Trip, The Head of Shamus Delaney, Unplanned, The End of Society, Reprieve: The Last Battalion of Children, and Charlotte's Revival, and have been staged by theaters across the country. Recent productions include The Overtime Theater (San Antonio), 50<sup>th</sup> Playwrights' Platform Festival of Short Plays (Boston), Crafton Hills College Festival of New Works (CA), Gi60 (gone in 60 seconds): The International One Minute Theater Festival (Houston), Equity Library Theater Summer Virtual Play Festival (NY), and later this year at the Newmarket International Festival of One-Act Plays in Ontario, Canada. His short plays have appeared in The Stonecoast Review Literary Arts Journal, the Fresh Words Literary magazine, and received readings on the Tiny Theater Facebook page, The Depot for New Play Readings, and PIC (Play Incubation Collective). Ben received a fellowship from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for dramatic writing, is a two-time recipient of the Robert R. Lehan Playwriting Award from Westfield State University (MA), and was a finalist for the 2020 James Stevenson Prize of Short Comedic Plays. Ben has worked as a professional actor and singer on the national tour of the Broadway musical Annie and in regional theater. He had a successful 32-year career as an executive in Realtor® Association management. Ben is a member of The Dramatists Guild of America, and Actors' Equity Association.

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