

# PLAYBILL



# She Loves Me

The title "She Loves Me" is rendered in a white, outlined, serif font. The letter "O" in "Loves" and the letter "V" in "Loves" are replaced by two fountain pens. The pens are positioned vertically, with their nibs pointing downwards and meeting at the bottom. The "O" is formed by the top of the left pen and the top of the right pen. The "V" is formed by the two pens themselves. A large, red-outlined heart is centered behind the "O" and "V". There are three smaller red-outlined hearts: one above the "O", one to the right of the "V", and one to the right of the "e" in "Loves".

DIRECTED BY **HOWARD** AND **KATHRYN** LITTLE

# **She Loves Me**

Book by Joe Masteroff

Music by Jerry Bock

Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

*She Loves Me* is presented through a special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

# Cast

**Ladislav Sipos**

Jeff Thompson

**Arpad Laszlo**

Mitchell Boberg

**Ilona Ritter**

T'naiha Ellis

**Steven Kodaly**

Brodee Ripple

**Georg Nowack**

Alex DeBirk

**Mr. Maraczek**

Scott Healy

**Amalia Balash**

Melinda DeBirk

**Keller & Caroler**

Dennis Purdie

**Maitre D' & Customer**

Seven Harrison

**Customers & Carolers**

Tina Fontana

Megan Hall

Ryan Hall

Tanika Larsen

Emily Thompson

# Production Team

<b>Executive Producer:</b>	Pleasant Grove Arts Commission
<b>Producers:</b>	Howard and Kathryn Little
<b>Directors:</b>	Howard and Kathryn Little
<b>Music Director:</b>	Kathryn Little
<b>Choreographer:</b>	Rebecca Boberg
<b>Production Stage Mgr.:</b>	Brenna Brown
<b>Production Design (Set, Costumes, Properties):</b>	Tina Fontana
<b>Technical Direction and Lighting Design:</b>	Howard Little
<b>Sound Design:</b>	Kathryn Little
<b>Hair &amp; Wig Design:</b>	Christa Meisman and Kirsten Elkins
<b>Set Construction:</b>	Jim Martineau, Charles Fontana, Tina Fontana, Howard Little
<b>Production Artist:</b>	Amanda Dryer
<b>Scenic Painters:</b>	Tina Fontana, Brenna Brown, Ethan Beavers, Hannah Beavers, Howard Little, Kathryn Little, Megan Fontana
<b>Costume Assistant:</b>	Susan Glenn

# Production Team

<b>Costume and Prop Construction:</b>	Tina Fontana
<b>Curtain Construction:</b>	Stacy Martineau
<b>Production Assistants:</b>	Megan Fontana, Madison Fontana, Nate Fontana
<b>Cast/Publicity Photos:</b>	Howard Little
<b>Graphic Design:</b>	Chad Jardine
<b>Ticket Office:</b>	June Purdie
<b>Usher:</b>	Ann Cahoon

Special thanks to the SCERA costume shop, Eldon Randall, Steve Winters, and Stonegate Wedding and Events.

# Scene Synopsis

## ACT I

<i>Prelude / Good Morning, Good Day</i>	Georg, Arpad, Sipos, Ilona, Kodaly
<i>Sounds When Selling</i>	Customers, Sipos, Kodaly, Georg
<i>Thank You, Madam</i>	Clerks
<i>Days Gone By</i>	Maraczek
<i>No More Candy</i>	Amalia
<i>Three Letters</i>	Amalia, Georg
<i>Tonight at Eight</i>	Georg
<i>I Don't Know His Name</i>	Amelia, Ilona
<i>Perspective</i>	Sipos
<i>Goodbye Georg</i>	Customers, Clerks
<i>Will He Like Me?</i>	Amalia
<i>Ilona</i>	Kodaly, Arpad, Sipos
<i>I Resolve</i>	Ilona

## INTERMISSION

<i>A Romantic Atmosphere</i>	Maitre D'
<i>Tango Tragique</i>	Georg
<i>Mr. Nowack, Will You Please?</i>	Amalia, Maitre D'
<i>Dear Friend</i>	Amalia

## ACT II

<i>Try Me</i>	Arpad
<i>Days Gone By (Reprise)</i>	Maraczek
<i>Where's My Shoe?</i>	Amalia, Georg
<i>Vanilla Ice Cream</i>	Amalia
<i>She Loves Me</i>	Georg
<i>A Trip to the Library</i>	Ilona
<i>Grand Knowing You</i>	Kodaly
<i>Twelve Days to Christmas</i>	Carolers, Customers, Clerks
<i>Finale</i>	Georg, Amalia

# Directors' Note



To Our Dear Audience!

People often ask, “What is the show you have loved doing the very most?” The answer is always the same: “The one we’re working on at the moment!” Each brings its own joys and challenges, its own flavor and opportunity to say something, new or old, in a new way. This is because every production has new elements: new players, new set, new staff, etc., and that new combination of elements creates its own unique outcome.

We feel so privileged to work with such a talented group of lovely people who have brought to this jewel of a show such light and insight into the hearts of its characters, sets, props, and costumes.

If you’re new to PG Players, welcome! If you’re an old friend, welcome home! We’re so happy to be back sharing with you this sweet love story. We hope it lightens your heart!

Sincerely,

Howard and Kathryn Little

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

In alphabetical order by first name:



**ALEX DeBIRK (Georg Nowak)** has performed professionally on film and regional stages with roles in *Daddy Long Legs*, *Les Miserables*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Jane Eyre*, and *The Pirate Queen*, among others. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Brigham Young University and a master's degree in structural engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. In his professional practice, he has designed a skyscraper, schools, and spent time at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory designing portions of future lunar rovers. He holds a professional engineering license and operates a private practice while teaching physics and engineering at a private high school. He has designed and operated multiple starship simulators, bringing science education to life through experiential learning.



**BRENNA BROWN (Stage Manager)** is no stranger to the PG Players. From on the stage to behind the scenes, this is Brenna Brown's fourth production. Her past on-stage roles include Myrtle in *Harvey*, Essie in *You Can't Take It With You*, and more recently, Susan, the blind heroine in *Wait Until Dark*. Whatever the role, as character or crew, Brenna always feels at home with the PG Players.

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



**BRODEE RIPPLE (Steven Kodaly)** is beyond excited to be making his PG Players debut, playing one of his favorite roles, in one of his favorite shows, with some of his favorite people! Brodee has performed at the SCERA Center for the Arts, SCERA Shell, Hale Center Theater Orem, Hale Centre Theatre Sandy, and Sundance Summer Theater. Some of his favorite roles include Dean Hyde in *All Shook Up*, Jack in *Into the Woods*, and Judah in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. When not performing, Brodee can be found teaching... about performing. He is the Assistant-Director and Choreographer for the SCERA Center for the Arts national award-winning, High School performance team “Acting Up!”. Brodee would like to send a huge thank you to Kathryn and Howard, Brenna, Laurel, Syd, his whole family, and particularly his Mom. This one’s for you, Pops.



**CHRISTA MEISMAN (Hair Design)** loves her work as a hair artist at the neighboring Images Salon. She specializes in luxurious, lived-in color. Her love for vintage styling made this collaboration delightful! Outside the salon, Christa adores the arts and spends her time writing music, painting, restoring vintage finds, and raising two sunshine boys alongside her sweet husband. Follow along on her artistic journey through Instagram @christameisartistry.

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



**DENNIS PURDIE (Keller & Caroler)** is happy to be back on stage with PG Players after missing all of 2020 (thanks for nothing COVID-19)! This is Dennis's 44th show with the PG Players. He debuted on this stage in October 1989 with the founder of PG Players, Keith Christeson.

Dennis is excited to be in a musical, especially as a living, breathing character, though playing the dead body in *Lucky Stiff* was a lot of fun and definitely not the easiest part he had ever played. He's sorry to say that he won't be doing any tap dancing in this show. He was last seen on this stage as Roat in *Wait Until Dark*. Some of his favorite roles include Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*, Owen Musser in *The Foreigner*, Martin Vanderhoff in *You Can't Take It With You*, Judge in *Dear Ruth*, Nunzio in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, and Arnold Wiggins in *The Boys Next Door*. Thanks to Howard and Kathryn for another opportunity to perform. A special thanks to his beautiful wife, June, of almost 49 years, to his 5 children, and to their spouses. Since his last show, the number of grandchildren has increased to 13. Welcome baby boy, Boone! Thanks to all of you for the many years of support that have made it possible for him to pursue his dream of being an actor.

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



**EMILY THOMPSON** (Customer) grew up in Pleasant Grove and always loved watching her dad, Jeff, perform with the PG Players. She is thrilled to be joining him onstage now in her PG Players debut and in one of her very favorite shows! Emily was a long time member of Center

Stage Youth Performers where she gained her theater education as well as a great passion for performing. Her favorite roles include Bird Girl in Seussical the Musical, Kathy Seldon in Singin' In the Rain, and the "Feed the Birds" Woman in Mary Poppins. Emily currently works as a dance teacher at the SCERA Center for the Arts. She is so excited to be back in the theater after a long year of little performance opportunities and especially to be sharing the stage with her family. To my friends and family, "Thank you for the continued love and support!"



**HOWARD AND KATHRYN LITTLE (Directors)** Howard and Kathryn (theater graduates of Utah State University and Brigham Young University respectively) started their co-directing career as newlyweds in

New York City. During their 35 years of marital bliss, they have had

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

the privilege of working with many talented and delightful actors and feel honored to be on the board as well as the resident directors for the Pleasant Grove Players. Their work has also been seen in New York City with the Manhattan Theater Ensemble, Hale Center Theater, Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City, Provo Theater Company, Zion's Theater Company, and SCERA Center for the Arts (where Kathryn is the director of the national award-winning, High School performance team "Acting Up!") They would like to thank their two incredible daughters, wonderful son-in-law, and absolutely adorable grandchildren for all of the inspiration and love!



**JEFF THOMPSON (Ladislav Sipos)** isn't sure what to be happiest about: Getting back onstage for the first time post-quarantine fully vaccinated? Appearing in his 8th PG Players show under the masterful direction of Kathryn and Howard Little? Reprising one of his favorite roles?

Performing onstage for the first time with two of his daughters and his new son-in-law? Put it all together, and this show is truly a joy. You may have seen Jeff in PG Players roles like Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Lucien P. Smith in *The Boys Next Door*, and Frank Gianelli in *Over the River and Through the Woods*. Other favorite roles include the Narrator in *Into the Woods* (HCT Orem), Ladislav Sipos in *She Loves Me* (HCT West Valley), and Uncle

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Fester in *The Addams Family* (HCT Sandy). You can catch him this coming Fall as Ben Weatherstaff in HCT Sandy's production of *The Secret Garden*. By day, Jeff is a professor in BYU's Masters of Public Administration program, devoted husband to Aimee, proud father of four kids and two kids-in-law, and thoroughly smitten new grandfather of baby Reed (pictures available on request).



**KIRSTEN ELKINS (Wig Design)** has been a go-to wig stylist for multiple PG Players shows. Her experience in the arts also includes costume design and sewing, theater makeup, drawing and painting, Ukrainian eggs, and any other artistic medium that suits her fancy. Kirsten enjoys spending time with her husband, son, and multiple pets.



**MEGAN THOMPSON HALL (Customer & Caroler)** has spent most of her childhood and teenage years performing. In recent years, she has taken a break from acting to pursue her university degree in History, which she completed in April. She is thrilled to be back onstage—this time with her husband—for her debut performance with PG Players. She would like to thank her family for consistently supporting and nurturing her love for the arts.

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



**MELINDA DeBIRK (Amalia Balash)** Originally from Orem, Utah, Melinda is a performer and director with extensive theatrical experience in professional, educational, and community settings. She has performed such roles as Cosette in *Les Miserables*, Cinderella in the US Premiere of *The Slipper and the Rose*, and Lily in *The Secret Garden*. She has also performed as a soloist in numerous concert productions throughout Utah at venues that include the Capitol Building, Rose Wagner Theater, the Tabernacle on Temple Square, Brigham Young Park, McKay Events Center, and the Marriott Center. She has also produced and directed several shows and concerts. Melinda has sung back-up twice for Kristen Chenoweth. She holds a BA in Theater Arts from Brigham Young University and toured Australia in 2008 with the BYU Young Ambassadors, where she sang on Australian National Radio. Melinda's voice has been heard on various recordings, video games, on TNT's *The Librarians* as well as Mary on a new audio drama of the *Nativity*.



**MITCHELL BOBERG (Arpad Laszlo)** is thrilled to be back on the PG Players stage. His past PG Players roles include Harry Witherspoon in *Lucky Stiff* and Sgt. Chuck Vincent in *Dear Ruth*. Outside of PG Players, he has played roles such as

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Joseph in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. If he could give any words of wisdom, it would be to work hard, dream big, and go enjoy a picnic!



## **REBECCA VARNEY BOBERG (Choreographer)**

is thrilled to be choreographing and picking up where she left off with *She Loves Me!* She has been extremely anxious to get the show up and rolling and was so excited to finally begin after a long year of COVID-19. Rebecca currently works at the SCERA Center for the Arts as their Dance Director and adult tap teacher. Aside from dancing, Rebecca finds absolute joy in raising her wonderful little boy, Banks, with her husband, Mitchell (Arpad Laszlo). She is grateful to have such a wonderful cast who is willing to work hard and try new things. She is also very thankful for the crew, especially Kathryn and Howard, who continue to make spaces for people to create, learn, and grow. “You both mean the absolute world to me. Thank you for taking a chance on a young girl all those years ago. Your wisdom, talent, and kindness benefit everyone you meet.” She hopes you enjoy the show!

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



**RYAN HALL (Customer & Caroler)** didn't expect to end up here. He is a Construction Management student at BYU with a real estate license who works in warehousing and loves sports. He recently married Megan Hall (Customer and Caroler) and is now related to two other cast members (Emily and Jeff). Good news is... he loves being here! A fun fact about Ryan is he didn't notice the birthmark on his face until he was 15.



**SCOTT HEALY (Mr. Maraczek)** is happy to be returning to PG Players for this production of *She Loves Me*. Scott has been with the PG Players for the previous productions of *You Can't Take it With You*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *The Boys Next Door*, and *Play On*, just to name a few. Scott would like to thank Kathryn and Howard Little, along with his fabulous wife, Barbara, for allowing him to have his acting fix.



**SEVEN HARRISON (Maitre D' & Customer)** was always in costume, even as a child, but didn't begin his official theatrical career until High School. Since then, he has performed in many productions from films, such as *The Witnesses*, and television to the stage with Grassroots

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Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and as the lead in *Murder Among The Mormons*. There is no work he loves more than that of acting.



**T'NAIHA ELLIS (Ilona Ritter)** is so excited to be on stage again after a two year hiatus! After the year we've all had, we all deserve an artistic outlet, right? T'naiha has been doing theater for over 20 years, appearing in roles such as Ruth in *Dear Ruth*, Rose in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Urlene in *Footloose*, Natalie in *All Shook Up*, and many more. Theater is her one true love, which is why she'll be single forever. KIDDING! (... hopefully...). During the day, you can find T'naiha working full-time as an operating room nurse and part-time as a home health nurse. She also teaches musical theater in whatever time she has to spare. A huge thank you to her coworkers for helping her get to shows on time! Also, shout out to her family and her dog for being her emotional support and letting her play with PG Players!



**TANIKA LARSEN (Customer & Caroler)** is thrilled, after almost a decade, to be back with PG Players and devastated that she is now old enough to say “after almost a full decade” and still have that time refer to her adulthood. Previous PG Players' credits include Percy in *The Spitfire Grill* and Ida in *See How They Run*. Other favorite credits include Mrs.

# Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Cratchit in *Scrooge*, Amneris in *Aida*, and Mommy for the past four-and-a-half years. Thanks to Howard and Kathryn (Hi, Mom and Dad!), all previous theatrical and musical coaches, babysitters, and especially Caleb, Norah, and Thatcher for putting up with late nights and way too much of singing the same songs over and over around the house.



## **TINA FONTANA (Customer & Caroler,**

**Production Designer)** is excited to be a part of this production of *She Loves Me*. In addition to being a member of the ensemble, Tina designed the set, props, and costumes for this show. She also serves as the head of the Pleasant Grove

Arts Commission. Tina works in the high-tech industry for Cisco Systems as a change manager and instructional designer. Performing in, designing for, and promoting the arts are a welcome creative outlet for her and a great use of her BA in Theatre from Brigham Young University. Some of the favorite roles she's performed are Mrs. Paroo in *The Music Man* (SCERA Shell) and Venoma Sharp in *Unmasked* (Shadow Light Dinner Theater). Some of the favorite shows she's designed for the PG Players include *You Can't Take It With You*, *Wait Until Dark*, and *Lucky Stiff*. As always, she is thankful for her family and their encouragement, love, and support. Much blood, sweat, and tears went into this production. Hope you enjoy it!

# Pleasant Grove Players Board of Directors

Nick Porter

Howard Little

Vance Everett

June Purdie

Tina Fontana

Jeff Thompson

Kathryn Little

Dennis Purdie

Brenna Brown

Thank you to everyone whose contributions have allowed the PG Players to bring you this production. Your contributions are very much noticed and appreciated by us and by our community.

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# Have You Heard the Exciting News?



**There's a new, Family-Friendly  
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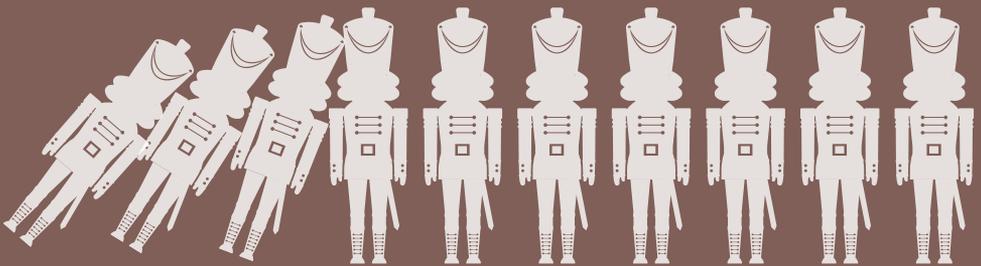
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*Agatha Christie*

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WERE  
NONE



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