

The North Fork Community Theater  
Proudly Presents:

A  
Funny Thing  
Happened  
On The  
Way To  
The Forum

Music & Lyrics by  
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by  
BURT SHEVLOVE  
& LARRY GELBART

JUNE, 1983



# A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

**Directed by**  
**JACKIE JAMES OSTUNI**

**Produced by**  
**BILL SOUSA**

**Music and Lyrics by**  
**Stephen Sondheim**

**Book by**  
**Burt Shevlove**  
**and Larry Gelbart**

Based on the Plays of Plautus

Produced by Special Arrangement with Music Theatre International,  
110 West 57th Street, New York, New York.

## THE CAST (In Order of Appearance)

Pseudolus.....	<b>Michael Losquadro</b>
Senex .....	<b>Bob Ackroyd</b>
Domina .....	<b>Eileen Shelton</b>
Hero .....	<b>Michael Conforti</b>
Hysterium .....	<b>Art Wilks</b>
Erronius .....	<b>John Oliver Ashton</b>
Miles Gloriosus .....	<b>Don Peterson</b>
Marcus Lycus .....	<b>Mark Sisson</b>
Tintinabula.....	<b>Jana Young</b>
Panacea .....	<b>Annette Bednosky</b>
Vibrata .....	<b>Mindy Cohen</b>
Gymnasia .....	<b>Gladys Seery</b>
Philia .....	<b>Lauren Dickerson</b>
The Proteans .....	<b>Jed Clauss,</b> <b>Jack Conforti, and Rose Kobus</b>
General Understudy.....	<b>Bill Sousa</b>

The understudy never substitutes for a player unless an  
announcement is made prior to performance.

## PRODUCTION CREW

<b>Musical Director and Conductor</b> .....	Scott Verity
<b>Assistant to the Director</b> .....	Matt Paduano
<b>Choreographer</b> .....	Jackie James
<b>Staging of Musical Numbers</b> .....	Jackie James and Matt Paduano
<b>Rehearsal Pianist</b> .....	Anita Pylko
<b>Stage Manager</b> .....	Bob Sior
<b>Set Design</b> .....	Jed Clauss
<b>Set Construction</b> .....	Jed Clauss, Michael Conforti, Lauren Dickerson, Fred Ostuni, Eileen Shelton, Mark Sisson, Bill Sousa, and Art Wilks
<b>Clean-Up</b> .....	Chrystle Fiedler, Jim Harrison, Sue Kalen, Sharon Moelsel, Don Peterson, Fred Pivko, Al, Charlie, Katie, and Phoebe Rey, Lynn Sharar, Priscilla Sprague, and Jana Young
<b>Props</b> .....	Lynn Sharar and Bill Sousa
<b>Lighting Design</b> .....	Charlie Scheer
<b>Lighting Crew</b> .....	Jim Dean, Caroline Hess, Janice Olsen, and Rob Taylor
<b>Costumes</b> .....	Gordon Rogers
<b>Make-Up</b> .....	Phoebe Rey and Tina Moffat
<b>Publicity</b> .....	Bob Ackroyd
<b>Rehearsal Prompter</b> .....	Lynn Sharar
<b>House Manager</b> .....	Lynn Sharar
<b>Tickets and Box Office</b> ..	Anne O'Donohoe and Judy Utter
<b>Refreshment Committee</b> ....	Debbie Pinneo and Katie Rey
<b>Program</b> .....	Joanna Paulsen
<b>Programs Printed by</b> .....	The Mad Printers of Mattituck
<b>Awards</b> .....	Cindy Ackroyd
<b>Photos</b> .....	Helen Wintermyer

## THE PIT BAND

Piano .....	<b>Anita Pylko</b>
Reeds .....	<b>Dorinna Suglia</b> <b>Richard Rayburn</b>
Trumpet .....	<b>Colin Van Tuyl</b> <b>Jay Posteraro</b>
Trombones .....	<b>James Burns (W.)</b> <b>Matt Valyo</b>
Drums .....	<b>Bill Schmidt</b>
Conductor .....	<b>Scott Verity</b>

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT I

<i>Overture</i>	The Pit Band
<i>Comedy Tonight</i>	Pseudolus & The Company
<i>Love I Hear</i>	Hero
<i>Free</i>	Pseudolus & Hero
<i>The House of Marcus Lycus</i>	Lycus
<i>Lovely</i>	Hero & Philia
<i>Pretty Little Picture</i>	Pseudolus, Hero, & Philia
<i>Everybody Ought to Have a Maid</i>	Senex,
	Hysterium, Pseudolus, & Lycus
<i>I'm Calm</i>	Hysterium
<i>Impossible</i>	Senex & Hero
<i>Bring Me My Bride</i>	Miles, Proteans, & Courtesans

## ACT II

<i>Entr'acte</i>	The Pit Band
<i>That Dirty Old Man</i>	Domina
<i>That'll Show Him</i>	Philia
<i>Lovely Reprise</i>	Pseudolus & Hysterium
<i>Funeral Sequence</i>	Miles, Proteans, & Courtesans
<i>Finale Comedy Tonight</i>	Entire Company

- The Time:** two hundred years before the Christian era, a day in Spring
- The Place:** a street in Rome in front of the houses of Erronius, Senex, and Lycus
- The Action:** continuous, with one ten minute intermission



## SPECIAL THANKS

The Ushers

Phoebe Rey

Southold High School

Mattituck High School

Greenport High School

Oz Theatrical Rentals, Inc.

John Wisemann's Art Class

Mattituck Presbyterian Church

Harry "Pop" and Heather Baker

The Director extends special thanks and appreciation to the cast and crew for their enthusiasm and hard work, and to the producer for his help and support. Also, she would like to extend a very special thanks to someone who without his support, understanding, and constructive input, she might not have done it — her husband, Fred Ostuni.

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Bob Ackroyd (Senex)** — Bob does just about anything around the NFCT, on stage and off, *except* musicals. So what is he doing in the cast of *Forum*? He claims to have auditioned during a momentary mental lapse when no one on the casting committee was listening to him "sing". He respectfully asks the audience to be kind.

**John Oliver Ashton (Erroneous)** — John studied at the Telly Savalas Conservatory of Music and has appeared in such hit musicals at the NFCT as *Man of La Mancha* and *Finian's Rainbow*. In addition to his vocal talents, John occasionally acts in non-musicals such as *Da*. He is not as old as he looks.

**Annette Bednosky (Panacea)** — *Forum* is Annette's third appearance on the NFCT stage. Last summer she was seen in *Anything Goes* and before that *Teahouse of the August Moon*. At Southold High School where Annette is a junior, she has appeared in *Guys and Dolls*, *On Broadway*, and earlier this spring was Emily in *Our Town*. In her spare time, she loves photography, art, aqua blue, and singing. Quack, Quack.

**Jed Clauss (Protean)** — A protean/eunuch who has just become a father for the third time, Jed has spent the winter practicing his falls and singing in the shower in order to try out for this show.

**Mindy Cohen (Vibrata)** — Although a newcomer to the NFCT stage, Mindy has performed in a number of musicals and concerts with other theater groups and studied acting and voice for a number of years with Lillian Caran of the Masque Young People's Theatre of Smithtown. There, she performed in various musicals and one-act plays. She also studied voice in New York City with Helen Gallagher, well known to stage and television.

**Jack Conforti (Protean)** — No stranger to the NFCT stage, Jack's credits include *Lil Abner*, *Godspell*, *Applause*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *The Boyfriend*, *Teahouse of the August Moon*, and *Anything Goes*. At the Riverhead High School, he has appeared in *Mame* and *Hello Dolly*. Jack just finished a long run as a jewelry salesman in *Woolco* and plans to study theater beginning this fall at Sullivan County Community College upstate. Jack lives in Riverhead and is studying voice with Maryanne McElroy.

## BIOGRAPHIES (Continued)

**Michael Conforti (Hero)** — Applause was Michael's first appearance with the NFCT followed by *The Boyfriend*, *Desperate Hours*, *Teahouse of the August Moon*, *Anything Goes*, and *Frankenstein*. This past winter, he choreographed the Greenport High School musical, *Annie Get Your Gun*. Michael lives in Riverhead and is a floral design instructor at the Harry B. Ward Occupational Center.

**Lauren Dickerson (Philia)** — A veteran member of the NFCT now for 9 years, Lauren spends her time away from the theatre improving her voice and her softball game, planning her wedding, fixing up her new/old house, and lots of other fun things. A real blonde? Only her hairdresser knows for sure.

**Rose Kobus (Protean)** — A resident of Aquebogue, Rose lives with her husband, Mike, and two daughters. For our last production, *Chapter Two*, Rose worked backstage but this is her first time on stage. Also, she is a volunteer for the Riverhead Public Library.

**Michael Losquadro (Pseudolus)** — Last seen as Sakini in *Teahouse of the August Moon*, Michael has appeared in leading roles in *Lenny*, *Butterflies are Free*, *South Pacific*, *Fiorello*, and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* among others with many other local theaters including Bellport Playcrafters and Theatre Three. Living in Bellport with Marie, his wife, and Kristin, his daughter, Michael works at Brookhaven National Labs.

**Don Peterson (Miles Gloribus)** — Don lives in Jamesport and works for the Little Flower Association in Wading River. This is Don's first, but hopefully not his last, appearance with the NFCT.

**Gladys Seery (Gymnasia)** — Gladys is a veteran performer on our stage. She has appeared in *Anatomy of a Murder* and *Desperate Hours* among others. Gladys has done backstage work as well. She lives in Riverhead with her husband, Jack.

**Eileen Sheldon (Domina)** — Secretary to the Airport Manager, Suffolk County Airport, mother of 6, lives at Northampton, L. I., Eileen has appeared in the NFCT productions of *Kismet*, *Of Thee I Sing*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Calamity Jane*, *Applause* and *Da*, and in the Riverhead Faculty productions of *Mame*, *South Pacific* and *Hello Dolly*. She is also Senior Vice President of the Vail Leavitt Music Hall in Riverhead. Eileen is a former TWA Air Hostess, a music lover, and a theatre enthusiast.

**Mark Sisson (Marcus Lycus)** — This is Mark's return to the acting company of the NFCT. And, he must admit, he enjoys the part of a procurer. And thanks for all the cards and letters about the newsletter which he writes. So join up so you can get one and get in on the fun!

**Art Wilks (Hysterium)** — Art has been in the NFCT for 20 years now. In past programs he has mentioned his wife, Sally, their three kids, and even his dog, Sod. In a way, his family has grown up with the NFCT. Now he has something special to report. This summer he will become a grandfather for the first time. Ah well, from now on he can play all those older men's parts for real. Proud? You bet he is.

**Jana Young (Tintinabula)** — Although a fairly new member of the NFCT, Jana has been actively involved since September, working backstage in *Frankenstein, Da*, and *Chapter Two*. And now for the first time on stage; Behold . . . — As has been said, Jana will do it — Well, let's give it a try!

## BIOGRAPHIES (Continued)

**Jackie James Ostuni (Director)** — Even though this is Jackie's directing debut, she brings a great deal of experience to the NFCT. Over the last twenty weeks, she has performed in *Cabaret* as a singer and dancer at Airport Playhouse, had the part of Jenny in *Chapter Two* and worked in a major motion picture to be released this fall starring Elliot Gould and Bert Young. She studied theater and dance at the University of Minnesota and to take up the slack in her career, works as a model and is a former Playboy bunny. She lives in Shoreham with her husband and actor son and even though Jackie shines on stage, it has nothing to do with the surplus radiation coming from the nearby nuclear reactor!

**Bill Sousa (Producer)** — Having done almost all there is to do around the NFCT, Bill spent last winter directing the Greenport High School production of *Annie Get Your Gun* and plans to return there for years to come. Bill is one of that rare (and nearly extinct) species (this time of year, at least) — a Westhampton Beach native! And in his spare time is a landscaper — in case you have any land to be scaped.

**Matt Paduano (Assistant Director)** — Matt was born in Damascus where he was raised by an order of Coptic monks. At 16 he rode to the Pacific on the Trans-Siberian Railway and considers himself lucky to be one of the few Westerners to have witnessed the glories of the Siberian spring. In Port Arthur he obtained work on the S. S. Bernard Cohen, a tramp steamer, which took him to New York via the Panama Canal. He now resides in Coram and his Long Island theatrical credits include work with Theater North, Township Theatre Group and *Forum* with Airport Playhouse. He teaches English at Central Islip High School.

**Scott Verity (Musical Director)** — A resident of Southold, Scott teaches secondary vocal music at Mattituck High School, he has been the musical director for the past three adult musicals at the NFCT — *Peanut Butter Prince*, *The Fantasticks* and *Applause*. He has yet to perform on the NFCT stage, as a slight incendiary incident forced him to play the "King-slash-Dragon" of *Peanut Butter Prince* on the Mattituck High School stage. Scott will be at the helm of *Henry, Sweet Henry*, this summer's youth show, and he urges all youth to try out (if you can stand his jokes)!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1982-1983

President .....	Phoebe Rey
Vice President .....	Bob Shaw
Secretary .....	Janice Olsen
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Cindy Ackroyd	Jed Clauss
Dick Romeo	Doug Shaw
Mark Sisson	Art Wilks
Scott Verity	



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are, one year after our fire and alive, thriving and determined to go on. Along with tonight's musical farce and all the fun it imparts, we call to your attention some of the continuing changes in our building.

For your comfort and convenience, we have enlarged our box office foyer and created new rest room facilities in the downstairs area. While these areas are not fully completed, we trust you can "envision" the final result along with us. Our many thanks for your continuing support and now a "Comedy Tonight"!

**Phoebe Rey**  
President, NFCT

## PLEASE NOTE

The next show will be *Henry, Sweet Henry* to be presented in August by our youth players. Anyone between the ages of 14 and 25 is eligible. Tryouts will be held later this month. Please watch the local papers for dates and times.

## People Helping People . . .

That's the philosophy we subscribe to at The North Fork Bank & Trust Company. But it doesn't just apply to financial dealings.

As a local independent bank, we're very much involved with and supportive of a wide range of community programs.

And people involved in the arts and humanities are certainly "people helping people." Helping us see our world through the exciting perspectives of theater, art, music, dance, photography and literature.

We thank you.

And we salute you.

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