



The Canterville Ghost

by Tim Kelly

based on a story by Oscar Wilde

Directed by MARK PHILLIPS SCHWAMBERGER

OCTOBER 10-19



EVOLUTION THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

by TIM KELLY

based on a story by OSCAR WILDE

directed by Mark Phillips Schwamberger

featuring

Nicholas McInturff

Leslie Robinson

Mark Phillips Schwamberger*

Todd Taylor

Eric Lavery

Gretchen May

Francesca DiFrancesco

Jeff White

Diana Marie Rose

Sean Taylor

Timothy Conway

Jacob Erney

Rachel Belenker

Vicky Welsh Bragg

Production Stage Manager

AARON MENDOZA**

Producer and Executive Artistic Director

MARK PHILLIPS SCHWAMBERGER*

**Working under an AEA contract. Courtesy of AEA
*Member of Actors Equity Association in good standing.

CAST

Jen/ Lady Joan The Graveless.....	Nicholas McInturff
Mrs. Umney.....	Leslie Robinson
Lady Canterville	Mark Phillips Schwamberger*
Weeds/ Hester The Horrid	Todd Taylor
Robin	Eric Lavery
Wendy.....	Gretchen May
Mrs. Otis.....	Francesca DiFrancesco
Mr. Otis.....	Jeff White
Virginia.....	Diana Marie Rose
Sir Simon.....	Sean Taylor
Vicar/ Vampire Duchess.....	Timothy Conway
Lord Cecil/ Martin The Manic	Jacob Erney
Mrs. Dampier.....	Rachel Belenker
Madame Balaklava.....	Vicky Welsh Bragg

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Mark Phillips Schwamberger*
Production Stage Manager.....	Aaron Mendoza**
Scenic Designer.....	Jim Ziolkowski
Lighting Designer.....	Iz Nichols
Costumes, Props, & Set Decoration.....	Queenie Leadbetter
Box Office.....	Sue Rapier Lauren Wong, Barry Bates
Marketing Communications, Graphics & Program.....	David Allen Vargo*
Producer / Executive Artistic Director.....	Mark Phillips Schwamberger*

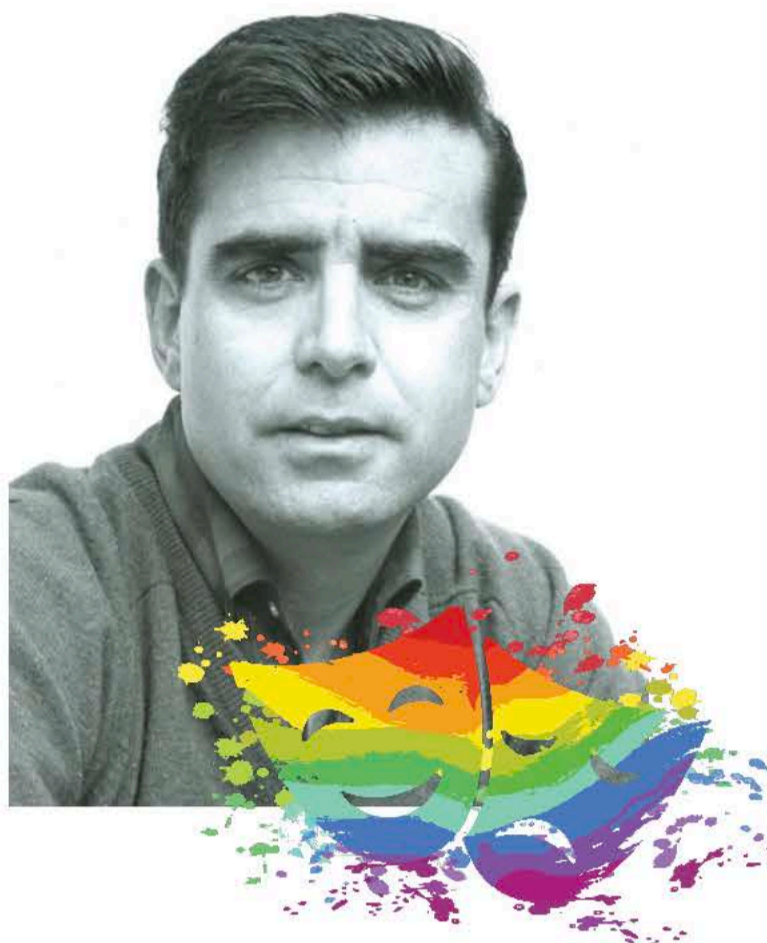
. * Appearing through an Agreement between this theatre, Evolution Theatre Company, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Denotes Member in good standing.

The show runs approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes.

There will be one 10 minute intermission.

PLEASE NOTE: The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings of the production and distributing recordings or streams in any medium, including the internet, is strictly prohibited, a violation of the author's rights and actionable under United States copyright law.

THE PLAYWRIGHT



TIM KELLY is considered to be the most-published playwright in America. He was born in 1931, and wrote more than 300 comedies, dramas, one-acts, mysteries, melodramas, children's shows and musicals, making his living writing for the stock, amateur and educational markets.

He wrote under his own name, and also at least four pseudonyms (Vera Morris, J. Moriarty, Robert Swift, Keith Jackson), for publishers such as Samuel French, Pioneer Drama Service and Contemporary Drama Service, among others. A Massachusetts native, Kelly attended Emerson College in Boston and earned a master's degree in playwriting at Yale University.

His amazing output for the amateur market licenses over 3,000 Kelly productions worldwide every year. Mr. Kelly's simple, formulaic work was a hit with amateur groups: Full length scripts were usually on one-set, had large casts to accommodate a theatre group's need to include a lot of members, and tended to include many female roles, as women audition more often than men.

Arthur L. Zapel, editor of Contemporary Drama Service in Colorado Springs, CO, said, "Tim Kelly probably created more bizarre comedy characters and farcical plays than 10 of Broadway's best writers... His king-size talent for humor opened the way for countless numbers of young amateurs to discover the fun of theatre."

Many of his plays were adapted into popular musicals by their publishers, and he often did not meet his collaborators; the scripts were simply turned over to songwriters. Songwriter Bill Francoeur added songs to nine Kelly plays before the pair ever met, Fendrich said. "He would write plays that would spoof something that was already well known, filling a huge gap for the amateur market unable to produce plays like *Cats* or *Phantom of the Opera*," said Michigan lyricist Mike Vigilant, who added songs to Contemporary's hit *Phantom of the Op'ry*. That show was the top rental in 1991. Most everything he did would be G-rated, for a general audience, so that all regional theatre groups could perform them without concern.

Tim never really cared about Broadway at all, he was very much dedicated to educational theatre, plays where you would have 30 parts. He wrote with the formula that nobody else has been able to get a hold of: Simple set, fun parts, roles for everybody.

He loved the idea of getting the work out and getting it to people. And not worrying about all the rigmarole it takes to get to Broadway."

Tim Kelly died December 7, 1998 in his Hollywood CA home from a brain hemorrhage at the age of 67.



A Tim Kelly Collection has been established at the University of Wyoming's American Heritage Center and Emerson College has twice honored him for his "Contributions to the Field of Playwriting."

EVOLUTION THEATRE COMPANY

EXTENDS A VERY SPECIAL

THANK YOU

TO

THE DUBLIN ARTS COUNCIL

THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

THE GREATER COLUMBUS ARTS COUNCIL

THE OHIO ARTS COUNCIL

THE ABBEY THEATER OF DUBLIN

Leave the
drama at
the door.

Call **Ian Thickstun** for any
of your Real Estate needs.

IAN THICKSTUN | REALTOR
ian@real614.com
614.397.7166



READYREALTY

THE CAST

Nicholas McInturff (Jen/Lady Joan the Graveless) originally from Akron, is a Music/Theatre graduate of Muskingum University. Nicholas has recently been in SILVER FOXES (The Twink), CHICKEN & BISCUITS (Logan Leibowitz), and RIDE THE CYCLONE (Noel Gruber, 2021 and 2024). Other favorite credits include PIRATES OF PENZANCE (Frederic), YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (Frederick), and PRODUCERS (Carmen Ghia). THE CANTERVILLE GHOST is their eighteenth Central Ohio production. They're sincerely grateful to their friends, cast, crew, and the Columbus theatre community.

Todd Taylor (Weeds / Hester The Horrid) Most recent work includes SILVER FOXES playing Benny with Evolution Theatre, OUR TOWN (Mr. Webb), with CPAC Players, LITTLE WOMEN OF ORCHARD HOUSE (Ralph Waldo Emerson), with Aethereal Jest Arts Council, BIRDS OF A FEATHER (The Birder), and SONS & LOVERS (Butch), both with Evolution Theatre, and other favorite roles include A DOLL'S HOUSE PART TWO (Torvald), THE WEIR (Jack), ORPHANS (Harold), THE SUBJECT WAS ROSES (John), THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN (the Dr.), all with Columbus Civic Theater. I want to thank Evolution Theatre for this wonderful opportunity and their fine work for the gay community, and inclusion. Thanks Mark Phillips!

Leslie Robinson (Mrs. Umney) is excited to be back on stage at Evolution Theatre Company. She has performed in Central Ohio theatres for over twenty years. Some favorite performances have been THE BODY POLITIC (Polly Sue), INTO THE BREECHES (Winifred) and SONS OF THE PROPHET (Gloria). You may also recognize her from her recurring role as Box Office Associate for Evolution Theatre! Many thanks to Nancy for her help with lines.

Eric Lavery (Robin) is returning for his second Evolution production having previously performed in JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT (Judah). A 3 time BroadwayWorld Columbus nominee for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical and a CAPA Marquee Best Leading Actor semifinalist for his performance in INTO THE WOODS (Cinderella's Prince/Wolf), Lavery has also appeared in AMERICAN IDIOT (Tunny) and ALICE BY HEART (The Mad Hatter). Thanks to the production team and his supporters. (@et.lavery) Nicholas studied Music and Theatre at Muskingum University. They're sincerely grateful to their friends, cast, crew, and the Columbus theatre community.

THE CAST

Gretchen May (Wendy) has been performing in community theatre for a full year now. Some of their favorite stage credits include THE SOMEWHAT TRUE TALE OF ROBIN HOOD (Ensemble), 12 ANGRY JURORS (Juror 12), and THE WHO'S TOMMY (Ensemble). THE CANTERVILLE GHOST marks their eighth central Ohio Production. Lots of love to their parents and the Cbus theatre family!

Francesca DiFrancesco (Lucy) is an actress, director, and storyteller. Previous credits: Imagine Productions' PIPPIN (Fastrada), WCT's DOGFIGHT (Marcy), and Abbey Theatre of Dublin's OUR TOWN (Mrs. Gibbs). Francesca is also a devoted creator of her own original work for the stage & screen, most notably her one-woman show, Mae West: After Dark, a one-woman herstory about the ever-brilliant actress, activist, and camp icon, Mae West. All her love to her family and her great romance, Sean!

Diana Marie Rose (Virginia) originally from Coldwater, OH, holds a BM in Vocal Performance Opera/Musical Theatre. Most recent credits include Rodger & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Ella), The Phantom of the Opera (Christine Daae), A New Brain (Nancy the Thin Nurse/Choreographer), and The Light in the Piazza (Clara). Diana is excited to be making her Evolution Theatre Company debut. "I am blessed and thankful for my family and fiancé for all of their love and support."

Jacob Erney (Lord Cecil/Martin The Maniac) is ecstatic to once again collaborate with Evolution Theatre Company in The Canterville Ghost and help bring in the spooky season! Other recent shows include Evolution Theatre Company's production of Starmaker (Troy Donahue), Evolution Theatre Company's regional premiere of The Inheritance (Jasper/Paul/Man #7), OPT's production of 40 Acres (Warden/Man 1), Gallery Players' production of Intimate Apparel (Mr. Marks), Red Herring's production of Airness (Shreddy Eddy), and ATCS' production of Queen Margaret (Somerset/Richard III). Jacob is a CWRU acting graduate of 2021 and studied abroad at LAMDA in London, UK. Jacob would like to thank his friends, family, and amazingly talented coworkers. Play on!

THE CAST

Rachel Bleneker (Mrs. Dampier), is delighted to perform again with Evolution Theater Company, eight years after her Evolution Theater debut. Her favorite roles include Abbey Theater of Dublin's OUR TOWN (Mrs. Webb), THE DUCHESS, (Evalyn McLean), and Red Herring Theater's THE HUMANS, (Momo). She was honored to perform in King Avenue Theater's The Laramie Project on the twentieth anniversary of Matthew Shepard's death. Her newest role is grandma to her grandson, Griffin. Love to mom and dad, Shaina, Phil, and darling Griffin.

Vicky Welsh Bragg (Madam Balaklava) is thrilled to be returning to Evolution Theatre with this "spirited" cast and crew. Previously seen at Evolution in SORDID LIVES (Juanita Bartlett) and LOOPED (Tallulah Bankhead). Other Central Ohio stage credits include SECOND SERVINGS (Rita), THE DUTCHESS (Alice Roosevelt Longworth), THE BODY POLITIC (Audra Sharp). She also performed with Actors' Theater for many years, portraying everything from fairies to melancholy gentlemen to shrews to queens. Many thanks to Evolution and my cast mates for making this a hauntingly fun experience!

Jeff White (Horace Otis), a Columbus-based actor, is excited to be a part of Evolution Theatre's production of THE CANTERVILLE GHOST. Recent credits include STARMAKER (Rory Calhoun/Jack), OUR TOWN (George), THE INHERITANCE (Adam/Leo) and A YANKEE GOES HOME (Righty Mills). Jeff extends heartfelt gratitude to his family for their unwavering love and support.

Sean Taylor (Sir Simon) Sean is very excited to return to the Abbey Stage in an Evolution production, having recently performed as Rock Hudson in this June's STARMAKER. Previous Abbey credits include OUR TOWN, DRUMS OF WAR, and MOBY DICK'S GONE MISSING. A recurring player with the Actor's Theater of Columbus, he has appeared in such roles as Oberon/Theseus in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, and the Sheriff of Nottingham in ROBIN HOOD. A featured role in the Tribeca premiering film Poser and various voice over credits for entities ranging from Cleveland's Jet Express to Pittsburgh's Primanti Brothers round out his resume. He would like to thank his family, particularly his parents, for their continued love and support, and Francesca, for everything always.

THE CAST

Timothy Conway (Vicar / Vampire Duchess) is a native of Columbus and a graduate of The Ohio State University earning teaching degrees in English, Speech and Drama. He is retired from Columbus City Schools. He has directed shows with students and been in many local theatre productions. He was last seen in, "OLIVER at Worthington Community Theatre in July. Other productions have been FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, 1776, SOMETHING ROTTEN and CRAZY FOR YOU. This is Timothy's first time performing with Evolution Theatre and he is excited about working with the talented cast and crew of THE CANTERVILLE GHOST. Best wishes everyone, thanks for coming and Happy Halloween.

PRODUCTION

Aaron Mendoza (Production Stage Manager)** is originally from the colorful state of Colorado but has made a home here in Ohio. His most recent credits with Evolution are Silver Foxes(Stage Manager), Joseph and the Amazing Techicolor Dreamcoat (Stage Manager) and STARMAKER (Director). He has enjoyed working with Evolution and this wonderful cast. He would like to thank his partner, family, and friends for their support and love.

Mark Phillips Schwamberger* (DIRECTOR, Lady Canterville) began his theatrical career during his undergraduate studies at the University of Louisville and earned his BA with a major in theatre from The Ohio State University. Mark's credits include acting in musicals, comedies and dramas as well as directing various productions at Professional and Regional Theatres and Summer Stock companies in New York, Florida, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky. In his role as Executive Director for Evolution Theatre Company, Mark looks forward to assisting in the Company's commitment to present professional productions of the highest quality to Columbus audiences.



*Member of Actors Equity Association in good standing.



Evolution Theatre Company
wishes to express our deepest gratitude
to our generous sponsors & donors



Dublin Arts Council partially funded this production through a Community Arts Grant
to encourage community engagement, cultivate creativity
and foster life-long learning through the arts.

Friend: \$1 - \$99

Anonymous (6)
Beth Arnold
Bryan Babcock
David Cox
Dawn Farrell
Wesley Giles
Charles Giles
Charlys Henrickson
Sandra Hope
Gary Kern
Kristyn Koczur
Kathleen Oxner
Jaron Terry

Supporter: \$100 - \$249

Anonymous (3)
Richard Arndt
Karen Miller
Douglas Althausen
David & Lois Armstrong
James A Mitchel / Bradford G Colegate
Sherry Crawford-Eyen
Suzanne Gray
Thomas Grote & Rick Neal
Richard Horton & Ronald Betz
Carol MacIvor
Brad Myers & Steve Rowlands
Ginger Oswald
Patricia Peterson
Matt Primmer & Ed Stofcheck, Jr.
Marcy Samuel
Carolyn Schiefer
Ryan Wertz & Bill Benninghofen
In memory of John Caprio
In memory of Andre Gautier
In memory of Edwin Lewis
In memory of Linda Wetters

Sponsor: \$250 - \$499

Anonymous (1)
Sheldon Gleisser
Carol J. Herman
Donald W. Stott / Charles Sellner

Sustainer: \$500 - \$999

Mary Bennett
Wayne Cocchi
Joseph Gentilini & Leo Radel
Mark Gibson
Bob Talley & Bob Reynolds

Angel: \$1,000 - \$1499

Richard Oestreich / Jody Rivers

Producers: \$1500+

Robin & Peter Hersha
Terry Douglas Etling
Douglas Whaley & David Allen Vargo

Perpetual Angels

*(Those that have been a continuous
sponsor from the beginning)*

Mary Bennett
Wayne Cocchi
The Terry Douglas Etling Trust
Joseph Gentilini & Leo Radel
Bob Talley & Bob Reynolds
Carole J. Herman
In memory of John Caprio
In memory of Edwin Lewis
Richard Oestreich / Jody Rivers
Ginger Oswald
Patricia Peterson
Jeff Schwamberger
Mark Phillips Schwamberger
Douglas Whaley & David Vargo
In Memory of Linda Wetters



Dublin Ohio's Award-Winning, Resident Professional Theatre Company



Join us for...
our 2025 Season!

