



2024 — 2025 56th Season

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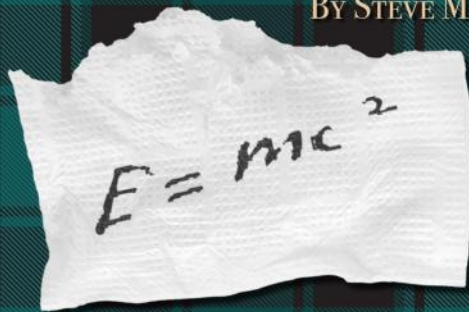
presents



PICASSO

AT THE LAPIN AGILE

BY STEVE MARTIN



APRIL 25-27 & MAY 2-4, 2025
FRI & SAT ~ 8PM || SUN ~ 2PM

Director ~ **Patrick Cleary** | Assistant Director ~ **Hannah Spangler**
Stage Manager ~ **Monica Bruno**
Co-Producers ~ **Billy Jenkins, Delys Russell, and Larry Segel**
Original Music ~ **Valerie Forgione and Greg Bueno**

Picasso at the Lapin Agile is presented through special arrangement
and license with Concord Theatricals. concordtheatricals.com

Learn About Foster Parenting and Adopting from Foster Care



Virtual Information Session

EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH
MONTH

7:00pm - 8:15pm

For more info contact
Kashawn Little 978-557-2745
Kashawn.McRavion-Little@Mass.gov

The Massachusetts Department of
Children & Families serves children
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1-800-KIDS-508 | mass.gov/dcf

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Please silence your cell phones before
the performance begins.

Please return all beverage containers (cans and bottles)
to the recycling boxes at the bar.

Do not put them in the trash.

Thank you!

Directors' Notes

Picasso at the Lapin Agile has always been a slightly frustrating play for me. The script tackles so many subjects dear to my heart; art, science, the moments of history, and human relationships. It's a play about talented, soon-to-be-famous young men at the turn of the 20th century written by a talented, world-famous middle-aged man at the turn of the 21st century. All the elements are there to create a comedic, heartfelt, and thoughtful play, but every production I've seen has been very well done, but left me wanting more.

When given the chance to direct this show, I requested we place the audience directly within the Lapin Agile, turning them into patrons, observers, workers and artists who have the chance to interact with Einstein, Picasso, and the less-famous customers of the establishment. I've worked with the cast to bring out the sense of wonder that's embedded in the story, and to focus not only on the grand scale magic that happens at the end, but the little miracles that happen between people when they first meet, when they've been friends forever, when they've had brief moments fondly remembered, or are wildly in love.

I hope we've achieved the wonder that Steve Martin included in his script over 30 years ago, and I hope we've made you laugh and think. Mostly, I hope you enjoyed your time at the Lapin Agile. We've enjoyed having you.

~ Patrick Cleary, Director

Paris in 1904!

It was an exciting place full of new inventions, innovative art, and a daring hope for the future! In the Lapin Agile, we meet people on the brink of something new and those who are perhaps clinging to the past. Twenty-three year old Picasso is constantly looking forward to what he will do next. In 1904, Picasso was about to leave his "Blue Period" behind and transition into what is known as the "Rose Period". During the course of the play, you will hear reference to and see many pieces of art and art movements. The end of the play concludes with the unveiling of *Les Demoiselle D'Avignon*. It would be amiss to not mention that Picasso's cubist style was highly influenced by "primitive art". He drew heavily from the sharp angular lines of African Art. So while cubism was considered to be a new movement of art, the style certainly existed already. *Les Demoiselle D'Avignon* is at the end of Picasso's Rose Period as he transitions into Cubism. This piece exemplifies the tempest of emotion happening inside of Picasso's head. His anxiety, his lust, his depression, his rivalry with Matisse (many view this painting as a response to Henri Matisse's *Le Bonheur De Vivre* and *Blue Nude*). We are meeting him at a pivotal moment.

Albert Einstein, aged twenty five, was facing a transitional period of his life as well. In 1904 he was a recent graduate who could not find work in his field. So he ended up working in a patent office in Zurich (no he was not in Paris at this time, but it's theater so it's okay that he is in the play!). While working in this office, Einstein developed some of his most groundbreaking ideas, including the famed equation, $E=mc^2$. *To all you recent grads who are struggling to find work, you're in good company.*

Both of these men were complex geniuses within their fields and their influence has certainly continued past the 20th century. These transitional moments lead the characters in the play to consider what is genius, how will the future unfold, and what they all have to offer.

~ Hannah Spangler, Assistant Director & Dramaturg

Production Staff

Producers.....	Billy Jenkins, Delys Russell, and Larry Segel
Director.....	Patrick Cleary
Assistant Director.....	Hannah Spangler
Stage Manager.....	Monica Bruno
Original Music.....	Valerie Forgione and Greg Bueno
Intimacy Coordinator.....	Anna Silva
Dramaturg.....	Hannah Spangler
Set Design.....	Patrick Cleary
Set Construction Lead.....	Christopher Cleary
Set Construction.....	The Cast & Crew
Set Painting.....	Patrick Cleary and Meg Brown
Set Dressing.....	Patrick Cleary and Meg Brown
Props Design.....	Patrick Cleary
Backstage & Props Crew.....	Billy Jenkins and Rhona D'Onofrio
Lighting Design.....	Larry Segel
Light Board Operator.....	Monica Bruno
Sound Design & Board Operator.....	Patrick Cleary
Costume Design.....	Vanessa Phelon
Co-Costume Design.....	Hayden Brackeen
Hair & Make-Up.....	Vanessa Phelon & The Cast
Ticket Printing & Box Office Coordination.....	Larry Segel
Ticket Desk.....	Mike Giusti
Raffle Organizer.....	Amanda Goolsby
Marketing.....	Delys Russell
Social Media Marketing.....	Lauren Thompson
Poster Art & Design.....	Jennifer Kilts
Show Photography.....	Sabrina Ornae
Cast Headshot Photography.....	Delys Russell
Digital & Paper Program Layout/Editing.....	Deirdre A. L. Shaw

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Picasso at the Lapin Agile opened at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago, Illinois, on October 13, 1993.

Are you interested in learning about the technical side of theater?
Contact us at TCSaugus@gmail.com and let us know.
We are always happy to teach through hands-on experience.

The Cast of Characters

Freddy.....	Ian Page
Gaston.....	Paul D'Onofrio
Germaine.....	Vanessa Phelon
Albert Einstein.....	Shawyoun Shaidani
Suzanne.....	Kaleigh Ryan
Sagot.....	Sara Dion
Pablo Picasso.....	Valerie Whiteneck
Charles Dabernow Schmendiman.....	Caroline DeBrot
The Countess.....	Emily Festa
A Female Admirer.....	Emily Festa
A Visitor.....	Bec Lowe

Setting

Location: A bar in Paris 1904

Who's Who

Cast

In alphabetical order



Caroline DeBrot ~she/her~ (Charles Dabernow Schmendiman) Her role as the bombastic Schmendiman marks Caroline's third TCS appearance and ELEVENTH SHOW with Shawyoun, the love of her life! You may remember her as Annie Knowby in *Evil Dead* and Leanne in *Puffs*, among other roles in her 18-year theater journey. When not shilling (or tasting) Schmendiminite, she works as a mechanical engineer and volunteers teaching art classes. Enjoy the show, and remember: Creation is easy! Just follow the path of least resistance!



Sara Dion ~she/they~ (Sagot) is excited for her debut show with TCS. Recent roles include Christopher Belling in *Curtains* (Savoyard Light Opera Company) and Dromio of Ephesus in *The Comedy of Errors* (Quannapowitt Players). Besides theatre, Sara's hobbies include travel, crochet, board games, and LARP (live action role-playing). She would like to thank her beautiful black cat, Snuggle, for always being there for her on the good days and the bad!



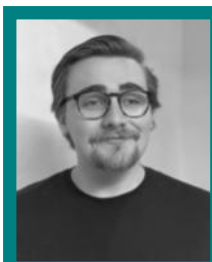
Emily Festa ~she/her~ (The Countess & A Female Admirer) is excited to join the cast of *Picasso and the Lapin Agile* as the Countess and Female Admirer. This is her first show with TCS. She has been a part of past productions at Regis College as Lucas Beineke (*The Addams Family*) and Percy Jackson (*The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*). She wants to thank her fiancé Zack, family, and friends for all the love and support.



Bec Ray Lowe ~he/they~ (A Visitor) is thrilled to be joining TCS again for another quirky show! They were previously seen as Ernie Mac in *Puffs* last year. Bec thinks that as a massive Lilo and Stitch fan, that this role is quite fitting for them. They'd like to thank The Huntington's Education Department for their unwavering support.

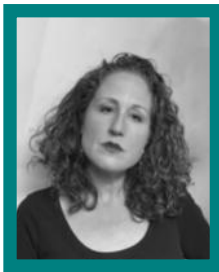


Paul A. D'Onofrio ~he/him~ (Gaston) is making his TCS return after participating elsewhere in everything from comedy to drama and a few musicals. He has performed all over the greater Boston area in community theater and as a professional. Favorites of his are Oscar Madison in *The Odd Couple*, Lenny Ganz in *Rumors*, Max Prince in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, Inspector Andre in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and Wilf Bond in *Quartet*. Paul can also be seen in the low budget sci-fi comedy *Atomic Poop* playing Vinny the doomed Italian chef.



Ian Page ~he/him~ (Freddy) has been performing since he was a child and is pursuing theater as a career. He has a bachelor's degree theatre arts from Dean College. He's delighted to be involved with TCS, returning after his performance in *Evil Dead: The Musical!* as Scotty. Some of Ian's other favorite roles include Chris/Inspector Carter in *The Play That Goes Wrong* and Greg in *Reasons to be Pretty*.

Email us at TCSaugus@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with future productions.



Vanessa Phelon ~she/her~ (Germaine) is delighted to be returning to the TCS stage after a two-year hiatus. This is her third show at TCS and previously appeared as Felicia in "Online Dating" and Kathleen in "How Do You Know" as part of TCS's short play festival and Helen Cooper in *Night of the Living Dead*. She has also appeared in both of TCS' Holiday Cabarets. Some of her favorite roles are Janet in *The Rocky Horror Show* and Sonia in *Godspell* with Minerva Arts Center. She would like to thank her family and friends who have always supported her crazy theatre endeavors and share her passion for theatre.



Kaleigh Ryan ~she/her~ (Suzanne) is excited to be returning to TCS for her third production full of discovery with another incredible team! Previous credits include Black Stache in *Peter and the Star Catcher* (TCS), Megan in *Puffs* (TCS), Joan Arc in *Mother of the Maid* (Marblehead Little Theatre), #7 in *The Wolves* (Hovey Players), Hound in *The Real Inspector Hound* (Deadword Theatre Co), and Mel in *One Slight Hitch* (Arlington Friends of the Drama).



Shawyoun Shaidani ~he/him~ (Albert Einstein) is delighted to return for his third show at TCS and to appear alongside his beloved Caroline in their eleventh show together! He recently appeared in *Evil Dead: the Musical!* and *Puffs* with TCS, and in *Night Of The Living Dead*, *A Woman of No Importance*, and *Metropolis* with other local groups. He thanks the cast and crew for bringing this show to life, but also for bringing him canonically back to life (it's been a while!)



Valerie Whiteneck ~they/them~ (Pablo Picasso) is thrilled to be directed by Patrick again, to work with this hilarious cast and crew, and to take on the challenge and privilege of playing Picasso. They send their thanks to Adam for his unwavering support and help. This is their second show with TCS after *Evil Dead: The Musical!* (Cheryl). Other community theater credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (Scrooge), *Two Guys At A Bar* (Everyman), *Beauty Queen of Leenanne* (Mag Folan), *The Little Mermaid* (Flotsam), and *Clue the Musical* (Mrs. Peacock).

Production Staff

In alphabetical order



Monica Bruno ~she/her~ (Stage Manager) is happiest when in the booth (particularly during tech week when the real magic happens!) Some of her favorite productions include: *How I Learned to Drive* and *Sense & Sensibility* (Concord Players), *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *The 39 Steps*, and *The Revolutionists* (Quannapowitt Players), and *Jesus Hopped the A-Train* and *Or (Hovey Players)*. When she is not in the booth, Monica can be found in the Box Office of various local theatrical venues.



Patrick Cleary ~he/they~ (Director/Set Designer/Sound Designer/Set Dressing) has been involved in community theater for almost 30 years, and has directed shows at Quannapowitt Players, Theatre To Go, and AFD. His most recent show with TCS was props for *Evil Dead: The Musical!*, where he was able to build puppets. Patrick's original plays have been produced all over the country, including the 2015 FringeNYC. He is also an abstract painter, and a storyteller who performs often at The Moth Story Hour on NPR.



Billy Jenkins ~he/him~ (Co-Producer) is an actor, writer, and puppeteer. This is his fifth show with TCS. Past TCS credits include: *Puffs*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Comedy of Errors*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Other past theatre credits include: *Robin Hood*, *The Ugly Duckling*, and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (Winnmere Family Theater), *Twelfth Night* (Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe), *As You Like It* (Forged Muse Productions), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Gazebo Players of Medfield). He also played Eddy in *Gutterbug*, which is available for streaming on Amazon and iTunes. His one act, *Of Muppets and Vampires* was selected to be workshopped and developed at the 2019 Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) Conference in Orlando, Florida. He also serves on the board of TCS. He would like to thank his family and friends for their continuing love and support. Enjoy the show!



Delys Russell ~she/her~ (Co-Producer) hails from Melbourne, Australia. This is her second production with TCS, following stage managing *Puffs!* Delys has previously been involved both on and off stage. Most recently she performed the lead role in a new original musical *Stuck!*, produced by the University of Melbourne Music Theatre Association. Delys also produced a medley of original works for the Melbourne Fringe Festival in 2022, which received a Commendation for Community Engagement from Union House Theatre. In 2023, Delys then served on the Awards Committee Panel for Union House Theatre. She became a TCS General Board Member in 2025.



Larry Segel ~he/him~ (Co-Producer) has been with TCS since the mid -1990s, as an actor, director, lighting designer, president, and is currently the Board Treasurer. He has appeared in several in TCS plays, most recently *The Comedy of Errors*, and in musicals including *Spring Awakening*. Larry has directed shows for TCS and Winthrop Playmakers. In recent years he has worked with a professional group, The Psych Drama Company, for which he directed three shows, including *The Lion in Winter*, which was hosted on the TCS stage in June 2022. He was the lighting designer for the Psych Drama production of *Stage Kiss* in February 2025 at the BCA. Larry is delighted to welcome the actors and artistic staff who are new to the TCS stage.



Hannah Spangler ~she/her~ (Assistant Director / Dramaturg) is pleased to be working with TCS for the first time. Hannah currently works with the Boston Conservatory at Berklee College as their Prop Manager, History Alive as an actor and production assistant, and Soap and Rope Theatre Company as an actor and stage manager. This May, she will be touring in Canada as she performs in Soap and Rope's show, *Whipped Up!*

Visit us at TCSaugus.org — Email us at TCSaugus@gmail.com
Call us at (781) 816-7019 and be sure to like us on Facebook!

SPECIAL THANKS

Cindy Liuzza ~ Karen Lobbregt
Ash Long ~ Kris Reynolds
Andrew Quinney & Old Town Trolley Boston Tours
Arlington Friends of the Drama
The Burlington Players
Charles River Boat Company
Saugus High School Drama Club
ZUMIX
American Legion Post 210 and
Deb Dion-Faust & Joe Schlicher
TCS Members Past and Present
All Our Front of House Volunteers

**Best of Luck to the Cast & Crew of
Picasso at the Lapin Agile!**

~ Michael Giusti

RAFFLES

Raffles are coordinated by Amanda Allen.
If you have items to donate for our raffles: gift cards, restaurant gift certificates, tickets for area attractions or events, or other goodies you think patrons might enjoy,
please email us at tcsaugus@gmail.com

Interested in seeing your ad in one of our programs?

Email TCSaugus@gmail.com
or Visit TCSaugus.org click on "Participate"
and select "Sponsorship & Advertising".

**Interested in being a Volunteer with TCS?
Email us and let us know how you are interested in helping:
Front of House, Tech Crew, Construction?
Something else?
We look forward to working with you.**

The Theatre Company of Saugus

The Theatre Company of Saugus (TCS) was founded in 1968. Through volunteer work, this company has been running strong for 50 wonderful seasons! TCS produces at least four shows per season, and has been very successful in running summer workshops, fundraisers, and special events to promote education in theatre for adults and children of all ages. The Theatre Company of Saugus always welcomes new members. You do not need to be an actor or actress to become a member! In addition to being onstage, members can help behind the scenes, either with lights and sound or ticket sales. If you have questions, comments, or want more information, please speak to any of our staff during the intermission or after the show or ...

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If you are interested in being an Associate Member of the Board, serving on any of our committees, or would like to advertise your business in our next program, please contact us at
TCSaugus@gmail.com for further information.

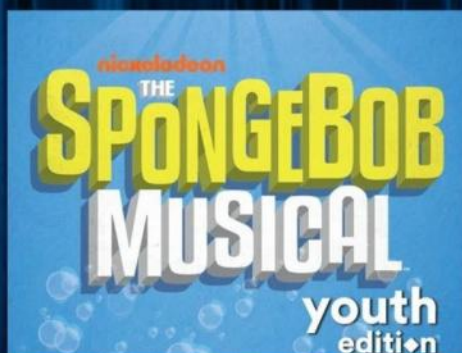
Theatre Company of Saugus salutes
Our Lifetime Members: Rosemary DeGregorio and Mike Giusti

TCS YOUTH SUMMER WORKSHOP 2025

Grades 1-8



Grades 8 and up



Visit the TCS website if you are interested in learning more about enrolling your youth actor in one of our summer programs, finding out about being an audience member, or discovering other ways to contribute to the program through volunteer opportunities.



This year our Halloween season show is the musical
Ride the Cyclone.

Performances are in October.

Auditions are in June.

Check the TCS website or Facebook in the coming weeks for audition details.