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The Odd Couple

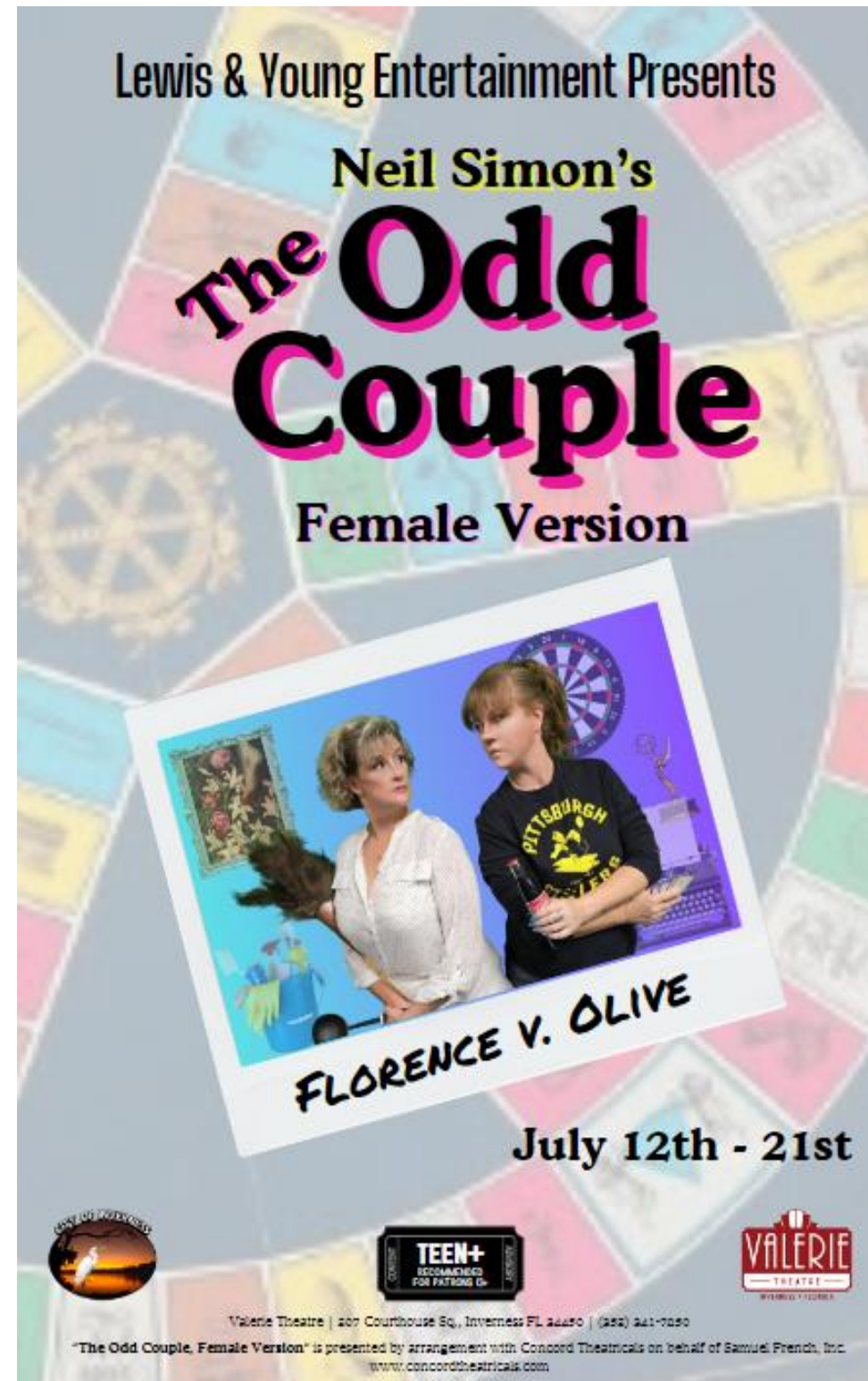
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Lewis and Young Entertainment

PRESENTS

Neil Simon's **The Odd Couple** Female Version

with

Leanne St. Marie	Janet Torcello	Allison Messina
Rylee Vazquez	Rachel Vazquez	Holly Sherwood
Larry Mitchell	Freedom	

The Production Team

Director.....	Tim Stuart
Assistant Director & Producer.....	Harry Lewis
Stage Manager.....	Spencer Bailey
Technical Design.....	Harry Lewis
Set Design.....	Tim Stuart
Construction Coordinator	Gary Boesch
Set Construction.....	John Koch, Harry Lewis, Tim Stuart
Set Painting.....	Holly Sherwood, Leanne St. Marie, Tim Stuart
Set Décor & Props.....	Janet Torcello, Rachel Vazquez
Promoter.....	Rex Young
Advertising.....	Rachel Vazquez

* Special thanks to **Salty Dogs Steamer & Bar** for their support!



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Neil Simon created the original play, *The Odd Couple* in 1965, featuring the mismatched roommates Oscar and Felix. It ran on Broadway from 1965 to 1967 for a total of 964 performances and garnered several Tony nominations and awards. It was made into a movie in 1968 starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau, who reprised his Broadway role. The show was adapted as a TV sitcom from 1970 to 1975, starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall.

Twenty years later, Mr. Simon flipped the genders in his adaptation, *The Odd Couple - Female Version*, featuring the slovenly Olive and the uptight neat-freak Florence. The regular poker game of the original play has given way to a spirited game of Trivial Pursuit. When their worlds collide, hilarity ensues. The Broadway production opened in June 1985 and closed in February 1986 after 295 performances. That production starred Sally Struthers as Florence and Rita Moreno as Olive, later replaced by Brenda Vaccaro.

This production has been an absolute pleasure to create. I previously directed this show almost 30 years ago with my own company, but being able to work closely with Harry and this exceptional cast has taken the experience to a new level. I have always been fascinated with the creative process of transforming words on paper into an actual "reality". That, I feel, is the very essence of what it means to be an artist. My humble thanks go out to all who have been a part of this.

Tim Stuart, Director



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SETTING

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TIME

ACT I

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- INTERMISSION -

ACT II

Scene 1: *Two weeks later, about 11 p.m.*

Scene 2: *A few weeks later, about 8 p.m.*

Scene 3: *The next evening, about 7:30 p.m.*



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Tim Stuart (Director)

Tim is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and graduated from nearby Maryville College with a B.A. in Elementary Education. It was there that he discovered his passion for the Theatre – a passion that has continued to this day. In 1981, he began his career with the Citrus County School System, incorporating theatrical productions to augment his classroom instruction. Tim has worked with several local theatre groups over the years but feels fortunate to be working now with the folks at LYE. He last served as Stage Manager for *Steel Magnolias*.



Harry Lewis (Asst. Director & Producer)

Harry loves nothing more than telling a great story. Born and raised right here in Inverness, he spends his working hours providing critical components to the aerospace industry via his high-tech machine shop. When not keeping the Air Force flying, he is a proud nerd who loves science fiction, anime, board games, and robotics. He lives with his lovely wife, two horses, five poodles and an Italian greyhound. Harry would like to thank The Valerie Theater and this amazing cast and crew for making this show possible.



Spencer Bailey (Stage Manager)

Always the actress, now the stage manager! Spencer Bailey has been in the theater business for years, just recently playing the role of “Annelle” in *Steel Magnolias*. She started in the youth program at the Arts Center of Citrus County, and now is a proud member of the Lewis & Young Entertainment group! But when she isn’t in theater, she is studying at the College of Central Florida and training in mixed martial arts. She is very proud of the cast and crew of the *Odd Couple* and is excited to have this new opportunity of Stage Manager.



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THE CAST OF *ODD COUPLE – FEMALE VERSION*

(In Order of Appearance)



Leanne St. Marie

as *Mickey*

Leanne is a Florida Native and 26-year Army Veteran, a former Tampa Bay traffic reporter / radio personality and teacher. She is also an animal lover, sports enthusiast and enjoys all aspects of the theater (acting, singing, set building, stage managing and directing. Some of her past productions include *The Crucible*, *Elvis Has Left the Building*, *On Golden Pond* and *Exit Laughing*. She is excited to join the Lewis & Young team! Thanks to all the cast and crew for a wonderful time.



Janet Torcello

as *Renee*

Originally from New York state, Janet has been keeping herself busy in Florida for over thirty years, the last ten right here in Inverness. A veteran of the Valerie stage, she has appeared in several productions including *Steel Magnolias*, *Bill W. and Dr. Bob*, *Summer of Suspense* and *Honeymoon From Hell*. Not one to keep her talents to herself, she regularly supports many local production companies and charitable organizations. She would like to thank her wonderful husband for all his love and support.

Janet thanks you all for being here and asks that you please support our local charities when possible.



Allison Messina

as *Vera*

Allison Messina originally hails from Frederick, MD. She has a BA in theater performance from Rhode Island college. She has at least 10 years of experience onstage. This is her first show with this company. Previous films include *Damned* and *Reunion* among many others. Previous shows include *Hamlet*, *Communicating Doors* with Rhode Island College and *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *King Lear*, *The Servant Has Two Masters* commedia, among many others with companies such as

Rude Mechanicals and New Old Theatre. She is just happy to be here.



Rylee Vazquez

as *Sylvie*

Rylee Vazquez, at the age of 24, has lived in Florida her whole life. Being the owner of Beauty by Rylee, she is now her own boss and is loving every minute of it. Giving her the freedom to do shows with Lewis & Young entertainment. She has been a part of the arts since she was in fifth grade. Rylee has always loved expressing herself through music and being on stage. The most important thing to Rylee is her family! Knowing that they love and support her puts a smile on her face and warms her heart. Without them she could never have chased her dreams.



Rachel Vazquez

as *Olive Madison*

Rachel, a native Floridian, was involved with theatre in many ways for many years in South Florida. She stopped to have two beautiful daughters. Years later, she followed her parents to the Nature Coast and tested the waters with her talented daughter, Rylee, in a one-act festival. There she met Rex and was pulled in to Lewis & Young Productions where she found a home. Since then, she has performed in several productions and has become a core member of this crazy, loving family and looks forward to many, many more adventures! When she is not on stage or rehearsing, she is a Property Manager with Great American Realty in Inverness.



Holly Sherwood

as *Florence Unger*

Holly has performed with the Kansas City Ballet, The Ocala Civic Theatre, The Valerie Players and many other community theaters in Florida. She has been in over fifty stage productions and even a few short films. Most recently, she reprised her role as M'Lynn Eatonton in *Steel Magnolias*. She has played roles as diverse as the hell hound in "*Baskerville*" – along with 14 other characters; a talking baby doll; an unlikely Lieutenant Governor; and Ethel Thayer in *On Golden Pond*.

She is also LYE's Executive Secretary, Desktop Publisher, Proofreader, and basic coordinator/organizer. Special thanks to her fiancé, Dennis, for his love, support and patience.



Larry Mitchell

as *Manolo Costazuela*

Larry has been held prisoner by his three children and their competitive soccer pursuits for many years now, but was able to escape for long enough to contribute a small part to tonight's performance. He has performed for the past few decades on stages all over citrus county, including a few shows here at the Valerie. He thanks Lewis & Young for lifting the restraining order and allowing him back on stage with their troupe. When he isn't working in DNA oncology, coaching competitive cheerleading, or teaching theatre at A Step Ahead Performing Arts Academy, you will likely find him passed out near/on/under his beautiful wife of 20 years Tiffany somewhere in Citrus Springs. Be sure to come back in January to see Larry take on the role of Oscar in the upcoming production of *Odd Couple*.



Freedom

as *Jesus Costazuela*

A local business owner and community supporter, Freedom is a champion for volunteer service, hometown values and "clothing-optional" town hall meetings. He is also lover of the arts, part-time activist and member of many organizations that work to prevent the use of "hate speech," "sexist language," and the misuse of "quotation marks." Freedom would like to thank his family for their support, the directors for this wonderful opportunity and his probation officer for letting him stay out after dark. Freedom will also be stepping into the role of Felix in the upcoming production of *Odd Couple*. Be sure to come back in January!