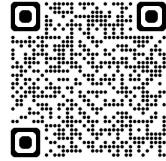


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Playbill designed by Holly Sherwood
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PRESENTS

Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*



January 24th - February 2nd



Valerie Theatre | 207 Courthouse Sq., Inverness, FL 34450 | (352) 341-7850
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LEWIS & YOUNG ENTERTAINMENT

PRESENTS

Neil Simon's The Odd Couple

with

Nick DiMartino

Rex Young

Jeremy Harrison

Tim Stuart

Larry Mitchell

Freedom

Rachel Vazquez

Rylee Vazquez

The Production Team

Director.....	Harry Lewis
Stage Manager.....	Janet Torcello
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Kim Stuart
Technical Design.....	Harry Lewis
Set Design.....	Tim Stuart
Construction Coordinator.....	Gary Boesch
Set Construction.....	John Koch, Harry Lewis, Tim Stuart
Set Painting.....	Holly Sherwood & Tim Stuart
Set Decor & Props.....	Janet Torcello
Advertising.....	Rachel Vazquez
Printing.....	Lordco Pack-Ship-Print

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Odd Couple was written by Neil Simon and premiered on Broadway in 1965. Since then, it has been made into two movies, 16 major international stage revivals, three live action TV series, and an animated series. The lead characters have been portrayed by some of the most recognizable names in Hollywood including Walter Matthau, Jack Klugman, Eugene Levy, Demond Wilson, and Matthew Perry as Oscar Madison and Art Carney, Jack Lemmon, Tony Randall, Ron Glass, Thomas Lennon, and Martin Short as Felix Unger. Obviously, this classic play is part of the American theater landscape, and we are thrilled to be able to bring it to you at the beautiful Valerie Theatre.

The cast you will see on stage today has been a delight to work with. Every single one of them has been tasked with bringing to life a character that is a puzzle piece in a very unique story. Conflict makes a story. This play is an enduring classic because Neil Simon wrote characters that were both friends and enemies. They are real, believable characters that have their own lives and goals and care about the people around them who just happen to have radically different lives and goals.

Our production crew is an amazing group of folks who are always on hand to help make the magic happen. I hope that you enjoy our production of this classic play and please come back to the Valerie to enjoy our other Lewis and Young Entertainment productions throughout the year.

Harry Lewis, Director

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SETTING

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TIME

ACT I

A hot summer night.

- INTERMISSION -

ACT II

Scene 1: *Two weeks later. About 11 p.m.*

Scene 2: *A few days later. About 8 p.m.*

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





Harry Lewis (Director)

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, four poodles and an Italian greyhound. Harry would like to thank The Valerie Theater and this amazing cast and crew for making this show possible.



Janet Torcello (Stage Manager)

Janet is originally from western New York and has been living in Florida since 1987. She moved to Inverness 11 years ago. Janet enjoys spending time with her friends and family while volunteering with various nonprofits in Citrus County. Janet has been an active supporter of the Valerie theater and other community-based theater groups for over 5 years. This is Janet's first time as Stage Manager after performing with LYE several times on stage.



Kim Stuart (Assistant Stage Manager)

Kim is happy to be the Assistant Stage Manager for *The Odd Couple* - working again with her husband, Tim, and many friends. Her first production with LYE was playing Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias* last year. Kim will join some of her "Magnolia" friends in *The Savannah Sipping Society* in April at The Valerie Theatre. She is currently pianist at First Baptist Church of Inverness and works as the receptionist for Humphrey & Saltmarsh, CPAs, during tax season.



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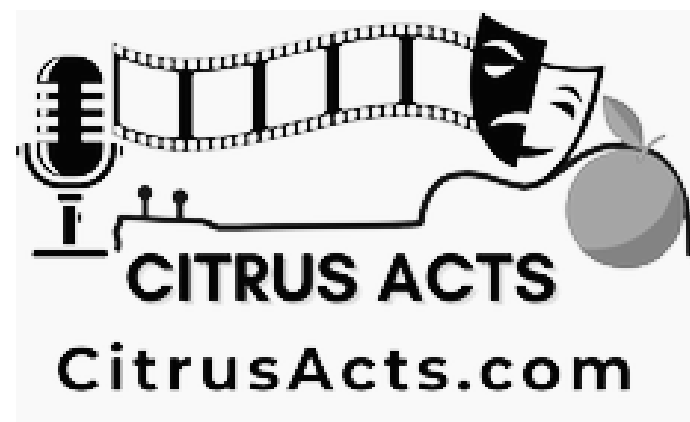
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THE CAST OF *THE PLAY*

(In Order of Appearance)



Nick DiMartino

as Speed

Nick is a proud father of three—Kendall, Natalie, and Nicholas. When not spending time with his kids or working with kids at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Citrus County, he enjoys watching sports, woodworking, collecting trading cards, and playing video games. This marks his acting debut (unless you count his unforgettable third-grade performance as the Big Red Crab). Nick is thrilled to take on this new challenge and embrace the experience.



Rex A. Young

as Murray

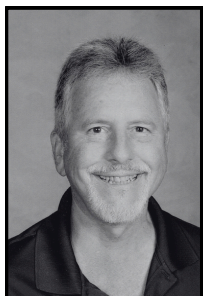
A former police officer in real life, Rex started acting so that he could play diverse characters and experience the drama of theater. Fresh off his last comedic role as an FBI agent, Rex hopes you will enjoy his hilarious interpretation of “Murray the Cop”. A true “ham”, he has already signed on for his next role playing the town sheriff in the Peacock Players musical comedy show later this year. Said Rex, “Well, it’s nice to see that Criminal Justice degree getting some use, I guess”.



Jeremy Harrison

as Roy

This marks Jeremy’s first show with Lewis & Young Entertainment. His recent theatre credits include performances as “Ralph” in *A Christmas Story*, “Nicely-Nicely” in *Guys & Dolls*, “Gomez Addams” in *The Addams Family Musical*, and “Renfield” in *Dracula*. His film & TV credits include roles in *Homeland*, *NCIS New Orleans*, *The Game*, and *RINGS*. Jeremy studied in the Professional Studio Acting Program at the University of Illinois and is represented by Houghton Talent in Atlanta, GA.



Tim Stuart

as Vinnie

Tim is the Production Manager for Lewis and Young Entertainment. He is a 48-year veteran of live theatre, both in Florida and in his native state of Tennessee. You may remember him as the “Old Man” (Ralphie’s dad) in *A Christmas Story* two years ago on the Valerie stage. More recently, Tim served as the director of this summer’s LYE production of *The Odd Couple, Female Version*. He is a recently retired teacher with the Citrus County School System after a career that spanned 39 years.



Larry Mitchell

as Oscar

Larry has worked with multiple community theaters throughout Citrus County, most recently with Lewis & Young’s *The Odd Couple, Female Version* this past summer. With dozens of memorable plays under his belt, both as an actor and director, his favorite role will always be alongside his wife in their high school production of *My Fair Lady*. Larry has been the theater director at **A Step Ahead Performing Arts Academy** for the past 10 years. When he is not performing, he can usually be found on a soccer sideline cheering on his three children, all of

whom play competitive travel soccer. Larry has taped a \$100 bill under your theater seat as a thank you for coming to see the show (made you look). But seriously, thank you for supporting community theater and all the people who made this production possible.



Freedom

as Felix

Fresh off his hilarious supporting role in *The Odd Couple – Female Version*, Freedom steps back on stage in the lead role as Felix Unger. A west coast native, he and his wonderful family have called Floral City home for many years. A veteran of both the Valerie Theatre stage and Lewis & Young Entertainment productions, Freedom has proven himself to be a marvelous performer. He would like to thank God, his family and all the voices in his head for his amazing success.



Rachel Vazquez

as Gwendolyn Pigeon

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 into 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 onstage or rehearsing, she is a Property Manager with Great American Realty in Inverness.



Rylee Vazquez

as Cecily Pigeon

Rylee Vazquez has lived in Florida her whole life. She has owned her business, Beauty by Rylee LLC, for two years and has loved every minute of it. Her work schedule has given her the freedom to perform with Lewis & Young Entertainment. Rylee has always loved expressing herself through music and theatre and has done so since she was in fifth grade. The most important thing to her 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.