



CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

Mark Twain's
The Diaries
of Adam and Eve

by David Birney
and Mark Twain

Welcome to CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE



I want to welcome you to Conejo Players Theatre. This has been a very special place in my life for the past 33 years! I'll never forget receiving an audition notice for *Evita* when we first moved to Agoura Hills; I had no idea then how enriched our lives would be with our amazing CPT family.

I have learned so much from these special people who support our theatre in so many ways: producers, directors, choreographers, actors, technical crew, stage crew, orchestra members, staff, and the incredible volunteers who make this all possible.

We are truly blessed to have Conejo Players Theatre in our community. CPT not only brings the best of theatre to us, but each volunteer has also helped build an inspiring and magical place where everyone can take a journey that will enhance and change their lives forever. **Whatever your passion is — whether it be seeing a great show, building sets, costuming, performing, directing, producing, ushering, etc. — we invite you to take this journey with us and become a part of our family.**



Devery Holmes
President

Proud Member of



Mission Statement

The mission of Conejo Players Theatre is to share in providing the community with a year-round schedule of affordable live theatre produced to serve the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community; and to welcome and provide an avocational opportunity for all volunteers interested in the theatre arts to participate in the many activities of community theatre.

CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE
presents

Mark Twain's
**The Diaries of
Adam and Eve**

by **DAVID BIRNEY** and **MARK TWAIN**

Mark Twain's The Diaries of Adam and Eve is presented by arrangement
with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Conejo Players Theatre • Thousand Oaks, CA

Oct 9 - 11, 2020

Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sat & Sun at 2:00pm

Production STAFF

Devery Holmes.....Director
Miriam Durrie-Kirsch..... Producer
Beth Eslick Costume Designer
Rick Steinberg Set Designer
John Eslick Set Dresser
Jim Diderrich Lighting Designer
Erin Nicole Sound Designer
Rita McCaffreyLight Operator
Mark Suarez.....Sound Operator
Erik Sorensen, John Losey, Angelica Smith Camera and Mixing Crew
Aaron Kirsch Photographer
**Rick Steinberg, Rita McCaffery, Casey McDougal, Jim Holmes, Devery Holmes,
John Eslick, Monica Steinberg, Jim Bukowski, Beth Eslick, Elena Mills, Jim
Diderrich, Jeff Lawless** Strike Crew

The CAST

Jeff LawlessAdam (Fri at 8pm/Sat at 2pm)
Emilyrose Morris Eve (Fri at 8pm/Sat at 2pm)
Jeremy Anderson Adam (Sat at 8pm/Sun at 2pm)
Casey McDougalEve (Sat at 8pm/Sun at 2pm)

Board of **DIRECTORS** and Theatre **MANAGEMENT**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President**Devery Holmes**
 Vice President **Elena Mills**
 Secretary **Rita McCaffrey**
 Treasurer **Mark Grisez**
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 Facilities Director **Mike Mills**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Exec. Director**Shelley Saxer**
 Exec. Producer **Beth Eslick**
 Exec. Tech. Director **Jeremy Zeller**



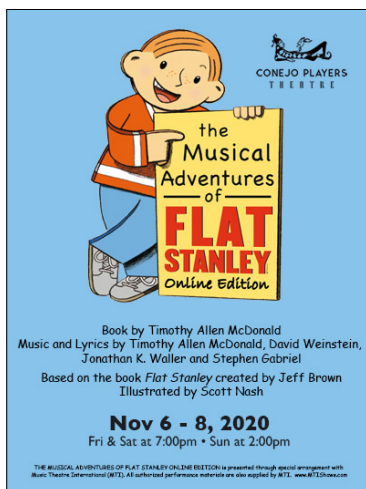
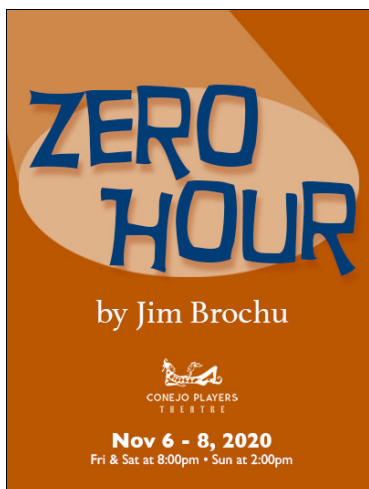
Director Emeritus.....**Dick Johnson**

THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Board Meeting Sponsor....**BethDressed**
 Legal Advisor **Jason Kirkpatrick**
 Box Office Manager **Sarah Ely**
 Box Office Staff
 **James Laguna, Trisha Greene,**
 **Bill Sweeney, Lorna Bowen**
 House Mgr. Coordinator...**James Laguna**
 House Managers
 **Dona Pugh, Patrick Rogers,**
 ..**Elisabeth Kirkpatrick, Erin Fagundes,**
 **Don Johnson, Eve Kiefer,**
 **Ken Endress, Megan Brister,**
 **Will Carmichael, Mari Urenda**
 Snack Bar Coordinator.....**Jim Bukowski**

Front-of-House Coordinator. **Eve Kiefer**
 Front-of-House Coordinator (CPYT).....
**Heather Gonzalez**
 Front-of-House Coordinator (Thurs.).....
 **Sharon Caswell**
 Archivist..... **Sarah Ely**
 Costume Custodian**Beth Eslick**
 Furniture Custodian **Rick Steinberg**
 Props Custodian..... **John Eslick**
 Graphic Designer **John Eslick**
 Pre-Show VO.....
 **John Eslick, Courtney Potter**
 Key Master**Jim Diderrich**
 Theatre Ghost **Albert**

NEXT ON THE BOARDS



From **THE DIRECTOR**

It has been an extraordinary journey to direct Mark Twain's *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*. Written in diary form, at first glance, I was concerned it would read like a sermon at church. There were long diary passages, and my goal was not to put everyone to sleep – not that I ever fell asleep at church...

But, I quickly learned that Mark Twain had a very different journey in store for us. Only Mark Twain could take the definitive story of the very first man and woman meeting for the first time, and have us laugh, belly laugh, hold our breath, and even cry at times, as we each identify with every stage experienced by Adam and Eve. Mark Twain was lauded as the "greatest humorist the United States has produced" and this beautiful story that David Birney adapted for the stage is no exception.

First produced for PBS "American Playhouse," Mark Twain's *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* is a uniquely American theatre piece. Since that time, the show has enjoyed well over 200 productions on both coasts and across the country.

I am so very lucky to be working with this extraordinary cast, crew and production team. Creating a live Zoom show with three cameras is a brand new experience and I am forever grateful to this team!

Please sit back and prepare yourself to be enchanted by the very first love story forever immortalized in true Mark Twain fashion, "I wish this new creature would not talk!"

- **Devery Holmes**, Director

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Patron of the Theatre (\$5,000+)

Beth Dressed

Sponsor of the Theatre (\$2,500+)

Dana Kolb

Friend of the Theatre (\$500+)

Jim & Devery Holmes

Jason & Renee Rose

Christopher Soulios

Tim Holtwick

Ray & Cheryl Mastrovito

Margaret Doellstedt

Gary & Shelly Saxer

Frank Bonoff

Meet THE CAST



Jeff Lawless (Adam) is excited to be back on the Conejo Players Stage after playing Riff in *West Side Story* back in 2018. Jeff graduated this year from NYU Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in Acting. While there, he studied at Playwrights Horizons, The Lee Strasberg Institute, and Stonestreet Studios. Jeff was also an intern for *Nine Muses*, working directly under founder Bryce Dallas Howard. Jeff has an extensive resume for both film and theatre on both coasts, and is looking forward to building the next chapter of his career here in the Los Angeles area! He is currently building his own production company, and holds a day job as an acting teacher at the Norris Performing Arts Center. Jeff is incredibly honored to be a part of this amazing team bringing live theatre back in a creative and safe way. He hopes to see you all back in person soon, and is thankful for your unwavering support for the arts! Enjoy!



Emilyrose Morris (Eve) might have a B horror movie named after her. However, unlike that movie, she only has emotional demons. She can be seen in projects that include *Marylin*, *License to Kill*, *The Cheerleader Murders*, *CB8*, *SpeedySift* Cat Litter commercial, and many other productions. She's starring in the upcoming films *The Walk*, *90 Minutes in LBC*, and *Mr. Hourglass*. She has trained at Groundlings, Second City, IO West (RIP), Ruskin Theatre, and Playhouse West.



Jeremy Anderson (Adam) grew up in Staten Island, New York. After an ankle injury prohibited him from continuing his career as a competitive figure skater he sought out a new career in acting. After being accepted into William Esper studio, Jeremy trained with Terry Knickerbocker and learned the Meisner technique which he brings into play in both stage and film.



Casey McDougal (Eve) received a BFA in Acting from the University of Connecticut. Partial theatre credits: *Peter Pan* (CRT), *I'm Gonna Pray For You So Hard* (Hartford Stage), *James and the Giant Peach* (Berkshire Theater Festival), and *Doubt* (Chestnut Street Playhouse). She is co-founder of Bated Breath Theatre in NYC, and her play *Dans Le Jardin* had its premiere at the Kraine Theatre in 2018. Recent TV / Film Credits: *Veep*, *Fresh Off The Boat*, *Vice*.

Meet THE STAFF

Devery Holmes (Director) is also the President of the Conejo Players Theatre, a lifetime member and a Golden Sweatshirt recipient. She is thrilled to be directing this wonderful show from the pen of Mark Twain who has been lauded of the greatest humorist of all time. Devery has also directed many shows for CPT including *West Side Story*, *A Few Good Men*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Agnes of God*, and *The Secret Garden*. Devery would like to thank the incredible cast, production team, crew and the Producer who she calls her show "Wifey", Miriam Durrie-Kirsch, and her wonderful husband and family Jim, AJ and Kellyn for their love and support. Devery hopes you will enjoy the show as much as she has loved directing it!

Miriam Durrie-Kirsch (Producer) is honored to be working on this production of *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* in her new capacity as Producer. Miriam's early training as a dancer/singer/actor was with her late brother Dan Durrie, Doug Caldwell, Stanley Holden, David Howard, Joffrey Ballet training program. After graduating from The American Musical and Dramatic Academy she went on to perform in many musicals, favorite roles include Velma in *Chicago* and Peggy in *42nd Street*. She then spent several years as a teacher/choreographer for award winning dance companies and creating several ballets for The San Fernando Valley Youth Ballet. In 2009, she met Erin Fagundes and was instantly embraced by the CPT family and went on to choreograph and direct several musicals, including The Four Star Alliance Award winning *Singin' in the Rain*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Hairspray* and *Sweet Charity*. Many thanks to her show "wifey" Devery Holmes, for sharing in so many theatrical journeys and the trust to be at her side for this adventure. So much love to her loving, supportive husband, Aaron and kiddos Dani and Sammy. Also, a big, "Thanks Mom and Freddie!"

Beth Eslick (Costume Designer) Beth loves being a costume designer and has done well over 100 musicals, plays, and movies. Some of her favorites have been *Don't Dress for Dinner* at Conejo Players, *Almost, Maine* at Windward High School in Los Angeles, *Haiti* at the Will Geer Theatricum, and *Mermaid Down*, a full-length feature film by Grellman Film, now available on Amazon Prime and Redbox. Beth is a proud Honorary Lifetime Member of Conejo Players and has been presented with a coveted Golden Sweatshirt. In real life, Beth is a Costume Designer and the Wardrobe Supervisor at Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga. "Hugs and kisses to my incredible, ever-so-patient Sunshine, and thank you to Chelsea, Tori, and Bennie for their encouragement, love, and support." Bethdressed.com.

John Eslick (Set Dresser) John has designed sets for several Conejo productions over the years, most recently for last season's *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr.* Some of his favorite designs have been for *Joseph.... Dreamcoat*, *Singin' In The Rain*, and *The Women*. He also designed the productions of *Bad Seed* in 2012 and *Farragut North* in 2016, both of which won him a Four Star Theater Award. When not in a theater, John works as a graphic designer and illustrator. Keep shining, Sunshine!

Jim Diderrich (Lighting Designer) has been designing the lights for many CPT productions during the last four plus years with the most recent being *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised]*. Surprise - he's also an actor.

Erin Nicole (Sound Designer) Erin is thrilled to be back at CPT after many months away! While this has been such a trying time for most being surrounded by wonderful people in a supportive and creative environment has been a blessing. The cast and crew are both amazing and have been a pleasure to work with as also. She hopes you enjoy the show.

