DalekoArts

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main street holiday

DEC. 5TH THRU DEC. 21ST





OUR MISSION DalekoArts (pronounce uh-koh) works with pro-

OUR VISION

DalekoArts will be a known destination for quality performing arts and education in New Prague and the surrounding southern metropolitan communities.

DalekoArts (pronounced DELL-uh-koh) works with professional artists to create ensemble-based live performances centered in and around New Prague, Minnesota. We are committed to being a positive force for high-quality theatrical performance and arts education. We train and work under a great and spirited legacy; the rich artistic heritage of the Midwest.

OUR STORY

DalekoArts was founded in 2012 by theatre artists Ben Thietje and Amanda White as a way to help decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota.

New Prague was chosen as the company's home due to the community's extraordinary interest in theatre, the regional growth and development it has experience in the last decade, its relative proximity to the Twin Cities and its close ties to the founders. "Daleko" – a Czech word meaning "far away" – reflects New Prague's strong bohemian roots, its spatial relationship to the cultural hub that is the Twin Cities, and the ensemble's desire to step back and examine the world from a new point of view.

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' NOTE

Welcome to the Prague Theatre!

At DalekoArts, 'tis the season for feeling nothing but joy and gratitude.

You may have noticed, if you came to see a show this summer, that we are no longer in a garage. While we loved that space for its challenges (we know now that we can put on a show anywhere) and for its intimacy (40 people + artists meant a jam-packed performance), we are excited and honored to be settling into our new home on Main Street.

We've been amazed by the love, work and artistry offered by our friends and community in the past few seasons. We're lucky to have good pals who also happen to be some of the Twin Cities' finest artists, and New Prague and its neighbors have looked out for us every step of the way. This season, we offer *Main Street Holiday* as DalekoArts' goofy, idiotic, fun and totally light-hearted love letter to our audiences, and to the good people of New Prague.

We're huge fans of the classic holiday film "It's A Wonderful Life", and it just isn't Christmas until we curl up with a bowl of popcorn and watch it until the weepy, beautiful end. Jimmy Stewart's character, George Bailey, has a guardian angel, the lovable and bumbling Clarence. In the last moments of the movie, George discovers that Clarence has left him a final thought in a copy of Tom Sawyer. We think Clarence's inscription in the book says everything we want to say about the last few seasons at DalekoArts, and about our future here at The Prague Theatre. He writes: "Dear George: Remember no man is a failure who has friends. P.S. Thanks for the wings! Love, Clarence."

Thanks for the wings, friends. Joyful, peaceful holidays to you & yours.

Warmly, Ben Thietje & Amanda White, Co-Artistic Directors Special Thanks to the following for their generosity help & support:

DARYL & ADDAMAINE THIETIE **DENNIS & IUDITH** WHITE **TOBY & NICOLE** THIETTE **IOSHUA & ALECIA** SCHARBACK **TASON & KACEY** HAMLIN MIXED BLOOD THEATRE COMPANY & STAFF **IACK REULER BONNIE & MIKE FULLERTON** WILLIS & KIM COOAN ANN GENGEL & **IUANITA SAWYER** PETER MORROW **GREMLIN THEATRE** REBECCA GEBHARDT THEATRE L'HOMME DIFI TARGET PROPS TARTAN THEATRE LARRY PINT & WALKING SHADOW THEATRE COMPANY



DIRECTED BY BEN THIETJE

A DALEKOARTS ORIGINAL PLAY WITH MUSIC

The south metro's favorite holiday music group, Main Street Holiday, is booked to play a gig at the newly reopened Prague Theater. Unfortunately for them, a rival holiday music group has the same idea. The mix up results in a holiday music competition the likes of which Minnesota has never seen – the winner gets the gig; the loser goes home a Grinch. This nutty Daleko original is packed with holiday fun for the whole family!

CAST

Dino Anthony J Sofie
Bertram John Wilson Bennett
Chris Smith Adam Hummel
Chris Smith Patrick Kozicky
Dorothy Holiday Amanda White
Sparkle Amy Schweickhardt
Mona Lizzie Gernes

PRODUCTION

Stage Manager Janice Geis
Music Director Anthony J Sofie
Scenic Designer, Lighting Darren Hensel
Designer & Tech Director

THE ARTISTS



John Wilson Bennett is grateful to make his return to Twin Cities Theatre alongside some of his favorite performers in town. Many years ago he started

his one-man grassroots campaign to convince Ben to give him a shot and he is glad to see miracles do happen. Happy holidays and enjoy the show.

Janice Geis is honored to be joining DalekoArts for this holiday expedition. Forays to other theatres include: Next Fall and Based on a Totally True Story with BOOM! Theatre (SM); Tracing Fault Lines; Paper Garden; Entomos; A Grimm Tale with Mad Munchkin Productions (SM); Letters to Sala with the Sabes Jewish Community Center (SM); Collected Stories at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre (ASM); Pearl Bailey...By Request and Eureka! with Downstairs Cabaret Theatre (SM); Metamorphosis with Frank Theatre (ASM intern); The Mystery of Irma Vep with the Jungle Theatre (Production/Rehearsal intern); the MN Fringe (FOH Coordinator).



Lizzie Gernes is so happy to be part of another DalekoArts production! She was previously in DalekoArts' production of *Almost Maine*, has been part of several Sketch Labs

at Brave New Workshop, and can be seen around the Twin Cities in multiple improv groups including musical improv group Sean & the Ladies and The Improvisers at HUGE Theatre, and in the upcoming and yet unnamed Harold group in HUGE Theatre's upcoming Throwback Night! You can also find her coaching at the Brave New Workshop Student Union's Friday Night Stage Match! Happy Holidays to all!

Darren Hensel has returned as the Technical Director and is ecstatic to be a part of DalekoArts' 3rd season. His favorite scenic designs he's done with Daleko include *The Odd Couple, Proof,* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Outside of DalekoArts he is the Technical Director for Tartan High School Theatre, in-house Scenic Designer & Master Carpenter for Minneapolis Musical Theatre and a part time Technical Director with Open Eye Theatre. Darren hopes you enjoy this amazing season and new theatre space!





Adam Hummel is thrilled to be returning to DalekoArts, having performed in last spring's production of *The*

Philadelphia Story. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Duluth with a BFA in Acting, where he performed in several main stage productions as well as two seasons with Minnesota Repertory Theatre. Adam is also an award-winning playwright.



Patrick Kozicky is thrilled to be working with DalekoArts again. He appeared in their productions of *The* Odd Couple and *The* Philadelphia Story. He also

directed their production of Rancho Mirage. Previously, Patrick has performed on stage at The Children's Theatre Company, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, The Guthrie Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Theatre Unbound, The Mechanical Division, Theatre in the Round Players, Bloomington Civic Theatre, and Youth Performance Company. He is the cofounder and Artistic Director of BOOM! Theatre. Patrick would like to thank DalekoArts for inviting him into their world. He also thanks everyone who supported the arts by purchasing a ticket to this show. And of course, Dan..thanks buddy.



Amy Schweickhardt is beyond excited to make her debut with

make her debut with DalekoArts in this beautiful production with these wonderful

people. Previous credits include Engaged, Based on a Totally True Story and Next Fall with BOOM! Theatre (run by DA company member Patrick Kozicky); productions of Private Eyes and Proof with Phoenix Theatre Project, a company that she cofounded in 2010; Spiders Web at Park Square Theatre; My Antonia, Brave New World and The Flickering Wall with The Illusion Theatre; Three Days of Rain at Paul Bunyan Playhouse; Moms the Word and a remount of Proof at Theatre L'Homme Dieu; King Lear with Minnesota Shakespeare Project, and several shows at The Minnesota Fringe Festival, including the self-produced, one-woman show I May Fly in 2010. She wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





Anthony J Sofie is excited to return to DalekoArts, where he previously music directed Forever Plaid and Little Shops of Horrors. Anthony is an active performer in the

Twin Cities metro area and has assumed the roles of music director, accompanist, vocal coach, conductor and dialect coach. As a vocalist and actor, Anthony has performed with the Dale Waraland Singers, The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale, Minneapolis Musical Theatre, Chameleon Theatre Circle and Minnesota Opera. He currently serves as music director at St. Anne's Episcopal Church and music director and accompanist for Park Center High School in Brooklyn Park.

Ben Thietje has been working as a professional theatre artist and teacher in the Twin Cities area for over ten years. He's appeared on stage with local companies like The Old Log Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Troupe America and the National Theatre for Children, He's written and produced several top-selling shows at the Minnesota Fringe Festival with the Mechanical Division, a company he cofounded in 2005. Ben directs theatre at New Prague High School and holds a degree in Theatre Arts from Minnesota State University Mankato. In addition to being DalekoArts' Co-Artistic Director, he performed in the company's productions of Little Shop of Horrors, Rancho Mirage, The Odd Couple, Forever Plaid and Almost Maine.



Amanda White is thrilled to join a wonderful company of artists for Main Street Holiday. So far for DalekoArts

Amanda has played "Tracy Lord" in The Philadelphia Story, "Pam Caldwell" in Rancho Mirage, "Catherine" in Proof, and she directed Little Shop of Horrors and The Odd Couple. Amanda trained at Columbia University, The School at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Minnesota State University Mankato, HB Studios and Truman State. In addition to serving as DalekoArts' Co-Artistic Director, Amanda is very proud to be the Managing Director at Mixed Blood Theatre Company in Minneapolis. Amanda wishes a joyful and peaceful holiday season to DalekoArts' awesome 'family' and the community of New Prague—thanks for welcoming us to Main Street in such a grand and generous style!



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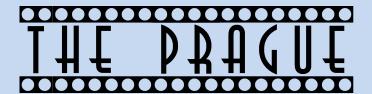
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