

FOR TIX: 952-314-9077 OR VISIT DALEKOARTS.COM



DalekoArts (DELL-uh-koh), an ensemble theatre company, works with professional artists to pursue impactful, live performance in our community of New Prague, Minnesota and the surrounding region.

OUR VISION

Our purpose is to decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota by increasing engagement and opportunity in New Prague and the surrounding area. It is our dream that New Prague will be a known destination for quality performing arts and arts education.

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 experienced 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.



DalekoArts is a proud member of the Network of Ensemble Theaters, a national coalition of ensemble theatre companies and artists.



DalekoArts is a member of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

DIRECTOR'S note

WELCOME TO DALEKOARTS AND THE PRAGUE THEATRE!

We're finding it hard to believe this season that we've been fortunate enough to produce three goofy, weirdo-packed shows in the *Main Street Holiday* series, appropriately, right here in this little theatre on New Prague's Main Street. This year, we get another chance to sit down and pen our own silly "Christmas Carol" to the town that gives us life, and we're counting ourselves so lucky to do it. It's become our annual tradition to reprint our original holiday letter to you. Here it is, for the third year, and as true as it's ever been:

Dear Friends,

At DalekoArts, 'tis the season for feeling nothing but joy and gratitude! 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 A Chris Smith Carol 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 loyable and bumbling Clarence. In the last moments of the movie, George discovers that Clarence has left him a final thought in a copy of Mark Twain's book The Adventures 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. Thanks for the wings! Love, Clarence"

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

With Love,

Ben, Amanda, and the Team at DalekoArts

A DALEKO ORIGINAL HOLIDAY SHOW WITH MUSIC

written & directed by BEN THIETJE
music direction by ANTHONY J SOFIE
choreography by AMANDA WHITE & THE COMPANY
story by BEN THIETJE & THE COMPANY

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

MONA Lizzie Gardner*

DINO Anthony J Sofie*

ENOCH Toby Thietie

DOROTHY HOLIDAY Amanda White*

CHRIS SMITH Patrick Kozicky*

GARY TIKALSKI Anthony Zadra

PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER Janice Geis

MUSIC DIRECTOR Anthony J Sofie*

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/CARPENTER Trevor Muller-Hegel

SCENIC DESIGNER/PAINTER Sydney Achler

LIGHTING DESIGNER Phillip Uttech

COSTUME DESIGNER Amanda White*

SOUND/PROPS/VIDEO DESIGNER Ben Thietie*

* denotes company member

AMANDA WHITE (dorothy holiday)

is delighted to be back with the gang in this third show in the Main Street Holiday series. You might have seen her previously on the DalekoArts stage as "Amanda" in The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged), "Angel" in The Rink, "The Stage Manager" in Our Town, "Tracy Lord" in The Philadelphia Story, "Pam Caldwell" in Rancho Mirage, "Catherine" in Proof, or "Miranda" in Adventures in Mating. She's also directed Our Town, Little Shop of Horrors, Barefoot in the Park, and The Odd Couple for DalekoArts. In addition to being a founding Artistic Director at DalekoArts, Amanda is a member of the Theatre faculty at Normandale Community College. She is a graduate of Columbia University's Program in Arts Administration, MSU Mankato, Truman State University, and the School at Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

ANTHONY J SOFIE (dino)

is excited to once again fill the shoes of "Dino." In previous DA seasons, he served as music director for Forever Plaid, Little Shop of Horrors, Always...Patsy Cline, Urinetown, and *The Rink*. Anthony is an active performer in the Twin Cities area, assuming the roles of music director, accompanist, vocal coach, conductor, and dialect coach. As a singer and actor, Anthony has performed with Dale Warland Singers, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale, Minnesota Opera, Minneapolis Music Theatre, Chameleon Theatre Circle, and most recently, Artistry in their production of *The Music Man*. He also currently serves as Music Director at St. Anne's Episcopal Church and music director and accompanist for Park Center High School.

ANTHONY ZADRA (gary tikalski)

recently ended a three-year run of *Deer Camp*: The Musical national tour. His career is both wild and wonderful. He has been a spokesmodel for 3M, a Radio DJ in Japan, a fugitive for Red Robin, a screenwriter on several projects, a featured player in a Swahili film, a high school teacher, and an acting instructor. He is waging a private war against circus peanuts and florescent light bulbs. This is Anthony's fourth production with Daleko (The Philadelphia Story, Main Street Holiday, Another Main Street Holiday), and he couldn't be more pleased!

BEN THIETJE (writer/director)

has been working as a professional theatre artist and educator in the Twin Cities for the past fifteen years. He teaches and directs theatre at New Prague High School, and holds a degree in Theatre Arts from Minnesota State University, Mankato. In addition to being a Daleko founding Artistic Director, he's appeared in the company's productions of *The Odd Couple*, Forever Plaid, Almost, Maine, Rancho Mirage, Little Shop of Horrors, Love Letters, Urinetown, Stones in His Pockets, and The Rink in addition to serving as director for Main Street Holiday, Another Main Street Holiday, and last season's Snowed Inn.

JANICE GEIS (stage manager)

is honored be joining DalekoArts once again to celebrate the holidays! It's the most wonderful time of the year, and I get to wear the coveted stage manager ugly Christmas sweater. Forays to other theaters include: Next Fall and Based on A Totally True Story with BOOM! Theater (SM); Odyssey on the Edge of Light; Into the Dark; Snow Bound; Out of the Blue; Tracing Fault Lines; A Grimm Tale with Mad Munchkin Productions (SM); Letters to Sala with the Sabes Jewish Community Center (SM); and Collected Stories at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre (ASM).

LIZZIE GARDNER (mona)

is happy to be back with the gang to reprise her role for A Chris Smith Carol! She has previously been seen in DalekoArts' productions of Another Main Street Holiday, Main Street Holiday, Almost Maine, and she was here last spring as a Friends of Friends performer with her musical improv group, The Shrieking Harpies. She can also be seen with her improv group GARY around the Twin Cities. When she's not performing improv, you can find her teaching improv or hanging out with her dog Charlie and her husband and fellow DalekoArts company member, Bobby Gardner! Lizzie is so happy to be back for another Daleko production and wishes everyone the jolliest of holidays!

PATRICK KOZICKY (chris smith)

is delighted to be working with DalekoArts again. He has performed with DA in Adventures in Mating, Another Main Street Holiday, Our Town, Main Street Holiday, The Philadelphia Story, and The Odd Couple. He directed their production of Rancho Mirage. Previously, he has performed with the Children's Theatre Company, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Theatre Unbound, The Mechanical Division, Theatre in the Round Players, Youth Performance Company, and The New Theatre Group. Patrick would like to thank DalekoArts for inviting him to play. He thanks Dan Newman for holding down the fort...and feeding the dogs... you fed them, right? He also thanks everyone who supported the arts by purchasing a ticket to this show. Happy Holidays!

PHILLIP UTTECH (lighting designer)

is a freelance Designer & Technician with an MFA in Lighting Design from Western Illinois University. After working a season with DalekoArts as an electrician, he is very excited to be joining the design team for the first time! Phillip also has upcoming designs with The Seasons Dinner Theatre, MN Dance Collaborative, and Inver Hills Community College.

SYDNEY ACHLER (scenic designer)

is a Chicago based scenic designer and she's delighted to be returning to New Prague for the season! Recent design credits: Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), Stones in his Pockets, Our Town, DalekoArts; For One, (re) discover theatre; Big Love, Apple Valley HS; Hamtown Races, Planet Ant Theatre; Pluto was a Planet, Illinois Wesleyan University; Tarzan, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Crane River Theater. She received her BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from Illinois Wesleyan University. sydneyachler.wix.com/scenicdesign

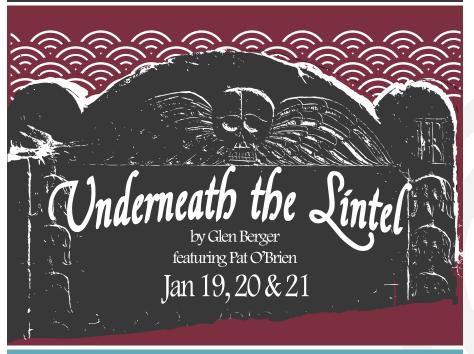
TOBY THIETJE (enoch)

was last seen on Daleko's stage as "Audrey II" in Little Shop of Horrors. He also played "Jinx" in DA's production of Forever Plaid. When not on stage, Toby can be found working the DA Box Office, or selling concessions, or scanning your ticket, or about a hundred other things that help the company go. He also teaches elementary music here in New Prague and is an avid pickleball player. Thanks to Nicole for being a super mother and wife.

TREVOR MULLER-HEGEL (technical director)

enjoys board games, breweries, and his friends and family. He has just started his own scene shop in NE Minneapolis after living in the cities for four years. He is excited to see how this can help the theatre community thrive a little bit more and is happy to be returning to Daleko to help them with their new season.

UP NEXT AT DALEKO



BY WILL ENO

DIRECTED BY ANNE M. BYRD



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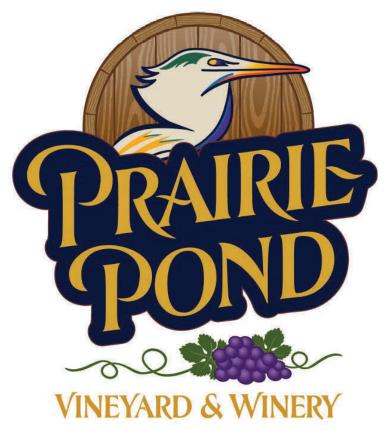
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