



The Odd Couple, Female Version

By Neil Simon



February 9-18, 2024

Great Red Wine

*made in Iowa
from Grapes
grown in Iowa*



Iowa In the Dark

is a dry red with light, fresh notes. First impressions are tangy acid followed by black cherry fading to plum, a dry mid-palate, and a long, pleasing finish. Made from Marquette, St. Croix, Petite Pearl, and Steuben grapes grown in Iowa, it's a versatile wine that pairs well with grilled meat and spicy foods.

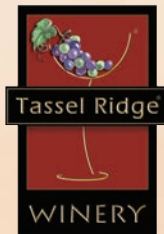
2021 Iowa Sabrevois

is a dry red with bold aromas of spices and leather on the nose followed by blackberry and plum notes with hints of baking spice, smoke, and licorice on the palate. Made from Sabrevois grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with grilled meat.

2020 Iowa

Reserve Marquette

is a dry red with bright cherry notes and hints of baking spice on the nose and palate followed by a long, moderately acidic finish. Made from Marquette grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with spicy foods.



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A Note From The Director

Thank you for coming out to see *The Odd Couple, Female Version* today – I have loved every second of directing this show and I hope you love every second of watching it! I couldn't have asked for a better show or cast for my first time directing. Whether you're a long time *Odd Couple* fan or this is your first encounter with the iconic duo, welcome!

The Odd Couple has a rich comedy history, starting in 1965 with the original play by Neil Simon, which performed on Broadway for over two years and won four Tony awards. The first movie adaptation, also written by Neil Simon, came out in 1968 and was a hit (with a sequel in 1998). *The Odd Couple* television show ran from 1970-1975 (with a reunion movie in 1993), followed by one season of *The Oddball Couple*, which featured a neat cat named Spiffy and a sloppy dog named Fleabag. *The New Odd Couple* television show ran from 1982 to 1983. This is when *The Odd Couple, Female Version* (again written by Neil Simon) took to Broadway in 1985 and performed for eight months. This production starred Sally Struthers as Florence and Rita Moreno as Olive. It was also Tony Shalhoub's Broadway debut (Jesus). Finally, the most recent TV adaptation was released in 2015, with Matthew Perry starring as Oscar.

However you've encountered *The Odd Couple* in the past, we hope tonight's performance is a memorable one!

The Odd Couple, Female Version
In Order of Appearance

Mickey	Katie Wollan
Renee	Kay Mueller
Vera	Jessica Weis
Sylvie	Stacie Bendixen
Olive Madison	Alicia Scott
Florence Unger	Elizabeth De Paula
Manolo Costazuela	John Guzman
Jesus Costazuela	Josh Wing

Place: Olive Madison's New York apartment

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.

Please note this show contains discussions of suicide.

If you or someone you know needs help, you can
call the National Suicide Hotline at 988.

No videotaping of this show is permitted.

“The Odd Couple, Female Version” is presented by
arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel
French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Production Team

Director	Lauren Mills
Assistant Director	Maia Talarico
Producer	Lisa Gould
Set Design	Abby Martin, Lauren Mills
Set Construction	Tyler Boesch, Abby Martin, Tim Mills, Matt Tuttle, Katie Wollan
Set Painting	Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills, Maia Talarico, Katie Wollan
Lighting/Sound Design and Operation	Abby Martin
Costumes	Cast
Props	Lauren Mills
Program	Abby Martin, Barb Wagner
Photographer	Greg Romans
Logo Design	Bekah Wieland
Marketing	Doug Arterburn, Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills, Greg Romans

2023 - 2024 ACT Board of Directors

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Mailing Address: PO Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Website: www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com

Email: information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com

Biographies



Stacie Bendixen (Sylvie) is appearing in her 13th show at ACT, most recently as an ancestor in *The Addams Family*. She has served as ACT's board president and continues to help with marketing and fundraising. Stacie has also performed at the Des Moines Playhouse (*Rogers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* and *Disney's Freaky Friday*), Urbandale Community Theatre (most recently *Bye Bye Birdie*), and Class Act Productions. She works in communications for the Wells Fargo Foundation and volunteers with the cats at AHeinz57. Her own cat, Jemma, is just as sassy as Sylvie.



Elizabeth De Paula (Florence Unger) is a newcomer to Ankeny Community Theater but she is no newbie to the stage. With 34 years of theater experience under her belt she has played everything from Mrs. Teevee in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* to Cinderella in *Cinderella* the musical. She is so excited to get to be a part of this amazing cast. She is dedicating tonight's performance to her late father Stephen Willems who played Felix in *The Odd Couple* in 1984 in her hometown of Warroad, Minnesota. Elizabeth's the mom of nine amazing kiddos, running from Swimming to Dance to Show Choir, Band and Awana. She'd like to thank her husband, Judah, for his awesome support while she's jumped back into the acting pool. "You are epic and I love you." Elizabeth is also working towards her Certified Medical Assistant degree and is hoping to return to school this fall. She loves to travel, read, cook, be with her family and, of course, act. "ENJOY THE SHOW EVERYONE!"



John Guzman (Manolo Costazuela) is “berry berry” happy to be part of his first regular play. You may have seen him in only musicals around the Des Moines metro. He was in Ankeny’s production of *She Loves Me*, Urbandale’s production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and made his stage manager debut in *The Lion, The Witch, & The Wardrobe* at DMYAT. He is looking forward to assisting with choreography at CAP for their production of *Frozen Jr.* this summer. John enjoys being part of the theatre community in DSM because it is a chance to meet new people, appreciate the talent this area has to offer, and provide our community with a chance to escape the mundane and dive into a brand new story or experience. He hopes you enjoy the show and come back for another ACT production.



Kay Mueller (Renee) teaches Speech at DMACC Boone campus. Some of her favorite previous theater roles were in *Kitchen Witches*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, and *Lend Me a Tenor*. In her spare time, she enjoys sewing (especially vintage patterns), reading mysteries, ISU basketball, cooking, gardening, and so much more! Kay has 3 geriatric cats at home and likes to spend time with K.C.



Alicia Scott (Olive Madison) is making her Ankeny Community Theatre debut! This vibrant talent hails from the sunny streets of California and has graced the stage in numerous productions, including a memorable stint in *Ragtime* at the Des Moines Playhouse. When she's not enchanting audiences with her performances, Alicia finds joy in singing alongside her husband and indulging in lively games with her children. As the ultimate mom taxi, she navigates the dual roles of a dedicated actress and a loving family woman with boundless enthusiasm. Get ready for an unforgettable performance as Alicia brings her passion for theater to the Ankeny stage!



Jessica Weis (Vera) is excited to be in her first Ankeny Community Theatre production! Before graduating from DMACC this past May, she was seen on their stage in *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Eleanor and Dolly*. Jessica works locally as a phlebotomist, and in her free time she enjoys running, hiking, and coloring. Fun fact: Jessica is the 3rd oldest of her five siblings, and they were all adopted. She, of course, enjoys fluffy towels and crisp sandwiches, just like Vera.



Josh Wing (Jesus Costazuela) has always been a fan of theater and drama productions and loves pretending to be other people. When not acting, Josh enjoys playing guitar and writing music. He is father to five beautiful kids and husband to the most talented woman in the world (he may be subjective). After taking a break from acting for awhile, Josh came back last season and dove head first into three consecutive productions including ACT's *The One Act Play That Goes Wrong*. Community theater has become a home away from home and he loves the new friendships he makes with each production!



Katie Wollan (Mickey) This is Katie's second appearance on stage at Ankeny Community Theatre - her first appearance was this summer in *Much Ado About Nothing*. Her previous theatre experience was more than fifteen years ago! Katie is thrilled to be on stage in another comedy by an iconic playwright and is grateful to be working again with such a collaborative and amazing crew and cast. While not trying to memorize lines, Katie is an aspiring watercolor painter and is attempting to finish reading the *Lord of The Rings* trilogy. She lives in Ankeny and enjoys working full time from her home office.



Lauren Mills (Director) is making her directing debut with *The Odd Couple*! In the past she's been seen on the ACT stage as Mrs. Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and as Whitney in *A Piece of My Heart*, as well as assistant directing *Borrowed Beats*. She wants to send a huge shout out to the incredible cast for working alongside her to bring her vision to life! Lauren works for the Ankeny School District as a sign language interpreter and, in her free time, likes to paint, bake new recipes, and listen to audiobooks. She hopes you enjoy the show, laugh until your stomach hurts, and come back to ACT again!



Maia Talarico (Assistant Director) This is Maia's first assistant directing role with ACT. Previously they've stage managed for Iowa Stage Theatre Company and Iowa State University. When not behind the scenes, you can typically find them on stage acting, singing, dancing, or all of the above. Previous stage credits include: *Kinky Boots* (Richard Bailey), *Borrowed Beats* (Zoe), *Tinker Bell* (Tinker Bell), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), and *Ella Enchanted* (Olive).

2023 - 2024 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

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Director (\$500 - \$999)

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Stage Manager (\$250 - \$499)

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Ankeny Community Theatre

42nd season | 2023-2024

The Addams Family

Book by Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice, Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa

Sept. 29–Oct. 8, 2023

The Odd Couple, Female Version

By Neil Simon

Feb. 9–18, 2024

Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

June 7–16, 2024

World Premiere

A Gift for Rebecca

By John Claes

Dec. 1–10, 2023

Dial 'M' for Murder

By Frederick Knott

April 12–21, 2024

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

By Christopher Durang

Aug. 2–11, 2024

Presented by special arrangement with these publishers:

The Addams Family: Theatrical Rights Worldwide. *The Odd Couple, Female Version*: Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. *Dial 'M' for Murder*; Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*; *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*: Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.

Coming up next...
Dial "M" for Murder
By Frederick Knott

April 12-21
Rated PG-13

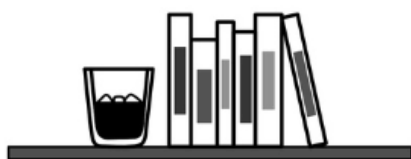


*Dial "M"
for
Murder*
By Frederick Knott

In this psychological thriller, Tony Wendice, who married Margot for her money, now plans to murder her for the same reason. Tony thinks he has arranged the perfect murder, but the plan goes awry when Margot fights back. This melodrama had a successful run on Broadway before gaining even more popularity as a movie directed by Alfred Hitchcock, starring Grace Kelly.

Coming this summer:
Edward Albee's
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

June 7-16
Rated R



Edward Albee's
*Who's Afraid of
Virginia Woolf?*

George, a professor at a small college, and his wife, Martha, have just returned home drunk from a Saturday night party. Martha announces that she has invited a new, young couple to stop by for a nightcap. When the pair arrives, the drinks flow -and underneath the edgy banter lurks a secret that comes to light before the end. This drama won the 1963 Tony Award for Best Play.

ACT's Mission:

To provide opportunities for Central Iowa community members to present and enjoy quality live theater.

ACT's Vision:

To be a welcoming place where people of diverse backgrounds have fulfilling theatrical experiences that are a vital part of the cultural landscape and the quality of life in our community.



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ACT's committees are made up of board members and other volunteers. The committees plan and carry out all the theater's functions, under the board's direction. Volunteering on a committee is a great way to make a real difference at ACT! If you're interested in getting involved in any of these areas, please email volunteer@ankenycommunitytheatre.com to learn more.

Building and Operations: Responsible for the condition of the building and managing supplies.

Data Management: Responsible for all things *information* - databases, digital accounts and services, documenting and organizing information and materials related to running the organization, including policies and procedures.

Finance: Oversees financial management and brings financial recommendations to the board.

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Membership and Sales: Cultivates and manages individual donors (members); plans annual member event. Manages box office system and ticket sales, including pricing and season punch cards, as well as audience experience.

Production: Responsible for all aspects of putting on shows themselves; develops and implements related policies and procedures. Committee members also serve as producers.

Volunteer: Recruits, trains, and manages volunteers; develops policies and procedures related to volunteers; develops volunteer recognition.

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December 1 - 2, 2023

Remembered Paths | Drake University Choir
December 3, 2023

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February 6, 2024

Die Fledermaus | Drake Opera Theater and Symphony
February 17 - 18, 2024



Scan to see all upcoming Drake Fine Arts events.

→ Art

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February 1 - March 8, 2024

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March 24 - April 14, 2024

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April 20 - May 2, 2024 & May 7 - May 18, 2024

All art exhibitions are held in the Anderson Gallery in the Harmon Fine Arts Center.

Harmon Fine Arts Center - 25th & Carpenter Avenue - Drake University - Fine Arts Box Office: 271-3841

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STANDING OVATION 2023-2024



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Don Coffin

CEO and President



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