

THE WIMBERLEY PLAYERS PRESENT



Importance OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE

FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 19

Directed by Whitney Marlett

Fri | Sat 7:30 pm; Sunday 2:30 pm
Tickets: \$22 Adults | \$18 Students

Tickets online at WimberleyPlayers.org
or call the box office at 512-847-0575

 THE
WIMBERLEY
PLAYERS
AMAZING THEATRE

Cast

Algernon Moncrieff	William Windle
Jack Worthing	Siddharth Kumar
Lady Bracknell	Mary Jane Windle
Gwendolen Fairfax	Rebecca Woods
Cecily Cardew	Emily-Ann Patterson
Miss Prism, Governess	Sabrina Bruce
Rev. Chasuble and Lane, Manservant	Danny Mosier
Merriman, Butler	Michael Harelick

Setting

London, 1895

Scene Breakdown

ACT 1	ACT II	ACT III
Algernon Moncrieff's Flat in Half-Moon Street, W.	The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton	Drawing-Room at the Manor House, Woolton
- Intermission -	- Intermission -	

Production Team

Producers	Cara Mosier, Sharon Crabb
Managing Artistic Director	Trish Rigdon
Technical Director	Todd Allen Martin
Director	Whitney Marlett
Stage Manager	Sondra Gervasi
Assistant Stage Manager	Robby Vance
Scenic Designer, Lighting Designer	Todd Allen Martin
Sound Designer	Dylan Byrnes
Costume Designer	Susan Blankenship
Charge Scenic Artist	Carroll Dolezal
Scenic Artists	Robert Martin, Nancy Martin, Melinda Ellisor, Davina Gary, D'Anna Tindal, Jana White
Properties Coordinator	Cara Mosier
Set Construction	David Bisett, Greg Dew, Keith Haney, Arnold Jansen, Scott McBride, Robert Martin, Nancy Martin
Sound Board Operator	Dylan Byrnes, Matthew Linder
Light Board Operators	Melinda Ellisor
Lighting Crew	David Bisett, Todd Allen Martin, Nancy Martin
Dramaturg	Rodger Marion
Show Publicity	Karin Cunningham
Photographer	Kevin Rigdon
Theatre Managers	Dee Bynum, Simone Corprew, Teresa Kendrick, Cara Mosier, Jana White
House Managers	Marcia Colbert, Pat Edwards, Sandra Haney, Jan Horton, Lisa Kuyrkendall, Dee Rebai, Mary Thigpen
Ushers	Friends of the Players

From the Director

On March 15, 2020, I, along with my fellow cast mates, was sent home from rehearsal for *Our Town* at the Classic Theatre in San Antonio. As we walked to our cars to go home for a projected two-week hiatus, I saw the singers and dancers from the Woodlawn Theatre leaving as well. On the way home, "For Now" from *Avenue Q* came on the radio. That's when the fear and dread hit. I cried. Everything had changed all at once.

I spent the next couple of months sitting on my screened in porch making plans for fixing up the back yard and trying to find projects to keep myself busy. To date, very few of the projects have been completed because I'm easily distracted.

In June, I received a message from a former cast mate who contacted me about doing a radio show reading of *The Importance of Being Earnest* on Facebook Live for a theatre in Pennsylvania. Their Lady Bracknell wasn't able to participate after all and she reached out to me to join the cast about a week and a half before the streaming show. I jumped at the chance without knowing anything about the show except that it was written a long time ago and I had likely read it at some point in high school but didn't remember anything about it. It was good to have an outlet again. More importantly, it was good to discover this gem of a show. I like clever people and Oscar Wilde has proven to be a very clever playwright.

Fast forward two years and I was asked if I would be interested in directing. I chose *The Importance of Being Earnest* because this show had saved me from the doldrums of quarantine. While I never made a connection with the rest of the cast during that virtual production, I made a connection with the show. I truly wanted to bring it to life.

Thanks to Liz Steigleman, my assistant director, who kept me organized while learning the behind the scenes ins and outs of mounting a show. Sondra Gervasi, my stage manager, has been my right hand and an invaluable asset. My producer, Cara Mosier, has an impeccable eye for props and can make up fake food like no other. The set designer, Todd Martin, has made the impossible possible on a small stage and has brought in some fun touches as well. I need to thank Trish Rigdon for her constant support and her ability to keep from rolling her eyes any time I asked a stupid question. Last but not least, thanks to the entire cast and crew for bringing this show to life. I hope you enjoy the show!

Director Bio



Whitney Marlett, Director

Whitney was last seen on the Players' stage as Mrs. Bailey in the live radio show *It's a Wonderful Life*. She was most recently seen on stage as Annie Wilks in *Misery* at the Harlequin Theatre in San Antonio. Her directing credits include: *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*, *Virtual Devotion* and *Rose's Dilemma* among others. She is very happy to be back in Wimberley and hopes you enjoy the show.

Cast Bios



WILLIAM WINDLE (Algernon Moncrieff) Will is extremely excited to perform at The Wimberley Players for the second time! Most recently, he appeared as Lord Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*. Other notable roles include Chris Keller in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* at the Texas Theater in Seguin, Segismundo in *Life is a Dream*, Vitorrio Vidal in *Sweet Charity* and Claudius in *Rosencrantz & Gildenstern are Dead*. Look for Will's short film, ANHYZER, in this year's festival circuit, and

look for him to reprise the role of his ancestor, William Bergfeld, in his play *Will's War* in 2023! Will would like to thank the cast and crew of *The Importance of Being Earnest* for welcoming him with open arms!



SIDDHARTH KUMAR (Jack Worthing) Sidd is an actor from Austin, Texas. You may have seen him with Austin Shakespeare (*Indian Ink*, *Merchant of Venice*), with the Lakeway Players (*Rough Crossing*), or here with The Wimberley Players (*War of the Worlds: A Panic Broadcast*, *Clue: On Stage*). He would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him in his artistic endeavors, and his director for this opportunity to get out of town and pretend to be someone else.



MARY JANE WINDLE (Lady Bracknell) Mary Jane is an award-winning actor and thrilled to be back at this amazing theatre. Some of her favorite roles include M'Lynn, *Steel Magnolias*, Kate Keller, *All My Sons*, Eleanor, *Lion in Winter*, Zelda Fitzgerald, (a one character play) *I Don't Want to be Zelda Anymore*. The Boysen Talent Agency represents her. She is a residential Realtor with D Lee Edwards Realty. She is also the proud mother of three sons, one of whom is

delightfully sharing this stage as Algernon Moncrieff. The broaches on her costumes were left to her by her acting mentor, and dearly adored friend, Miz Liz Gaidry. Hugs to her precious husband, children, beloved friends, this cast, crew and Whitney and Liz for trusting her to play this iconic gorgon.

Cast Bios



REBECCA WOODS (Gwendolen Fairfax) Rebecca is a working actress, photographer, and designer with a combined 15 years of education and professional experience. She has taken to the stage in numerous roles over the years, from wacky musicals like *Seussical* (Gertrude McFuzz) and *Sondheim* (Pseudolus), to dramatic works like Jean Genet's *The Maids*, garnering her national recognition and an Outstanding Performance award. Most recently she's been seen on the Wimberley stage in *Romeo & Juliet* (Lady Capulet), as well as Austin Repertory's *The Miracle Worker* as Kate. Offstage you can find Rebecca in her audio booth, where she has solo and co-narrated over 100 audiobooks. She'd like to dedicate this performance to her loved ones, and to encourage all of us to spread more love into the world.

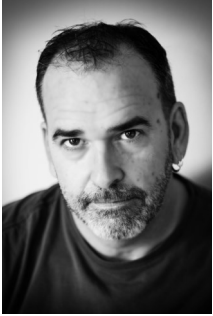


EMILY-ANNE PATTERSON (Cecily Cardew) is excited to be performing in her first production with The Wimberley Players. She previously performed at the Georgetown Place production of *Murder On the Orient Express* as the Countess. She is a student at Austin Community College studying acting and costume design. In recent seasons she has appeared in productions such as *Much Ado About Nothing* as Hero and *Iphaginia at Aulis* as Clytemnestra. She'd like to thank the theatre staff for this opportunity as well as all her cast mates and director for creating such a wonderful experience.

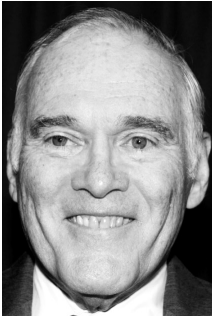


SABRINA BRUCE (Miss Prism) Sabrina Bruce recently moved to New Braunfels, Texas, and is thoroughly enjoying exploring the local theatre scene! This is her first show with The Wimberley Players and it's been a fantastic experience so far. Some of her other favorite roles include Abigail in *The Crucible*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, being a part of The Murder Mystery Co. in Los Angeles, and a Nun in *The Sound of Music*. She wants to thank her family and friends for their support!

Cast Bios



DANNY MOSIER (Rev. Canon Chausble, Lane) Fair warning: There will be nothing interesting or particularly funny in this bio. Danny completely used up the last of his comedy during the last show he was in here at the Players, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*. Special thanks, as always, go to his family for putting up with his obsession with the stage and to you, the audience. If you have half as much fun tonight as we have had putting this show together, we will have done our jobs right.



MICHAEL HARELICK (Merriman) This is Mike's first time onstage with The Wimberley Players and he is happy to be part of this production. He appeared in three reviews this past year at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre in Lockhart, the last being as George Burns in their Tribute to Military Veterans Show. His previous theatrical experience spans over sixty years mostly back East in Upstate New York, most recently as Ebenezer Scrooge in a dinner theater version of *A Christmas Carol* and as several British colonels and butlers.

Although his favorite place is on stage, he has experience in tech, set construction, box office, serving on the board of directors of several theatre groups and pretty much every other job theatre has to offer. He currently lives on the northern border of San Marcos with his loving and supportive wife, Angie, and their shih tzu, Woofie.

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Sign up on our website for email notifications of volunteer opportunities and upcoming shows.

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Or email boxoffice@WimberleyPlayers.org

Production Bios

CARA MOSIER (Producer, Properties) Cara is currently serving her 7th year on the Wimberley Players Board of Directors as part of the marketing committee. She is usually behind the scenes working on props, playbills, posters and producing, but she was recently seen on stage as Mama Ogre and the Mad Hatter in *Shrek, The Musical* at the Buda Amphitheater and previously played a citizen of Oz in *The Wizard of Oz*. Cara would like to thank her husband Danny for roping her into this crazy world of theatre!

TRISH RIGDON (Managing Artistic Director) Trish joined The Wimberley Players in 2021 after directing *Dracula: The Radio Play*, *War of the Worlds: The Panic Broadcast*, and *It Had to Be You*. Other credits with the Players include *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Her experience as a Producer, Director, Lighting Designer, Costume Designer, Professor, and Educational Administrator spans 25 years. Other theatre credits include productions seen on the West End, London, National US tours, UK tours, and US regional theatres. Previous theatre and academic positions include Associate Director, Associate Producer, and Costume Designer for the Peter Hall Company in the UK, Director of Theatre for Rice University, Executive Director of Houston Cinema Arts Society, and Institutional Program Chair of Media Arts at The Art Institute of Houston. Rigdon holds a BA in Fine Arts from University of Saint Thomas and an MFA in Theatre from University of Houston. She is also a Costume Design member of USA 829.

TODD ALLEN MARTIN (Technical Director, Scenic and Lighting Designer) Todd joined The Wimberley Players as Technical Director in May 2022, and brings an array of theatre experience. He served as the Managing Director of the Cheyenne Little Theatre Players from 2017-2021, and as the organization's Technical Director from 2001-2004. Todd also worked at Baylor University from 2012 -2017 as an Assistant Technical Director at Waco Hall. During his time at Baylor he served as the Lighting Designer and Master Electrician for All University SING. Previously, he worked as the Artistic Director at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre in Lockhart, Texas. His production credits include *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Lighting Design), *The Addams Family* (Lighting Design), *The Last 5 Years* (Director/Lighting Design), *Boeing Boeing* (Director), and *Of Mice and Men* (Lighting and Scenic Design). He also enjoys treading the boards as an actor from time to time....

SONDRA GERVASI (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be coming back to the theatre world after two years! She was living in San Antonio and had worked practically every backstage position in practically every theater there since 2010. Her last stage management position was for consecutive shows at The Public Theater of San Antonio, where she became an Equity card holder. During the pandemic, she (and her now husband) moved to Canyon Lake to expand their business and build a new home. She would like to thank The Wimberley Players for giving her an opportunity to be a part of the magic once again.

Production Bios

DYLAN BYRNES (Sound Designer) Dylan is a Junior at Texas State University majoring in Theatre with an emphasis in Technical Production and a concentration in Sound Design. His previous Wimberley Players credits include Sound Designer for *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)*, *War of the Worlds: The Panic Broadcast* and *Nunsense*, and sound board operator for *Sleuth*, and *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*.

CARROLL DOLEZAL (Scenic Designer) Carroll Dolezal has been slinging paint around The Wimberley Players' stage since 2009, and has found a lot of satisfaction through designing and executing many sets for various productions. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, she has tried many venues for her creative endeavors, including designing for Hallmark cards, several children's books, teaching art at Hays High School and various forms of painting for individual commissions. But there is a special kind of fulfillment in working with dedicated volunteers like those found at the Players, and for that opportunity she is especially grateful, as well as for her husband Charlie and her two Welch Corgis, who accept her long absences from home while involved in preparing sets for those marvelous plays!

RODGER MARION (Dramaturg) Rodger, as the Players Resident Dramaturg, provides the actors and crew with cultural, historical and technical research for every play. He has been the assistant director and/or dramaturg for *Good People*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Death by Design*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Proof*, and *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. He designed the video for *The Little Shop of Horrors* and appeared in a radio play, broadcast on Wimberley Valley Radio, *Tales from the Devil's Backbone*. *The Audition*, a film he directed featuring Players actors, won Best Comedy at the 2019 Wimberley Film Festival.

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generosity of our underwriters**



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sense & SENSIBILITY



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from the Jane Austen novel by the same name

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THE
**WIMBERLEY
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Many people do not realize the expenses associated with each Wimberley Players production. Performance rights, costumes, props, music and other needs can cost \$10,000 to \$20,000 per show.

Please consider becoming a 2023 underwriter and gain community-wide recognition for your tax-deductible support of The Wimberley Players. Email Lisa Valentine at development@WimberleyPlayers.org for more information.

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Special Thanks to

Cris Peterson for designing our eye-catching show posters and graphics for the 2023 season.

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