

LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR

By NEIL SIMON
DIRECTED BY LIN SNIDER

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH
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YCDS HISTORY

The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society as we know it today opened its 1965 season with Twelve Angry Men under the expert direction of its then new advisor, Dr. Anthony S. Beukas. Since then, each of the Society's productions has been open to the public and each has been viewed by thousands of people.

YCDS's status as one of the most respected and popular activities on campus is a result of a 40-year evolution of dramatics in Yeshiva from a club to a society, and finally a two-credit course in the undergraduate curriculum of Yeshiva College. This success is the direct result of the outstanding talent, enthusiasm, and enduring effort of Dr. Beukas, the Society's founding director and mentor. In addition, with the encouragement of the late Dr. Abraham Tauber, former chairman of the Yeshiva College Speech Department, a Speech and Drama major was instituted in Yeshiva College. This major currently includes such course offerings as Theater Arts, Art of the Actor, Techniques of the Director, and Theater Workshop.

The 1980's were years of great physical growth for the Society. With the assistance of the Yeshiva University Women's Organization, professional stage lighting was purchased. Mr. Jay Blazer, the previous Director of YU Facilities Management, was instrumental in the acquisition of permanent theater seating. The Society's twentieth season was enhanced by the addition of a lighting control board, thanks to the generosity of the Socol family. The Society's twenty-fifth anniversary season was celebrated with the opening of their new home in the Schottenstein Theater.

In 1997, the Schottenstein Theater was renovated. With the help of the Yeshiva University Women's Organization, new lights were purchased. A new sound system was installed due to efforts of the Governing Board of YCDS. YCDS has entered the 21st century with this state of the art technology.

This semester's production of Laughter on the 23rd Floor, the ninth production directed by Lin Snider, current YCDS Faculty Advisor, promises to maintain the tradition set by Dr. Beukas and the society, making each show better than the one before.

The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society marks the close of every season with a warm and festive Awards Night buffet. All YCDS members and friends are invited to this eventful evening where tribute is paid to the outstanding devotees of recent productions. Awards are presented to the best lead, supporting, and "gypsy" actors and to outstanding "techies". New members of the Chi Pi chapter of the Alpha Psi Omega Honor Society are inducted and the incoming governing board members are inaugurated.

ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Alpha Psi Omega was founded in 1925 as a national honorary dramatics fraternity to recognize and reward all aspects of student participation in university and college drama productions. There are over five hundred campus chapters across the country with membership totaling over 50,000 members.

The Chi Pi-Yeshiva Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega was granted its charter in May of 1973. Twenty-two charter members were inducted on May 7, 1973, at a formal ceremony held at Yeshiva College. Since then induction ceremonies have been held annually with the Chi Pi membership reaching over 500 members to date.

To be considered eligible for induction into Alpha Psi Omega, a student must show dedication to drama and must earn a minimum of fifty points, awarded for participation in various aspects of Dramatics Society work, including production, technical assistance, and acting.

YESHIVA COLLEGE DRAMATICS SOCIETY GOVERNING BOARD FOR THE 2009-2010 SEASON

- Yishai Barkhordari.....Co-President
- Jeremy Syrtash.....Co-President
- Benjamin Shai.....Vice President
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- Jeremy Nagel.....Alumni Affairs
- Oren Hizkiya.....Creative Director

THERE WILL BE ONE TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION BETWEEN ACTS

All accessories used in the production of Laughter on the 23rd Floor including hairpieces, costumes, and food, are in strict accordance with Jewish tradition.

Taking pictures, operation of recording devices, eating, and smoking in the theater are strictly forbidden.

Please turn off all cellphones, radios, and paging devices during the show.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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| <p>The Schottenstein Family
 Dean Sugarman
 Dr. Noyes Bartholomew
 Albert Stulman
 Marion Lignana Rosenberg
 The Facilities Department
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 Rabbi Charlop</p> |
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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR LIN SNIDER



LIN SNIDER is thrilled to be returning to YCDS to direct her ninth production. In addition to her work at Yeshiva, Lin is a professional director/singer/actress/teacher who has performed in cabaret, TV, film, and primarily on stage in regional theaters, Off-Broadway and in the National Tour of ANYTHING GOES with Mitzi Gaynor. She has also worked at, among others, The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, NYU, SUNY/Purchase, TADA!, Manhattanville College, Westchester Conservatory of Music, the Horace Mann School and Concordia College as a musical director, director and teacher of voice, acting and musical theater. She directed a production of GREASE at Iona

College last winter and her original musical, CHANGE REACTION, has been produced in Bath, England.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

As always, it has been a complete pleasure working with the men of YCDS on this production.

The choice of this play was based on several factors, all of which I feel have joined to give the participants in the production a rich experience. While on the surface a light comedy, the backdrop of the many political and social changes taking place during the 1950s in the U.S. adds a significance and depth to the story (see historical notes). Also, in terms of acting, successfully presenting a comedy offers many challenges which are sometimes transparent to the audience and which this cast has faced and overcome with much hard work and good spirits. And lastly, I love the fact that this show is really an ensemble piece, allowing the cast members to work off of each other and to each develop multi-layered characters.

I want to thank so many people. As always, Rabbi Krug and David Mikofsky continue to share their many talents with YCDS. The lighting, sound, props, costumes and set crews have contributed so much to the show, under the excellent direction of Ely Winkler, our invaluable stage manager. The Board again has been incredibly helpful allowing us to focus on the show while they take care of the many necessary behind-the-scenes elements. And countless others – Professor Blatner for her glorious music, the ushers, Box Office Manager, House Manager, Facilities and Security staffs, Professor Bartholomew, Dean Sugarman and the many at Yeshiva continue to recognize the important contribution of YCDS to the university community. One very important member of our family is leaving us after this show, a woman who under the title of Dramaturg has actually been an incredible support to YCDS for these last years in innumerable ways. Dodi Lee Hecht will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best. And this year we will again lose several extremely talented members of our company as they graduate. But somehow YCDS continues to thrive and I look forward to many more wonderful opportunities to work with this very special group of people.

And now, I hope you enjoy the show as much as we have enjoyed preparing it for you.

Lin Snider

DRAMATIS PERSONAE IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

LUCAS BRICKMAN.....YEHUDA SAFIER
MILT FIELDS.....MARK BRYSTOWSKI
VAL SKOLSKY.....DANNY HOFFMAN
BRIAN DOYLE.....JOSH ECKMANN
KENNY FRANKS.....DANIEL BRYSTOWSKI
CARL WYMAN.....DAVID SHINEFIELD
MAX PRINCE.....TANI ISAAC
HERMAN.....SHIMON GUTSTEIN
IRA STONE.....ARIEL MEIRI

A HISTORY OF Laughter on the 23rd Floor

Laughter on the 23rd Floor is Neil Simon's hilarious and heartfelt tribute to the time he spent working for Sid Caesar during the Golden Age of the television variety show. Max Prince, Milt Fields, Ira Stone and all the other characters are loosely based on the many famous comedy writers who gathered together in Caesar's now-infamous writer's room. The group included Mel Brooks, Woody Allen, Carl Reiner, and more – comedians who went on to shape and define 20th century comedy. Now we know them as legends and we remember fondly the seemingly innocent humor of the clean-cut 1950s. Still, at the time, television was popular with America but a volatile place for artists. Shows were quickly started and ended if ratings did not meet the standards of studio executives and advertisers. The East Coast, sarcastic wit, that dominated Vaudeville and gave immigrants and their children a way to Americanize their unique culture and story, was not an easy sell in little towns in the Midwest – the great marketplace for television to conquer. And, looming like a dark cloud over the entire country, was the threat of both Communism, with its nuclear bombs and cold wars, and McCarthyism, a modern-day witch hunt that murdered the careers, reputations and, sometimes, very lives of hundreds of actors, writers, directors, and everyday Americans. While many remember the 1950s as the era of June Cleaver's pearls and Ed Sullivan, Laughter on the 23rd Floor reminds us that it was also the era of the Blacklist and Edward R. Murrow. It was an era of suspicion and hostility, and an era of great comedy and entertainment; it was the last decade where men wore hats and women wore white gloves and it was the first decade in which, to paraphrase journalist David Frost, people were entertained in their living rooms by people they wouldn't have in their homes. So began the era of television.

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew



Yishai Barkhordari (co-president, YCDS board): Yishai is a psychology-sociology-double-majoring-super-senior who has been involved in YCDS

since his first year on campus. After taking on various roles acting for four semesters, he attuned his focus to what goes on behind-the-scenes in YCDS. He'd like to thank Jeremy for being an amazing co-president and a true source of support; Lin for her vision and imagination in directing; Dodi-Lee for her numerous invaluable contributions; and Ely for his devotion to YCDS. Of course there are more, as so many deserve appreciation (like the rest of the board, the actors, lights and sound, set-builders and so, so many others) for their unique talents and input that enable the semester's production. YCDS would like to thank Yishai for his constant devotion to YCDS and his willingness to take on any job, including the most thankless, to insure the success of each production. YCDS wishes him much success in the future.

Prof. Barbara Blatner (incidental music): In her fourth venture with YCDS, Barbara Blatner is very happy to be playing keyboards for this terrific



production of Laughter on the 23rd Floor. This is Dr. Blatner's seventh year teaching Creative Writing, Literature and Composition in the YC English Department. She's a playwright, poet and composer, and once made her living as a cocktail and band pianist and singing telegram lyrics writer. Thanks, Lin, for this opportunity to do music and watch you create such an exciting

show. Thanks to the cast and crew for their hard work, commitment and talent.



Daniel Brystowski (Kenny Franks): Daniel, of the Famous Brystowski Brothers, was born in Detroit, MI and attended Akiva Hebrew Day School

for basically his entire life. Though this is Daniel's second semester at YU, working towards a major in something, it is only his first semester in YCDS. Daniel would like to thank several people who made his experience in YCDS a positive one: Lin, for her nonstop devotion and professionalism as director; Dodi, for her unshakable dedication and hard work as dramaturg; and Ely, for his ceaseless enthusiasm and guidance as stage manager. Thank you.

Mark "DJ MarkyB" Brystowski (Milt Fields): Mark, the other half of the Famous Brystowski Brothers, is happy to lend his acting expertise to this



semester's production of Laughter on the 23rd Floor. Mark can currently be seen in the amateur production of Doctor, Where Did my Tonsils Go? and on his public access show Hey Man, Listen to Me Play This Song and Dance Around. This is Mark's final semester at YU (FINALLY!) and with YCDS, after appearing in the critically acclaimed Newsies and working props for some other show that we did once. Mark is honored with the hilarious role of Milt (short for Milton, probably) Fields, who is almost as good with his romantic relationships as Mark (that's a joke you'll get after seeing the show).

Mark would like to thank so many people who have helped him come this far, so he will. Mark extends his deepest appreciation to Lin for all her hard work and dedication, as well as Ely and Dodi for actually forcing us to do our work and put together an amazing show. Mark would also like to thank the entire cast and crew for helping him look good. YCDS would like to thank Mark for all of his involvement in the Society, both on and off stage, and wishes him much success in the future.

Josh Eckmann (Brian Doyle): Josh "Bobby" Eckmann is a Senior majoring in political science in YC. An aspiring comedian and satirist, he takes the



approaches he learns in poli sci and applies them to the, as Samuel L. Jackson would say, "inequities of the selfish and the tyranny of evil men" in his comedic commentary. For example, Second Amendment interpretations – "Guns don't kill people, I kill people". Or PETA, aka "Firebombers Anonymous". Or organic foods (Oh, organic foods, you overpriced, nutritionally underachieving, guilt-ridding, \$20 billion farce of intelligence and health. Who imports organic food from China? Yes, China. THE SAME PLACE THAT PUT LEAD PAINT ON YOUR 'THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE' TOYS.). But he's not bitter. Regardless, Josh hopes you enjoy the show and laugh to your heart's delight, and would like to thank Lin; Dodi; Ely; his parents, David and Lisa; his brothers, Yoni and Uri; Norman Borlaug (the man who saved the lives of 1 billion people worldwide – Google him!); and MK. Remember, if you're not there to laugh, you're there to cry. Try to make them tears of happiness.

Arye Leib Fohrman (operations manager, YCDS board): Arye is currently in his second year at Yeshiva University. He is pursuing his bachelor's in psychology, with a minor in Spanish. He originally hails from sunny South Africa and loves living in New York. This is his third semester in YCDS, and second as the operations manager, a job that brings out the Jewish mother in him. He would like to thank the YCDS cast and crew for this opportunity to work with such a dedicated group. He also sends his gratitude to his incredible family who have always encouraged and supported him.



Jonathan (Elazar) Ginsburg (lights): Elazar is a lower junior majoring in physics. This is his second semester working behind the scenes for YCDS,

and his first time doing lights for the show. He is very excited to be taking part in his first comedy show, even though he is not on stage (nor does he want to be). Jonathan would like to thank the director, Lin Snider, and stage manager, Ely Winkler, as well as all of the actors and people working behind the scenes that make the show as amazing as it is. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with this semester's cast and crew, and hopes that he will enjoy many more semesters with YCDS.

Hedda Gobbler (acting coach): Hedda is a well-known and accomplished stage turkey. She made her debut as the lead in The Tinkerbell Thimble



Purple Llama Vectors Rainbow

Bright Sunshine Lollipops Theatre Company's original production Oh Farmer, Where Are You Going With That Cleaver? Hedda then went on to star in Give Me Back My Eggs; Why Can't I Fly?; Poultry on a Hot Tin Roof; and Pass the Gravy. Hedda is slated to play the lead this coming fall in the classic holiday comedy, Thanksgiving: Revenge of the Turkey. Hedda dedicates her performance in this show to her Native American ancestors who were sheched by the Pilgrims. Hedda would like to thank Val and Lucas for translating her words for this playbill. Finally, Hedda expresses her utmost gratitude to YCDS for never throwing her out and, foremost, to Lin and Ely for allowing her to be headless on stage. YCDS would like to thank and acknowledge Hedda's work to challenge and overcome pre-conceived notions and prejudices.

Shimon Gutstein (Herman): In light of his role, Shimon has decided to keep things short. So: Thank you Lin, Ely, and Dodi. Also: "Eggplant Parmesan is one of the hints that there is in fact a benevolent G-d in the world." YCDS would like to thank Shimon for his constant love of the theater and his willingness to step forward when called.



Dodi-Lee Hecht (dramaturg): This is Dodi-Lee's last semester with YCDS and though she will miss the magic and mayhem of the theater, she feels it is time to take what she's learned and move on. Dodi thanks everyone in YCDS for teaching her so much and letting her be a part of all the craziness. As a token of her appreciation, Dodi wishes to share

with you seven of the most important lessons she's garnered and she only hopes they are as useful to you as they have been for her: 1. It isn't a show until Lin says so; 2. There is nothing so wonderful as the constancy and devotion of Kofsky and Rabbi Krug; 3. A good stage manager doesn't worry as much about who does the job as he does about getting the job done; 4. It is possible to put on a play in less than a month but not a good one; 5. "She" says a lot of weird things; 6. Look before you leap. Seriously. Better yet, just don't leap; And, last but not least, 7. No matter what happens, what goes wrong, what goes right, and what goes nowhere, Disney always finds out.

Michael "Micha" Hershkop (box office manager, YCDS board): Micha has been a member of YCDS since 2007, first serving as Props Manager, and later moving up the ranks to take the position of Box Office Manager. He will be graduating this semester and is currently deciding between Law School and a Masters program in Israel- he has also applied to the Presidential Fellowship. "I want to thank YCDS and all its members for six amazing productions and thank my staff for their hard work and dedication". No further comment. YCDS would like to thank Micha for his hard work and devotion to YCDS and wishes Micha much success in the future.



Roy Hilf (president emeritus and board advisor, YCDS board): At the end of last semester, Roy graduated YU, left the country, left the continent and still could not escape the call of

YCDS. This is his eighth semester with YCDS. In his journey through YCDS, Roy acted in Chai Hecht's Buy the Book, Wizards of Quiz, The Compleat Wrks of Wilm Shkspr (abridged), Newsies, Play On!, and Of Mice and Men. Roy was also the SM for Journey's End. Roy spent a year as vice-president of YCDS, and, during Fall 2009, Roy assumed the role of President. Roy won YCDS's Best Gypsy Award, for his portrayal of the character Chester. Roy wants to thank Yishai and Jeremy for letting him help YCDS from abroad. He wishes much success to director Lin Snider, stage manager Ely Winkler, Dodi-Lee Hecht, the actors and the crew in this production. YCDS would like to thank Roy for allowing his devotion to YCDS to transcend borders.

Oren Hizkiya (creative director, YCDS board): Oren is currently a Junior in YC, majoring in Computer Science. Oren wishes everyone success and is grateful for the creative outlet that YCDS provides. A special thanks is in order for BenShai and Lin for their wonder work for YCDS.



Danny Hoffman (Val Skolsky): Laughter on the 23rd Floor is Danny's eighth (and almost definitely last) show with YCDS. He would like to thank the cast for making every second in the theater full of laughter. Thanks to Dodi for all her help this semester. To Ely, thanks for being the perfect SM for this show. Danny would like to thank Lin for her incredible direction and input this semester, as well as for everything she's taught him in the last eight semesters (and that's a lot.). On that note, Danny would also like to

thank Lin for her faith and trust in him and her constant support and encouragement. An actor can't ask for a better director. Danny would also like to thank all the YCDSers that he's worked with over the years for all that they've contributed to making his YU experience exceptional. He's been extremely grateful for having this second family all these years. Finally, he would like to thank YCDS itself for really helping him become more comfortable in his own skin and develop as a person. He hopes he's been able to give back at least a fraction of what YCDS has given him. He would like to thank his mom for dealing so nicely with the challenge of having a son interested in acting. To the current and future YCDSers: I hope you understand the gift that YCDS is, and you take advantage of everything it has to offer. Looking forward to watching you all next semester. YCDS would like to thank Danny for four years of unwavering dedication to the Society, the stage, and to the art of theatre. YCDS wishes him much success and fun on every path along which his talents take him.

Tani Isaac (Max Prince): Tani spent the last three semesters at Yeshivat Har Etzion, aka Gush, and is in his first semester at YC. He has not decided on a major and would appreciate it if people would stop asking him what he is majoring in. Tani is very excited to be a part of the YCDS family. Tani previously appeared in the SARHS productions of Fiddler on the Roof (Mendel/Avram), Little Shop of Horrors (Mr. Mushnik) and The Mikado (Pooh-Bah), as well as in an SAR Film club original production entitled The Bitter Almonds (Timothy). He would like to thank Lin Snider for her invaluable guidance, and all of the



work she put into this production. He would also like to thank Ely Winkler for all of his work as stage manager and Dodi-Lee Hecht for being an awesome dramaturg. In addition, he would like to thank his parents and siblings (especially his parents) for their undying love and support. He loves you guys!!!! Finally, lastly, in conclusion, he would like to thank whoever is reading this for actually showing up to see him perform. He hopes you enjoy the show!!!!



Daniel Kallush
(properties manager): Daniel is a Junior majoring in psychology. This is his third semester working with YCDS.

It was a privilege and a great experience to work with all the actors and crew members. A big thank you to David Mandel and Phil for all their help with props. It was an honor to work with Lin and Dodi. A big thanks to Ely Winkler for his hard work and stage managerial talents, none of it would be possible without him.

Rabbi Dr. John Krug (lighting design): Johnny Krug has earned six degrees from four of YU's schools and is incredibly proud to be completing his fortieth (eighty shows, count 'em) year with YCDS.



His theatrical professional claim to fame is the twenty-eight years he spent as Assistant Producer of the original run of off-Broadway's *The Fantasticks*. He has nearly 250 professional credits in film, television, Broadway, national and international touring companies. He is currently the production consultant for *The Fantasticks* revival on Broadway. He is also an adjunct professor in two YU graduate programs. YCDS

would like to thank Rabbi Krug for consistently going above and beyond the call.



Phil Fay
(properties): Philip Fay is in Sy Syms and has not decided a major as of yet, but it will be within business. This is his first semester in

YCDS and he is enjoying helping out with the props and working with everyone. Thank you to Lin, Ely and Kallush for their direction, help and for making an excellent production happen.

David Mandel

(properties): David is a senior at YU, majoring in Finance. This is his first semester with YCDS and it has been an incredible experience. He would like to thank Daniel Kallush for his help. He would also like to congratulate Ely, Dodi, and Lin for producing another YCDS production.



Ariel Meiri (Ira Stone): Ariel is ecstatic that he can now add "hypochondriac" to the list of characters he has played, having already acted

the parts of a twelve year old boy in *Newsies*, an eighty year old man (or mouse depending on how you look at it) in *Of Mice and Men*, and an eccentric and somewhat flamboyant playwright in *Play On!* As usual there are so many people who Ariel wishes to thank that he wonders if God took into account how much pressure His command to "be fruitful and multiply" would place on actors writing playbill bios. First and foremost, thanks to Lin for her wonderful creative vision

and for once again believing in Ariel's acting abilities. Also, thanks to Ely Winkler for being such an organized and understanding stage manager. Special thanks go to Dodi-Lee Hecht for helping Ariel truly connect to the characters and time period of the play through her wonderful dramaturgical research despite her busy schedule. Of course, thanks must also go to the rest of the cast and crew of *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* for their hard work and devotion without which this show would never have gotten off the ground. To his siblings, Tal and Gabriel, Ariel would like to say, "you guys rock, thanks for being my siblings." Most importantly, Ariel wishes to thank his parents for all the love and support they have given him over the years and for being the best role models he has. Finally, Ariel wishes to thank anyone who is actually still reading this rather long biography.

David Mikofsky (set design): *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* marks David's fourteenth show with YCDS. He holds two bachelors degrees from YU, and has served as



set designer and technical director for YCDS for the past six years. In addition he has also worked on sets for the *Out of the Box Theater Group* for the last two years. He would like to thank Lin for her patience, wishes many broken legs to the cast and crew, and looks forward to many more years with YCDS. YCDS would like to thank David once again for his invaluable contributions to the show

and his devotion to the Society.



Jeremy Nagel
(alumni affairs, YCDS board): This is Jeremy's third, and unfortunately last,

semester involved with YCDS. In previous semesters, Jeremy acted on the YCDS stage as *Racetrack* in the critically acclaimed musical *Newsies* and as *Romeo* in the hilarious comedy *The Compleat Wrks of Wllm Shakspr* (abridged). He will be graduating this coming May from Yeshiva College with a BA in Psychology and hopes to pursue a career in Architecture (job offers welcome!). Jeremy would like to bid farewell to Lin and congratulate her on all the great work she has done with YCDS. YCDS would like to thank Jeremy for all his involvement, both on and off stage, and wishes him much success in the future.

Yehuda Safier

(Lucas Brickman): After appearing in last semester's play, *Of Mice and Men*, Yehuda (who some still call Slim) is back and excited to be



part of YCDS once more. In case this is your first time reading this bio or you have forgotten since the last play, here is a brief recap of Yehuda's background. Yehuda grew up in Teaneck, NJ and attended Torah Academy of Bergen County, for high school. Upon graduating TABC, Yehuda spent three semesters in Israel at Yeshivat Shaarei Mevaseret Tzion. Prior to this play and the past one, Yehuda has acted in only a handful of other theatrical performances, including TABC's production of *Saving 2318*, which he helped write, as well. One thing he will take away from his experiences here at YCDS are his memories of working with Lin Snider, YCDS's director; Eli Winkler, YCDS's stage manager; and Dodi Hecht, YCDS's dramaturg. He enjoyed working with them in putting on this production and thanks them for doing a spectacular job on it. Additionally, Yehuda would like to thank Hedda Gobbler for all her help. She has been a neverending

source of inspiration and support for him throughout the course of this semester, always inspiring him with her signature catch phrase, "Gobblegobblegobblegobble!"



Sammy Schaechter

(costumes): Sammy is a first time member of the drama crew although he's been dressing up in costumes for as long as he could

remember. This is Sammy's first semester here in Yeshiva University. He is from Los Angeles, CA where he attended YULA High School. Sammy takes his costumes very seriously and puts maximum effort into every one of his costumes. From Robin Hood to Superman, from Scottish to Rafiki the Monkey, there is no costume that Sammy can't handle. Sammy's first costume was a Yodeler outfit that he wore for Purim when he was just two years old. "As soon as I saw him put on his first costume, I knew he had a future set out for him" said Sammy's Mommy. Also, Sammy's favorite color is green and he loves Israel. A big yasher koach to everyone involved in the play. Hope you like the costumes and enjoy the show!

Benjamin Shai (vice president, YCDs board): Benjamin is currently a junior attempting to graduate with a major in computer science. This is his



fourth semester working with YCDs, and boy has it been fun! Although his birth-name is Benjamin Shai, he is oft called BenShai, leading to confusion as to what exactly is his first or last name. Hopefully, the fact that you found his bio means you have wised up a bit. Although apprehensive at first, Benjamin has taken well to his new position, which entails a

remarkable amount of hard work and dedication, usually delegated to other people. Benjamin has greatly enjoyed the opportunity to wake up early on Wednesday for board meetings, and will hopefully see you all again next semester! Now, some thank you's are in order. Firstly, to our esteemed presidents, Yishai and Jeremy, for all their guidance and work. Also, a big thank you to Oren, without whom the posters and play bill would be blank. It's always a pleasure working with you! Thank you as well to Yair Meyers, Frank from productions, Sam Ulrich, Dodi, Lin, and Micha for all their help on posters, playbills, and tickets. Benjamin wishes the cast and crew good luck, and all the best!



David Shinefield

(Carl Wyman): David Shinefield, a returning member to the fantastic cast of YCDs has turned many ears. With his new role in this

semester's play, David has sparked quite a bit of controversy. What is this controversy, you ask, well come and see the play to find out. Most importantly is David's new attitude towards theater. "I'll continue to do it just to spite them," he was quoted as saying, last week during an interview. Many see him to be bitter after several mishaps in last semester's play, but he has responded by saying, "I'm not bitter. I just have a new attitude. We could call it a safer way to approach YCDs." Does this mean that David will cause less trouble? Highly unlikely, but that is yet to be seen. David has lost two of his four lives within the past month, and is now looking to make a subsequent deal with the devil. Unfortunately Mr. Devil mistook David's trip to Connecticut as a trip to Kentucky and is now not available for comment. How has this affect David's acting? Not at

all. David has stated to the public that he has never met the devil. When asked how he obtained four extra lives, he replied that they had only corresponded by phone. Lately, David has been working on several side projects, besides for his big role as Carl in Laughter on the 23rd Floor. He has decided not to leak to the public what roles he is involved in, but he has hinted to one. "I like to think of it as my greatest role yet." Nope, not such a hint. David would like to thank Lin for another exciting journey through a YCDs play. He hopes that they can endure much controversy and come out laughing about it. He would also like to thank Ely Winkler for being such an inspiration. Finally, he sends his thanks to Dodi, for expanding his knowledge of pop culture.

Rafi Skier (sound):

Rafi is an upper freshman in Yeshiva College. He is currently majoring in Undecided, with a focus on Maybe Computers. This is his second semester working on the YCDs play, after doing lights for last semester's production of Of Mice and Men. He decided to mix things up a bit this semester by switching places with the sound guy. If you look behind you, he's probably in that dark booth. Wave!



Benny Smith

(costumes): This is Benny's second semester working with YCDs. He is happy that he was able to work with such a great team of

costume designers for this play. He has lots of experience in Hollywood, as he is from LA and went on many auditions as a child. He was once labeled "The Next Jonathan Taylor Thomas," based solely on his

talents. Let's just say, he is kind of a big deal. He would like to thank Ely, Dodi, and of course Lin for this amazing opportunity.

Chaim Stobezki

(secretary): This is Chaim's sixth and final semester with YCDs. Chaim is a senior in Yeshiva College, pursuing his B.A. in Biology.



He is currently a Resident Advisor, President of Active Minds at YU, and Co-President of the Biology Majors Board. In addition, he is currently a member of Sigma Delta Rho, and the Student Medical Ethics Society. He is also a Yeshiva College tutor in Biology and Organic Chemistry. Upon graduating from Yeshiva College and the Honors Program, he aspires to pursue a career in biomedical research. He wishes the best of luck to the cast and crew. YCDs thanks Chaim for his involvement in the Society and wishes him much success in the future.



Yonah Sturmwind

(treasurer, YCDs board): Yonah is currently in his second year on the Yeshiva University campus; majoring in Biology and with

a business minor. He is originally from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, currently lives in Toronto, Canada and has lived in too many places in between to even get into. "I am very happy and excited to be able to help out with play production and the YCDs board for this semester and hopefully beyond. I want to thank everyone who is part of the play because an immense amount of work goes into this from every single individual involved and this semester's play looks like it will be truly amazing."

Jeremy Syrtash (co-president, YCDS board): Jeremy is a Senior and is currently majoring in History and Speech/Drama. This is Jeremy's sixth semester involved with YCDS and his fourth semester as a YCDS board member. He will be graduating in May. In previous productions, Jeremy worked as technical staff. Jeremy has been involved in theater since his early teen years. Jeremy has acted in many plays including tragedies and musicals. In 2003, Jeremy played the role of Jack in the Camp Neshar theatrical production *Diary of Anne Frank*. In 2004, Jeremy played the role of Perchick in the Neshar musical *Fiddler on the Roof* and also played the role of a father who lost his son in the Holocaust in the dramatic tragedy *Darkness*. In 2005, Jeremy continued acting in serious productions playing the role of the Spanish grand inquisitor, Tomás de Torquemada, in the Camp Mesorah production *Inquisition*. Although Jeremy is not acting in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* he is very happy to have been given the opportunity to work on such a wonderful production and thanks YCDS for all the great opportunities he has been given over the past three years. YCDS thanks Jeremy for his dedication to YCDS and the board and wishes him much success in the future.



guidance. Any additional information about Ariel, readers are welcome to find him after the play and ask.

Ely Winkler (stage manager, YCDS board): Ely is in his last semester in YU, graduating in May with a BA in psychology and hopes to attend graduate school for social work in the fall. Having begun as a mere soldier in *Journey's End*, followed by *Les in Newsies* and *Algie in Play On!*, Ely has finally grown to the position of under-appreciated stage manager. Still, Ely is enjoying his fourth YCDS production, though it feels like so much longer (that's what she said). Ely would first like to thank his actors for their hard work, as well as those veterans that have taught him so much about the theater and general rules (salute). Special mention to Val/Danny Hoffman, Avi Kopstick and 'Chester', from whom he's learned so much, and to Hedda Gobbler. Thanks to Dodi for her untiring efforts for YCDS and for ensuring it stays the society it was intended to be; to Kofsky for always getting it done; to Rabbi Krug, and the amazing crew for lights, sound, props and costumes – you guys were absolutely fantastic! And, of course, to Lin for trekking through the snow, and especially for teaching him everything he knows about drama and directing the fabulous productions y'all get to see every semester – I love you! Finally, to his family and friends: thanks for the support and for dealing with my constant absences from life in favor of the theater. Enjoy the 'Laughter'!



Alexander Ariel Waintraub (costumes): Ariel is a YC student majoring in Psychology and Networking & Securities. He hopes to graduate before



2020. He has truly enjoyed his time working on costumes and thanks Sammy and Benny for being such a great team to work with. Ariel also thanks Lin and Ely for all of their



Avi Wollman (assistant operations manager, YCDS board): Avi is in his fourth semester at Yeshiva University and likes to be called

Cap'n Crunch, or just Cap'n. Though he is not appearing on stage this semester, the world appears to be okay and running more or less the same nonetheless. This semester he is graciously serving the YCDS community as Assistant Operations Manager (recently promoted from Assistant to the Operations Manager).

It has been a pleasure for him to work with Batman this semester, known better to most as Arye Fohrman, and he salutes the cast, crew, Ely, Dodi, and, as always, Lin Snider, director extraordinaire. When he eventually gets an apartment, everyone can come play Uno.

TECHNICAL CREW

- Director.....Lin Snider
- Stage Manager.....Ely Winkler
- Dramaturg.....Dodi-Lee Hecht
- Set Construction and Design.....David Mikofsky
- Lighting Design.....Rabbi Dr. John Krug
- Lighting Engineer.....Jonathan Ginsburg
- Sound Engineer.....Rafi Skier
- Properties Manager.....Daniel Kallush
- Properties.....Philip Fay
-David Mandell
- Costumes.....Benny Smith
-Sammy Schaechter
-Ariel Waintraub
- Operations Manager.....Arye Fohrman
- Photography.....Sam Ulrich
- Assistant Box Office Manager.....Eli Malakan
- Salespeople..... Jordan Feld, Yoni Raab, Jason Katz,
-Jonathan Adler, Moshe Kook,
-Tzvi Goldfeder, Etan Slomovic
- House Manager.....Eliezer Barany
- Assistant Creative Director.....Daniel Kaiserman

HONORARY MEMBERS

Dr. Anthony Beukas, *Artistic Director, YCDS*; Arnold Waldman; Michael Andron; Rebecca Sterns, *Instructor of Speech and Drama*; Sam Levine, *Actor*; Joel Siegel, *Television Critic*; Rea Tauber; Moe Septee, *Broadway Producer*; Samuel Leve, *Set Designer*; Jay Blazer; Gertrude Fox, *Broadway Entrepreneur*; Vivian Owing; Ceil Levenson; Mike Burstyn, *Actor*; Michael Moriaty, *Actor*; Dr. Israel Miller, *Z"l, YU Senior V.P.*; Dr. Sheldon Socol, *YU Vice President of Business Affairs*; Ginger Socol, *YUWO*; Rabbi Manfred Fulda, *Professor of Talmud*; Dr. Efreim Nulman, *Dean of Students*; Harriet Levitt, *MTA Teacher*; Shirley Auslander, *Jewish Studies Secretary*; Staff Sgt. Clark; Staff Sgt. Marsh, *US Marines Corps*; Chip Zion, *Tony Award Winning Actor*; Dr. Norman Adler, *Dean, YC*.

The Yeshiva College Drama Department Theater Workshop
(SPE 2031) is currently celebrating its Forty-Sixth year of fine productions in the
tradition of Dr. Anthony S. Beukas

1965-1966 <i>Twelve Angry Men</i> <i>Pantomime-1</i>	1979-1980 <i>Man of La Mancha</i> <i>Family Business</i>	1996-1997 <i>Inherit the Wind</i> <i>Ordinary People</i>
1966-1967 <i>Dumb Waiter</i> <i>Zoo Story</i>	1980-1981 <i>The Grand Tour</i> <i>Flowers For Algernon</i>	1997-1998 <i>Ghetto</i> <i>Sleuth</i>
1967-1968 <i>Home of the Brave</i> <i>Incident at Vichy</i>	1981-1982 <i>The Visit</i> <i>Celebration</i>	1998-1999 <i>Lord of the Flies</i> <i>Dead Poets Society</i>
1968-1969 <i>Oliver</i> <i>Billy Budd</i>	1982-1983 <i>The Shadow Box</i> <i>Poor Murderer</i>	1999-2000 <i>The Shawshank</i> <i>Redemption</i>
1969-1970 <i>Aria Da Capo</i> <i>The Dwarfs</i>	1983-1984 <i>J.B.</i> <i>The Petrified Forest</i>	2000-2001 <i>Primal Fear</i> <i>Mister Roberts</i>
1970-1971 <i>The Indian Wants The Bronx</i> 1971-1972 <i>Stalag 17</i>	1984-1985 <i>Pinocchio</i> <i>Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat</i>	2001-2002 <i>The Island of Dr. Moreau</i> <i>Death Takes a Holiday</i>
1972-1973 <i>Marat/Sade</i> <i>Queen of the Rebels</i>	1985-1986 <i>Brothers</i> <i>Amadeus</i>	2002-2003 <i>K-PAX</i> <i>The Little Foxes</i>
1973-1974 <i>No Time for Sergeants</i> 1974-1975 <i>Child's Play</i>	1986-1987 <i>Deathtrap</i> <i>Noises Off</i>	2003-2004 <i>Two Shakespearean Actors</i> <i>Biloxi Blues</i>
1975-1976 <i>Hamlet</i> 1976-1977 <i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i>	1987-1988 <i>The Elephant Man</i> <i>Wait Until Dark</i>	2004-2005 <i>Boiler Room</i> <i>Teahouse of the August Moon</i>
1977-1978 <i>The Fantastic</i> <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>	1988-1989 <i>The Dresser</i> <i>The Boys Next Door</i>	2005-2006 <i>The Black Box</i> <i>The Sunshine Boys</i>
1978-1979 <i>Ten Little Indians</i> 1979-1980 <i>That Championship Season</i>	1989-1990 <i>A Life in the Theater</i> <i>Dreamwalk</i>	2006-2007 <i>Buy The Book</i> <i>Wizards of Quiz</i>
1980-1981 <i>The Good Doctor</i> 1981-1982 <i>Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead</i>	1990-1991 <i>Whose Life Is It, Anyway?</i> <i>Lettice and Lovage</i>	2007-2008 <i>The Mpleat Wrks of Wllm Shakspr</i> <i>Journey's End</i>
1982-1983 <i>The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon</i> 1983-1984 <i>Marigolds</i>	1991-1992 <i>Suddenly Last Summer</i> <i>The Nerd</i>	2008-2009 <i>Newsies</i> <i>Play On!</i>
1984-1985 <i>Indians</i> 1985-1986 <i>The Roar of the Greasepaint</i>	1992-1993 <i>The Rainmaker</i> <i>A Few Good Men</i>	2009-2010 <i>Of Mice and Men</i> <i>Laughter on the 23rd Floor</i>
1986-1987 <i>The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia</i>	1993-1994 <i>Lips Together, Teeth Apart</i> <i>The Odd Couple</i>	
1988-1989 <i>Equus</i> 1989-1990 <i>Pippin</i>	1994-1995 <i>An Enemy of the People</i> <i>Conversations With My Father</i>	
1990-1991 <i>Streamers</i>	1995-1996 <i>Sherlock's Last Case</i> <i>I Hate Hamlet</i>	