



March 2022

MAD Play Reading Group

MAD's play-readings last year were a rousing success, each getting hundreds of views on YouTube. (If you missed any, the links are still available on the MAD site.) As much as we'd love to get back to doing theater together on stage, we can't quite plan on that yet. So we're doing another play-reading in the meantime.

Tartuffe

By Molière

Directed by Randy Barth

To participate (including past participants), fill in [the audition form](#) no later than Sunday, March 27. Public reading is planned for Saturday, April 30 at 8pm, viewable via YouTube.

Molière was a poet and *Tartuffe* was written in verse in French. We will use the English translation available at Project Gutenberg which is also in verse. This will be an interesting departure for us from past works, though when you think about it, it is somewhat like musical theater. It will be a new challenge but once again our goal is to have fun participating.

Casting for the play will be done through an online Google form. Auditionees are encouraged to submit a video audition if possible, selecting from the excerpts at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/19mpg66shP8p5Fplwcbgqy7QtP2DRiKRV2h8HZpkTTM>. There will be about seven rehearsals during April leading up to the final public reading. All participation will be virtual over Zoom. Participation will count toward MAD non-voting member status.

To participate, please fill in the form online as soon as you can, but no later than Sunday, March 27. The script is available as a Google document at https://docs.google.com/document/d/10ACanFmRUI4zmJgyvVfLqGoj2_vwEFTyBkYvmef-zCA.

Wikipedia has an excellent summary of the play at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tartuffe>. In addition there are numerous articles and samples on YouTube.

We will do the reading as a period piece (17th century France), though we will probably forego costuming attempts. There are 7 men and 4 women of a variety of ages. (Some of the male roles could be done by females, either as pants roles or re-gendered.) There are two non-speaking servants who will remain off-screen and not be cast. As always, we will consider roles to be open across gender and ethnicities.

Characters:

Orgon	Head of the house and husband of Elmire, he is blinded by admiration for Tartuffe.
Tartuffe	Houseguest of Orgon, hypocritical religious devotee who attempts to seduce Elmire
Valère	The young romantic lead, who struggles to win the hand of his true love, Orgon's daughter Mariane.
Madame Pernelle	Mother of Orgon; grandmother of Damis and Mariane
Elmire	Wife of Orgon, step-mother of Damis and Mariane
Dorine	Family housemaid (<i>souvante</i>), who tries to help expose Tartuffe and help Valère and Mariane.

Cléante	Brother of Elmire, brother-in-law of Orgon (the play's <i>raisonneur</i>); could possibly be done as sister
Mariane	Daughter of Orgon, the fiancée of Valère and sister of Damis
Damis	Son of Orgon and brother of Mariane
Laurent	Servant of Tartuffe (non-speaking character who will probably remain off-screen)
Flipote	Servant of Madame Pernelle (non-speaking character who will probably remain off-screen)
Monsieur Loyal	A bailiff
Police Officer	An officer of the king

More complete descriptions are available at <https://www.litcharts.com/lit/tartuffe/characters>

MAD Board Meeting

The next MAD Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14th, at 5:30 PM via Zoom. All club members are welcome to attend. We plan to hold our board meetings in 2022 regularly on the second Thursday of the month. Please email madboard@googlegroups.com if you would like the Zoom link to attend.

MAD About Town

Jill Goodrich will be appearing in *Godspell* with Sandy Spring Theatre Group at the Arts Barn in Gaithersburg. There aren't really character names in that show except for Jesus and Judas, but Jill is playing the character who sings "Day by Day." This is an especially fun show for Jill to do because, along with *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, it is the sole source of any biblical knowledge she has. The show opens March 4 and closes March 20. <https://www.sandyspringtheatregroup.org/>

Rosalie Daelemans will be appearing in "The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler. An Obie Award-winning whirlwind tour of a forbidden zone, "The Vagina Monologues" introduces a wildly divergent gathering of female voices, including a six-year-old girl, a septuagenarian New Yorker, a vagina workshop participant, a woman who witnesses the birth of her granddaughter, a Bosnian survivor of rape, and a feminist happy to have found a man who "liked to look at it." Performances will be at the Laurel Mill Playhouse, March 18 @ 8:00 pm, March 19 @ 8:00 pm, March 20 @ 2:00 pm, March 25 @ 8:00 pm, March 26 @ 8:00 pm. For more information, visit this link: [Laurel Mill Playhouse](#)

Paul Morris and **Cassandra Morris** will be in the Port Tobacco Players performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest," as Algernon Moncrieff and Cecily Cardew. Performances are May 6 to May 22.

The world premiere of "Adirondack Autumn," by **Daniel Lu**, will be performed by the Capital City Symphony and feature David Lonkevich on the flute. The concert will be held at the Atlas Performing Arts Center on Sunday March 20th at 5:00 PM. Tickets and information can be found in the link here. <http://www.capitalcitysymphony.org/upcoming-events/2022/3/20/birds-and-cathedrals>

MAD Board Update

Randy Barth has finally completely retired (after working only one day a week for the past few years). This means he has had to step down as MAD Treasurer. Fortunately **Dave Buckingham** has agreed to take over the job, which he had before Randy. Mail to treasurer@madtheater.org will forward to Dave now.

MAD Condolences

Ray Hartenstein passed away on March 4, 2022. He was an aerospace engineer at Goddard for 30 years and performed in many musicals and dramas in the 1980s including "Kiss Me Kate," "Fiddler on the Roof", and "Can Can." After he retired he moved to Texas but kept in touch with many of his MAD friends.

We announced the passing of **Alberta Moran** in a newsletter addendum last month. Since then we've received a link to this [YouTube clip](#) of PG Cable TV Interview with her from November 12, 2015.

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