

Santa Barbara High School Theatre presents

A Village Fable

By James Still

Music by William Keck

Musical Direction by
John Douglas

Directed by

Otto Layman



November 6, 8, 13, 14, and 15
7pm

700 E. Anapamu St.

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A Village Fable

Music and Lyrics by
MICAH EL KECK

Original Music Composed by
JOHN DOUGLAS

With

ZOE BRIER, ISAAC CARDENAS, BEN COGBURN, GRANT COOPER, KENDRA COSTIGAN, CARTER CROWE, DYLAN FITZGIBBONS, ZAC FRANK, ALYS GARRISON, OLIVIA GHERSEN GEOFF HAHN, LAUREN HERSCHORN, CLAIRE HOFER, CHRISTIAN “CURLY” JUAREZ, ALLIE KASTER, GABE KASTER, REBEKAH “MIRACLE” KRISPI, MICHAEL LANDECKER, SABLE LAYMAN, JANA MCINTYRE, KODY MOLITOR, ELIANA MULLINS, AMY OBERHOLTZER, JULIA OLSEN, CHRISTIAN PATTERSON, CONNOR PATTERSON, ZOË RADEN, DIA RABIN, MADDY SACHS, REMY SAINT DENIS, CAROLINE SJERVEN, CHRISTIAN SIERRA, KRISTIAN “KSO” SORENSSEN, CHAD SORENSSEN, RYAN SORENSSEN, JENNY SORGMAN, TY STILL, ANGEL VALENZUELA, ASHLEY WAGNER, SARAH WRENCH

Directed by
OTTO LAYMAN

Scenic & Lighting Design
MIKE MADDEN

Costume Designer
JUNNO HERRAH

Lightboard Operators
LILI BITTERS

DAVID ALFENSON-LONG

Musical Director
JOHN DOUGLAS

Fight Choreographer
CHRISTINA MCCARTHY

Production Stage Manager
MELISSA CRONSHAW

Technical Director
DAVID GUY

Soundboard Operator
CHELSEA SHERIDAN

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CAST

CHUDU, the Goat Man.....	Michael Landecker
PRINCE CHRISTOPHER THE SULLEN.....	Carter Crowe
ARMIDA, the Blacksmith's Daughter.....	Eliana Mullins
THE KING.....	Remy St. Denis
THE SIX FINGERED MAN.....	Zach Frank
CLARELLA, the Stepsister.....	Maddy Sachs
ARMIDA'S STEP MOTHER.....	Jana McIntyre
ARMIDA'S MOTHER.....	Claire Hofer
ARMIDA'S FATHER.....	Grant Cooper
A TROUPE OF STORYTELLER.....	Kody Molitor, Kristian Sorensen, Kendra Costigan, Connor Patterson, Christian Patterson, Jenny Sorgman
THE GOSSIP.....	Zoe Raden, Alys Garrison, Lauren Herschorn, Zoe Brier
THE VILLAGE.....	Geoff Hahn, Isaac Cardenas, Dylan Fitzgibbons, Christian Juarez, Angel Valenzuela, Ben Cogburn, Christian Sierra, Allie Kaster, Sarah Wrench, Olivia Gherson, Ashley Wag- ner, Amy Oberholtzer, Rebecca Krispi
THE CHILD.....	Sable Layman
VILLAGE CHILDREN.....	Dia Rabin, Ty Still, Chad Sorenson, Ryan Sorenson, Caroline Sjerven

ORCHESTRA

LITO HERNANDEZ (*FLUTE, SOPRANO SAX*), JOHN DOUGLAS (*PIANO, SYNTHESIZER*), RANDY TICO (*ACOUSTIC, ELECTRIC BASS*), ROBERTO GUTIERREZ (*CONGAS, PERCUSSION*), MASON KOPEIKIN (*DRUMS*)

TECHNICAL CREW

CHELSEA SHERIDAN, NOAH GROSS-SCHAEFER, KATE PINCUS-WHITNEY, SIERRA SCAFIDI, RILEY HARDY-AYALA, DAVID ANFENSON-LONG, CARSON FRENCH, SCOTT GORDON, MICHAEL HOOTEN, ALEX ESCOBAR, ANGEL VALENZUELA

COSTUME CREW

WALDO, MARINA LAVENDER, KATIE AMERY, MATTIE SHELTON

A VILLAGE FABLE

A Village Fable is a powerful story of how outcasts triumph over the narrow prejudices of their village by binding their lives and fortunes to one another. The play is set in the Village in the Valley Where the River Ran Dry, where three characters are made scapegoats for the villagers' fear of the cannibal Six-Fingered Man, who dried up the river and terrorizes the village: Chudu, half hunch-backed dwarf and half goat, is ostracized and taunted; Armida, an independent and smart young woman is taught to appear stupid and flatter men by her new stepmother; Prince Christopher is being forced by his ineffective father, the King, to give up music to battle the Six-Fingered Man in the King's stead. Each believes that death is their only escape from repression. Independently, Chudu, Armida and the Prince venture into the Mountains to end their pain, only to find each other and discover their personal courage through friendship and confrontation with the Six-Fingered Man.

Step into our garden...
find the secrets of each flower.
Tread softly 'round the fairies, though
who at this very hour
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that of the rose.

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WHO'S WHO

OTTO LAYMAN (*Director*), in his thirteenth year as head of the Theatre Department at SBHS, Otto Layman has directed *Hair* at SBHS and at the 2008 Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2008); *Beauty and the Beast* (2008) & *Peter Pan* (2007); *The Pajama Game* (2007) & *Still Life with Iris* (2006); *On the Town* (2006) & *The Wind in the Willows* (2005); *Carnival!* (2005) & *The Ash Girl* (2004); *Copacabana!* (2004) & *Mrs. McThing* (2003); *The Wizard of Oz* (2003) & *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (2002); *A Tale of Two Cities* (2002) & *Fright Night* (2001); *Into the Woods* (2001) & *Alice in Wonderland* (which he also adapted) (2000); *Once in a Lifetime* & *Durang, Durang* (1999); *A History of the American Film*, *On the Razzle*, & *At This Evening's Performance* (1999); *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Three Penny Opera*, & *Night of Once Acts* (1998); *Alice Underground*, *A Night of Once Acts*, & *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* (1997); and *The Raven* (1996). A long-time member of the Ensemble Theatre as an actor and Playwright in Residence, Mr. Layman received his A.A. in English Literature from San Diego Mesa College (1980); a B.A. in English Literature from UCSB (1982); his M.A. in Creative Writing from Boston University (1987); and a Master's in Education from UCSB (1996).

MIKE MADDEN (*Scenic Design / Light Design*), the resident technical director at the Ensemble Theatre in Santa Barbara, Mr. Madden comes to SBHS Theatre for his twelfth show. His first design at Santa Barbara High School was *Mrs. McThing* (2003), followed by *Copacabana!* (2004), *The Ash Girl* (2004), *Carnival!* (2005), *The Wind in the Willows* (2005), *On the Town* (2006), *Still Life with Iris* (2006), *The Pajama Game* (2007), *Peter Pan* (2007), *Beauty and the Beast* (2008), and *Hair* (2008). Mr. Madden's entire professional life has revolved around technical theatre. Bit by the theatre bug in high school, he went to CSU, Chico and earned his degree in Theatre Arts. Along the way, Mr. Madden has designed and teched live theatre all over Northern and Southern California, Ashland, Oregon, and London, England. He has worked for roughly thirty different companies and worked on hundreds of shows as anything from deck hand to technical director, from designer to voice over talent.

JOHN DOUGLAS (*Musical Director*), is a pianist, songwriter, arranger and composer. He has toured with the Pointer Sisters, Donald O'Connor and Eddie Fisher, performed with Aretha Franklin and Dizzy Gillespie, and played on numerous recordings. John has served as musical director and/or pianist for school productions of *Guys & Dolls*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *West Side Story*, *Most Happy Fella*, *Moby Dick the Musical*, *The Boyfriend*, *The Wiz*, *Peter Pan*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Once on this Island*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Seussical*, *Anything Goes*, *Beauty & the Beast* and *Wizard of Oz*. He performed and recorded piano music for *I Remember You*, currently running at the Circle Bar B Dinner Theater. This past summer he served as music director for SBHS's production of *Hair* in the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Besides SBHS, he works regularly with the theatre departments at DPHS and GVJHS. John wrote songs and served as music director for original plays for PVAC: *There's a Door in My Room* (2005), and *City at Peace: Being*

Human (2007), *Esperanza's Box: Stories of Hope* (2008). He conducts jazz ensembles at Westmont College and Goleta Valley JHS and is a substitute teacher for Santa Barbara schools. John accompanies the SBCC jazz choir, directed by Ike Jenkins, Inner Light Gospel Choir, the DPHS concert choir, serves as music minister for 2nd Baptist Church in Santa Barbara, and plays and arranges for local singers and bands.

JUNNO HARRAH (Costume Designer), started creating costumes in 2005 for Santa Barbara High School's production of *Music of the Night*. She then went on to design for the mainstage productions of *Carnival*, *On the Town*, and *Wind in the Willows*. Her previous work includes Santa Barbara Summer Stock productions of *Dracula* (2007), and *Aftermath* (2008). She attended the California Institute of the Arts for two years, where she studied fashion design, with a minor in photography. She currently attends Santa Barbara CC and plans to follow her path to New York City in 2009.



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The Santa Barbara High School Theatre Arts Department in association with Santa Barbara High School Theater Foundation would like to thank the following local business leaders for their commitment to supporting the Arts at SBHS. Their generous donations are needed to help underwrite one of the most successful and respected High School Theatre Arts programs in the country. These funds were allocated to help send 38 amazingly talented students to Edinburgh, Scotland this summer to attend the prestigious Fringe Festival.

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to this momentous year.

By the time this program goes to print, and this play opens, a change in the country has begun...and whatever tide prevails, we are left on shore, entwined fingers and violently beating hearts, amid the flotsam and jetsam of our self-created storm...with thimbles to measure the inundation. Misfits all, we are left with only each other.

How have we become so fractured? How has the politics of fear and division taken such a root hold on our lives? Misfits all, we look to find someone to blame, someone to pay for our suffering; we look for bogeymen and monsters and **reasons**. And in looking for reasons, we make, of hatred and vindictiveness, virtues.

When we are afraid, we turn on those that look different from us, those that believe differently than we do, those that do not fit in...and we find comfort in our common misery, unity in our shared enemies.

On television I heard a grandfatherly politician say, “He’s not an Arab; he’s a good man.” I watched fear permit good people to let the beast roam free and devour hearts.

At night we wept and wondered what strange Beast this beast was, that the more it fed on our hearts, the more it grew to outwardly resemble ourselves.



In this play, Three That Are Different—Armida, who wants to be a blacksmith like her father and is hated because she is not a *regular* girl; Chudu, the Goat-man, who is despised and shunned in the village, and becomes the focus of superstition and fear and the violence of the mob; and Prince Christopher, cruelly treated by his father because he chooses the violin over the sword (although the Prince would argue quite passionately that the violin chose *him*)—these three misfits, are driven separately into the cruel mountains to be left to the Fates, and their own misery. It is in this time of loneliness and separation that the Three That Are Different discover each other, join forces and together restore the Village its water—its *life*.

I have a hard truth to share—we, my friends, are all misfits. But *misfit* is not the same as *doesn’t fit*—the grand implication is that we can, by shifting our position, by seeing more clearly, embrace *difference*—we can change the pattern so that it is not narrow and dull and provincial and exclusionary and grey—but a vaster, more colorful and vibrant canvas. We are not a melting pot—in a melting pot we stir and fold and beat until we become the same. We are an amazing coat of many colors. We are the alphabet of difference.

High School is often a lonely time for misfits. We fervently hope this place is home. My high school theatre might’ve been; if so, it somehow never occurred to me to seek solace and joy there. I wandered looking for water for a longtime. My wife changed my life. My wife is water.

Otto Layman

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