

20

Entity
Theatre
e.V.

YEARS

*It's
A
Wonderful
Life*



It's a Wonderful Life

a live Radio Play

Adapted for radio-on-stage by Tony Palermo (with alterations by Jim Nellis)
Original score composed and arranged by Jonathan Green
Directed by Jim Nellis, produced by Viviana Ghiglione and Bernd Plank

Saturday, 14th December 2019

The Cast

David Kinsella	<i>John St. James</i>
Melody Rolph	<i>Sharon Evanston</i>
Florian Riemer	<i>David Stockdale</i>
Mattias Carlborg	<i>Robert Logan</i>
Jennifer Blastorah	<i>Carol Nesmith</i>
Claudia Wonhöfer	<i>Wilma Morrison</i>

The live sound effects Team

Katrin Fegert
Christine Fuss
Mattias Carlborg
Alessandra Innocenti
Jessica McGarry
Ladan Shahlaei

Welcome to tonight's performance! Please switch off your mobile phone. Photography and filming are not allowed.

Get the extended copy of the program or listen to the performance broadcast live worldwide at <https://entitytheatre.com/>

The Crew

Jim Nellis *Director*
Viviana Ghiglione *Producer*
Bernd Plank *Producer*
Jessica McGarry *Production Coordinator, Stage Manager*
Mattias Carlborg *Assistant Stage Manager*
Andrea von Eichhorn *Tech Support*
Thomas Hafner *Audio and Sound*
Christoph Klauss *Audio*
Florian Riemer *Lighting Design*
Christine Fuss *Sound, Set Designer*
Makrand Mujumdar *Set Build*
Susan Voight *Costumes*
Dorothea Kojic *Make-Up, Hair*
Ashok Vasudevan *Bar Manager*
Leonardo Clazzer *Production Baby*

The Business Team

Jennifer Blastorah *Social Media Manager*
Emilee Bonner *Texts*
Peter Heinz *Photography*

The Choir

Melody Rolph
Haley Hall
James Happell
Anna Kapusta
Lamorna Manning
Eva Netzhammer
Rodrigo Queiro
Jennifer Patay
Allwyn Pereira
Betsy Riley Harclerode
Lea Vernisse
Siegfried Wagner

Entity Theatre would like to thank

Christoph Klauss
Curt & Debbie Nellis
Dominik Raabe
Ashok Vasudevan
Emily Wachelka

About the Play



Facing seemingly insurmountable problems, George Bailey stands on the side of a bridge on Christmas Eve, ready to end it all.

As angels watching from above discuss how to help George, we see his life in flashback.

Before he can jump from the bridge, George is interrupted by his guardian angel, Clarence, who shows him what the lives of the people in George's town would have been like if he had never been born.

Based on the short story and booklet *The Greatest Gift*, written by Philip Van Doren Stern (1939), the screen adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life* was co-written, produced and directed by legendary director Frank Capra. Although the screen adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life* performed poorly when first released, in ensuing decades the film became a holiday classic, enjoyed year after year.



About the Author



Anthony E. Palermo is an Audie Award-winning radio performer, dramatist, and educator who has produced dramas and workshops for broadcast, stage, and schools. Tony hosts the RuyaSonic Radio Drama Resources website, offering info on writing, directing, scoring, engineering, and sound effects.



About the Director



Jim Nellis has been with Entity Theatre since 2006. He has acted in, produced, or managed *Wyrd Sisters* (Fool), *The Parting* (Soldier), *Aladdin – A Panto*, *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio), *Stage Kiss*, and *Lend Me a Tenor* (Saunders) and performed stand-up comedy at the Comedy Store, La Jolla. He studied acting under Robert Castle – International Theatre New York and Kirk Baltz (L.A.) – Performing Arts Studios and was part of the original cast of *Changes* Nightly in San Diego.

About Entity Theatre

Entity Theatre e.V. is a 20-year-old English-speaking community theatre company, based in Munich.

We are a volunteer-driven organisation with an eclectic and diverse group of members from across the globe.

The thread that unites us is an inherent passion for theatre, and an obsession for good storytelling.

Our artistic vision is built on the foundation of a theatre that engages, entertains, questions, provokes, and breaks boundaries.



Our mission is to create theatre work that includes, but is not limited to, plays, staged readings, workshops, play reading, and theatre festivals.

We are an open and transparent organisation and are always looking for new members to work with us and contribute to Munich's English-speaking theatre community.

The Cast

Jennifer Blastorah

(Carol Nesmith, Social Media Manager)

Born in Toronto, Canada, Jennifer Blastorah is a history buff, a teacher and a writer.

Having developed a love for the stage when she performed as Annie in the school talent show at the age of 6, she has played in several musicals and participated in many Entity productions and events both on and off-stage since 2014. Jennifer will be playing the role of Carol Nesmith who will perform a variety of characters including Violet Bick and Zuzu Bailey.



Mattias Carlborg

(Robert Logan, Assistant Stage Manager)

Mattias joined Entity Theatre in 2014, and has previously featured in plays like *The Note*, *Aladdin (a Panto)*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *As You Like It*. He has also produced *Sleeping Beauty (a Panto)*, *The 39 Steps*, and most recently *Commencing & Being Norwegian*. He's looking forward to bring life to the many characters of *It's a Wonderful Life* in format that's completely new to Entity Theatre.



David Kinsella

(John St. James)

Hailing from the fair city of Dublin, David has been involved in a multitude of theatrical performances and voice-over work in Munich and London. He is looking forward to returning to Entity for this festive, heart-warming radio play adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life*.



The Cast

Florian Riemer

(David Stockdale, Lighting Designer)

Florian Riemer is returning to the stage despite popular demand in his fourth production with Entity.

His previous acting credits include Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*, Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing* and The Cook in Entity's award-winning production of *Numb3rs*.



Melody Rolph

(Sharon Evanston, Choir Director)

Melody is honored to be entering her second season with Entity Theatre. You may have seen her as Maggie in last year's *Lend Me a Tenor*. Some of her favorite credits include Hope in *Urinetown the Musical* and Jack Merridew in *Lord of the Flies*. Melody is delighted to be performing in a Christmas classic she grew up watching with her family, so she hopes this performance hits a warm spot in many hearts.



Claudia Wonhöfer

(Wilma Morrison)

Claudia is excited to be part of this production. It's her second play with Entity after performing in *Stage Kiss* in 2017. Previous credits with LMU's English Drama Group include Mrs. Bennet - *Pride and Prejudice*, Violet Weston - *August Osage County*, Darth Vader - *William Shakespeare's Star Wars*.



The live sound Team

Katrin Fegert (*Live sound effects performer*)

Katrin joined Entity in summer 2015. She grew up in the northern part Germany and participated in many theatre plays in high-school and at university. But her real passion has been photography since getting her first SLR camera. Her previous works for Entity include *Love Virtually*, *Murder's in the Heir*, *Stage Kiss* and *Commencing/ Being Norwegian*. In winter 2019 she produced Ken Ludwig's *Lend Me A Tenor*, directed by Bogdan Tabacaru.

Christine Fuss (*Live sound effects performer, Sound*)

Christine is a true Bavarian girl. She has been with Entity for so many years that these few lines cannot contain the whole list of her past roles. For more details, please check the previous programmes or talk to her. This time she accepted the challenge to execute live sound effects on stage.

Alessandra Innocenti (*Live sound effects*)

Alessandra Innocenti, originally from Florence, Italy, has been living in Munich for over 10 years. A theatre passionate, she is one of the first members of Entity Theatre. She participated in several plays, acting or doing other tasks, such as make up or stage hand, She is very pleased to be part of the current production.

Ladan Shahalei (*Live sound effects*)

Ladan is thrilled to be part of this production of *It's a Wonderful Life!* Ladan has been with Entity Theatre for three years and was involved in the Twelfth Night productions directed by Conny Loder, Entity's 24 Hour Theatre Festival, and FEATS 2019. When she's not in the theatre, Ladan spends her time studying, working, and learning pottery.



The Crew

Tom Hafner (*Audio, Sound*)

Tom sneaked into Entity in 2013 where he took picture of and for *The Women*. He took over sound for *A Play on Words*, went to FEATS 2014 with *The Ribbon*. With *The 39 Steps* he ran about 120 sound cues. After that he started with stage management and he was the Festival Stage Manager for FEATS 2019. For this show he is back to the roots and doing sound again. When not in the theatre, Tom creates, designs, builds and operates networks, IT infrastructure and researches IT security.

Dorotea Kojic (*Make Up, Hair*)

Studying hard to become a pharmacist, Dorotea has never given up her dream of being a make-up artist. She is thankful that Entity made it happen. This is her fourth production with Entity and she enjoys making the actors look beautiful.

Susan Voight (*Costumes*)

Susan's theatre background is primarily as a dancer. Sewing since childhood, her first costumes were for the modern dance company in which she performed. She got involved in Entity last year, making a couple of last-minute costumes for *Lend Me A Tenor* (2018).

She found the group congenial and was fascinated with expressing the character's personality through attire. She is back this year creating costumes for both *It's A Wonderful Life!* and *The Seagull*.

Andrea von Eichhorn (*Tech Support*)

Andrea is happy to be involved in tech in an Entity production again. Having found her way to theatre via the LMU's English Drama Group many years ago and then to Entity, her focus has mostly shifted from acting to doing tech and backstage work. She is looking forward to *It's A Wonderful Life!*



The Business Team

Emilee Bonner (*Texts*)

Emilee has worn many different hats on and offstage in support of several Entity productions and is happy to be part of the business team this time around.

Peter Heinz (*Photography*)

Peter, a retired photographer and marketing executive from New York, is new to Entity Theatre and just finished producing the 24 Hour Theatre Festival. When not in Entity he is very active in the Improv community as a member of two English groups and the founder of an experimental Improv Group. "Thank you Entity for getting me out from behind the camera and letting my creative juices flow!"



The Choir

As musical support, some lovely singers from the *English-Speaking Music Ensemble e.V. (ESME)* join this production to sing carols. ESME is a non-profit organisation that offers members the opportunity to make music in an English-speaking environment. Over the time it has grown to just over 160 passionate members from all over the world. With their three ensembles - the Choir, the Orchestra and the Big Band - they perform several concerts a year and have fun simply making music together. *"We are so happy to join Entity for this amazing broadcast. It is a first for us all."*

You can find more information about ESME at <https://www.esme-ev.de/>



The Chiefs



Viviana Ghiglione (*Producer*)

Viviana joined Entity in 2013 to play in *The Women*. After that, she was member of the board, the producer of *The Note and the Ribbon* (2014), and *Murder's in the Heir* (2015) and collaborated to various other productions as member of the business team.

Bernd Plank (*Producer*)

Bernd, Producer, is happy to be back with Entity after a hiatus of almost 14 years. It's his first time in a role behind the curtains. Over the years he played such diverse characters as an egocentric demon, a gospel-singing love-guru and a VERY over-the-top actor.

Jessica McGarry (*Production Coordinator / Stage Manager*)

Jess is thrilled to be involved in this production. Previous theatre credits include *Romeo and Juliet* (Stage Manager) and *Stage Kiss* (Tech Operator) with Entity Theatre, as well as *The Things We Say* (Sound Design) with the Munich Feminist Project. With LMU's English Drama Group she worked on *Pride and Prejudice* (Co-Director), *The Crying Dame* (Assistant Director), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Head of Set Design, Costume Design) and *Hello Dimitri* (Head of Set Design).

Let's sing together!

Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
for auld lang syne

CHORUS:

For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

CHORUS:

For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

