

*Ann Arbor Civic Theatre CenterStage Productions presents*

# *The Secret Garden*

*Book and lyrics by*

*Marsha Norman*

*Music by*

*Lucy Simon*

*Based on a novel by*

*Frances Hodgson Burnett*

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*Directed by Joy Baker Dennis*

*Music Direction by Richard Berberian*

*Choreography by Ann Chapman*

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*April 24-27, 1996*

*Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre*

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Lily Craven.....	Holly Pitrago
Mary Lennox.....	Sarah Barkoff
Rani.....	Danielle Schoenberger
Ayah.....	Nancy Van Blaricum
Rose Lennox (Mary's mother).....	Andrea Porter
Captain Albert Lennox ( Mary's father).....	Nicholas Sattinger
Lieutenant Wright.....	Tod Barker
Lieutenant Shaw.....	Ron Baumanis
Major Holmes.....	Dana Buck
Claire Holmes.....	Sarah Packard
Alice (Rose's friend).....	Gretchen Baxtresser
Mrs. Shelley.....	Jennifer Lee
Major Shelley.....	Matt Stempky
Mrs. Medlock.....	Susie Berneis
Archibald Craven (Mary's uncle).....	Kevin Binkley
Dr. Neville Craven (his brother).....	Matt DeLong
Martha Sowerby.....	Amanda Satchell
Dicken Sowerby ( her brother).....	eff Steger
Ben Weatherstaff ( a gardener).....	David Wright
Colin Craven.....	Michael Mahoney
Mrs. Winthrop.....	Evette Lutman
Children's chorus.....	Carolyn Garay, Caria Freshwater Andrianna Pachella, Rebecca Wagner

Original Broadway Production by : Heide Landesman, Rick Steiner, Frederic H. Mayerson, Elizabeth Williams, Jujamc Theaters/TV ASAHI and Dodge Productions. Originally produced by the Virginia Stage Company : Charles Towers, Artistic Director.

## STAFF & CREW

Director.....	Joy Baker Dennis
Musical Director/Conductor.....	Richard Berberian
Choreographer.....	Ann Chapman
Producer.....	Rosemarie Rothe
Technical Director.....	Dustin Ratliff
Costume Design.....	Deb Korastinsky
Lighting Design.....	Mike Price
Make-up/Hair Design.....	Rosemarie Rothe
Properties Masters.....	Jim Barnes Roberta Petersen
Vocal Coach.....	Elsi Sly
Assistant to Director.....	Shonna Groth
Stage Manager.....	Chuck Griffin
Master Painter.....	Leo Babcock
Publicity Chair.....	Darla Miller
Publicity Assistant.....	Karla Barton
Poster Design.....	David Zinn

## COSTUME CREW

Merrilee & Jerry Barkoff, Cheryl Berteel, Pok Deem  
Kathi Genik, Chuck Griffin, Joan Korastinsky, Deborah  
Mahoney, Barb Wells, Alix Berneis.

## SET CREW

Matt Bailey, Tod Barker, Teri Booth, Neal Collins,  
Alan Rothe, Pat Gerrity, Marigrace Randazzo, Paul  
Stallman, Stan Thornbury, David Wright, Linda Rama,  
Ted Skrzyske

## LIGHT/SOUND CREW

Scott Brines, Matthew Elmore, Jeff Zupan,  
Scott Mancha

## MAKE-UP CREW

Joan Clauss, Lynn Rein, Monica Ladd

## RUNNING CREW

Mike Limmer, Glen Massey, Dwight Smith  
Tom Sparks, Linda Rama.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Gurney Seed & Nursey Co.; Econo Print, Pinckney; Domino's Pizza, Jackson Ave.

## SYNOPSIS

Orphaned during a cholera epidemic in India, spoiled and willful Mary Lennox is sent to live with her reclusive uncle on the Yorkshire moors. Left to her own amusements, she discovers the gardens of the estate and slowly makes friends with a local boy. Guided by memories, ghosts, and her own yearning for a sense of self, Mary discovers a long neglected garden, and begins to nurture it back to bloom. In doing so, Mary finds the healing powers of love and the strength to share it with those around her.

# SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

## ACT ONE

<b>Opening</b>	
"Opening Dream" .....	Lily, Fakir, Mary & Dreamers
<b>India</b>	
"There's A Girl" .....	Dreamers
<b>A Train Platform in Yorkshire</b>	
<b>The Door to Misselthwaite Manor</b>	
"The House Upon The Hill" .....	Dreamers
<b>Mary's Room</b>	
<b>The Gallery</b>	
"I Heard Someone Crying" .....	Mary, Archibald, Lily & Dreamers
<b>Scene 1: Mary's Sitting Room</b>	
"A Fine White Horse" .....	Martha
<b>Scene 2: The Ballroom</b>	
"A Girl In The Valley" .....	Archibald, Lily, Rose & Dreamers
<b>Scene 3: In the Maze / The Greenhouse</b>	
"It's A Maze" .....	Ben, Mary, Martha & Dickon
<b>The Edge of the Moor</b>	
"Winter's On The Wing" .....	Dickon
"Show Me The Key" .....	Mary & Dickon
<b>Scene 4: Archibald's Library</b>	
"A Bit Of Earth" .....	Archibald
<b>Scene 5: The Gallery</b>	
"Storm I" .....	Dreamers
"Lily's Eyes" .....	Archibald & Neville
<b>Scene 6: The Hallway</b>	
"I Heard Someone Crying" .....	Mary & Dreamers
"Storm II" .....	Dreamers
<b>Scene 7: Colin's Room</b>	
"Round-Shouldered Man" .....	Mary & Colin
<b>Scene 8: On the Grounds / The Door to the Garden</b>	
"Final Storm" .....	Dreamers

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERMISSION.

## ACT TWO

<b>Scene 1: The Tea Party Dream / The Other Side of the Door</b>	
"The Girl I Mean To Be" .....	Mary & Dreamers
<b>Scene 2: Archibald's Dressing Room</b>	
"Quartet" .....	Archibald, Neville, Rose & Lily
<b>Scene 3: Colin's Roofin</b>	
"Race You To The Top Of The Morning" .....	Archibald
<b>Scene 4: The Greenhouse</b>	
"Wick" .....	Dickon & Mary
<b>Scene 5: Colin's Room</b>	
"Come To My Garden / Lift Me Up" .....	Colin & Lily
<b>Scene 6: In the Maze / The Garden</b>	
"Come Spirit, Come Charm" .....	Mary, Martha, Dickon & Dreamers
"A Bit Of Earth" (reprise) .....	Lily, Rose, & Albert
<b>Scene 7: The Library</b>	
"Disappear" .....	Neville
<b>Scene 8: Mary's Room / Paris</b>	
"Hold On" .....	Martha
"Letter Song" .....	Mary & Martha
<b>Scene 9: Archibald's Room in Paris</b>	
"Where In The World" .....	Archibald
"How Could I Ever Know" .....	Lily & Archibald
<b>Scene 10: The Garden</b>	
Finale .....	Company

## ABOUT THE CAST

**Tod Barker** (Lt. Wright) Having returned, once again, to Ypsilanti, he is returning to work in the theatre after a 4 yr. sabbatical. Although his interests span every aspect of theatre craft he is thrilled to be on stage after many years behind the scene. Look for him next season when he directs *Medea* for AACT.

**Sarah Barkoff** (Mary Lennox) is a 7th grade honor role student and cheerleader for Bryant Middle School. She made her acting debut at age 5 in *Annie* (Molly). At 8, she had the privilege to perform for 2 yrs. with the Third National Co. of *Les Miserables* as Young Cosette. Other credits include: *The Sound of Music*, *The King & I*, *The Nutcracker*, and Puccini's opera *Tosca*. She has appeared in two films: *Soul Stealers* and *That Special Gift*, multiple commercials and voice-overs. For 3 years she has studied voice with Dolly Paul. Sarah performs courtesy of the Actors Equity Association.

**Ronald P. Baumanis** (Lt. Shaw) is making his AACT acting debut - but is a veteran of over 50 musicals in Ohio, off-Broadway in NYC, and now Michigan! Ron's a licensed psychologist at Rainbow Rehab. Center, but has a true passion for directing. Most recently he directed *Jeffrey* for us, and will direct and choreograph both *My Favorite Year* and *Bye-Bye Birdie* next season.

**Gretchen Baxtresser** (Alice) first appeared with AACT in *Oklahoma*. She has performed leading operatic roles in the Whitewater Opera Company in Indiana and has been a soloist for Battle Creek and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras. She was lead singer in a vocal jazz sextet *Close Company* in Cincinnati. She now sings with Ann Arbor's Vocal Arts Ensemble. She also teaches piano and voice.

**Susie Berneis** (Mrs. Medlock) recently recreated the role Mother Superior in *Nonsense II* (DCP), other DCP shows include: *Nonsense* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. AACT saw her in *Annie* last year as well as *Oklahoma!* and *Lend Me A Tenor*. Behind the scenes she enjoys costuming and make-up. For 2 yrs. now she has served on the AACT Play Selection Committee.

**Kevin Binkley** (Archibald Craven) is a regular performer with the Civic Theaters in Ann Arbor and Jackson. In his 3 roles with AACT, getting the girl has gone from difficult (Curly in *Oklahoma*) to tragic (Joe Cable in *South Pacific*), to impossible (in this show) -- who says life doesn't imitate art! Other recent performances include: *The Pajama Game* (Sid), *Damn Yankees* (Joe Hardy), and *Dancing At Zughnasa* (Gerry). He's encouraged to perform by his employer, Jacobson's, where he's Vice President-Treasurer.

**Dana Buck** (Major Holmes) is a veteran of over 25 years in the theater. Dana has been an actor, director, designer and technician here in Michigan as well as Ohio and New York. For AACT, Dana has appeared in *Bullshot* Crummond, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *The Lion In Winter*. He directed Jacques Brel and Joe Egg. His stage managing credits are numerous, including *M Butterfly*. He is a member of the AACT Board of Directors and a "doo-wop" singer with the "Gelcaps".

**Matt DeLong** (Dr. Neville Craven) is a doctoral student in Math. He has appeared in AACT's *South Pacific* last year. He was also in *Lend Me A Tenor* and *Brigadoon* (CAP), *Guys*

and *Dolls* (SAP), and *Gifts Of The Magi* (The Stage Presence Ltd.).

**Carla Freshwater** (children's chorus) is in 9th grade at Canton H.S. and is making her AACT debut. She has previously been seen at the Marquis Theater in over 20 shows. Some of her favorite shows were: *Raggedy Ann & Andy* (Raggedy Ann), *Charlotte's Web* (Fern), and *Pooh Visits Storyland* (Tigger).

**Carolyn Garay** (children's chorus) is a 5th grader at Bach Opera School. Her favorite subjects are art, math, and phys. ed. She's been involved with Young Actors Guild and Young People's Theater. She really enjoys acting! Last year she was in *Annie* and looks forward to participating in future AACT shows.

**Jennifer Lee** (Mrs. Shelley) is a Fresh. Theatre Performance Mj. at U of M. Most recently, she was in YPT's production of *Oliver!* (Nancy). In her high school she played Kim (*Bye-Bye Birdie*), Crystal (*Little Shop Of Horrors*), and Diane Lorimer (*42nd Street*). Outside of theater she enjoys playing piano, reading, and sleeping.

**Evette Lutman** (Mrs. Whinthrop) is a local attorney who enjoys all manner of performing arts. This is her 2nd performance with AACT, and she looks forward to many more.

**Michael Mahoney** (Colin Craven) is making his AACT debut. He's worked with the Young People's Theater, Emerson School, and the Burns Park Players. Recently, he was Dr. Grimwig, an orphan, pickpocket, and a Bow Street Runner in YPT's *Oliver!*, he had a featured solo as the oldest swan brother in Emerson's *The Wild Swans*. He would like to thank his parents, Michelle Mountain, Cheryl Van Duzen, and Andrea Leap for their support and encouragement - also his dog, Mac, for his unconditional love.

**Andrianna Pachella** (children's chorus) is making her AACT debut. She has, however, been in school plays, ballet recitals and choir performances. She loves acting, singing, and dancing, and is very excited to be involved with this production.

**Sarah Packard** (Claire Holmes) is a Sr. at Plymouth-Canton H.S., is a member of the PCEP Madrigal Singers and an aspiring voice major. Among her vocal experiences are: H.S. Regional and State Honors Choir, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and a European tour with the U.S. Collegiate Choir! She loves to read, write, travel, and surf "the net".

**Holly Pitrago** (Lily) graduated from E.M.U. last April with a M.A. in Theatre Arts. While at E.M.U. Holly appeared in *Company* (April), *Nine* (Luisa), *Into The Woods* (Cinderella), and *The Taming of The Shrew* (Bianca). She made her AACT debut in last summer's *Picnic*. She currently works at the U of M Law School while pursuing a career in acting.

**Andrea Porter** (Rose Lennox) is making her AACT debut. She has been in theater for 12 years. Memorable roles include: Christine Daae in *Phantom*, Luisa in *The Fantastics*, and Laurey in *Oklahoma!*. She has portrayed Antonia (*Man Of La Mancha*) numerous times, including a touring production. A dramatic studies student at U of M, she's planning a career in entertainment.

**Nicholas Sattinger** (Albert Lennox) is a Musical Theater major at U of M. Nick has appeared in *Hair* (Woof), *Baby* (Danny), and *Guys & Dolls*.



**Amanda Satchell** (Maria) is a Soph. Musical Theater student at U of M. This is her AACT debut, and she is quite excited! She's played Audrey (*Little Shop Of Horrors*) and Gen. Cartwright (*Gypsy & Dolls*). Amanda wants to thank her family and friends for their support!

**Danielle Schoenberger** (Rani) is a Jr. at U of M, receiving her BFA in Musical Theatre. She most recently performed her own cabaret show *Don't Ask Me Not To Sing*, at The U. Club in the Michigan Union. Favorite roles include Guenevere (*Camelot*), Tzeitel (*Fiddler On The Roof*), and the Tin Man (*The Wizard of Oz*). Thanks to friends and family for their support!

**Matt Stempky** (Mr. Shelley) has been in numerous AACT shows including: *Biloxi Blues*, *West Side Story*, *Annie*, and *As You Like It*. He's also worked with Chelsea and Saline. He met his wife-to-be in the cast of *Oklahoma!* here at AACT.

**Jeff Steger** (Dickon) is a Fresh. BFA Theater Performance at U of M. Recently, he was in YPT's *Oliver!* (Bill Sikes). He's performed many shows in Midland - *Anything Goes* (Moonface), and *Little Mary Sunshine* (Capt. "bid Jim"). He's received many awards for his work both off and on stage. Credits include: *The Good Doctor* (Writer), *Oklahoma!* (Ali Hakim), and *Into The Woods* (the Baker). Thanks to his family & friends for their love and support.

**Nancy Van Blaricum** (Ayah) is the proud grandparent of Michael & Miranda, a retired elementary teacher, an avid genealogist, and an occasional actress. She's worked with CAP and DCP, usually in the chorus. Previous shows include: *Amahl And The Night*, *Brigadoon*, *The Pajama Game*, *The King & I*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *South Pacific*, *Gypsy & Dolls*, and *Camelot*.

**Rebecca Wagner** (children's chorus) A 6th grader at Huron Valley, Rebecca returns to AACT after playing Tessie in *Annie* last year. She made her acting debut 2 years ago as Honey Lou in SAP's *Finian's Rainbow*, and recently played The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* for Young People's Theater. She loves to dance, play the piano, sing, write, and read -- and wants to be an actress when she grows up.

**David A. Wright** (Ben Wetherstaff) has worked with Our Time Productions of *Destiny of Me*, *Jeffrey* and *Street Theater*. For AACT he was in *Jeffrey* (Priest) and worked on the sound crew for *R & G Are Dead*. He underwrites mortgages for the Interfirst division of Standard Federal and he volunteers at Affirmations Community Center in Ferndale. "Best of luck (or Congrats) to Julie & Rob on your own production this weekend."



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## ABOUT THE STAFF

**Leo Babcock** (Master Painter) studied art and architecture in Paris, Copenhagen and at the U of M. As an architect with the theater bug it seems only natural that he has designed, built and painted a number of sets over years. In 1995 he was awarded best set for his design of AACT's *South Pacific*. On stage he was most recently seen as Nathan in Saline's *Guys and Dolls* and the Wolf/Prince in Dexter's *Into the Woods*.

**Joy Baker Dennis** (Director, Set Design) is pleased to be directing *The Secret Garden*, her second show for AACT. A graduate, BFA, of Emporia State University, she founded the Comm. Theater of Emporia, KA, a civic group which recently moved into their own theater. In the years since, Joy has worked in Indiana and Penn. as a director, scenic designer, and actress. She most recently directed *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

**Jim Barnes** (Props Master) terms himself a "Professional Volunteer", working with AACT and the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. He retired from EMU after 33 years teaching physics, and learned his stage skills by working with G & S. Most recently he designed and built the set for *Blithe Spirit*. He's now the Shop Manager for AACT.

**Richard Berberian** (Music Director, Conductor) This is Richard's second show for AACT; last year's *Annie* was his first. He is studying composition at the U of M and resides in Dallas, Texas.

**Ann Chapman** (Choreographer) was the choreographer for *Annie* last season and has also worked with G & S, DCP, Dexter H.S., and Ypsi H.S.. She gained her first experience in her parents' living room! No stranger to the stage, Ann's been in *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Play It Again Sam* and debuted in the 1969 production of *Skin Of Our Teeth* as a baby dinosaur (maybe she wanted us to leave out the year?). She says that this show has inspired her to plant flowers in the yard of her new house.

**Chuck Griffin** (Stage Manager) began with AACT as set builder for *Private Lives*. From there he worked as set builder for *Jeffrey* and *M Butterfly*, Props for *Blithe Spirit* and on the stage crews for those shows as well.

**Shonna Groth** (Assistant Director) started just a year ago when she was in *Annie*. Since then she has become involved in almost every aspect of AACT. On committees, volunteering little tasks, producing, makeup, etc. and now assisting the director! She only regrets that she hasn't had time to return to the stage. Hopefully she can appear on stage again before she moves to L.A. in pursuit of a film career!

**Deb Korastinsky** (Costume Designer) is in her third season with AACT. She holds a BFA in technical theater: costume design. She's most recently added costume designing the Purple Rose Theater's Spring Comedy Festival to her list of accomplishments, as well as the position of Technical Coordinator for *R.U.R.* She has really enjoyed working on this beautiful production with Joy!

**Darla Miller** (Publicity) recently learned how to wrangle props (hated it!), how to change the playhouse sign (almost caught pneumonia!), helped lift the huge playhouse mailbox (got hit in the head!), and attended the AACT kick-off picnic (and sprained her ankle!). Although she appears to be a glutton for punishment - she hasn't been hurt as the co-chair of our Marketing & Development Committee.

**Roberta Petersen** (Properties Master) was a social worker by profession until retirement. Now she has more time to indulge her interests in art, music, theater, gardening and her cats!

**Mike Price** (Lighting Designer) was a lighting designer in the U.K. and the U.S. for over 40 years. He has directed *South Pacific*, *Harvey*, and did lighting for *Hello Dolly!* He currently runs lights for Brighton City Ballet and operates his own video company. His other lighting works include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, which he did with Joy, and *Into The Woods*.

**Dustin Ratliff** (Technical Director) started in high school with lighting. For AACT he has been the set builder for *Annie*, *Picnic*, and *M Butterfly*. While he's away from the theater, he enjoys rock climbing, mountain biking, sailing, and renovating his home.

**Rosemarie Rothe** (Producer) is usually found behind the scenes. For 14 years she has designed hair and make-up for over 50 productions. Lately, she has been using her talents "producing". *The Secret Garden* marks her fourth show as Producer. Seeing the show out front will be a new experience.

### SOME THOUGHTS ON THE SECRET GARDEN (FROM THE DIRECTOR)

I was introduced to Mary Lennox and her Secret Garden at the age of seven by my aunt and uncle who had presented me with a copy of the Francis Hodgson Burnett classic that Christmas. I can remember my mother reading the book to me before I went to sleep, doing out this wondrous story a chapter each night. When before my literary tastes had leaned toward beautiful princesses being rescued by handsome princes, I found myself now completely captivated by a lonely little girl that had found her own way to happiness. The very idea that self reliance was an option for a girl was completely new. I guess you might say Mary Lennox was my Huck Finn.

When I heard that my beloved book had been made into a play, I was both pleased and apprehensive. Others shared my feelings of a possible mixed blessing. Actress Tyne Daly pulled composer Lucy Simon aside at the premier of the show on B-way and demanded of her, "You haven't ruined it have you?" I know exactly how Ms. Daly felt and I'm happy to report - no, they didn't!

Much has been made of the fact that an all woman production team put this show together initially. And the fact that its leading character is a 10 year old girl, prompts the uninitiated to believe that it is a play for women and their daughters, or as my sons might say, "A chick thing." And part of me wants to say, "You're damn right it's a chick thing ... and why shouldn't it be?" And I might even stomp my foot impatiently as I know Mary Lennox would.

But the director in me savors the simple value of a good story well told. It knows no gender, racial, or religious boundaries. It appeals to that which is human in all of us. And I believe that this is the truth that Mary found in her Secret Garden, that Huck found on the river, and that each of us hopes to find in our lifetime - an appreciation for ourselves as individuals and the understanding that it makes us all equal.

# AACT Operational Gifts

(as of April 1, 1996)

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## Supporting Players

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Ronna and Kent Talcott

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Nancy Urquiola

Richard and Laura Van House  
Peter A. Ward

John T. Williams  
Astrid Zelazny

## Chorus

Mary J. Adamski  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. William Austin, Jr.

Ruth M. Bamard

Mrs. James and Marjorie Bames

Bruce Benner  
Chuck Blackman & Tracey Wentz

Frances E. Bull  
Dr. A. Craig Cattell

Barbara A. Cooper  
Jerome L. Epstein, M.D.

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Barbara and Michael Steer

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William and Julie Vorus

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Marion T. Wirick & James Morgan

## Cast

Forrest Alter  
Peter Bauland  
Kathryn Clark & Dr. Robert W. Ike  
Marian Cope  
Virginia H. Donahay  
Ruth P. Dorr  
Richard W. Fortner  
Ralph and Del Hulett  
Dr. and Mrs. David J. Knesper  
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