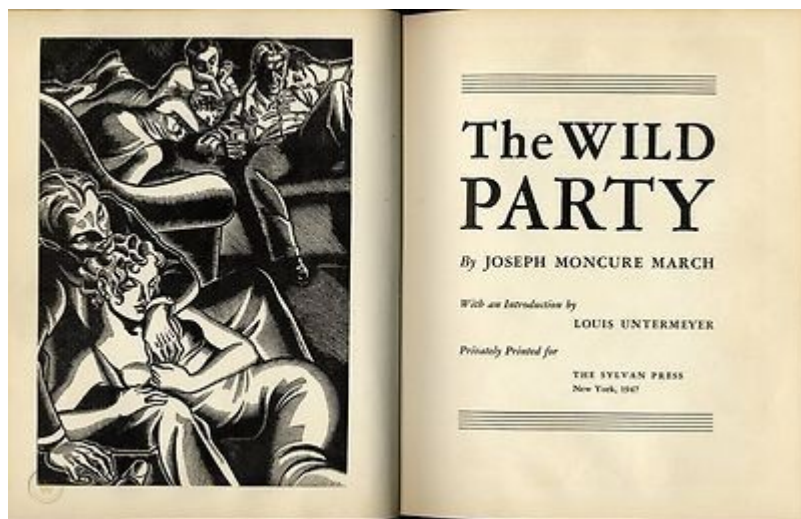


Cygnnet Productions

Presents



The Wild Party

by Joseph Moncure March

Produced for
Cygnnet Radio Hour
August 2021

Directed by Louanne
Moldovan

Cast, in order of first appearance

Narrator, Jackie	Don Alder
Queenie	Marilyn Stacey
Burrs, Eddie, Oscar	Gavin Hoffman
Black, Phil	Michael Mendelson
Mae, and others	Olivia Shimkus
Kate, and others	Andrea White

Crew

Line Producer	Carol Ann Wohlmutter
Music Composer	Rody Ortega
Engineer & Editor	Mike DiNapoli

Setting

New York City, the Roaring Twenties

Running Time

Approximately 90 minutes, not including the companion Conversation with Sonia Sabnis, Associate Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities at Reed College.

Tickets

The Wild Party is free to stream, thanks to generous support from the Ronni S Lacroute Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation.

Synopsis

The Wild Party is a jazz-age, book-length narrative poem throbbing with passionate rhythms. Louche characters of all sorts engage in colorful debauchery, while main characters Queenie and Burr circle each other in a cynical, dangerous game of sexual power.

About the Playwright

Joseph Moncure March (1899–1977) was best known for his long narrative poems [The Wild Party](#) and [The Set-Up](#). He attended Amherst College and was a protégé of Robert Frost. He left school to enlist in the U.S. Army in 1918; he participated in the Saint Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives. In 1919, he was discharged from the Army, returned to school and graduated *Honoris Causa* in 1920.

He began his career in journalism as the first managing editor of *The New Yorker* in 1925; he helped create the magazine's trademark "Talk of the Town" section, a proving ground for generations of American writers to come. He quit that job in 1926 to focus on writing *The Wild Party*, which was published in a limited run of 750 copies, by Pascal Covici in 1928. Nineteen-twenty-eight also saw Covici-Friede's publication of *The Set-Up*, March's epic poem about the Black boxer Pansy Jones.

By 1929 he'd become a screenwriter under contract with MGM Studios. He also worked for Howard Hughes, Paramount, Columbia, Republic, Fox, Universal, and independent companies. Credits listed in *American Film Institute Catalog* or feature films include "Hell's Angels" with Jean Harlow; "A Man From Wyoming" with Gary Cooper; "Hot Saturday" with Cary Grant; "Madame Butterfly" and "Sky Devils" with Spencer Tracy; "Hoop-la" with Clara Bow; "Rumba" with George Raft and Carole Lombard; "Her Jungle Love" with Dorothy Lamour; "Three Faces West" with John Wayne, and many more.

He later wrote documentaries for the State Department, and advertising scripts for brands including Ford, American Airlines, Monsanto, U.S. Steel, and General Motors. He retired in 1968, but continued writing, notably an unpublished book-length piece entitled "Hollywood Idyll" and articles published in *The New Yorker* magazine. He died in California in 1977.



Producer/Director

Louanne Moldovan is the founder and artistic director of Cygnet Productions, the "literary cabaret" of Portland, Oregon. Cygnet's mission is to produce entertaining, stimulating works of literature with social consciousness; the company presents dramatic adaptations of literary works as well as producing plays written for the stage.

She is the winner of an Oregon Book Award for Drama in 2004, as coauthor of *Vitriol & Violets: Tales from the Algonquin Round Table*.

She directs for companies including the Civic Theatre Guild and Artists Repertory Theatre. She also directs talent on-set for TV commercials and films.

In Los Angeles, Louanne worked for 20th Century Fox Films, was an acting member of the Company of Angels Theater, and writer and co-leader with the Women's Writing Project at the Los Angeles Theatre Center. She served as an artistic supervisor of the Imagination Workshop, a group of performers working with psychiatric patients to facilitate a creative experience.



For Louanne, theatre is the capricious, beloved stepsister to her divine daughter, Alex.

Guest Conversationalist



Sonia Sabnis is Associate Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities at Reed College, where she has taught since 2006. Her research interests center on Latin and Greek literature of the Roman empire as well as reception of these materials in later eras.

Sonia came across Art Spiegelman's edition of *The Wild Party* when she was a student and has been a fan of it ever since, all the more after she discovered that Joseph Moncure March studied Latin and Greek and enjoyed translating the poems of Horace.

Cast

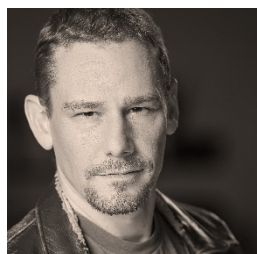
Don Alder's favorite roles include Denny in *The Steady Rain* for Hellfire Productions (Drammy Award); Don Armado in *Love's Labor's Lost* for Northwest Classical Theatre Company; McMurphy in *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* for Brundog Productions; and Roma in *Glengarry Glen Ross* for Cygnet Productions. He's appeared at Artists Rep in *The Miracle Worker*, *The Monster-Builder*, *Ah Wilderness!*, *Fortinbras*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* and *The Fox*.



Don has also worked for Arkansas Rep, Lakewood Theatre, Profile Theatre, Broadway Rose, Portland Center Stage, Salem Rep, Portland Rep, Sun Valley Rep, New Rose Theatre, and others.

Don's film and television roles include *Grimm*, *Leverage*, *The Sasquatch Dumpling Gang*, *Path of Evil*, *Lie Detector*, *Dandelion*, *Harvest of Fear*, *Kicking Bird*, *Homeward Bound*, *The Temp*, *Come See the Paradise*, *The Gas Café*, *Alibi*, *Things They Never Told Me*, *Duplicates*, *Nowhere Man*, *Rose Red* and *Say Uncle*.

Gavin Hoffman's local credits include: Joe in *Great Expectations*, Ligniere in *Cyrano*, Iago in *Othello*, Karl/Steve in *Clybourne Park* (Portland Center Stage); Ellard in *The Foreigner* (Lakewood Theatre); Ken Talley in *Fifth of July* (Profile Theatre); Frank in *Body Awareness* (CoHo); Harry in *The Understudy* and Dieter in *The Monster-Builder* (Artists Rep), and Hank in Sue Mach's *A Noble Failure* (Third Rail Rep). He has also appeared at Vertigo, Shaking the Tree, Portland Shakespeare Project, and Portland Playhouse; he directed 'Night, Mother at CoHo.



Gavin has guest-starred twice in *The Big Easy* (USA), guest-starred in *Leverage* (TNT), and co-starred in *Grimm* (NBC). Originally from Portland, Gavin has worked in theatre all over the country, including Book-It in Seattle, PCPA in Santa Maria, CA, Tulane Summer Shakespeare Festival in New Orleans, The Shakespeare Theatre in DC, and in various New York City theatres. He is a proud member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.

Gavin is a graduate of The Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts and has a BFA in acting from Ithaca College. He has won four Drammy Awards: two for Supporting Actor, one for Lead Actor, and one for Solo Performance.

Michael Mendelson is thrilled to return to *The Wild Party* after being involved in the original Cygnet production. Michael is an actor/director/teacher who's made his home in Portland, Oregon since 1991.

Michael is the Artistic Director of Portland Shakespeare Project (since the company's founding in 2010), and he's been a Resident Artist (Actor/Director) with Artists Repertory Theatre since 2008.

Along with teaching privately, he is a teacher with TAC-The Actor's Conservatory. Michael received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wayne State University and a Master of Fine Arts from University of Washington's Professional Actors Training Program.

Michael is a proud member of Actors Equity Association, SDC and SAG-AFTRA.

<http://www.mvmendelson.com> he/him/his



Olivia Shimkus is truly grateful to be making her debut with Cygnet Productions. Olivia has lived, trained, and performed in New York City, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and Bloomington, Indiana before making Portland her home.

She has performed locally in musical and dramatic productions at Lakewood Theater (*Shakespeare In Love*, *Present Laughter*, *The 39 Steps*), The Broadway Rose (*Adrift in Macao*, *Ripper*), Clackamas Repertory Theater (*Sense and Sensibility*), the Fertile Ground Festival (*Dear Momma*), Northwest Children's Theatre (*Willy Wonka*, *Seussical*), the Magenta Theater (*She Loves Me*), Portland Actors Ensemble (*Pericles*), and the Portland Revels. Regional theater credits include children's theatre productions for the Bristol Riverside Theater and the Delaware Valley Community Theater, in Pennsylvania. Local Film and Television credits include numerous short films and regional commercials. Additionally, Olivia serves as an Intimacy Choreographer for stage productions (www.facebook.com/oshimkusIC/).

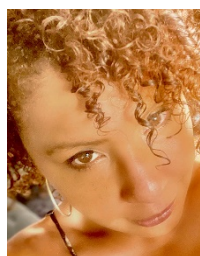
Olivia graduated from Indiana University with concentrations in Vocal Performance, Theatre, and Business. An active child performer, Olivia has performed professionally from the age of 8 and took part in many youth dramatic performances and musical competitions. As a mother of two, Olivia is passionate about Special Education practices and Autism awareness. Olivia would like to thank her family and the Portland theatrical community for the opportunity to create.

Marilyn Stacey played the role of Queenie in Cygnet's magical, highly acclaimed 1994 staged reading of *The Wild Party*, and is delighted to bring this bewitching bad girl to life again.

Marilyn has a long history with Portland theatre, beginning at Artists Repertory Theatre in 1985 with *Quilters*. Other credits at ART include *Three Days of Rain* (Nan/Lina), *Becky's New Car* (Becky), *The Crucible* (Elizabeth), *Tooth of Crime* (Drammy award for Becky), *Clean House* (Virginia), and *Pirate's Lullaby* (Anne).

She recently appeared in *God of Carnage* (Veronica) at Lakewood Center, and *The Lion in Winter* (Eleanor) and *Antony and Cleopatra* (Cleopatra) at Northwest Classical Theater, as well as the one-person thriller *The Detective's Wife* (Hellfire Productions).

Earlier work includes *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Maggie), *The Heidi Chronicles* (Heidi), and *Born Yesterday* (Billie) with Oregon Stage Company, and *Never in My Lifetime* (Drammy award for Tess) for New Rose Theatre. Marilyn graduated from Occidental College, Los Angeles, and Circle in the Square Theatre, New York. She is a member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.



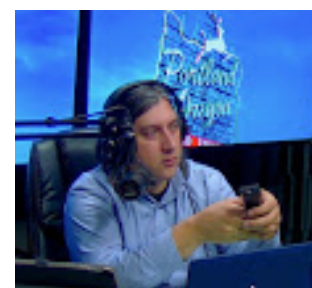
Andrea White has most recently been seen at Portland Center Stage in the JAW New Play Festival as Sherlock Holmes in *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson – Apt. 2B*. She's also been on stage for CoHo Productions as Delia in *The Brothers Paranormal*, as Susan in Profile Theater's *The Secretaries* and Maddie in PassinArt's *The No Play*. For Portland Playhouse, Andrea has played Mame in *Radio Golf*, Dussie Mae in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, and Black Mary in *Gem of the Ocean*. While in Los Angeles, Andrea performed a two-year run in the 30-year revival of the musical *Hair*. She's also been seen on television shows including *NYPD Blue*, *Family Matters*, *Living Single*, *Grimm*, and in the film *Extraordinary Measures*. She is a member of SAG-AFTRA.

Andrea will direct *WROL* at Oregon Children's Theater, opening in February 2022. She is a two-time Best Supporting Actress Drammy Award winner for her work in *Two Sisters and a Piano* (Artists Rep) and *Hell Cab* (Theatre Vertigo).

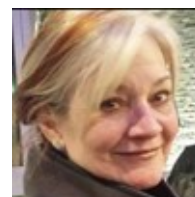
Crew

Mike DiNapoli is the Chief Engineer for the [Studio at North Rim](#). Earlier in his career, he served as Production Engineer for the Mount Hood Community College Creative Writing Speaker Series and the weekly live broadcasts of *Midnight Sunrise Radio* and *On the Block Radio*. He directed the 2014 Pickathon Woods stage, where five of his sets were chosen as NPR Favorite Sessions.

He has helped produce many live-to-broadcast sports, entertainment, and charitable events in the Portland area. He's also traveled the country installing and designing infrastructure systems for radio, television, and telecommunications clients including NBC, AT&T, Time Warner, Verizon, and Comcast.



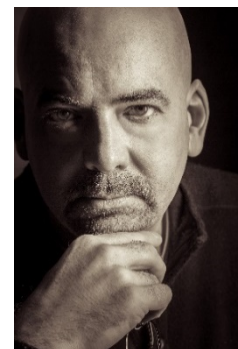
Sherry Lamoreaux has been involved with Cygnet since the late nineties, both as a publicist and a coauthor of *Vitriol & Violets*. She was the press officer for Bag & Baggage Productions from 2009–2013. She's also worked as a writer and/or editor for high tech companies including Swan Island Networks, Act-On, and Intel. She's on the board of [PlayWrite](#), a non-profit that pairs theatre professionals with at-risk kids to teach the youth creative skills to manage and surmount trauma. PlayWrite's tagline is "Transforming the lives of 'youth at the edge' through the power of performance in art."





Belinda Miller (social media, etc.) was born and raised in Portland. She was a theater major in LA, and an actor/waiter in NYC, where she began a delightful avocation as a radio DJ on legendary, freeform WFMU. Greasy Kid Stuff, her show with her husband/co-host, ran for 22 years, first on WFMU then in Portland on 94.7 KNRK and XRAY.FM. Belinda and family moved back to Portland in 2004. She's also been a music producer, business owner, communications manager, copywriter, and social media manager.

Rodolfo Ortega is this production's Composer and Sound Designer. Rodolfo has designed sound and composed music for some of the most prestigious theatre companies in the United States including The Oregon Shakespeare Festival (*The Tenth Muse*, *Romeo and Juliet*), Denver Center Theatre Company (*The Three Musketeers*, *Romeo & Juliet*), and South Coast Repertory Theatre (*The Monster Builder*). Rodolfo has also written the compositions for *Native Gardens* at Cleveland Playhouse and recently worked on Actors Theater of Louisville's production of *Flex* and *Nicole Clarke is Having a Baby* for the Humana Festival. In addition to being a Resident Artist at Artists Rep, Rodolfo is also an Associate Artist with Santa Cruz Shakespeare (*Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Henry IV (I & II)*, *Henry V*). His composition for Santa Cruz Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* drew high praise from the *Wall Street Journal's* reviewer, who called his music "unexpectedly haunting".



For Artists Rep, Rodolfo has designed and composed music for 1984, *La Ruta*, *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart*, *Caught*, *Skin of Our Teeth*, *The Liar*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Exiles*, *Miracle Worker* and *Intimate Apparel*, just to name a few of the over one hundred shows he has done for Artist Rep since 2000. Rodolfo recently won the Prague Quadrennial Competition in Music for his composition for Artist Repertory Theater's *Magellanica*, where he was a featured Artist, in Prague in June 2019. He also works extensively at Northwest Children's Theatre where he has been commissioned to write numerous musicals (*Hansel and Gretel*, *Snow White*, *Pinocchio*, *Peter Pan*, *The Little Mermaid* and *El Zorrillo*). Rodolfo spent 13 years working with Profile Theatre where his credits include sound design and music for *The Blue Door*, *A Lesson Before Dying*, *Lips Together Teeth Apart* and *Master Harold and the Boys*. He has also worked with Portland Playhouse, Oregon Children's Theatre, CoHo Productions, Corrib Theatre and Milagro Theatre. www.rodyortega.com

Carol Ann Wohlmuth is the Line Producer for *The Wild Party*. Carol Ann has been a theater artist for over 30 years and is currently a Resident Artist at Artists Rep Theater in Portland, Oregon. While at ART she has stage-managed: *The Weir*, *Art*, *The Shape of Things*, *Copenhagen*, *Top Dog/Underdog*, *The Lobby Hero*, *Mercy Seat*, *Enchanted April*, *The Seagull*, *Assassins*, *Mr. Marmalade*, *Mars on Life – The Holiday Edition*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Blackbird*, *Three Sisters*, *Design for Living*, *Othello*, *Ah, Wilderness!*, *Mars on Life-Live!*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *God of Carnage*, *Red Herring*, *Ithaka*, *Mistakes Were Made*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Invisible Hand*, *The Liar*, *Broomstick*, *Mothers and Sons*, *Grand Concourse*, *Feathers and Teeth*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *An Octoroon*, *The Humans*, *The Thanksgiving Play*, *Skeleton Crew*, *It's a Wonderful Life: a Radio Play*, *Revolutionists*, *1984*, *LaRuta* and *Indecent*.



In addition to stage management and line producing, Carol Ann has been a properties artisan, production manager, board operator, and even an accountant for a variety of theatres in the Portland area over the past 30+ years. These theatres include Portland Center Stage, Portland Rep,

Stark Raving Theater, New Rose Theatre, Triangle Productions, Musical Theater Co, Metro Performing Arts, Northwest Children's Theatre, and Carousel Co.

Carol Ann is on staff at The Portland Actors Conservatory, where she teaches The Art of Stage Management. She can often be seen lecturing on The Art of Making Theater to educational institutes in and around the Portland Metro area.

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