Our 2011 Cape May Season:
Get Ready for “The Battle of the Sexes!”

ELTC’s Battle of the Sexes! Let the games begin!

June 15 - July 23 at 8:30: HE AND SHE
When ELTC first produced this 1920 comedy-drama by Rachel Crothers in 1997, The Newark Star-Ledger awarded it “The Best Play of the New Jersey Season.”

He and She begins with Tom Herford entering a competition for a $100,000 prize for the best work of art. After hearing a few comments about “men’s work being better than women’s,” Tom’s wife, Ann, decides to go after the prize, too. Tom’s assistant, Keith, is in love with Ruth, who works for a magazine, but Keith is not sure he can marry a “working” woman. Tom’s sister, Daisy, is the Herfords’ secretary and appears to be determinedly independent… but is she? Suddenly, Tom and Ann’s sixteen-year-old daughter wants to get married. Who wins the prize and who walks down the aisle are all revealed by the end of the play, but with a few surprises along the way.

The cast includes three actors who have previously performed with ELTC: Tom Byrn (The Ransom of Red Chief), Emily Cheney (Berkeley Square), and John Cameron Weber (The Butter and Egg Man). The production is directed by ELTC’s artistic director, Gayle Stahlhuth.

Four of the ten cast members from last season’s Berkeley Square: Drew Seltzer, Suzanne Dawson, Emily Cheney, and Megan McDermott.

“I sometimes think women’ll go so far that the great battle of the future will be between the sexes for supremacy!”
...exclaims Dr. Remington in HE AND SHE

Rachel Crothers (1878-1958) was not only a respected playwright, producer, and director, creating Broadway hits yearly from 1906 to 1936, including her most famous, Susan and God; she was also a philanthropist. In 1917, she, along with seven other women in the theatrical profession, formed the Stage Women’s War Relief to aid the Allies in World War I. Before World War II, the name was changed to The American Theatre Wing, which not only created The Stage Door Canteen, but organized the selling of War Bonds. Today, “The Wing” is best known for partnering with The Broadway League in presenting the Tony Awards.

Fri. June 24: After-show Q&A with the creative team
Fri. July 15: ASL Performance

Thank you, Henry Sawyer Inn, for sponsoring HE AND SHE!

July 5 at 8:00: LITTLE WOMEN performed by students, admission-free! (Details on page 4.)

July 27 - September 3 at 8:30: THE WORLD OF DOROTHY PARKER (World Premiere) Based on the writings of the famous Algonquin Round Table personality, it is adapted and directed by Gayle Stahlhuth. The evening includes “A Telephone Call” (1930), “Here We Are” (1931), “The Lovely Leave” (1943), and other tales by the woman who quipped about “women who wear glasses.”

“A Telephone Call” involves a woman who waits for a man to call. She counts to five hundred by fives, she seeks God’s help, she paces, wishing the man were dead. She even says, “It’s silly to wish people were dead just because they don’t call you up the minute they said they would. Maybe the clock’s fast.”

In “Here We Are,” newlyweds are on a train on their honeymoon. Awkwardness prevails, and the young man makes it worse by saying, “When I saw those two bridesmaids, I thought to myself, ‘Well, I never knew Louise could look like that!’ She’d have knocked anybody’s eye out.”
It’s World War II in “The Lovely Leave,” and a couple who believes they have twenty-four hours before he’s shipped out, discover they have only one. She’s made such great plans for those twenty-four hours—how to reduce them to one! “You have a whole new life,” she says, “and I have half an old one. I don’t see how they’re ever going to come back together.” But for one hour they do, and the leave is, indeed, “lovely.”

All four performers have been in previous ELTC productions: Suzanne Dawson (Alice on the Edge), Tiffany-Leigh Moskow (To the Ladies!), Drew Seltzer (Berkeley Square), and John Cameron Weber (The Dictator).

Dorothy Parker’s (1893-1967) career began in 1915, when her poem “Any Porch” was published by Vanity Fair. Quickly perceived as a sharp wit, whether the medium was short stories, poetry, or play or book reviews, she held nothing back. In one of her classic Broadway reviews—about Katharine Hepburn—Parker wrote, “She runs the gamut of emotions from A to B.” Parker left her estate and all rights to her work to Dr. Martin Luther King. Upon his death, as per her wishes, the rights became the property of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Parker’s ashes are in a memorial garden created for her, by the NAACP, outside the organization’s Baltimore headquarters. ELTC wishes to thank the NAACP for authorizing this use of Parker’s work.

The first edition of The Portable Dorothy Parker, edited by Parker, appeared in 1944, and was selected by Alexander Woollcott as the fourth in a series of volumes intended for soldiers overseas. It has never been out of print.

**Sept. 21 - Oct. 15 at 8:00:** **DULCY** “This is probably the first weekend party on record that ended on Friday night,” says Dulcy’s brother, William, to his brother-in-law, Gordon. Only Dulcy believes she’s created the perfect atmosphere in her home for a lovely weekend where her husband can make a brilliant business deal with his boss—or perhaps the boss’s rival—and the boss’s daughter can run away with the right—or wrong—man. It may be that an innocent person could go to jail and all of her plans will go awry in this zany, screwball comedy written by Pulitzer Prize-winners George S. Kaufman (1869-1961) and Marc Connelly (1890-1980).

In 2008, ELTC produced To the Ladies!, the second play written by Kaufman and Connelly. Not only did our production receive a lovely review by Terry Teachout in The Wall Street Journal, but Kaufman’s daughter, Anne, came to Cape May to see the show and enjoy a Q&A with the audience afterwards. She was so taken with the production that she allowed ELTC to produce, royalty-free, the only play her father wrote without a collaborator: The Butter and Egg
Man, which the company presented in 2009. Anne looks forward to coming to town again, to see Dulcy and enjoy another Q&A, the date to be determined.

Dulcinea Smith was a character created by Franklin P. Adams, who wrote for several New York newspapers and was a member of the Algonquin Round Table, like Kaufman and Connelly. Not only did Dulcy establish these two journalists as playwrights, but it made a star of Lynn Fontanne, who played the title role. It was one of 21 plays that opened on Broadway in August of 1921.

In four years, Kaufman and Connelly wrote five plays together. Kaufman became America's most successful playwright in the 1920s and '30s, collaborating with the likes of Dorothy Parker, Edna Ferber and Ring Lardner. His Pulitzer Prizes were for Ring Lardner to ELTC: Souvenir of May! He was last in Cape May in Cape May Stage's production of The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus, also performed by Stahlhuth, was chosen by the NJ State Council on the Arts to be part of the National Endowment for the Arts' American Masterpieces Series for "introducing Americans to the best of their cultural and artistic legacy." This was the third year in a row that ELTC has been so honored.

Dulcy's eleven-member cast includes ELTC favorites: Erin Callahan, Suzanne Dawson, Megan McDermott, Drew Seltzer and Thomas Rasinszewski (all from Berkeley Square), Mark Edward Lang and Alison J. Murphy (from The Guardsman), Fred Velde (Rain), and Gayle Stahlhuth, who also directs. New to ELTC: Dave Holyoak (also in He and She) and Larry Daggett, who just finished performing in The Full Monty at Sierra Repertory Theater in Sonora, CA, and was last in Cape May in Cape May Stage’s production of Souvenir.

No DULCY show on Wed. October 5; show on Sun. October 9 at 7:30 PM
Wed. September 21: After-Show Opening Night Party at Aleathea’s Restaurant, 7 Ocean Street
Fri. September 30: After-show Q&A with the cast and director
Fri. October 14: ASL Performance

November 4 & 5 at 8:00: SHERLOCK HOLMES: ADVENTURE OF THE NORWOOD BUILDER
(also on March 16 and 17, 2012) Step back in time, as ELTC presents this tale in the style of a vintage radio broadcast, complete with live sound effects and commercials, just like the 1930s NBC radio shows. All of the evidence points to a young lawyer as the murderer. But is he being set up, or is he the murderer after all? It’s an exciting puzzle fit for Holmes and Watson.

The cast includes Lee O’Connor as Holmes and Fred Velde as Watson. Another exciting HOLMES WEEKEND in Cape May!
THANK YOU TO THE NEW JERSEY THEATRE ALLIANCE (NJTA) AND TARGET FOR SUPPORTING ELTC’S IN-SCHOOL RESIDENCIES IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

Since 2001, ELTC has provided residencies in Cape May County through funding from NJTA’s “Stages Festival and Family Week at the Theatre,” and this year was no exception. Gayle was back at West Cape May Elementary School directing 3rd - 6th graders in a shortened version of Alice Gerstenberg’s Alice in Wonderland, based on Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass. An adoring audience of 75 saw the show on March 24. It originally opened on Broadway on March 23, 1915.

Thank you to the teachers, Ms. Calabro and Ms. Stoner, for working with Gayle and the students; the parents who created the set and supplied costumes and props; Mrs. Elliot, Supervisor at the school; and Lee O’Connor and Frank Smith for their support. Lee and Gayle are looking forward to returning to West Cape May Elementary School on May 27. They’ve been asked to speak about their professions on Career Day.

Gayle worked with three fifth-grade classes at Glenwood Avenue Elementary School in Wildwood, helping them to research, write, and rehearse their scenes about famous people, based on those featured in President Obama’s book, Of Thee I Sing. The students did a great job writing their plays and performing them in front of students, parents, and friends on March 10.

Funding for this residency was from Target. This is the second year in a row that ELTC has been a grant recipient from this well-known department store. Since 1946, Target has given 5% of its income to non-profits. We’ve applied again for this grant so that ELTC can hopefully return to Wildwood in 2012.

Thank you to Board Member Patti Chambers for introducing Gayle to Michael Menszak at Glenwood Avenue Elementary School. He paved the way for the residency to take place, and even suggested using President Obama’s book as a jumping off point for the scripts. Thank you, too, to the teachers, Mrs. Heraux, Mrs. Santiago, and Mr. Sturm for working with Gayle and the students; Mr. Kummings, the Principal; and Elisa Lala who wrote an article for The Press of Atlantic City. Here is an excerpt:

“The majority of the class speaks Spanish, teacher Betsy Heraux said, so vocabulary and public speaking can be a struggle. This program is pushing them to expand their vocabulary and speak in front of a crowd. At the end of Stahlhuth’s March 3 session, Heraux asked whether any group would like to stand before their classmates and share their scripts thus far. Every hand went up.”
EAST LYNNE ON THE ROAD:
Performing in Cape May and Beyond!

Since last August, six of ELTC’s sixteen different touring productions hit the road, seen by around 5,000 people in eight different states - Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, New York, Texas, Wisconsin and eight Counties in New Jersey: Bergen, Burlington, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Union, and Cape May. Funding for these productions comes directly from the organizations sponsoring ELTC’s touring shows, yet the town of Cape May benefits because ELTC clearly states that its home is Cape May.

Michele LaRue’s performances of Someone Must Wash the Dishes: An Anti-Suffrage Satire and The Yellow Wallpaper were, as usual, seen by a variety of groups in New Jersey and beyond, including Ft. Riley, Kansas and The Annual Conference of the Popular/American Culture Associations in San Antonio, Texas. She performed in Illinois in May.

Derrick McQueen in Paul Robeson through His Words and Music received a standing ovation at Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle traveled to The New Jersey Meadowlands Environmental Center (sponsored by The Meadowlands Museum) and The Finkelstein Memorial Library in Spring Valley, New York.

Gayle Stahlhuth’s Eve’s Diary, based on the writings of Mark Twain, was performed at The Annual Quilter’s Convention in Paducah, KY.

Susan Tischler and Rob LeMaire.wowed 250 Red Hats from ten different states at the first annual Red Hat Convention at The Grand Hotel in Cape May with Helpful Hints. Susan, with Lee O’Connor, took the show to The Women’s Civic Club of Stone Harbor and The Heritage Hotel in Connecticut. A tour group from Michigan has already requested a special performance at Aleathia’s Restaurant this September.

Thanks to funding through the NJTA’s “The Stages and Family Week at the Theatre Festival,” Victorian Magic, with Robert Aberdeen, delighted those at the Giggles Children’s Theater at St. Joseph Children’s Hospital in Paterson, NJ and at The Old Bridge Library in Old Bridge, NJ. NJTA also funded a Sherlock Holmes performance at The Actors’ Home in Englewood, NJ, and helped to fund a performance at The Mahwah Public Library – the third time this library has booked an ELTC production in five years.

We even performed our 2010 Christmas show, The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus for 100 students from Teitelman Middle School.

ELTC’s “HELPFUL HINTS”:
THE CROYS CAME TO CAPE MAY

When Susan Ticshler performed Helpful Hints, based on Mae Savell Croy’s Putnam’s Household Handbook at The Chalfonte Hotel, Jake Schaad wrote an article for The Cape May Gazette. A few months later, Jake received a phone call from Hank Ebert, Mae Savell Croy’s grandson, who, after seeing the article on the Internet, wanted to know more about the show. Jake contacted Gayle, who immediately followed up with her own call to the Croys, and contacted Susan, who began corresponding with the family.

On September 26, 2010, opening night of Helpful Hints at The Mad Batter, the Croys, all the way from Virginia, were there! The group included two of Mae Savell Croy’s grandchildren, Hank and Dee, and their spouses, and children, and Mae’s own daughter, Carol Croy Ebert.

And a very good time was had by all!
ELTC held its annual Cape May fundraiser on Veterans Day, calling it Stage Door Canteen to honor those who are serving and have served our country. One-hundred dollars from the evening’s proceeds was given to a funeral home to help pay for the burial of a local veteran. Three guests at the Canteen wore their uniforms: Tom Carroll, John Bailey and Patrick Sbarra.

The Hosts for the evening, who also performed, were Karen Case Cook, Alison J. Murphy and John Cameron Weber (veteran). The Local Celeb Performers are pictured above: Tom Carroll, Margo Lassner, Glenn McBartey, Shirley Stiles, Mayor Pam Kalthorn and John Kelly (with Bobby LeMaire at right).

Instrumental music was provided by Chris Sooy and Lew London, and ELTC performer Shelley McPherson chimed in with a few songs. Other ELTC performers included Suzanne Dawson, Drew Seltzer, Thomas Raniszweski, Tiffany-Leigh Moskow, Lee O’Connor (veteran), Susan Tischler, Erin Callahan, Morgan Nichols and Bobby LeMaire.

Auction items were provided by Mary Stewart (a tea set with MAC goodies), Susan Taraschi (a Signature Facial at Dr. Lawrence Paolini Dermatology), Barbara Tomalino (an aerial-banner-towing through Paramount Air Service), and there was “The Day in NYC with Lee and Gayle” which was won by Peg and Tom Curran.

At the NJ Theatre Alliance Applause Awards in October, ELTC honored Mark Lang (for 10 years of graphic design work) and Marion T. Brady (for costing ELTC shows since 1994). Neither could be at the Alliance ceremony, so the prizes were presented at the Canteen. Marion was there to accept hers, and Alison J. Murphy accepted for her husband, Mark.

The Historic Jackson Street Neighborhood Association Scholarship was awarded to Tiffany-Leigh Moskow.

Much work went into planning. Board President Frank Smith took care of the invitations, with help from Geri Breth and Jane Rech. Mark Lang designed the invitations and he, along with Karen Case Cook and Alison J. Murphy, selected, organized and cast the scenes. Joann Oxley was responsible for the 50/50 Raffle, and Marilyn Foster took care of last minute raffle sales.

But without the generosity of Beth, The Menz Family, Aleeatha’s, and The Inn of Cape May contributing the banquet hall, food, and two hotel rooms for guests, none of it would have been possible. Thank you everyone who participated!

Our next Annual Fundraiser will be on November 10, 2011. Already people are asking if they can be Local Celebs! We’re thinking that the theme will be Vaudeville.

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OTHER FUNDRAISERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

The company greatly appreciates donations, and the effort required to put on fundraisers of any size.

In July, Charlotte Todd headed up “The Exclusive Victorian Open House,” the proceeds for which were given to The Nature Center and ELTC. Also helping were Cindy Schmucker, Marguerite Chandler, and The Victorian Lace Inn provided food. The homes that were open for viewing were The Holiday House (The Girls Friendly Society), The Cherry House (Beth and Frank Acker), The Blake House (Connie and Jerry France), The Memucan-Hughes House (Tom and Peg Curran) and Charlotte’s own Todd House. Thank you!

In December, Dan and Marilyn Foster held a fundraiser for ELTC in their beautiful Ocean County home, where their friend, Francesca, prepared a scrumptious meal.

In February, Elizabeth and Stuart Hodes hosted another soiree for ELTC in their Manhattan apartment. One guest was 11, and already knew about the Martha Graham Company, so meeting Stu, who had danced with Martha, was a treat! Another guest, Beverly Fuller, had been an assistant to Busby Berkeley. Thank you Liz and Stu, and Morgan Nichols for performing with Liz in scenes from Career.

Frank Smith organized a successful trip to Peddler’s Village to raise funds for ELTC. Thank you, Frank!

If anyone is interested in hosting a soiree, placing an ad in our playbill, or would like to be otherwise involved in this unique and exciting company, please let us know!

A THANK YOU FROM THE ACTORS HOME in NJ

A magnificent performance of Sherlock Holmes Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle was given to our residents at The Actors Fund Home. We very much appreciate your thoughtfulness and hope you will come back to perform for our residents in the near future.

— Jordan Strohl, Administrator
Save Money with Packages!
Have a lovely meal + see an ELTC show = Save Money!
Call the restaurant to make reservations and ask for East Lynne Theater Company’s Dinner-Show-Package
(These tickets are purchased through restaurants only.)
Aleatha’s at The Inn of Cape May, 7 Ocean St.: $47 per person, includes dinner, tax, token gratuity, and ticket.
Reservations: 884-5555
410 Bank Street Restaurant, 410 Bank St.: Dinner + $15 ticket. Seating by 6:00. Reservations: 884-2127
Fresco’s - A Seafood Trattoria, 412 Bank St.: Dinner + $15 ticket. Seating by 6:00. Reservations: 884-0366
The Merion Inn, 106 Decatur St: $20 ticket with each entree purchase (anytime) or 3-course early bird special (seating before 5:30). Reservations: 884-8363
The Washington Inn, 801 Washington St.: Complete dinner anytime + $15 ticket. Reservations: 884-5697
AND
When staying at these B&Bs, patrons have the opportunity to purchase tickets for only $20.00. (Must purchase at the B&B)
The Henry Sawyer Inn: 722 Columbia Ave. Phone: 609-884-5667
or 800-449-5667 or www.henrysawyerinn.com.
Ages 12 and under are admission-free, and these tickets may be picked up at the box office.

ELTC's 2011 SEASON SUPPORTERS so far . . . May 1, 2010-April 30, 2011
(We think we listed everyone, but if we forgot you, we’re sorry, and let us know.)

Angels ($6,000-$10,500): NJ State Council on the Arts/ Dept. of State, a Partner Agency of The National Endowment for the Arts; The NJ Dept. of State, Division of Travel & Tourism
Producer ($3,000-$5,000): Aleatha’s Restaurant, Margarette Chandler and Richard Shreve, Curran Investment Management, and La Mer Beachfront Inn
Producer’s Circle ($1,500-$2,999): Charles and Cathy Alexander, The Henry Sawyer Inn, Richard Meyers, and Target
Associate Producer ($750-$1,499): Niels and Elizabeth Favre, Anne and Harrison Frahn, Stephen and Janet Miller
Director ($300-$749): Anonymous, Actors’ Equity Foundation, Karen Case Cook, Daniel Cohen and Mindy Silver, Jane Kashlack and Paul Kerlinger, Frank Smith, sturdy Savings Bank, Bud Wood
Patron ($200-$299): American Express (matching), Billmae Cottage, Peter and Sharon Cociozziello, Don Ehman and Linda Kinsey, Dan and Marilyn Foster, Margaret and John Gagliardi, Erin and Betsy Heegard, Camille Kozlowski, Prudential (matching), and The Whale’s Tale
In-Kind Donations of Goods and Services: Tom Thaler for painting signs; Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts and Humanities for copying, flier distribution, & advertising; Wildwood Magazine and Essex Zero for advertising; The Inn of Cape May for loan of the settee for Berkeley Square; M. P. Myers Photography for creating the “Reynold’s painting” in Berkeley Square; Thomas Raniszewski for upholstery work; Dianne Riehl for costumes; Frank Smith for fliers; Jersey Cape Realty and Coastline Realty for flier distribution; Joan Behr for office help; Clare Juechter for stitching backdrops; and all of our volunteer ushers, actors and friends who help with setting-up/striking sets, and distributing flyers and rack cards
Playbill Advertisers so far for 2011: AAA Storage, Aleatha’s, Butterfly Tea Room, Cape May Day Spa, Cape May NJS Film Festival, Cape May Star & Wave, Caroline’s Boutique, CCA, Cliveden Inn, Curran Investment Management, Exit Zero, 410 Bank Street, Fresco’s, The Flying Fish, Fudge Kitchen, Henry Sawyer Inn, Just for Laughs, La Mer Beachfront Inn, Lucky Bones, The Mad Batter, The Merion Inn, MAC, Morey’s Piers, Swain’s Hardware, Washington Inn, Whale’s Tale, and The Well
Volunteers: ELTC appreciates you all, and Thank You!
Judy Arco, Dorothy Badders, Joan Behr, Nancy Benson, Geri Breth, Jane Dougherty, Terry Ferrara, Ursula Friedrich, Betsy Heegard, Phil Jacobus, Linda Linhares, Rosalie McGtigue, Fay Morris, Barbara Ridgeway, Diane Riehl, Rob Riehl, Dolores Roehrenbeck, Maryjane Rupinski, John Scouller, Bill Shirley, Eileen Short, Shirley Stiles, and Harriet Wilson

When Gayle approached The First Presbyterian Church in 1999 about a performance space, the church kindly agreed — both believing it to be an interim venue until a “permanent” home was found. It is a balancing act between church activities and theatrical productions, but The First Presbyterian Church has become a sanctuary to the theater for thirteen years and counting. This relationship is being studied at Union Theological Seminary in NYC as a model for other such partnerships throughout the country.
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NEXT STOP, THE ALGONQUIN IN NEW YORK!
ELTC'S SPECIAL CABARET EVENT

Every year, ELTC produces special events in Cape May. These have included everything from performances by The Martha Graham Company to symposiums on the Civil War.

In April, through a collaboration between The First Presbyterian Church, Arthur Shafman Artists International and ELTC, K T Sullivan came to Cape May to try out her new show, Rhyme, Women & Song, before opening at The Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel. The sold-out houses gave her standing ovations; and theater-goers enjoyed meeting KT, accompanist Jon Weber, and KT's husband, Stephen Downey, at the party at The Mad Batter. They want to come back next year!

Here's a sample from her NYC reviews:

"Of the major singing-speling divas who regularly play the Oak Room, Ms. Sullivan is by far the funniest and most entertaining."

- Will Friedwald, from his Wall Street Journal review, 5/3/11

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Photo Credit: Heather Sullivan

Cabaret / Broadway performer K T Sullivan

BACK STAGE at EAST LYNNE THEATER COMPANY