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CDC COMMUNITY THEATRE -- HISTORY

The Cranford Dramatic Club is the longest continuously producing community theatre in the state of New Jersey. A small group of townspeople wanted to share good theatre with family, friends and neighbors. The first meeting took place in October 1919 and the CDC has produced shows in Cranford every year since then.

The first performance took place in Trinity Episcopal Church's Sherlock Hall. In the 1920s, they moved to the now-defunct Cranford Casino. After World War II, many of the shows were produced at Cranford High School. In the mid 1950s, a group of CDC members decided to build their own theatre. With their names listed on the mortgage guarantee, they began what would become the CDC Theatre, officially opening to the public in 1957.

In 1992, the theatre underwent renovation--a new front facade, new chairs, modernized plumbing and storage areas. In 2003, the lighting system was overhauled, adding a dropped ceiling, lighting instruments, and a computer-operated dimming system. Fundraising efforts allowed for the addition of a handicapped-accessible bathroom in the lobby and a new central air conditioning system installed in 2012.

This season's offerings will include *Sweeney Todd*, *Aladdin*, *Speed The Plow* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

SUPPORTERS

The CDC's productions are made possible through a balance of private and corporate contributions, grants, and ticket sales. Whether you choose to make an individual contribution, buy a season ticket, attend a benefit, purchase an ad, ask your employer to match a gift, or donate your personal time, you provide a great service. Every donation to the CDC is vital in keeping community theatre alive in Cranford!

The Cranford Dramatic Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible. Donations of any amount are welcome. Donations are noted in the season programs. Please consider discussing matching gifts with your employer. We also welcome corporate sponsorship, individual donations, and production underwriting. Program ad space is also available for the remainder of the shows this season and for next season. To make a donation, to purchase ad space, or for more information, please contact Business Vice President Megan Ferentinos, via e-mail at: megferentinos@yahoo.com.



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The Cranford Dramatic Club

Presents

SPEED. THE PLOW

Written By

DAVID MAMET

Originally Produced by Lincoln Center Theatre, New York City

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

"SPEED THE PLOW"

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THE CHARACTERS

Bobby Gould

MIKE BURDICK

Charlie Fox

JONATHAN FISHMAN

Karen

KATE BADER

THE SCENE

HOLLYWOOD, late 1980's

One – Gould's office, morning

Two – Gould's home, that evening*

Three – Gould's office, the next morning

***There will be one fifteen minute intermission between
Scenes Two and Three**

"It's a play about the end of the world. There are ebbs and flows in any civilization. Nothing lasts forever. We had a good time. We had Tennessee Williams. We had the Hula Hoop. We had the Edsel. All kinds of good stuff. The Constitution. To name but a few. Shelley Winters. Now you've got to pay the piper. Big deal... I think it was Plato, or one of those Greeks who wrote that there never was an intelligent man who didn't look around him and become convinced that the world was going to end immediately."

David Mamet

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Congratulations to The Cast and Crew of *Speed The Plow*

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I first saw *Speed-The-Plow* on Broadway in 1988 I thought "my God I have to do that". My ambivalent relationship with God aside, I was so completely blown away by how the power of Mamet's exact use of language drives the action. Like Shakespeare, all the information needed to perform the piece is written down in the dialogue. Mamet prefers that the actor forget about "emotional preparation" and just get out there and do it. He urges the actor to avoid doing the interpretive job of the playwright. "The actor is on stage to communicate the play to the audience. That is the beginning and the end of his and her job" and "like sports, the study of acting consists in the main of getting out of one's own way."

In *The Presence of the Actor* Joseph Chaikin writes "Acting is a demonstration of the self with or without a disguise. Because we live on a level drastically reduced from what we can imagine, acting promises to represent a dynamic expression of the intense life. It is a way of making testimony to what we have witnessed--a declaration of what we know and what we can imagine. An actor, in expressing himself, touches zones of being which can potentially be recognized by anyone."

Thank you for coming. It is a play that I have ALWAYS wanted to completely devour and experience with an audience. To quote Chaikin again, "the joy in theatre comes through discovery and the capacity to discover. What limits the discoveries a person can make is the idea or image he may come to have of himself. The image can come about through his investment in his own reputation, through an involvement with approval and disapproval, or through feelings of nostalgia stemming from his desire to repeat his first discoveries". Let go and enjoy.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM & STAFF

Producer	BILL CHAMIS
Director	JONATHAN FISHMAN
Stage Manager	ED WHITMAN
Lighting Designer	MARK REILLY
Set Design & Construction	ED WHITMAN
Stage Crew	STEVEN DOUCHES, SPENCER FISHMAN
Fight Choreography	CHRISTOPHER ABBOTT
Assistant to the Director	JUDI LAGANGA
Lighting Coordinator	JOHN DURYEE
Lighting Crew	DAVID FREY, GARY GURMAN, MAURICE MORAN, MATT SCHRIER, ED WHITMAN
Sound Crew	MICHAEL FERENTINOS
Set Painting	CARLOS CARDOZO, CRICKET CARDOZO, MIKE MARCUS, ALAN GERSHENSON
Box Office	BOB PELLIS, MEGAN FERENTINOS
Photography/Head Shots	MAUREEN MONROE, JOE LEO
Program	KEN WEBB
Ushers and Lobby	JUDI CHANDLER, OLIVIA CHANDLER, DRUDE ROESSLER, ARLENE BRITT, GIRA WEAVER, ALAN VAN ANTWERP, LIZ HOWARD, MICHAEL FERENTINOS, BECKY RANDAZZO, JEFFREY FIORELLO, MARK DOUCHES, LESLIE RICCIE, JOEL REDMOUNT, JOE LEO
50/50	CARLOS CARDOZO, CRICKET CARDOZO, TERRY DARLING, KAREN CHAMIS, ALAN GERSHENSON, MAURICE MORAN

***CDC wishes to thank Gerald Reiss, CPA, for his work as the official Tax Preparer of the CDC Theatre. Gerald Reiss is located at 115 East Grove St in Westfield -- (908) 654-1819 or e-mail at gerald@reisscpa.com.**

***Special Thanks to Karen Fishman, Patrick Browne – Inside Out Renovations, Artie Pavlik, Val Metelow, Mark Douches and Mike Dougherty for their invaluable contributions to this production.**

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WHO'S WHO IN THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Bill Chamis (Producer) Bill calls the CDC home, where he has been involved as a member of the Board of Directors, stage manager, sound designer, flying captain, and producer of *Doubt*, *The Mousetrap*, *Stuart Little*, and *The Trip to Bountiful*. He has also occasionally been seen on stage, most recently in the Westfield Community Players' *Regrets Only* (Jack), and at CDC in *Carousel* (Mr. Bascombe). Thanks to Jonathan, Judi, Leslie, and the cast and crew for their dedication and hard work (and sense of fun); it's been a blast. Love to Karen and Ella. Boop!

Mark Reilly (Lighting Designer) Mark's previous shows for CDC Theatre include *Sweeney Todd*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Spring Awakening* (NJACT Award), *Oliver*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Light in the Piazza*, *Peter Pan*, *Urinetown!* (NJACT Nomination), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (NJACT Nomination), *Summer of '42* (NJACT Nomination), *Children of Eden* (NJACT Award), *Aida*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Into the Woods*. At The Theater Project: *The Lady in Question*, *Irma Vep* and *Pterodactyls*. *Pirates of Penzance* and *Crazy for You* (NJACT Nomination) at South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop; *Jekyll and Hyde* (NJACT Nomination) for Phoenix Productions. Laser show credits include the Empire State Winter Games in Lake Placid 2002–2004 and 2006–2008; Opening days for the Philadelphia Flyers and NJ Nets; Op-sail 2000; the Ultimate Fighting Championship Tour and Tinkerbell at CDC and Plays in the Park.

Ed Whitman (Stage Manager) *Speed-the-Plow* is Ed's debut as a stage manager. In the past year he has worked as sound engineer for *Doubt* and as a member of the lighting crews for *Spring Awakening* (his CDC debut), *Sweeney Todd* and *Aladdin*. Ed is also involved with The Strollers in Maplewood as a lighting and sound technician.

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 stomped for their appreciation
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 enough, they would break a leg.*

**Thanks to the Cast and Crew
 Break a Leg!
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 Governors**

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST (In Alphabetical Order)

Kate Bader (Karen) Kate is thrilled to be making her debut at CDC with such talented actors. She has appeared in productions at Count Basie Theatre, NJPAC, Algonquin Arts Theatre, The State Theater, Theater for a New City, and Marymount Manhattan College where she earned her B.F.A. in Acting. Thanks to those I love, you know who you are! And, thank you to CDC for producing engaging, unpredictable material like David Mamet; bravo!

Michael Burdick (Bobby Gould) Michael is excited to return to the CDC stage and to be attempting Mamet while on it. He holds his MFA from Brooklyn College; is a proud member of Fearless Productions; and is an award-winning playwright, director and actor. In addition to *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare ... Abridged* at CDC, some of his recent roles include *Bachelorette* (Joe), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Boo/Nathan Radley), *Glass Menagerie* (Jim) *Smoke and Mirrors* (Clark), *Fox and the Fairway* (Bingham), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Steve) and an Off-Broadway production of *SR&SL*. He wishes to thank Jonathan, Kate, Bill, Judi, the crew, as well as his family and friends.

Jonathan Fishman (Director, Charlie Fox) Jonathan is so delighted to be back at CDC, having last appeared here in *Moon Over Buffalo* as George Hay, for which he was nominated for a NJACT Perry Award for Outstanding Lead Actor In A Play. Favorite Theatres include: Alley Theatre, Company One, Present Theatre Company (founding member of New York International Fringe Festival), The Will Company, Peculiar Works Project, Tiny Mythic Theatre, Rest Stop Productions and Plays-In-The-Park. Jonathan is grateful to his friends and family for their love and support and would like to thank all those involved in making this production a most wonderful experience. It's a dream come true.

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