PROGRAM

PORTERVILLE BARN THEATER PRESENTS



The Barn Theater

PRESENTS

Fearless Dick

A Musical Comedy

Written by Ralph Bourne

with

Ernesto Ruiz Kristin Redford Ralph Bourne Pam Bourne Todd Mathenia Ambree Bough
Rachele Alcantar
Mercy Alcantar
Madeline Black
Vince Black
Terry Crewse

Bob Merzoian Vera Bennett Carlos Arbaca Erik Tyler Daniel Satko

Lighting Designer Asharon Morales Sound Designer Erik Tyler

Costumes Kristin Redford & Ambree Bough Set Decor

Set Design
Bob Merzoian &
Vince Black

Nat Briones & Pam Bourne

Box Office Manager......Vikki Cervantes

Light Tech Team......Victor Alcantar

Social Media......Kate Smith

Signage & Production Art.....Todd Mathenia

Directed By: Bob Merzoian

Assistant Director: Vince Black

Musical Direction: Kristin Redford

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our gratitude to the following donors for making this production possible!



Mike & Cathy Proctor
Thank you for your
donation to this production!

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

IWelcome to this performance of Fearless Dick. Our cast and crew certainly appreciate your attendance and support of our production and The Barn Theater itself. This the third goaround for Fearless Dick (written by the Barn's legendary Director, Writer, and Actor, Ralph Bourne). This special musical-comedy was first performed on our stage in 1986, followed by a second very successful production run in 2012, and is now being presented for its third laughter-inducing time. As director, I am thankful for having cast such a talented group who seem to be having had more fun (most -of-the-time) in rehearsals than one might imagine and are excited to perform for you. Please continue to support the Barn and its future shows.

Enjoy the show! Bob Merzoian



Fearless Dick ACT I

INTERMISSION

ACT II

The Hero of our play is Fearless Dick, who must contend with an evil town full of crime and despicable, yet very comical characters. His arch rival is the town madame, Suzie Slick, who has plotted to have one of her lovelies woo him to his destruction.

In spite of it all, Goodness and Love prevail and all is roses and happiness in the end. In between there is mayhem, singing, dancing and plotting! A great time will be had by all...

AUDIENCE WARNING:PG 13 for Innuendo and Adult Humor

Ernesto Ruiz

as Fearless Dick



You know him, you love him, he is back on stage and is as excited as ever! Ernesto returns to play Fearless and he can't wait to make you all laugh. This will be Ernestos fifth show and is happy to be working with so many familiar faces. He wishes to thank his family for their encouragement, love, and support in order to be here, the Barn for allowing him to perform, and all of you for supporting the Barn!

Vera Benett

as Suzy Slick



Vera is thrilled to have been given the opportunity to play Suzy Slick. While her comedy has never suffered, her singing voice will occasionally make cats cry. This is her first opportunity to have not one but two solos (what were the directors thinking). This is her third production at the Barn where she was previously an elderly grandmother in bed the whole time (Grandma Josephine in Wonka) and a wildly dressed spirit in a Christmas tablecloth (Ghost of Christmas Present in Ms. Scrooge). She has also performed in community theaters in NJ and AZ for many years with many odd and challenging rolls. She wants to thank Bob and Vince and the rest of the production team for giving her the chance to sink her teeth into such an exciting role and is looking forward to many years with this new family.

Kristin Redford

as Stella



Kristin is happy to be with her friends and bringing this Barn Original to life again! She's been enjoying the time she makes to work in her gardens, and sewing skirts and scarves for the barn kids Christmas choir. Her recent appearances at the Barn have included the Willy Wonka musical (Mrs Beauregarde), Change at Last (Lila), and Addams Family (Morticia). She'd like to thank her wonderful husband for his love and support!



Todd Mathenia as Sewerpot

Todd is excited to bring this local original back to life on the Barn's stage. Recently he played Jonas Fogg at Bakersfield's Ovation Theatre's production of Sweeney Todd, directed his first shows Misery, and the children's fundraiser Jack and the Three Sillies here at the Barn Theater, but you might remember him as Mr. Salt from Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka. Aside from acting, drawing is another passion of his (you can find him at @sweeneytoddst on Instagram). He is always happy and grateful to be on the stage and working with his Barn family.



Terry Crewse as Mugsy

Terry is a semi-retired math teacher at Porterville College. He has had the pleasure of performing at The Barn Theatre in 2008's production of "Oliver", "The Hobbit" in 2015, and "Vintage Hitchcock" in 2018. He was nominated for a Hosscar for his role of Smaug in "The Hobbit", and won a Hosscar for his bit part of Dr. Grimwig in"Oliver". He has also performed in Drinking Habits I and II as well as Harold and Maude. Terry has also written several skits for the CHAP programs at Porterville College and has a stand-up comedy routine.



Ambree Bough as Guard Kelly/Ensemble

Ambree is excited to yet again be a part of an original show that has only been performed on the stage of the Barn Theatre. She has been involved at the Barn since 2016, and is currently serving on its Board of Directors.



Madeline Black

as Cadet Kelly/Ensemble

Madeline is excited to be a member of the cast of Fearless Dick for a second time, having first been part of the show in 2012 at twelve years old. Recently at the Barn, she was seen as Wednesday Addams in The Addams Family and William Barfée in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and at Lindsay Community Theater, she just finished her run as Charlotte Sweetly in The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals. This will be Madeline's first season as a member of the Board of Directors, and you can catch her next in Newsies, opening in March.



Daniel Satko

as Governor Rickborn/Ensemble

Daniel Satko is seventeen years old and has been working with the Barn Theater since 2016. In this musical, he plays four different roles (minor spoilers: something bad will happen to each of them. Daniel requests that you take advantage of this fact and be ready to indulge in the schadenfreude of each of these characters). His favorite acting credits are the French Chef Louis in The Little Mermaid, Jr. Michael Hobbs in Elf: The Musical, and most recently, Augustus Gloop in Willy Wonka. He's also homeschooled and is currently a senior in high school. He has had a grand old time working on this musical with such talented people, and he hopes you'll enjoy it!



Pam Bourne

as Ma Freebe

Last appeared as "Maude" in 2023 production of "Harold and Maude," This is the third time playing ion "Fearless dick." The first time was as one of the "ladies of the evening." Now aged into the part of "Ma Freebie."

This is a really fun play to be in, no matter what part you play.



Vince Black

as Commander Grope

Vince's first show at the Barn was the 1974 Children'e Theater Summer production of the Wizard of Oz. Since then, he has been involved in around 40 other shows, including Fearless Dick 3 times. Some of his favorites are the Fantasticks, A Flea in Her Ear, Greater Tuna and Young Frankenstein.



Buzz Piersol

as Mayor Grabbit

Buzz has been at the Barn Theater since his neighbor Bob M bugged him on December 31, 2011 about joining a musical called Fearless Dick. Buzz played a prison guard and a bum on the street in the 2012 producton. Having been in a number of shows since then, Fearless still holds a special place in his heart.



Erik Tyler

as Ensemble

Erik has been at the barn for an unspecified amount of time, which will remain so for secret reasons and not because he can't remember. During his time here, he hides in the tech booth, but once a year he sneaks onto stage, much to the chagrin of his fellow cast members. His past roles are a sound technician for Ms. Scrooge, in Change at Last he played the role he always plays at the barn, sound designer and Jim. Tonight Erik gets to play the role of his dreams as a sound designer, and he also is onstage for half the show as random people, but that doesn't matter. If you hear any sounds tonight you don't like, they weren't made by Erik, a guy named Bunsen broke into his room and changed them.



Ralph Bourne

as Pa Freebe

Ralph first acted at the Barn in the seventies in Tartuffe, directed by Barbara Worthington. He has been an active Barn member for thirty years, directing Plays such as Amadeus, and The Lion in Winter; comedies, such as Bullshot Crummond; and musicals, including, Fearless Dick, and Gilbert and Sullivan. Ralph is retired from teaching special education in Porterville. He has written non-fiction books, available on Amazon, including Why Civilizations Fall and Cannot Rise Again, and The Rational Universe—Einstein's best idea. For children, the "Wheezy Tweet" series, and "Don't Believe it, Martha;" and numerous plays and musicals, including Fearless Dick, Zombies, Honey and Salt, and others. Ralph and Pamela Bourne acted in previous "Tuna" plays directed by Bob Merzoian.



Bob Merzoian as Little Sparkle

Bob has been involved with the Barn Theater for quite a long while. He has served as an actor, director, Board of Directors President twice, theater manager, and landscape manager. He has directed over 30 plays at the Barn and several at the Lindsay Theater. He has also acted in over 40 plays at the Barn and other local theaters. His favorite play as a director is Harold and Maude, (a "dream cast"). As an actor, he fondly recalls the character, Bullshot Crummond, (which he performed twice at the Barn and once in Lindsay). Bob is a recently retired teacher and current business owner of Merzoian Ranch LLC and Video Magic. He is married to Rosemary and father of Sarah and Michael.



Mercy Alcantar as Ensemble

Mercy loves acting and singing. She is currently pursuing a career in the entertainment industry. This is the 9th show that she has had a role in. 6 of those shows that she has been in has been here at the Barn Theater and the other 3 shows were at 2 other local theaters.



Rachele Alcantar as Ensemble

Rachele is your typical theater Mom who enjoys watching her children shine on and off stage. She loves being able to perform alongside with her daughter Mercy. You can often find her driving her daughter to all her rehearsals and going over lines with her.



Carlos Abarca as Ensemble

My name is Carlos Abarca and this is my first time being in a play. So far it has been a great experience and I can't wait to do more.



Lifetime Award Recipients

Allan Bailey Vince Black **Pam Bourne Ralph Bourne Letty Cotta Dick Eckhoff Denise Everhart** Sara Gershon **Edith La Vonne Bob Merzoian George Pearce Gordy Plaisted Wendy Plaisted Mike Proctor Steve Ross Gary Sue Carlynn Turner** Leslie Woudstra

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Newsies March 28-April 13, 2025



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