

# BOEING-BOEING

WRITTEN BY  
**MARC CAMOLETTI**

TRANSLATED BY  
BEVERLY CROSS  
& FRANCIS EVANS

DIRECTED BY  
**JEFF MINDEN**

Produced in cooperation  
with Samuel French

Our 2024 season is generously presented by the  
**Erik and Laura Davis Fund**





# CAST

Bernard.....Derek White  
Gloria.....Mandi Thompson  
Gretchen.....Elizabeth Ming  
Gabriella.....Emily Adela Loberg  
Berte.....Laura Davis  
Robert.....Dustin Luna



# THE CREW

Director.....Jeff Minden  
Stage Manager.....Lauren Stenerson  
Assistant Stage Manager.....Kirsten Davis  
Set Design/Light Master.....Nathaniel J. Price  
Props.....Kirsten Davis  
Board Operator.....Mike Jaffe  
Costumers.....Jeri Gamaney  
Louise Biffle  
Photography.....Jennifer Johnson  
Dramaturge.....Jordan Reid  
Poster.....Andrew Jackson  
Program.....Lyndon Zaitz  
Social Media.....Jeff Minden  
Mandi Thompson  
Volunteer Coordinator.....Celeste Guptill  
Caterer.....Loriann Schmidt  
Producer.....Jennifer Johnson

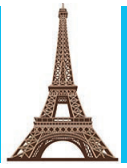
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### **The time and place...**

1960s Paris, a time in which air travel was being revolutionized and slowly being made more affordable for the general public. Flying was still very much an event at this time, one where people dressed up, smoked lots of cigars, and had more leg room than a passenger of today could even dream of. The selection process for stewardesses, who are known as flight attendants today, was rigorous and more akin to an acting audition than anything else—in 1968 United Airlines had a guideline that stewardesses must be “attractive, have no blemishes, [and] have a pleasant personality.” Planes were getting faster, women were becoming more liberated, and it is in this golden age of air travel that we find our tale of bad timing, mistaken identities, and love.

### **The playwright...**

There are few people who were better equipped to write a farce involving people of multiple nationalities than Marc Camoletti, an Italian playwright who was born a French citizen in Switzerland in 1923. The author of more than forty plays, Camoletti initially trained as a painter before writing his first play at the age of thirty-five. Later in life he was made a chevalier (knight) in the Légion d’Honneur, the highest French order of merit for both civilians and members of the military.

### **The play...**

After premiering at the Apollo Theatre in London in 1962, *Boeing Boeing* had an initial seven year run in Europe, although it did considerably worse overseas—the first Broadway run closed after just twenty-three performances. The 2008 revival was getting much more attention on our shores with a critically-acclaimed production, ultimately netting two Tony Awards and six total nominations. Not that it needed any vindication, of course—In 1991 The Guinness Book of World Records listed it as the most performed French play throughout the world.

Bernard thinks he has love all figured out—with a stewardess fiancé based in America, a stewardess fiancé based in Italy, and a stewardess fiancé based in Germany. Successful and secret polyamory is just a matter of accurately managing and juggling schedules, right? It’s the perfect plan. Until, of course, it isn’t. *Boeing Boeing* is a highly farcical tale that is in many ways reminiscent of classic Shakespearean comedies, rife with precise and clever language, familiar bardish tropes, and hilariously complicated situations that would be easily cleared up if only our main characters would put aside their stubbornness and own up to their mistakes. And thank goodness they don’t, because the silly misadventures would not be able to ensue otherwise. And ensure they do.



# Biographies

**Derek White (Bernard)**- Derek is excited to be back on stage at Keizer Homegrown Theatre. This being only his second performance at KHT, he was last seen as “Vinnie” in the production of *The Odd Couple*. Before taking the plunge into his acting journey, Derek spent six commendable years serving in the military. Derek aspires to be an inspiration, urging others to chase their dreams fearlessly and embrace the transformative journey that unfolds along the way. Off-stage, Derek remains a dedicated student of The Salem Playhouse, where they actively refine the craft of acting through ongoing classes and exploration.



**Mandi Thompson (Gloria)** - This is Mandi’s fourth production at KHT. She was previously seen in *The Book of Will*, *Miscast*, and *Happy 10th Birthday, KHT*. Other theatres she has worked with are The Sellwood Playhouse (*Scrooge*), Pentacle Theatre (*1984*, *Shrek*, *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*), and The Salem Theatre Network (*All Together Now*). Some of her favorite roles include the “Fairy Godmother” (*Shrek*), “Mama Asaka” (*Once on this Island*), “Millie Dilmount” (*All Together Now/Thoroughly Modern Millie*), “Marcus/Maria” (*The Book of Will*), and “Billy Flynn” (*Miscast*). Mandi continues to be actively involved as a student of The Salem Playhouse and wishes to thank her family and friends, and teacher Zach Dufault for all their support.



**Elizabeth Ming (Gretchen)** - This is Elizabeth’s seventh play with KHT, where she was previously seen as “Emmy” in *A Doll’s House Part 2*, “Bette” in *Heaven Can Wait*, “Nina” in *Hearts Like Fists*, and multiple Shakespeare productions. Other recent theater experiences include *She Kills Monsters* at ACT, *Twelfth Night* at Pentacle Theatre, *Talking With...* at Gallery Theater, *Circle Mirror Transformation* at The Verona Studio, and *Pride and Prejudice* at ACT, among many others. When not on stage, Elizabeth enjoys spending time with friends, family, and her dog, Butters.



**Emily Adela Loberg (Gabriella)** - This is Emily’s first production with KHT. Her recent stage roles include “Margaret/Balthasar/Verges” in *Much Ado About Nothing* and “Hippolyta” in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (both at Struts and Frets Theatre Company), and “Julia” in *1984* at Pentacle Theatre. She has also performed at the Verona Studio, Macal-ester College, and Pentacle Theatre in several other productions. Later this year, she will be directing *Boy Gets Girl* at Pentacle. She directed a virtual staged reading of *An Ideal Husband* for Pentacle in 2021. Offstage, she leads bicycle tours across and around the US and Canada.





# Biographies

**Laura Davis (Berte)** - This is Laura's third production with KHT, with past performances as "Trudy" in *Elvis Has Left the Building* and "Doris/Gloria" in *Who Am I This Time*. She has been seen at Albany Civic Theatre as "Anne Cannon" in *Silent Sky*. Laura has been involved in numerous Pentacle Theatre productions both on stage and backstage. She was assistant director for Pentacles production of *The Cake*. Her on-stage Pentacle shows include "Jinx" in *Savannah Sipping Society*, "Miep" in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and most recently as "Mrs. Boyle" in *Mousetrap*. She sends her deepest thanks to her family for supporting her with all her theater adventures. Working with Jeff and this amazing group has been a joy. Her hope is for the audience to laugh and enjoy this zany show. This cast has made her laugh and fall in love with theatre all over again.



**Dustin Luna (Robert)** - *Boeing Boeing* is Dustin's debut show here at the Keizer Homegrown Theatre and he could not be more thrilled to be a part of it. Dustin graduated in 2019 from Western Oregon University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting. He was last seen in the show *She Kills Monsters* as Orcus at Pentacle Theatre. Enjoy the show and put your phones in airplane mode.



**Jeff Minden (Director)** - Jeff Minden is excited to be back working with Keizer Homegrown Theatre directing this production of *Boeing Boeing*. Jeff was last involved with the *Happy 10th Birthday, KHT* in July of 2022, which he arranged and directed. Jeff started with KHT all the way back in 2016 with the summer production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Appearing in various roles such as "Joe Pendleton" in *Heaven Can Wait*, "Malvolio" in *Twelfth Night*, and "Brent Reynolds" in *Drop Dead*. Previously, Jeff also directed the combo performance of *The Hitchhiker* and *Sorry, Wrong Number*, and *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. Jeff is excited to bring his vision of *Boeing Boeing* to life and hopes you enjoy this funny, chaotic romp.



**Lauren Stenerson (Stage Manager)** - Lauren has been involved in KHT shows since the 2017 production of *Romeo and Juliet*. They do theatre at their high school and were most recently the titular character in *Hamlet* and "The Stage Manager" for *Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief Musical*. They also are on their school's Thespian Board, meaning they run different thespian programs. They eat, sleep, and breathe theatre, and can't wait to stage manage the heck out of this hilarious show.





# Biographies

**Jeri Gamaney (Costumer)** - Jeri is a sewing fanatic who constructed her first garment at the age of nine. She never worked in the theater until her high school-aged children became involved in stage productions. She has gone from being one of the “sewing moms” to working as the costumer on several productions with Keizer Homegrown Theater. From witches and sailors in Shakespeare in the Park to “Pick-a-Little Ladies” in *The Music Man*, productions with one character, to a cast of more than 50, Jeri has grown to love costuming.



**Louise Biffle (Costumer)** - Louise is honored anytime she is invited to assist with costumes at KHT. It allows her to combine her passion for theater with her love of sewing and clothing design. For this production, Louise created the stewardess uniforms. Other KHT productions that Louise has helped costume include *Drop Dead*, *Dog Park: The Musical*, *The Revolutionists*, and *The Odd Couple*. Her favorite creation is the gown for Marie Antoinette in *The Revolutionists*.



**Kirsten Davis (Assistant Stage Manager/Prop Master)** - Kirsten first appeared on stage as “The Composer” for *The Book of Will*. She has also appeared backstage for *The Odd Couple* and *A Dolls House Part 2*. She attends The Salem Playhouse acting class with Zach DuFault. Kirsten is a full-time preschool teacher at a daycare. When she is not working, she enjoys herself by reading books, hanging out with her brother, and playing with her dogs. Kirsten thanks her family for having her back through the acting journey and for being there for her.



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**Upcoming shows**

**April 12 -28 *Silent Sky* Directed by Loriann Schmidt**

**June 14-30 *Lifespan of a Fact* Directed by Linda Baker**

**November 1-17 *The Thanksgiving Play* Directed by Nyla McCarthy**

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