

Ten Bucks Theatre and TRUE NORTH THEATRE  
COMPANY Present

# Greetings!

By Tom Dudzick  
Directed by Tellis K. Coolong



December 9-11, 16-18; 7:00 pm  
December 12th & 19th; 2:00 pm  
Ten Bucks Theatre, Bangor Mall

All tickets \$15, available at  
[tenbuckstheatre.org](http://tenbuckstheatre.org) and  
[truenorththeatre.org](http://truenorththeatre.org)

Please note: there will be a  
50-person audience limit.

Audience members are  
required to wear masks at all  
times while in the theater.

Ten Bucks Theatre and True  
North Theatre are both 501(c)3  
non-profit organizations



*Greetings!*  
*By Tom Dudzick*  
**PRODUCTION STAFF**

Director: .....Tellis K. Coolong

Producers: .....Aimee Gerow  
.....Angela Bonacasa

Stage Manager: .....Jennifer Snow

Costumes: .....Aimee Gerow

Set Design: .....Tony Gerow

Master Carpenter.....Elliott Wilcox

Movement Consultant.....Angela Bonacasa

Special Consultant.....Rose Hanson

Lighting Design: .....Tony Gerow

Props/Sound Design: .....Asher Mason

Props.....Jesse Speed

Light/Sound Operator: .....Kim Meyerderks

Stage Crew: .....Deanna Rice

Publicity.....Julie Arnold Lisnet  
.....Deanna Rice

## Director's Notes

“... I was telling Randi that what I missed the most about Christmas was that delicious sense of mystery there was about the whole thing.”  
-- Andy Gorski

# Greetings!

Taking the big leap from actor to director has been on my radar for a few years now. When I started seriously considering directing a show, the only imperative I was faced with was to find a solid comedy. So, I spent much of the past two years looking for a script to direct. I wanted a show that spoke to me, my sensibilities, and my passions. One of the first scripts I picked up when I started seriously searching was the show you're about to see.

As I tore through the script, reliving the Gorski family's extra special 1990 Christmas Eve, I was taken with the love shown by this family. I don't like calling the Gorskis a "dysfunctional" family because, let's face it, at most family gatherings, heated disagreements about politics, race, sexuality or religion are bound to crop up. Greetings! could easily have just been a play about a staunch, staid-in-his-ways disgruntled Catholic patriarch locking horns with his elder son's Jewish-turned-atheist girlfriend as matters of faith (or her serious lack thereof) overtake what promised to be a peaceful Christmas Eve. I also resist calling them "dysfunctional" because they aren't – the Gorskis, for all of their faults and quirks, are a highly functioning family, filled with love for one another.

And let's be frank, to borrow a famous lyric, "What the world needs now is love, sweet love. It's the only thing that there's just too little of. What the world needs now is love, sweet love. No, not just for some, but for *everyone*."

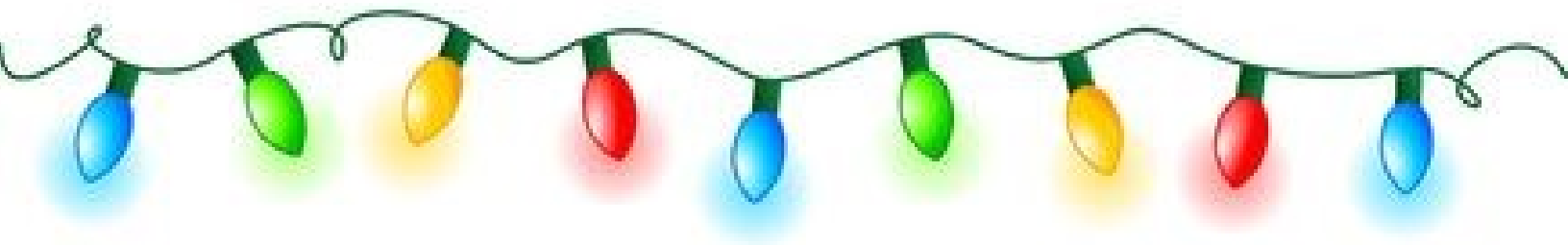
## CAST and CREW

**Peter Bacon (Mickey Gorski)** is a third year Theater and Economics student at the University of Maine. He has performed in several Umaine shows including this semester's production of *Anonymous*. Peter is very excited to be in this production of *Greetings!*, and would like to give a special thanks to Rose Hanson for helping in constructing the character of Mickey.



**Angela Bonacasa (Producer/Movement Consultant)** is a director, fight director, and stage combat instructor based in Castine. She is a Certified Teacher of Stage Combat with the Society of American Fight Directors, and has worked for over 20 years as a fight director and stage combat instructor. Her fight direction has been seen on stages in Chicago, New York, Maine, and theaters across the country. She has choreographed shows locally for the Belfast Maskers, Penobscot Theatre Company, Ten Bucks Theatre Company, Camden Shakespeare Festival and Midcoast Theater Company, among others. She teaches Acting and Movement at the University of Maine, and is Artistic Director of the Orono based company True North

Theatre, where she has directed *Becky's New Car*, *The Lion in Winter*, *The House of Yes*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *The Odd Couple*.



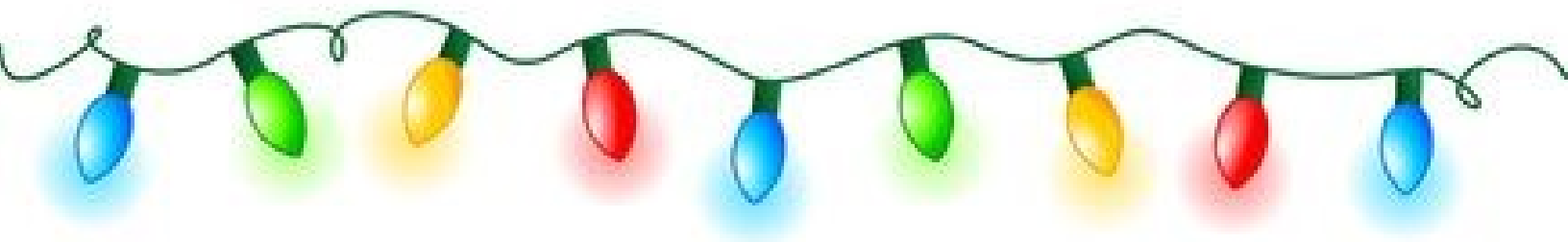
**Tellis K. Coolong (Director)** is extremely proud to be directing this, the second co-production between Ten Bucks Theatre and True North Theatre, a company he helped co-found in 2017. A huge thanks to the dedicated cast, design team, and production crew for their tireless work in bringing *Greetings!* to life. Telly has previously appeared on-stage for True North Theatre in productions of *The Odd Couple* (as Oscar), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (as Big Daddy), *Table Manners* (as Reg), *Becky's New Car* (as Steve), and was a featured player in True North and Ten Bucks previous collaboration, *Spoon River Anthology*. Telly would like to dedicate this production to the Coolong and the Harris families and their tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago.



**Aimee Gerow (Producer/Costumer)** This is Aimee's first experience as costume designer and it has been so creatively rewarding! In the past few years she's been stretching her wings by directing for TBT, but you've probably seen her in numerous productions of Shakespeare, as well as shows at True North Theatre and Penobscot Theatre Company. Some of her favorite roles include Eurydice (*Eurydice*), Beatrice (*Much A do About Nothing*), and Beth Foster (*Red Valley*.) Aimee's a graduate of Ithaca College and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. She currently serves as president of Ten Bucks Theatre.

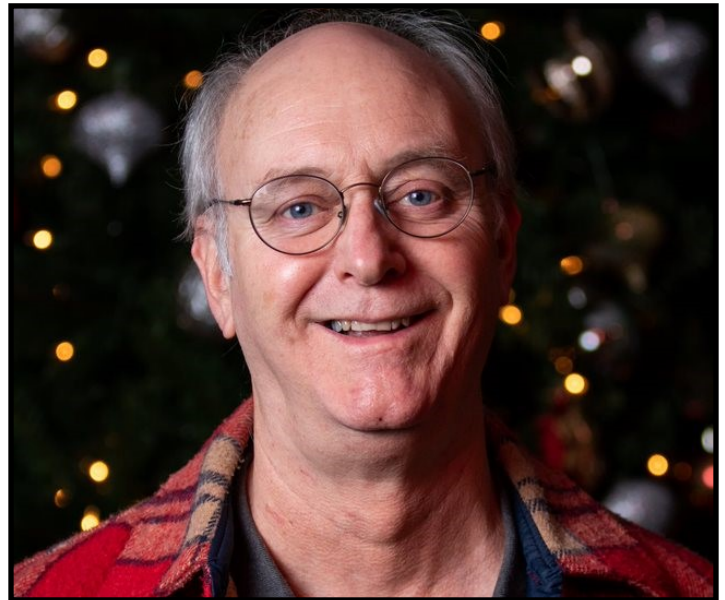


**Jenny Hancock (Randi Stein)** is thrilled to be back on stage after a long wait due to the pandemic. She would like to thank her parents for their continued support throughout the years, to her director Telly for his wonderful direction and guidance along the way. And to her boyfriend Mike who has been very patient, supportive, and loving. Enjoy the show!

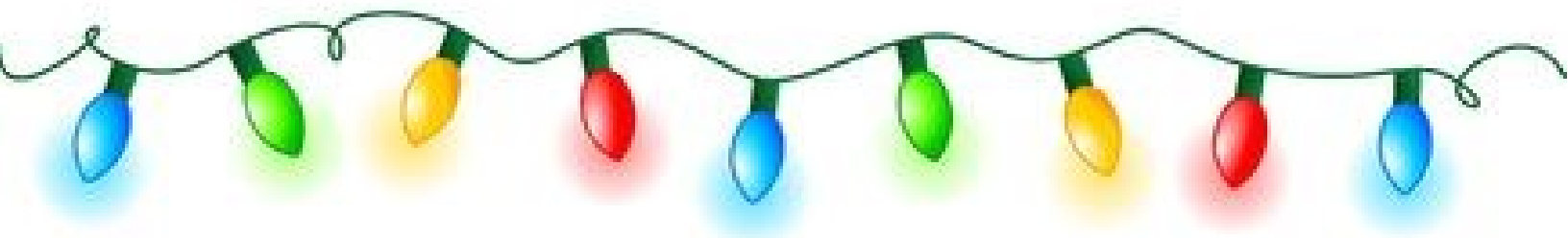




**David Lane (Phil Gorski)** is delighted to be working with old and new friends in this Ten Bucks Theatre / True North Theatre collaboration on *Greetings!* He previously worked with True North Theatre in their inaugural production, *Becky's New Car*, and more recently, appeared as Duncan in Ten Bucks' production of the Scottish play. David is beyond grateful to be working with the wonderful Telly Coolong, both for his thoughtful direction, and his patience and kindness. Thank you, Telly, for assembling this wonderful group of actors and production team here in Bangor, to breathe some life into the Gorski family's Christmas celebration in 1990.



**Julie Arnold Lisnet (Publicity)** is an actor, director and educator. She teaches for the School of Performing Arts at UMaine. She received her BA in Theatre and her MA in Acting from UMaine and has worked for Penobscot Theatre, Maine Theatre, Theatre of the Enchanted Forest, The Assembled Players, Marsh Island Stage, Maine Shakespeare Festival, Northern Lights Theatre and True North Theatre. She is a founding member/actor/director for Ten Bucks Theatre Co. and has directed TBT's productions of *The Bald Soprano*, *Terra Nova*, *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*, *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (co-directed), *The Tempest*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Elephant Man*, *Spoon River Anthology*, and most recently co-directed *As You Like It*. For UMaine she has directed *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *The Curious Savage*, *Rumors*, *The Mineola Twins* and *Twelfth Night*. Directing credits also include *The Odd Couple* and *Arsenic and Old Lace* for The Grand in Ellsworth. Favorite roles include Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth*, Sister Mary in *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You*, Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Nat in *Rabbit Hole*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Sybil in *Fawlty Towers*, Louise in *Always...Patsy Cline*, Mark Antony in *Julius Caesar*, Van Helsing in *Dracula*, Mrs. Webb in *Our Town*, Mattie Fae in *August Osage County*, Annie in *Calendar Girls* and Eleanor of Aquitaine in *The Lion in Winter*. She was most recently seen in Penobscot Theatre's productions of *Safety Net* and *Flyin' Solo*. Next up she will direct the play, *Terra Nova* for UMaine Spring 2022. Julie lives in Bangor with her husband Ron and their daughter, Natalie Acadia.





**Margo Lukens (Emily Gorski)** was "a goner" after her first real role at age 8 as Hagga in James Thurber's *The Thirteen Clocks*, and she's excited to be part of this excellent cast--thanks, Telly! Locally, she helped found the Orono Community Theatre in 2000 and its successor True North Theatre. She has also appeared with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Maine (Mad Margaret / *Ruddigore*, Dame Carruthers / *Yeomen of the Guard*) and with Penobscot Theatre in ensemble roles in *Sunday In the Park With George*, as the Queen in *Cinderella: A New Telling of An Old Tale*, and most recently Cora in *Calendar Girls*. When she is not playing hooky onstage, she is a professor of English at UMaine; her teaching and research includes Wabanaki literatures

and languages, and drama by indigenous playwrights. She believes in high-quality local theatre as a way for all kinds of people to express themselves and come together as a community. She is grateful that her husband Ken understands theatre is something she just has to do from time to time.

**Deanna Rice (Publicity/Stage Crew)** has been performing in plays and musicals since her early days as nursery rhyme characters in her Kindergarten play. Yes, there are videos. No, you may not see them. She has most recently been seen as a reader in *Scary Stories*, Audrey in *As You Like It*, various characters in *Spoon River Anthology*, the Bulesque Nurse in *The Sunshine Boys*, and Angus in *Macbeth*, all with Ten Bucks. She has also been behind the scenes, stage managing for TBT's *Spoon River Anthology*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Richard III*, as well as doing stage crew for True North Theatre's *The Odd Couple*. She is the Media Manager for Ten Bucks and has thoroughly enjoyed her time playing with graphic design for the company. She's always happy to spend time with her theatre peeps and is excited to see theatre returning to normal. Enjoy the show!

**Jennifer Snow (Stage Manager/Stage Crew)** is excited for everyone to see *Greetings!* Jennifer serves on TBT's Board of Directors, and has performed in several TBT shows including *Richard III* as Lord Buckingham, *The Elephant Man* as Nurse Sandwich, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Fawlty Towers*, and *Dracula*. She has also Stage Managed many shows, including *Death of a Salesman* and *Macbeth* (2018) As always, thank you to Cason and Alyx for your patience and love! Enjoy the show.

**Jesse Speed (Andy Gorski)** is an actor and puppeteer. He is a member of Ten Bucks Theatre and recently appeared in this summer's Shakespeare Under the Stars production of *As You Like It*. He resides in Bangor with his wife and son





**Tom Dudzick (Playwright)** is one of the few playwrights who makes a living at it. His first play, *Greetings!*, opened at New York's John Houseman Theatre and starred Darren McGavin and Greg Edelman. It is now a holiday favorite across the country and has had well over one hundred productions. His next play, *Over the Tavern*, the first in a semi-autobiographical trilogy, has over three hundred productions under its belt, with many box office records broken throughout the U.S. The Irish adaptation, *Over the Pub*, also broke the box office record at Cork Arts Theatre in Ireland. *Tavern* has also spawned a holiday musical, *Christmas Over the Tavern*. Tom has written eight plays to date, most published by Playscripts, Inc. He was recently honored with a memorial plaque embedded in front of his boyhood home in Buffalo. And an even greater honor – he was once a question on *Jeopardy!*



## Special Thanks and Recognition

Special thanks to two supporters of Ten Bucks Theatre no longer with us and to their families who donated generously in their names: Gay Haroutunian, thank you for your patronage over the years, supporting us in the press and the gifting of amazing books on costuming, not to mention many gorgeous costumes.

Jay Skriletz, your incredible generosity in the donation of scripts, lights and lighting equipment is so very, very appreciated. Your patronage and help over the years will never be forgotten. Love and peace to you both.

Our thoughts and condolences go out to our theater friends in the School of Performing Arts on the loss of longtime professor, Marcia Douglas. Over the years TBT has enjoyed working with many of her talented students, both past and present.



**TEN BUCKS THEATRE AND TRUE NORTH THEATRE**  
**Says THANK YOU to:**

Griffin and Jordan, Attorneys at Law

Roland Dube

Mark Bilyk

Holly Costar

Christopher Goetting

Raymond Spencer

Julie Arnold Lisnet

Matt and Deanna Rice

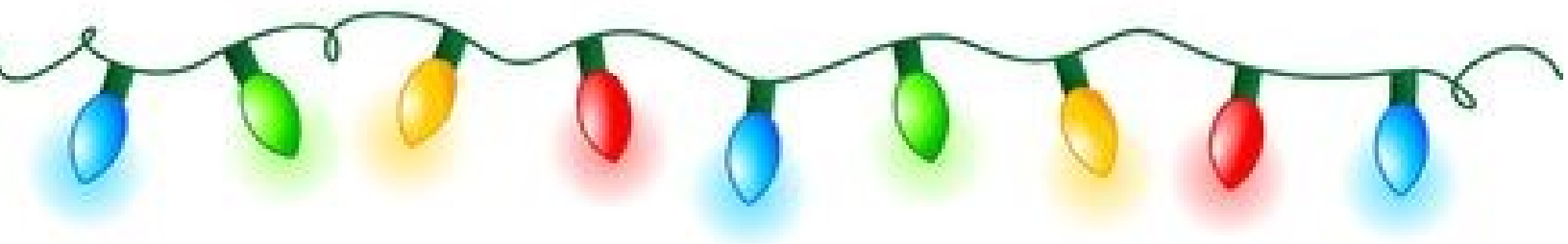
Commonsense Housing, Eddington, ME

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Penobscot Theatre Company

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