

A person in dark, ornate armor is shown from the waist down, holding a sword and a rosary. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds. The entire image is framed by a white border.

G.B. Shaw's

St. JOAN

Presented by **Newton Theatre Company**

St. John's Episcopal Church
96 Otis Street, Newtonville

Tickets available at
www.NewtonTheatreCompany.com

Performances:

Thur, Jan 26 – 8pm

Fri, Jan. 27 – 8pm

Sat, Jan. 28 – 2pm (matinee)

Sat, Jan. 28 – 8pm

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Newton, Massachusetts is on the traditional homelands of the Massachusett Indigenous Peoples.

The name Massachusetts comes from the Massachusett language term for "At the Great Hill," referring to the Blue Hills overlooking Boston Harbor from the south.

The Indigenous Nations that belong to this land are known as, the Aquinnah Wampanoag, Mashpee Wampanoag, Ponkapoag, Stockbridge Munsee Mohican Nation and Nimuc.

We respect & recognize it is a privilege to be living on these lands as guests. We acknowledge the trauma experienced over centuries to the indigenous peoples who live on these lands and continue to face injustice.

We honor with gratitude those peoples who have stewarded this land. We also acknowledge that these lands are sacred to generations yet to be born.

Cast

in order of appearance

Robert de Baudricourt — Paige Clark*

A steward — Abigail Strayer

Joan of Arc — Regan Sims*

Duke de la Trémouille — Sarah Brooke Vanaman

Archbishop of Rheims — Vivian Liu-Somers

Charles VII of France — Linda Goetz

Dunois, the Bastard of Orleans — Danielle Johnson

Earl of Warwick — Karin Trachtenberg

Chaplain John de Stogumber — Danielle Johnson

A page — Abigail Strayer

Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais — Sarah Brooke Vanaman

John Lemaître, Chief Inquisitor — Paige Clark*

Martin Ladvenu — Vivian Liu-Somers

Executioner of Rouen — Abigail Strayer

An English soldier — Paige Clark*

A gentleman — Vivian Liu-Somers

St. Joan Creative Team

Director - Melissa Bernstein

Assistant Director - Abby Strayer

Stage Manager - Abby Strayer

Sound Designer - Bernie Bernstein

Lighting Designer - Ken Fang

Assistant Lighting Designer - Joel Lawitts

Costume Designers - Maisie Bernstein and Abby Strayer

All Songs Performed by Cappella Clausura
Song Selection

A Vos Vieg

Joliment en Douce Desirrée

Estampie #1

Je Suis Jonette

Estampie #2

Na Carenza

A note about the songs:

Cappella Clausura performs music by women from the 9th century to the present day. Women of means in 12th century southern France and Spain were literate, and musical, and were allowed to not only provide accompanied poetry for entertainments, but to compete with their fellow troubadours. Troubadours (literally “song-finders”) were house musicians - every chateau had one, and the women were usually the heads of the household. Since most of the music is lost to us, Cappella Clausura commissioned living composers to set their poetry, much of which has survived.

Women of privilege in northern France were also poet/songwriters, who set 2-3, even 4 voices, singing in Latin and French at the same time so that the often spicy words tucked into a middle part could be sung but not get anyone into trouble. We fortunately have a small trove of this music.

This selection is from performances by Cappella Clausura in 2021 entitled *Troubadours*.

- Amelia LeClair, Director, Cappella Clausura

Director's Note

Joan of Arc has always fascinated me. How is it that we all still know her name more than five hundred years after she lived? Who was she really? How was it that a young woman living in the 15th century convinced so many men in high positions to follow her? The end of her story is more typical - used by the same men in high positions, then discarded when they couldn't control the narrative. By casting all women actors in these male roles, our production takes back some of this control.

I love how human Shaw has made our Joan. She is willing to recant to save her life. Most of us would do the same. She is prideful, and rightly so, given all she accomplishes. She believes with all her heart that her saints are talking to her. Whether or not we believe in those saints, one thing is for sure, we believe in her.

Shaw's *Saint Joan* is a play about an all-too-human, truly remarkable young woman. Thank you for joining us on the epic adventure that is her life.

Melissa Bernstein

Who's Who

Paige Clark* (Robert/Inquisitor/Soldier) is excited to be returning to NTC after being a part of *Iphigenia Among the Taurians* and *The Oresteia*. Previous area credits include: *Macbeth*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Romeo & Juliet* (Actors' Shakespeare Project), *The Three Musketeers* (Greater Boston Stage/Front Porch), *Allegiance* (SpeakEasy), and *She Kills Monsters* (Company One). She holds a BFA in Acting from Boston University's School of Theatre and has studied at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. In addition to acting, Paige teaches and directs at Newton South High School as well as sings in her rock band, Poor Yorick. www.pooryorickboston.com

Linda Goetz (Charles) was last seen in NTC production of *Our Tears are the Same Color*. Previous NTC shows include, *Mary Stuart*, *Mansfield Park*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Iphigenia at Aulis* and *The Oresteia*.

Dani Johnson (Dunois/Chaplain) is excited to be returning to in-person theater, performing in her seventh season with Newton Theatre Company. She is thrilled to be working with this incredible cast of women actors. Past NTC credits include *Macbeth*, *All About Eve*, *War of the Worlds*, *Marie Antoinette*, and *Helen* — among others. Early work includes *Twelfth Night*, *Footloose*, *The Crucible*, et al. Dani teaches twelfth grade English at Newton North High School.

Vivian Liu-Somers (Archbishop/Ladvenu/Gentleman) is an actor/writer/director based in the Boston area who has performed or participated in readings with the Asian American Playwrights Collective (AAPC), Asian American Theater Artists of Boston (AATAB), the Newton Theatre Company, TC Squared, the Nora Theater Company, the Umbrella Stage Company, Company One, Chuang Stage, Fresh Ink, Pao Arts Center, the Boston Theater Marathon, Boston One Minute Play Festival, and SlamBoston. She is proud to have had her 10 minute play *Waiting for Kim Lee* performed on both coasts by AATAB and AAPC in two separate productions in Boston, and by Play Club West in Los Angeles. You can see examples of her work at rebrand.ly/vliusomers

Who's Who

Regan Sims* (Joan) is an actor and mime from Manhattan, NY. This is her sixth production with Newton Theatre Company. Other theatre credits include roles with 59E59, ART/NY Theaters, The PIT, Two River Theater, Crossroads Theatre Company, Mile Square Theatre, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Irvington Theater and Shakespeare's Globe, London. A recent graduate from Rutgers Mason Gross School of the Arts, Regan is an NYC Story Pirate, a collaborator with Recent Cutbacks, and a company member of Broken Box Mime Theater.

Abigail Strayer (Steward/Page/Executioner): is a Newton-based actor, director, divisor, and designer. This is her Newton Theatre Company debut! Past acting and directing credits include *Electra*, *Anxious People!*, *The Revolutionists*, *Unheard/Unspoken*, *The 5564 to Toronto*, *Blue Stockings*, and *Women and Wallace*.

Karin Trachtenberg (Warwick) is delighted to be working again with NTC in Saint Joan. She has appeared in theaters throughout New England performing major roles in Greek Drama and Shakespeare productions, as well as developing the work of new playwrights. Karin recently returned from Greece where she had the experience of a lifetime performing the titular role in Euripides *Phaedra*. Learn more about her thespian adventures at: www.karintrachtenberg.com

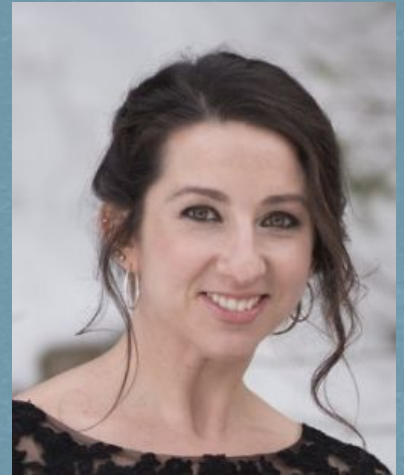
Sarah Brooke Vanaman (Trémouille, Cauchon) Rather than strain her brain trying to calculate exactly how many shows Sarah Brooke Vanaman has done with NTC over the last 3 years, let's just say she's overjoyed to be back in yet another thrilling all female production. Sarah Brooke studied at the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU and is inspired by an amazing stage actress: her late grandmother, Eve Johnson. Sarah Brooke would like to thank her friends and family for their endless support and encouragement. She would also like to thank NTC's incomparable artistic director Melissa Bernstein for her vision, kindness, and uncanny ability to bring together a cast full of genuinely talented people who are a joy to work with.



Paige Clark*



Linda Goetz



Dani Johnson



Vivian Liu-Somers



Regan Sims*



Abigail Strayer



Karin
Trachtenberg



Sarah Brooke
Vanaman

Special Thanks to the 2022-2023 Sponsors and Friends of Newton Theatre Company

Corporate Sponsors

The Village Bank
Wegmans
Northland
Visiting Angels Senior Home Care

Season Sponsors

\$1000 +
Julie and Gary Greenstein
Karen Woodrow and Larry Michel
Betty and Arthur Salz
Kathryn DeNitto
Courtney and Jason Cole
Jennifer and Paul Walsh
Melissa and Bernie Bernstein
American Express Foundation

Show Sponsors

\$250 +
Abby Rischin and David Moss
Judy Bernstein
Jill and Mitch Roberts
Gloria Gavis
Lori and Eric Lass
Gena Hooper
Doris and Fred Lewis
Amelia LeClair
Trinity Parish of Newton Centre

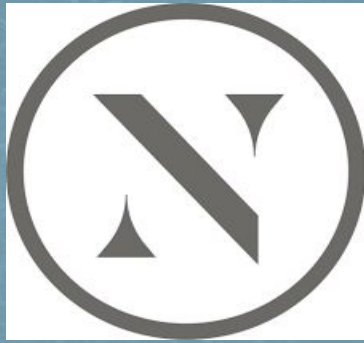
A special thank you to St. John's Episcopal
Church for being such a wonderful home
for Newton Theatre Company.



NTC Members

\$50 +
Josephine McNeil
Adrienne Hartzell Knudsen
Covie Edwards-Pitt and Matt Weinzerl
Peter Volante
Beth F. Houston
Marilyn Berman & Mark Froimowitz
Shari Friedman
Caroline and AJ Salz
Keith Cushman
Adam Brown
Carole Robinson
Stanley Bornstein
The Haggerty Family
Alison and Nick Fisher
The Orleck Family
Charmaine DaCosta
Carol Gerwin and Michael Goldberg
Kyle Crossley
Ruth Talvacchia
Alan M. Cody and Edith T. Moricz-Cody
Emily Cagwin
Andrew Cohn
Karen and Michael Crystal
Tim Strayer and Carmen Pancerella
Chuck Schwager and Jan Durgin
Chiara Durazzini
Janice Hooper
Grey and Leslie Held
Bette Roth
Jenny Nesin and David Perna
Mary and Anthony Logalbo
Kevin McCormick and Jane McKeon

Thank you to all our Newton Theatre
Company Friends
Up to \$49



Northland
Investment
Corporation

The advertisement features a background of fresh vegetables, including several large orange carrots and a stalk of green asparagus. In the upper right, an orange circular badge with a white border contains the text "DELIVERY FEE WAIVED on your first order". The main text is centered on a white rectangular background. It reads "Wegmans" in a black script font, followed by "delivery" in a large, bold, orange sans-serif font. Below this, it says "in as little as one hour" in a smaller black sans-serif font. At the bottom, it says "Powered by" in a small black font, followed by the Instacart logo (a green leaf and a red carrot) and the word "instacart" in a bold green sans-serif font. Below the logo, it says "order today" in a small black font, and finally, the website address "wegmans.com/instacart" in a bold black sans-serif font.

DELIVERY FEE
WAIVED
on your first order

Wegmans
delivery
in as little as one hour

Powered by
 **instacart**
order today
wegmans.com/instacart

“It’s communication —
that’s what theatre is all about.”

— Chita Rivera



Thank you, Newton Theatre Company, for a season of
innovative and thought-provoking shows.

From your fans at The Village Bank



Auburndale • Newton Highlands • Newtonville

Nonantum • Waban • Wayland • West Newton

www.village-bank.com • 617-527-6090

Customer Care Center 617-969-4300



Member FDIC | Member SIF
NMLS# 408536

