

# THE COUNTRY WIFE



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by William Wycherley

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Assistant Director ..... David Cheoros  
Set Designer ..... Brian Ball  
Lighting Designer ..... Darrell Moore  
Assistant Lighting Designers ..... Todd Skinner, Leon Potter  
Costume Designer ..... Karen Levis  
Sound Designer ..... Steven Goodman  
Choreographer ..... Kaz Piesowocki\*  
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Musical Consultant ..... Dale McIntosh\*  
Set & Costume Supervisor ..... Allan Stichbury\*  
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\* Denotes Faculty



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# The Country Wife

## CAST

Margery Pinchwife .....	Jennifer Lines
Alithea .....	Poppy Guloien
Lady Fidget .....	Camille Stubel
Dainty Fidget .....	Erin Fitzgerald
Mrs. Squeamish .....	Florence MacGregor
Old Lady Squeamish/Servant .....	Treena Stubel & Anne Legg
Lucy .....	Kira Bradley
Pinchwife .....	Paul Fauteaux
Sir Jasper Fidget .....	Jack J. Laitinen
Harry Horner .....	Gregory Tees
Sparkish .....	Lucas Robert Myers
Harcourt .....	Eric D. Bossick
Dorilant .....	Kennedy Goodkey
Quack/Parson .....	Steven Goodman & Ryan C. Stevenson
Servant .....	Justine Thomson
Servant .....	Andrew Long
Servant .....	Colin Plant

## London, 1673

### Act One

- Scene 1 Horner's Lodging
- Scene 2 A room in Pinchwife's house
- Scene 3 A room in Pinchwife's house
- Scene 4 A faire near the New Exchange

*There will be one fifteen minute intermission*

### Act Two

- Scene 1 A room in Pinchwife's house
- Scene 2 Margery's Bedchamber
- Scene 3 Horner's Lodging
- Scene 4 A street in Covent Garden
- Scene 5 Horner's Lodging

**Please note:** For the enjoyment of fellow audience members and actors concentration, we ask that you kindly refrain from taking photographs during the performance. We would ask that patrons deprogram their automatic watch signals and turn off their paging devices.



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## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The Country Wife is perhaps the most representative and best known, if not the most notorious, of all Restoration comedies. Wycherley, however, does not color the world and society he mirrors in delicate shades nor does he present us with the ethereal elegance often ascribed to this period. With an earthy sense of humour he takes broad satirical swipes at the licentious vices and follies of the age. His particular target is the uses and abuses of sex. Few of the characters in the play are sympathetic even though we may laugh at them and their foibles. They are filled with pretention and deceit. Nearly everyone in the play is pretending to be someone they are not, hiding behind some sort of disguise, blatantly telling lies and desperate to know everyone else's business. From Alithea's rather high-minded principles through Margery's childlike delight in discovery, to Horner's outrageous ruse of pretending to be a eunuch, the play exudes a boldness and gusto that makes it unique not only among Restoration comedies, but in all the body of dramatic literature.

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*The Phoenix theatre would like to thank the following for their assistance and generosity.*

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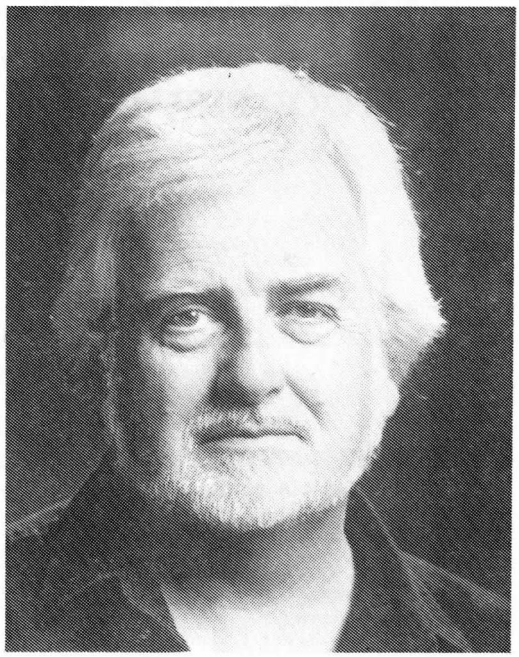
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**John Krich**  
*Director*

John Krich was seen last season performing in the Belfry's production of the new Canadian play, **HOMEWARD BOUND**. For the Belfry's play development series, **IN THE WORKS**, he performed in two new plays: **CZECH UP** by Vancouver playwright Kico Gonzales-Risso and **THE RED DRAGON** by 1992 UVic Theatre Graduate Eufemia Fantetti. John has also been involved with several ongoing film projects here in Victoria as well as teaching and supervising various student projects for the Department of Theatre.

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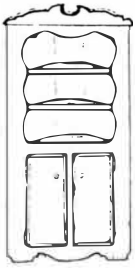
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**The Country Wife**

- Aniseed Robin** - a prankish sprite  
**Arrant Natural** - a fool  
**Bawd** - a prostitute  
**Brimmer** - a full cup of wine, or one who drinks the wine  
**Bubble** - a gullible fool  
**Bull's Head** - pub signs, but really Wycherley's play on "horns", the traditional symbol of a cuckold. (see Cuckold.)  
**Canonical Hour** - according to ecclesiastical law, marriages could be performed only between the hours of 8 am and noon.  
**Chair** - a sedan chair, a small covered chair borne on poles by two necessarily strong men.  
**Changeling** - a half-wit.  
**Cheapside Husband** - a city husband  
**Chemist** - an alchemist looking always for the Philosopher's Stone, always disappointed.  
**Cit** - slangy term for a shopkeeper or citizen, disparaging.  
**Common House** - a bawdy house (see Bawdy).  
**Country Murrain** - a cattle plague, a curse  
**Covent Garden Wife** - a fashionable wife  
**Cuckold** - a husband whose wife is unfaithful (see Horns).  
**Cully** - a dupe or gull (see Bubble).  
**Diffide in** - mistrust  
**Do What I List** - do what I darn well please!  
**Druggets** - cheap woolen goods  
**Dust It Away** - to drink it up  
**Eighteen Penny Place** - a middle gallery in a theatre frequented by prostitutes - fashionable playgoers sat in the pit and the lower boxes.  
**English French Disaster** - the French Pox contracted from an English whore (see French Pox or Great Pox)

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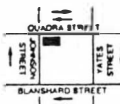


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## ***Words & Phrases (cont'd)***

**Fadges** - succeeds

**Firkin** - a small cask, usually brimming with beer or wine

**Frank** - generous

**French Wether** - a castrated ram, or a man made impotent by the French Pox (see English French Disaster).

**Propish** - peevish

**Gallant** - an attached, chivalrous young man

**Grand Signior** - a Sultan of Turkey

**Great Pox** - a venereal disease (see French Pox, English French Disaster).

**Hackney** - a hired drudge or menial worker

**Horns** - the traditional symbol of a cuckold (see Cuckold).

**In the Piazza** - referring to Covent Gardens

**In Ure** - to keep in practice

**Jill** - a flirt, a wanton, giddy young woman

**Keeper** - one who keeps a mistress

**Lanterloo or, Lanterlu** - a popular card game

**List** - please

**Locket's** - a popular tavern or pub at Charing Cross

**Mask** - a prostitute, refers to the vizard mask she usually wore (see Vizard).

**Megrim** - Migraine headache

**Moiling** - labouring

**Mousled** - rumpled

**Mulberry Garden** - a fashionable walk

**New Exchange** - in the Strand, a fashionable shopping district

**Ombre** - a popular card game

**Orange Wench** - notorious ladies who roamed the theatres peddling not only oranges but other more personal commodities as well.

**Ordinary** - a house of prostitution (see Common House, Bawd).

**Parts** - one's reputation

**Passe Partout** - a pass key, or one who has access to all the ladies in town, a double meaning.

**Pies and Jays** - fops, like flitting bluejays and noisy magpies

**Pulpit Comedian** - a chaplain or cleric

**Pulvilt** - perfumed powder

**Railleurs** - banterers, self-proclaimed wits

**Ram's Head** - a pub sign (see Bull's Head, Cuckold).

**Roll-Wagon** - a platter upon which baked goods are served

**Shocks** - dogs, specifically poodles

**Smithfield Jade** - a worn-out horse, or a disreputable woman

**St. James Park** - a fashionable mall

**Stag's Head** - a pub sign

**Swingeing Stomachs** - enormous appetites

**Tomrigg** - a tomboy

**Vizard** - a prostitute so named for the mask she wore

**Wag** - to stir, move about

**Woodcocks** - simpletons

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# Production Team for The Country Wife

Production Manager .....	Gysbertus Timmermans*
Technical Director .....	Steve Vrooman*
Stage Manager .....	Angela Poole
Assistant Stage Managers .....	Jennifer Andrews, Mathew Levinson, Christine Sommers
Electrician .....	Kyra Cruzat
Lighting Board Operator .....	Graeme Somerville
Sound Board Operator .....	Ti-Jon Dawe
Properties Supervisor .....	Michael Meloche
Properties Head .....	Laura Farn
Properties Team .....	Greg Tees, Sam Whittingham, Barb Maier, Darren Barefoot & students of Theatre 105
Head of Scenic Construction .....	Charles Procure*
1st Assistant Scenic Carpenter .....	Terina Fletcher
Scenic Artists .....	Rebecca Wolsak, Laura Farn, Brian Ball, Sam Wittingham, Linda Gillespie, Sasha Zagorsky, Michael Rinaldi, Nancy Barbour
Head of Wardrobe/Cutter .....	Karla D. Stout*
Costume Construction Team .....	Tim Crofton, Meghan Doidge, Jennifer Lines, Jennifer Lord, Lana Manuel, Karen Sansom, John Verhaeven
Wardrobe Mistress .....	Meghan Doidge
Dressers .....	Sasha Zagorsky, Lisel Jost, Brandy Baybutt, Shannon Calcutt
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The Phoenix Theatre is not a professional theatre. Its productions serve the academic requirements of B.F.A. and M.F.A. programs of the Department. What you will see will be the performers and technicians of tomorrow. Enjoy the performance!

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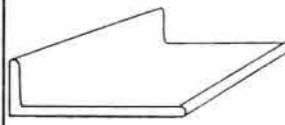
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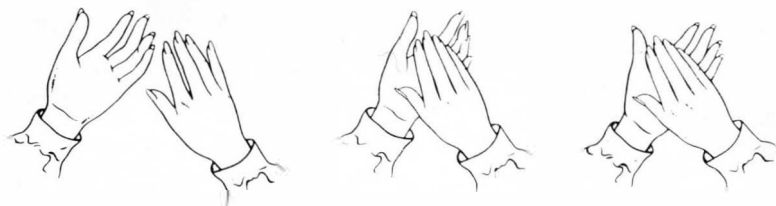
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