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FINISHING TOUCHES

by
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WHO'S WHO

Veterans of Arsenic and Old Lace have returned for Finishing Touches, but for the most part in different positions. Annie Marcus and Jack Moffat changed places as actor and director; Phoebe Rey was in charge of costumes for Arsenic; Ken Scanlon moved from a minor role to a major one. Three members of the cast are new to NFCT audiences - Richard Scotti, Tim Pillsbury, and Ted James. Richie stopped in to a rehearsal of Arsenic and asked about joining the group. He was told when Touches tryouts would be held. Tim's mother did makeup for Arsenic, and she mentioned to Jack that her son might be suitable as Hughie. The casting committee agreed. Ted James had a deadline in October which precluded his trying out for Arsenic, but fortunately he was available for Touches.

The theatrical experience of the cast is varied. Although Phoebe has never appeared at the NFCT, she has had starring roles elsewhere. Mark Kwasna's first role was as the handsome hero in last year's Bertha ..., ironically opposite Annie, who has much college and professional experience. This is Ken's fourth show since joining last year. Sue Wiegand has been seen several times here. Ted James was an actor in college, but since then theatrically has been mainly a writer for Julius Monk and Edward Albee's group among others. Richie and Tim are neophytes.

Jack and David Detrich's working together on several shows for the New Vic made for a very comfortable partnership in this show. Tales that Jack heard at David's wedding about his boyhood were made part of Peanut Butter Prince which perhaps prompts David to ask, "When are we going to do the Prince again?" It's the only show that has ever been revived at the NFCT.

Three cast members are married and five are single. They come from Orient, Greenport, Peconic, Cutchogue, Mattituck, Laurel and Riverhead. They meet at the NFCT for fun.