

OUR GANG: A Gentle Comedy by David Christner

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(5 women, 4 men)

Bella 65, an intrepid grandmother
Beatrice 40, Bella's daughter, a writer
Rachel 67, a realtor & Bella's gal pal
Eddie 69, a Vietnam vet & handyman
Holly 65, a musician & teacher
Marcel 70, a retired chef & gardener
Doc 65, a naturopathic doctor & M.D.
Hector 62, a G-man & gentleman caller
Sandy 63, a free-spirited divorcee

The Setting

The play is staged on an open area set revealing the interior of a well-appointed home. Visible in part are a kitchen, a living/dining area and an open area with doors leading to five bedrooms. Some semblance of a public park and a cocktail lounge are needed along with the front porch of a cabin in the woods with a window through which an actor is visible inside sitting at a console piano.

The Time & Place

The present. A city anywhere in the U.S. or any other country that doesn't know what to do with its aging population. This version is set in a suburb of Boston, MA.

Synopsis

Things are going decidedly downhill for Bella Shepard and Rachel Cohen; their husbands have gone to the hereafter; they're fast approaching their "golden years" with more concern than confidence, and Bella's daughter Bea is pressuring her to leave her ancestral Boston home and start a new life in L.A. with her three grandchildren and errant husband. But Bella refuses to go. Instead, along with the help of Rachel, she takes destiny into her own hands and decides to stay east rather than to go west, turning her suburban brownstone in a haven for a like-minded band of vibrant senior roustabouts. There's Eddie, a Vietnam veteran and handyman; Marcel, a working French chef; Doc, a semi-retired M.D. and naturopathic healer, and the gifted musician Holly Wainwright. Can such a gang of mature misfits build a home together in this age of unreason and conspicuous corruption? Only time and a lot of luck will tell.