



Theatre in 360°

Maytag Virgin

APRIL 9 to APRIL 25, 2021 2020/2021 season

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

It's been over a year since we mounted a show. It has been a privilege and an honor and a challenge as director of *Maytag Virgin* to shepherd bringing live theater out of hibernation and back to our stage.

Many changes were necessary to adhere to the rules and regulations designed to protect your health as well as ours. We had to reimagine our performance space to comply with the requirement that no unmasked actor could be closer than 12 feet away from all members of the audience. The result is a much different experience visually for you and an adventure for our designers and technicians. The actors had to learn to perform on a raked stage while adjusting to patrons watching mostly in front

of them instead of from all four sides. There were some advantages as well. With no other show in production or in rehearsals, we had extended time to work on details and make the necessary technical changes, including installing new equipment allowing us to stream some performances.

All of this took place with seldom more than five people in the building at any given time. Theater is a collaborative art so "virtual" doesn't cut it. We worked on different days in small groups. It took scheduling and cooperation. We hope you enjoy the results. We are grateful to welcome you back.

— EDD MILLER

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



After more than 50 years of working in many capacities at The Colonial Players, **EDD MILLER** can add another to his list of accomplishments as director of the first post-Covid production, ending the first time in 72 seasons when CP went dark for a lengthy period. As an actor he has performed in *The Last of The Red Hot Lovers*, *Othello*, *Moon For The Misbegotten*, and *Over My Dead Body*, to name just a few. You may have seen his set designs for *The Diviners*; *Blithe Spirit*; *In The Next Room, or the Vibrator Play*; *Chapter Two*; *Coyote on a Fence*; *Two Rooms*; *Moon Over Buffalo*; *Going To St. Ives*; and others. He most recently directed *Good People* five years ago. He

also has directed *The Apple Tree*, *Carnival*, *Plaza Suite*, *Going To St. Ives*, *Two Rooms*, *The Diviners*, *6 Rms Riv Vu*, *I Never Sang For My Father*, *On Golden Pond*, *Relatively Speaking*, *Coyote on a Fence*, and more. Edd also has lent his talents to many other venues as both actor or director. He credits theater in general and CP in particular for bringing him friends, chosen family, and his late wife, Dolores. He feels he has two homes in Annapolis: one for sleep and one for showing off. Edd's work has earned CP a Ruby Griffith Award, a One Act Play Award (state and regional festivals), Washington Area Theatre Community Honors awards for best play and best direction of a play, and numerous nominations.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

AUDREY CEFALY is a Dramatist Guild Traveling Master and a member of the Playwrights' Arena cohort at Arena Stage. Cefaly has developed plays with National New Play Network, Everyman Theatre, Signature Theatre, Vermont Stage, 16th Street Theater, Capital Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse, About Face, Florida Rep, Kitchen Dog Theatre, Circle Theatre, Serenbe Playhouse, Aurora Theatre, Theater Alliance, Quotidian Theatre Company, Contemporary American Theater Festival, and University of Alabama at Birmingham. Plays include *The Gulf* (Edgerton, Lammy, Charles MacArthur Nominee), *Alabaster* (NNPN Record-Breaking RWP, Kilroys, Calicchio Prize), *Maytag Virgin*, *Fin & Euba* (produced by

The Colonial Players), *Tell Me Something Good*, *The Believers*, and *Love is a Blue Tick Hound*.

Cefaly considers herself a southern playwright focusing on character-driven stories set in her home state of Alabama. "I am actively exploring the unsung topographies and voices of the Gulf Coast region with a purposeful reverence for regional authenticity and texture. I believe that stories of healing are important. I gravitate toward characters who are lost, 'stuck,' and emotionally fatigued (a term I call 'reckless apathy'). I want to tell every love story worth telling and my plays run the spectrum: collision, romance, betrayal, death, heartache and redemption."

THE CAST

Jack Key.....Ben Carr

Elizabeth "Lizzy" Nash.....Laura Gayvert

TIME

The present

PLACE

Lenoraville, a small fictional Alabama town

ACT I

Scene 1: Mid-morning, August

Scene 2: Early September

Scene 3: October

Scene 4: Early December

Scene 5: Three weeks later

Scene 6: Four months later, spring

ACT II

Scene 1: Three months later, late summer

Scene 2: Later that night

Scene 3: The next morning

Scene 4: Late afternoon

Scene 5: Later that night, 2 a.m.

This production will be performed with one intermission
between ACT I and ACT II.

*Maytag Virgin is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.*

Taking photographs and using any recording devices are strictly prohibited.
Smoking is prohibited throughout the building.



THE CAST



BEN CARR

(Jack Key)

Ben is excited to be back performing at The Colonial Players. Some of his previous roles at CP include Biff Loman in *Death of a Salesman*, Mike Conner in *The Philadelphia Story*, Michael Wells in *Two Rooms*, C.C. Showers in *The Diviners*, and Hertel Daggett in *Dog Logic*. He has also performed at Standing O Productions in *The Retreat from Moscow* (Jamie) and *Tracers* (Little John) and at Dignity Players as Jake in *Stones In His Pocket*. He would like to thank Edd for casting him, Laura for carrying this show, and Herb for making sure everything goes smoothly. "Most importantly, I would like to tell my wife, Cassie, that I love you and ask, if it's too late to send the kids back...I think they might be defective." Hope all is well.



LAURA GAYVERT

(Elizabeth "Lizzy" Nash)

Laura is truly filled with gratitude to be one of the first people to be able to be back in the theater and on stage in 2021, especially after so much has been closed down for so long. She is so thankful to be cast by Edd Miller alongside Ben Carr in this masterpiece by Audrey Cefaly. "Lucky girl!" Previously, she has performed at CP in *Trip to Bountiful*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Wonder of the World*, *Rocket Man*, *Calendar Girls*, *Frozen* (NOT the Disney musical), and most recently, *Casa Valentina*, the last two of which earned her nominations for a Washington Area Theatre Community Honors award for Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play. Other local credits include *Crimes of the Heart* and *Sordid Lives* at Dignity Players and *Seven Year Itch* at BCT. "Above all, I am thankful for the love and support of my husband, David, as well as family and friends who help me in ways big and small."



THE STAFF



KAELYNN BEDSWORTH

(Sound Designer)

This is Kaelynn's 12th...season? with CP. She has volunteered both on the stage and off in a variety of roles, from actress to go-button pusher to steampunk wig maker to Looney Tunes sound effect specialist to smushed banana cleaner. You may have seen her grace the stage in *The Secret Garden*, *Annie, 1776*, several *A Christmas Carols*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, and *Little Women*. Behind the scenes, she has produced, costume designed, sound designed, and scene painted for many shows over the past 12 years. Kaelynn sends a big shoutout to Dave Cooper for figuring out how to livestream and then relieving her fears with the sentence, "Nope, you don't need to do anything different." Kaelynn also sends her love to her husband, Wes, who shares this crazy theater world with her on a daily basis.



WES BEDSWORTH

(Livestream Technician)

Wes has been volunteering at The Players since early 2007 when he was a sound technician for *Moon Over Buffalo*. Since then, he's gone on to sound design many other shows, lighting design one, program lights for a bunch, create an Arduino-controlled illuminated grand piano for another, and provide technical consultation on more shows than he can count. Wes currently serves as the Technical Director on the Production Team, recently collaborating with Assistant Operations Director David Cooper to upgrade our equipment to support livestreaming of our productions. He is also happy to continue to be able to serve as Operations Director on the Board, where his responsibilities vary from plumber to electrician to network administrator to HVAC technician to locksmith to general handyman, depending on what broke this



THE STAFF (continued)

time. To adapt our spaces for operating during a pandemic, Wes has worked with various volunteers and contractors to plan for, procure, and install various new safety and sanitation equipment. By day, Wes supports the US Navy working for Cardinal Engineering, a generous annual supporter of CP. Wes sends his love to his wife, Kaelynn; his parents; sister Susan; and soon-to-be brother-in-law Jon. Hugs to Abby.



DAVID COOPER

(Livestream Technician)

David has been involved with The Colonial Players for the past several seasons. He was last seen on stage in *Book of Days*.

While The Players were navigating the Covid-19 disruption, he was involved behind the scenes and in front of the camera during streaming events and promotional activities. For *Maytag Virgin*, David helped to design, establish, and run the system used for livestreaming the show.



HERB ELKIN

(Stage Manager)

Herb has been an active Colonial Players member and volunteer for 25 years. Having appeared onstage in several CP and other

area productions, he now most enjoys stage managing and relishes his role in returning live theater to our stage. Recent CP credits include *The Children* (2020), *Toward Zero* (2019), *Quartet* (2018), *33 Variations* (2017), *Good People* (2016), *Side Man* (2015), *Rocket Man* (2014), *Coyote on a Fence* (2014), *Trying* (2013), and *Going to St. Ives* (2012)...which received a regional WATCH award as outstanding play. He thanks CP's many volunteers and supporters who make everything possible, worthwhile...and enjoyable!



JOHN H. PURNELL III

(Lighting Designer)

"This experience is like an early winter thaw — while the winter of Covid-19 may not be over yet, *Maytag Virgin*

is a glimpse of spring after more than a year without performing arts." John began designing

at Colonial Players in 1991. His lighting credits include 13 CP productions, most recently *A New Brain* (which was WATCH nominated), *Quartet*, and *The Babylon Line*. John has worked at Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, Silver Spring Stage, Severn School, Hexagon, The Arlington Players, The Little Theatre of Alexandria, and others where he has lighting and special effects credits in over two dozen other shows. John has appeared on stage in four area productions, most recently at CP as Officer Welch in *Rumors*. John was cast as Mayor Josiah Dobbs in *Bright Star* at Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre more than a year ago, but ASGT has canceled its 2021 season and he hopes it will be presented next year. The lighting for *Maytag Virgin* presents several challenges. First, the new thrust stage configuration demands extensive rework of CP's standard light plot. Second, lighting for streaming video as well as an in-house audience substantially complicates the lighting design. Fortunately, we have a great group of volunteers who welcomed the challenge.



HEATHER QUINN

(Producer)

Heather has worked on numerous theater projects in the DC-Maryland area both onstage and behind the scenes

over the years but never expected to be trying to produce a show in the time of Covid-19. "The job of producer is always easier when shared and when so many talented and dedicated community members step forward to take on the many behind-the-scenes tasks of any show. It has been odd striving to produce a show and develop theater safety procedures working both near (with masks and distance) and far (without masks but virtually). Nevertheless, it has been nice to be involved in the group effort, so I appreciate sharing in a small slice of community theater pie."



THE STAFF (continued)



CONSTANCE ROBINSON

*(Properties Designer/
Set Decorator)*

Since 2003 Connie has volunteered as a public relations consultant, graphic designer, box office assistant, properties designer, and set decorator for Colonial Players. She serves on the current Marketing Committee, and has collected props or decorated sets for over 24 productions at Colonial Players and other local theaters. She is proud to have received three WATCH nominations for properties designing. Connie enjoys her volunteer hours because of the friendly, dedicated people she works with. She also thanks her husband, John, for his continued assistance fixing or creating props. Connie is also grateful to friends for their support and loaning their household items for props. During the past year of the Covid-19 pandemic, she has missed being with the CP family but has enjoyed the virtual pub shows. She said it has been fun being “back in business” working with the creative director and set designer Edd Miller for this show. He was patient while Connie found or created props and dropped them off at the theater with her mask on. She sure misses being at rehearsals with everyone for *Maytag Virgin*! Connie sends a big “thank you” to Herb Elkin for keeping the props in order backstage!



BETH TERRANOVA

(Costume Designer)

“My heartfelt thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to get the doors to The Colonial Players open again. Special thanks to the cast and staff of *Maytag Virgin*, who have worked through these pandemic challenges so we can welcome audiences back to our theater.” Beth has been designing costumes for community theaters for over 25 years. On The Colonial Players stage her previous costume designs were seen in *A Christmas Carol* (2018), *Nine* (WATCH nomination), *A Few Good Men*, *These Shining Lives*, *Coyote on a Fence*, *Going to St. Ives* (WATCH nomination), *Cinderella Waltz* (WATCH nomination), *Lettice and Lovage*, *The Diviners*, *The Lion in Winter*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Hauptmann*, and *Moon Over Buffalo*. Most recently, she designed costumes for the 2nd Star Production of *Gypsy*. Other costume design credits from years of theater in Florida include *The Importance of Being Ernest*, *Beau Jest*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Call Me Madam*, and *Gypsy* (yes, she has had the “joy” of costuming this show twice!). Beth was most recently on stage at Colonial Players as Williamina Fleming in *Silent Sky*. Work behind the scenes includes director, producer, set designer, play consultant, and tech crew. Happily retired, these days you might catch Beth in colonial garb leading historic and ghost tours around Annapolis...when she isn't doing “things” for the theater.



This presentation of *Maytag Virgin* is supported in part by the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County.

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Thank you for your support. Your generous gifts help us to continue to provide educational and training programs, encouragement and entertainment to all who are interested in dramatic arts.

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The Colonial Players gratefully acknowledges the generous bequest from Roland Riley, a longtime patron whose gift helps ensure the future economic viability of our theater.



The Colonial Players gratefully acknowledges the recent gift from the Donald M. Reed Living Trust that made possible the critical upgrade of our stage lighting control system.

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Colonial Players wishes to express a heartfelt thank you to all supporters who donated the value of their tickets when Season 71 came to an abrupt end. Your contributions allowed the theater to continue paying utility bills, award the annual scholarship, and face the unknown during the remainder of 2020.

Thank you.

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STAY UP-TO-DATE ON WHAT'S GOING ON AT CP.



PRODUCTION STAFF _____

Director.....Edd Miller

Producer.....Heather Quinn

Stage Manager.....Herb Elkin

Costume Designer.....Beth Terranaova

Properties Designer.....Constance Robinson

Lighting Designer.....John Purnell

Sound Designer.....Kaelynn Bedsworth

Set Designer.....Edd Miller

Live Stream Technicians.....Wes Bedsworth, David Cooper

Stage Crew..... Jane Elkin

Lighting Assistants.....Drea Lynn, Ned McConnell, Ernie Morton,
Susan Boysen, Nick Beschen

Sound Designer Assistant.....Sarah Wade

Lead Carpenter.....Ted Yablonski

Carpenters.....Ken Kaiser, Bob Mumper, Jim Robinson

Play Consultant.....Dianne Hood

Poster/Program Cover Designer.....Drama Queen Graphics

Photographer.....Brandon Bentley

Program Editor.....Tom Stuckey

Program Assistant.....Nancy Long

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS _____

Allana Kubiak, Nicholas Minot, John Robinson, Susie Collins
Mango+Main



★ *THE REVOLUTIONISTS*

Four beautiful, badass women lose their heads in **Lauren Gunderson's** irreverent, girl-powered comedy set during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. Four strong women who left a mark on history hang out, murder Marat, and try to beat back the extremist insanity in 1793 Paris. This grand and dream-tweaked comedy is about violence and legacy, art and activism, feminism and terrorism, compatriots and chosen sisters, and how we actually go about changing the world.

— Directed by **Jennifer Cooper** / September 10 - October 2, 2021

★ *BY THE WAY, MEET VERA STARK*

This comedy from Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Lynn Nottage** draws upon the screwball films of the 1930s to take a funny and irreverent look at racial stereotypes in Hollywood. It is a 70-year journey through the life of Vera Stark, a headstrong African-American maid and budding actress, and her tangled relationship with her boss, a white Hollywood star desperately grasping to hold on to her career.

— Directed by **Eleanore Tapscott** / October 22 - November 13, 2021

★ *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*

Colonial Players' version of the classic Christmas story written for us by **Richard Wade** and **Dick Gessner** in 1981 will run for two weekends in December. This year's production will be directed by Wade's daughter, **Sarah**, who has grown up with this phenomenally popular gift to the community. *A Christmas Carol* is not part of the regular season; tickets will be sold at the theater on November 17.

— Directed by **Sarah Wade** / December 2-12, 2021

★ *THE LOST BOY*

Despite finding success and fame as a writer, James M. Barrie is dissatisfied with his work and his life. Haunted by the tragic accident that took the life of his older brother, James slowly begins to confront his family's tragic past with the help of an unexpected friendship and his own gift for storytelling. This fictionalized account of the birth of Peter Pan written by **Ronald Gilbert Paolillo** will warm the hearts of audiences everywhere. — Directed by **Joe Thompson** / January 14 - February 5, 2022

★ *AGNES OF GOD*

Summoned to a convent, court-appointed psychiatrist Dr. Martha Livingstone is charged with assessing the sanity of a novice accused of murdering her newborn. Miriam Ruth, the Mother Superior, determinedly keeps young Agnes from the doctor, further arousing Livingstone's suspicions. Who killed the infant, and who fathered the tiny victim? Livingstone's questions force all three women to re-examine the meaning of faith and the power of love, leading to a dramatic, compelling climax. The play written by **John Pielmeier** was a hit on Broadway and later on film. — Directed by **Jeff Sprague** / February 25 - March 20, 2022

★ *FREAKY FRIDAY*

When an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swap bodies in this joyous musical version of the beloved **Mary Rodgers** novel, they have just one day to put things right again. With a book by **Bridget Carpenter** and music and lyrics by **Tom Kitt** and **Brian Yorkey**, It is a heartfelt, comedic, and unexpectedly emotional update on the novel and three Disney movies. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter.

— Directed by **Ron Giddings** and **Kaitlin Arnold** / Tentative dates: April 8 - May 8, 2022

★ *THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME*

Fifteen-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain: He is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. Now it is seven minutes after midnight, and Christopher stands beside his neighbor's dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding himself under suspicion, Christopher is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, taking him on a thrilling journey that upturns his world. **Simon Stephens** won the 2015 Tony Award for best play for his adaptation of the popular novel. — Directed by **Eric Lund** / Tentative dates: June 3 - 25, 2022