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2022/2023 season

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another Opening of Another Show...

Welcome to Season 74... Secrets and Lies! There's nothing like the kick-off of a new season to fill one with excitement, enthusiasm, optimism and yes, more than a bit of opening night butterflies. Art is a great show to get us going. Funny and at times absurd, but with a thought-provoking intelligence that balances it all out. There has been a tremendous amount of work over many, MANY months put in by dozens of volunteers to get us to this opening - not just this show, but the upcoming season as a whole - and we're all on pins and needles to see what happens!

I'm not going to lie to you (see what I did there?), it has been difficult getting to this point. The season has been difficult to put together because of significant changes in the way plays are licensed to theaters and because of the way we try to balance cast and technical requirements.

You may have also noticed that we are not doing a holiday show this season. That's because we decided to take a bit of a break after the first two shows to set up for the final four shows of our season (don't worry. A *Christmas Carol* will be back for Season 75). All of these things are just some of the lessons we have learned in the long process of producing theatre in a pandemic-coping world. And we still have more to learn.

It's no secret (again, see what I did)... this is HARD work. But we do it because we love it. And we love the fact that you love it too. I'm hoping that what you see on the stage inspires you to get involved with us and help us to produce more great theatre together.

And with that, actors to places, lights up, and on with Season 74!

--Steve Tobin

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Producer.....Scott Sanders
Stage Manager.....Andy McLendon
Assistant Stage Manager.....Lory Cosner
Set Designer/Set Decoration.....Laurie Nolan
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

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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 wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to our patrons for their flexibility and patience during Season 73 as we continued to navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your support!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Since embarking on the journey of directing this play, I've had quite a few questions swirling about in my head. Two of them keep popping up for me: What keeps friendships alive...and what the heck is "art" anyhow? Well...art and friendship are both living things and they both require some sort of relationship to thrive. In other words, it takes at least two to have art, the creator and the audience. It takes at least two to have a friendship. But what if the friendship is broken? There's a lovely Japanese art called kintsugi, in which beautiful pottery is

deliberately broken. It is then repaired, literally glued back together with gold. The pottery is then considered even more beautiful thanks to its golden scars; in fact, the scars make it even more unique and valuable. Like friendship, art is a sharing of human thoughts and emotions, the sharing of the very essence of what it is to be human. What draws us to a particular piece of art, be it written, sung, spoken, sculpted or drawn? I suggest it's the same thing that draws us to certain people. Yvan would call it "a resonance."

— DEBBIE BARBER-EATON

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Debbie Barber-Eaton holds a degree in Musical Theatre from the Catholic University of America and studied cabaret at Yale. A director, performer and acting coach, she has worked in local and regional theatre.

She taught acting, musical theatre and sketch comedy at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis for 15 years. Debbie appeared on the Colonial Players' stage as "Martha" in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, which earned her a WATCH Award nomination for best lead actress in a play. Most recently, she appeared as "Rose" in *Gypsy* at 2nd Star Productions and "Sarraghina" in *NINE* at CP. Debbie directed

Calendar Girls for CP followed by *Guys & Dolls* for 2nd Star, which garnered the Ruby Griffith Award for All Round Production Excellence and a WATCH nomination for Debbie for her direction. She is proud to have received the last directing award CP gave for her direction of *The Robber Bridegroom*.

"Many thanks to my incredible team for agreeing to come on board for this project! As always, my love and thanks to my family and friends for supporting me as I continue to make my own "art," especially Neal, Eddie, Cathy, Donna, Paul, and Casey. What would I do without you!? I dedicate my work on this show to the memory of my favorite artist, Ann Catherine Barber, my mom."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yasmina Reza is a French playwright and novelist, based in Paris, whose works have all been multi-award-winning, critical and popular international successes, produced worldwide and translated into 35 languages. She has written seven plays (*CONVERSATIONS AFTER A BURIAL*, *THE PASSAGE OF WINTER*, "ART," *THE UNEXPECTED MAN*, *LIFE X 3*, *A SPANISH PLAY*, *GOD OF CARNAGE*, *HOW YOU TALK THE GAME*) and 6 novels ("Hammerklavier," "Une Desolation (Desolation)," "Adam Haberberg," "Dans la Luge d'Arthur Schopenhauer," "Nulle Part" and "L'Aube, le Soir ou la Nuit (Dawn Dusk or Night)"). Films include: "Le Pique-Nique de Lulu Kreutz," directed by Didier Martiny and "Chicas," written and directed by the author.

'ART' is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Produced on Broadway by David Pugh, Sean Connery and Joan Cullman, March 1, 1998.

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 CAST



SAM LUNAY

(Yvan)

Sam Lunay (He/Him) was last onstage at Mosaic Theatre's production of *Eureka Day*. Prior to that, he was honored to participate in the Kennedy

Center Page to Stage Festival as Sergeant Riggins, Private Atlas, and as various other characters in *Company K*. Other local theatre credits include Bo in *Appropriate* (Silver Spring Stage), Pastor Gregg (U/S) in *Hand to God*, and Howard (U/S) in *If I Forget* (both at Studio Theatre). He is a graduate of the Studio Acting Conservatory. He would like to thank Lucy, Izzy and Ellen for all their support.



TOM NEWBROUGH

(Marc)

Tom has acted, sung and directed locally for many years. Past CP performances include *A New Brain*, *Assassins*, *Jacques Brel*, *Terra*

Nova, *A Little Night Music*, *Dial M for Murder*, *Crimes of the Heart*, and *The Elephant Man*. At CP he has directed *Strange Snow*, *A Shayna Maidel*, *Incorruptible*, *Rabbit Hole*, and *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. Tom is a partner in the law firm of Cohen, Snyder, Eisenberg & Katzenberg. As always, he thanks his lovely and talented wife CeCe and his family for their love and support.



JIM REITER

(Serge, Sound Designer)

Jim is happy to again be directed by his "Rose," and to share the stage with old pal Tom and new pal Sam. Jim first appeared at the Colonial

Players in 1995 as Boolie in *Driving Miss Daisy*; among those he's been in since are *Proof*, *Hauptmann* (WATCH Award winner for featured actor), *She Loves Me*, *Dog Logic*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (directed by "Marc"), *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and two *Scrooges* and a *Cratchit* in *A Christmas Carol*. He also directed 2015's *Sideman*, which received five WATCH nominations including best director. Elsewhere Jim has appeared in *Becky's New Car* at Bay

Theater Company, *The Addams Family* at Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, *Pride and Prejudice* at Classic Theatre of MD, *Sordid Lives*, *The Shadow Box*, and *The Crucible* at Dignity Players where he also directed *The 39 Steps*, and too many to count at 2nd Star Productions in Bowie and its predecessor Musicomedy Productions, most recently 2019's *Gypsy* as Herbie to our director, Debbie Barber-Eaton's, Rose. He also reviews plays (well, not this one) for Bay Weekly and hosts the Colonial Players podcast, *Theatre in 360°*. But Jim's favorite roles are PopPop to Caleb, Chloe, Corey, Christa, Emma and Miles, Dad to Joey, Kelly and Katie Rose, and blue-eyed perpetual suitor to Darice, who even though she married him, he still chases.



GEORGE KING

(Swing)

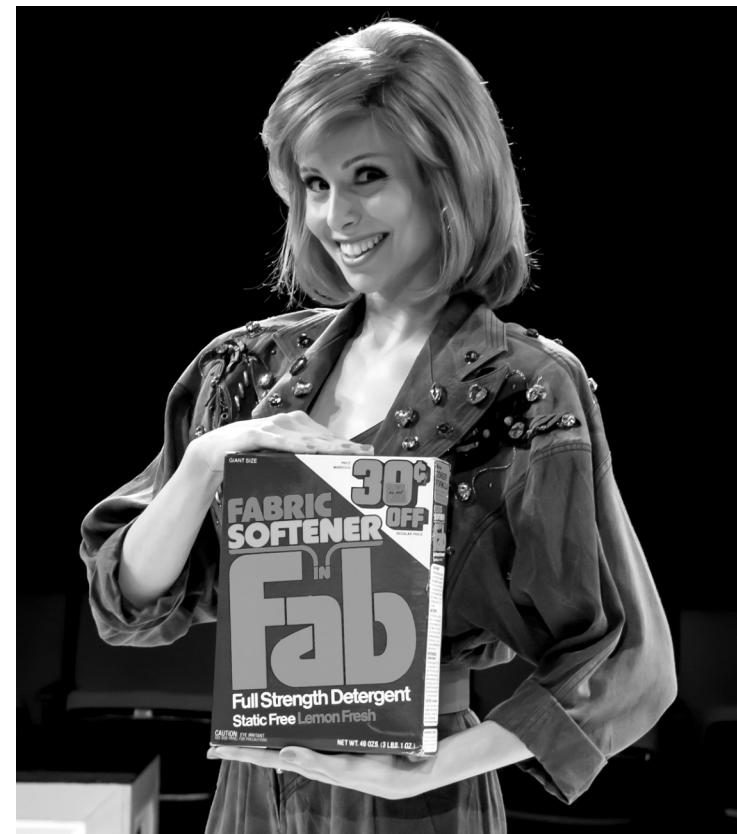
This is George's second show with The Colonial Players. He played Grandpa in *Freaky Friday*. He is excited to have joined The Colonial Players

Board as the treasurer, effective September 1st. He most recently performed with Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre as Daddy Murphy in *Bright Star*. Prior to that he performed with the Pasadena Theatre Company in *Scrooged & You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. Some favorite past non-musical roles (all in California) include *Rumors* (Lenny Ganz), *Psycho Beach Party* (Kanaka) and *Murder Most Fouled Up* (Jason/Ridgely). George would like to thank his wife, Ameeta and their two sons George IV & Rudy, for all the love and support.



Keeping listeners up to date with current shows, discovering what is happening in and around the theatre community, and taking a close up look at those that keep it running. Available from our website and all good podcast distributors.

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COMING NEXT...



The Lifespan of a Fact

October 21 - November 12, 2022

written by
**JEREMY KAREKEN & DAVID MURRELL
AND GORDON FARRELL**

directed by
ESTELLE MILLER

tickets.thecolonialplayers.org

Lifespan of a Fact is based on the stirring true story of John d'Agata's essay, "What Happens There," about the Las Vegas suicide of teenager Levi Presley. Jim Fingal, assigned to fact check the piece, ignited a seven-year debate on the blurred lines of what passes for truth in literary non-fiction.

"Why let the facts get in the way of a good story?" as the old adage goes. And yes, that is the central dilemma of this play that hurtles through a few crucial days in the lives of writer John d'Agata, fact-checker Jim Fingal and editor Emily Penrose. Two opposing ideologies collide in a battle of two stubborn and highly intellectual combatants, while we are forced to ask ourselves where we stand. Facts are facts and there is no evading them, according to Jim. Or can facts be manipulated if they artistically enhance the telling of the story, John poses. Anyone who has never told a lie has never told a good story... Emily resides as judge and jury over the proceedings and it will ultimately be her call whether to publish the essay or not, as we draw ever closer to the Monday morning deadline. The



UPCOMING AUDITIONS



The three Magrath sisters are back together in their hometown of Hazelhurst, Mississippi in the mid 1970's. Lenny, the eldest, never left Hazelhurst as she is the caretaker of the sisters' cantankerous Old Granddaddy. Meg, the middle sister, left home to pursue stardom as a singer in Los Angeles, but has, so far, only found happiness at the bottom of a bottle. And Babe, the youngest, has just been arrested for shooting her husband. Under the scorching heat of the Mississippi sun, past resentments bubble to the surface and each sister must come to terms with the consequences of her own "crimes of the heart".

The show is auditioning for 5 women and 2 men, of any ethnicity. All character ages are mid 20's - 30's.

**Saturday September 24
Sunday September 25**

Crimes of the Heart

written by **BETH HENLEY**
directed by **ROBIN SCHWARTZ**

For full details, please see our website:

thecolonialplayers.org/index.php/get-involved/auditions



THE CREW

JANICE COFFEY

(Costume Designer)

Janice has been involved in theatre both onstage and backstage for decades as well as working as a professional actress in film, television and print. Janice is a past President of Bowie Community Theater and past Board Member of The Colonial Players. Thanks to Fran for a fun time!

MARY FAWCETT WATKO

(Set Designer/Play Consultant)

Dedicated to The Colonial Players for 41 years as an actor, director and play consultant. For the Love of It!

ANDY MCLENDON

(Stage Manager)

It is exciting to be back at The Colonial Players and working with such an amazing production staff and cast. The list of favorite theatre projects becomes more and more difficult to select; there have been so many memorable experiences. At this juncture, I simply believe that we are all grateful to be "back on the boards."

LAURIE NOLAN

(Set Designer/Set Decorator)

Laurie Nolan has been painting this stage floor for longer than her back would care to remind her! But it's always fun, and a pleasure to work with such creative, kind people. If you are looking for an interesting and collaborative group with which to explore all things theatre, please join us. Laurie's recent sets include *The Children* and *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*. Extra thanks to my husband John for all he did for me this summer.

MATTHEW RIGBY

(Lighting Designer)

Matt is excited to be back with The Colonial Players for a new season! He was involved in three shows last season, both as an actor and as part of the stage crew. Working as board operator for *The Lost Boy* and as the Special Effects Engineer for ASGT's *Rock of Ages*, Matt has learned a lot about light design. This is his first time as the Lighting Designer for a show, and thanks to the support and assistance from John Purnell, Wes Bedsworth, and the rest of the theatre community, you won't miss a thing! Matt has really enjoyed working on lighting and making his vision a reality. He'll be back for more in the future, he's just getting started!

CHARLOTTE ROBINSON

(Props Designer)

Charlotte joined The Colonial Players in 1984 and was invited to work backstage in 1988 as stage crew on *Dial M For Murder*. She has served on several committees, and the Board of Directors. In recent years she moved from tech, crew, and stage manager to props. Her most recent shows were *Trying*, *Side Man*, *Lucky Stiff* and *A New Brain*. And now she's happy to be back with her CP friends and family after the Covid imposed hiatus. This one's for you JoAnn.

JIM ROBINSON

(Carpenter)

Jim began volunteering at The Colonial Players in 1984. He operated the light board and sound equipment as well as working as stage crew and set/props builder for many shows. After retiring in 2003, Jim joined Dick Whaley and Ted Yablonsky as permanent set building crew. He enjoys working on shows where his wife Charlotte is also involved.





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THE PLACE

Paris

The main room of an apartment.
A single set. As stripped down and neutral as possible.
The scenes unfold, successively, at Serge's, Yvan's and Marc's.
Nothing changes, except for the painting on the wall.

THE TIME

1994

THE CAST

MARC.....TOM NEWBROUGH
SERGEJIM REITER
YVANSAM LUNAY

There will be no intermission.