



# Talking Pictures

by Horton Foote

Directed by Nina Bryant

Gaslight  
Baker



## A FEW WORDS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Horton Foote's body of work is a treasured pillar of American drama. His characters, often drawn from his own South Texas hometown of Wharton, are as real in their aspirations and desires as they are in their failures and heartaches. Dubbed the "American Chekhov," Foote channeled the provincial voice while integrating truths that are both subjective and objective, and like the Russian master, muddled the distinction between comedy and drama. Foote's plays are, in essence, honest and timeless portraits of people maintaining dignity in the face of obstacles.



The characters in Talking Pictures navigate their shifting realities with an earnest sincerity that speaks to the resilience of the human spirit. They represent the complexities of us, crafted with a ruthless honesty that is the trademark of Foote's writing genius. While it has been said that not a lot happens in a Horton Foote play, beneath the surface a river runs deep and swift, and in the eddies exist knowledge both forbidden and desired. You may feel, after meeting the characters in the play, that you've known them all your life; here we find intersections of protective parents and their thrill-seeking children, new lovers negotiating the petty grievances of past relationships with sincere assurances, and immigrants struggling to find their place in an America that is far from hospitable.

Horton Foote deserves to be recognized and honored as much as Arthur Miller or Tennessee Williams, and as a Texas theatre, we owe it to his legacy to produce more of his plays.

Welcome to Harrison, Texas. Stay a spell.

Peace,

Nina Bryant

**Come Enjoy a Play on Us!**

bring this playbill and a paying  
friend back to see

**"Talking Pictures."**

## Talking Pictures

By Horton Foote

Summer of 1929

The Jackson's home in Harrison, Texas  
(yard, porch, living room and Myra's bedroom)

### ACT I

- Scene 1** Early Evening at the Jackson's Home  
**Scene 2** Later that Same Day  
**Scene 3** The Next Day

### 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

### ACT II

- Scene 1** Later the Same Day  
**Scene 2** The Next Day  
**Scene 3** One Week Later

*The GBT wishes to thank the LCRA and the City of Lockhart for their support in improving our facility with their generous grant. We are happy to be good environmental citizens while providing a more comfortable atmosphere for our audience.*

~ CAST ~  
(In Order of Appearance)

**Maddison Welvaert (Katie Bell Jackson)**

Maddison Welvaert is 16 years old and a Junior in high school. She started acting at the age of eight with the Gaslight-Baker Kids program and she has fallen in love with the stage ever since. Maddie has appeared on stage in shows such as *Fruitcakes*, *Our Town*, *Still Life with Iris*, *The Uninvited*, *Steampunk Vaudeville*, *Chicago Gypsies*, and *A Christmas Carol*. She is also very involved in the Lockhart High School Theatre Department participating in shows such as, *Fuddy Meers*, *Anybody for Tea*, and the award winning show, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* as Nurse Ratched where she was awarded best overall actress in both Area and District One act competitions. She was also able to produce and direct a student-written play, *Liars and Thieves*, in the Lockhart High School Shenanigan's Festival. Along with her love for acting, she has a passion for special effects makeup in which she hopes to make a career. Maddie has worked with everything from theatre camps to haunted houses to parades and will also be able to broadcast her talents on stage by working as the makeup designer for the upcoming show *Varney the Vampire*. She would like to thank her family and friends for the support and love, the Twinkie company for bringing sexy back, and her amazing directors Nina and Sondra for allowing her to broadcast her talents on stage.



**Lauren Hartwick (Vesta Jackson)**

Lockhart born and bred, Lauren is no stranger to the Gaslight-Baker Theatre stage. She made her GBT debut in 2013 as Annabelle Lee in *Still Life with Iris* and has since been in many other productions including, *Vaudeville*, *Because Their Hearts Were Pure or the Secret of the Mine*, *The USO Tribute Show*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Odd Couple - Female Version*. Lauren's next theatre endeavors include the upcoming melodrama, *Varney The Vampire* and the second *USO Tribute Show*! Lauren is also actively involved with the theatre department at Lockhart High School where she is currently a Junior. She is the photographer for LHS Theatre and is highly involved in the annual UIL One-Act Competition. She most recently played the award-winning role of Nurse Flinn in the award-winning production of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*. Lauren is also trained in musical theatre! Aside from her many theatre adventures, Lauren enjoys photography; being a local food critic; obsessing over her all-time favorite Broadway diva, Kristin Chenoweth; traveling; eating copious amounts of moon pies; and most of all being a camp counselor all summer at all-girls camp, Rocky River Ranch. In the near future, Lauren plans to be a part of Texas A&M's class of 2021, majoring in Business and Administration and minoring in Spanish. Lauren would like to thank her parents for being cooler than Antarctica, Miss Maddison Welvaert for being sassy and classy, her dogs for listening to her run lines and most of all queen Beyoncé, because Beyoncé.

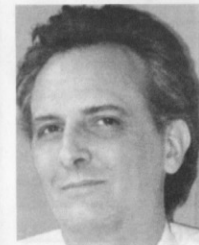


**Tysha Calhoun (Myra Toliver)**

A founding member of the Gaslight-Baker Theatre, Tysha is now the Vice President of the organization and is grateful that she gets to actually use her Theatre Degree, which she obtained from Sweet Briar College. She has played a multitude of roles over the past 20+ years. Standouts include Mama Rose in *Gypsy*, Katie in *The Paris Letter*, Kate in *The Cover of Life* and Susy in *Wait Until Dark*. She has been a guest director in Wimberley three of the last four years, and is looking forward to continuing her education as she will apply for the MFA program at Texas State next year. Married to her best friend for over 12 years, she enjoys camping, painting, reading, and playing with their three wonderful, furry kids. She thanks God for allowing her to find the perfect outlet for her creative needs and hopes you enjoy the show!



**Eric Beck (Mr. Jackson)**



This is Eric's fourth appearance on the Gaslight-Baker stage, having appeared in small parts in *Because Their Hearts Were Pure or the Secret of the Mine* in 2014 and *Our Town* in 2012 and in a major role in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. He wishes to thank Nina for casting him and for her gentle, clearheaded guidance; his fellow cast members for creating a fun working atmosphere; Martin and Alice for their constant encouragement and limitless patience; and Robyn for being his best critic and strongest supporter

**Judith Laird (Mrs. Jackson)**

Judith is delighted to appear on the Gaslight-Baker stage again after having done *Dashing Through the Snow* three years ago. Since then, she has worked at City Theatre in Austin appearing in *Steel Magnolias*, *Motherhood Out Loud*, and *Julius Caesar* (playing a male role as a woman!). Judith served as Artistic Director for The Wimberley Players from 2006 to 2009 and appeared in numerous wonderful roles over a ten-year period. In addition to her playing, she serves as Adjunct Professor with a PhD in English at Austin Community College. She thanks her husband for putting up with all her theater stuff. :-)





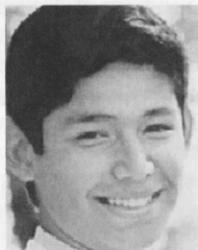


### **Matt Janke (Willis)**

Matthew graduated from UT Arlington with a BFA in film and video. Before graduation, he received the outstanding senior award given by the faculty to the one student who showed the most promise in their field of study. He has had short films in various film festivals across Texas and extensive experience with video work. This is Matt's first time with a live venue. He is currently the manager of Snap Fitness in Lulling.

### **Armando Mascorro (Estaquio Trevino)**

Armando enjoys long walks on the beach, red velvet cupcakes and watching re-runs of The Bachelor. Armando has exceptional stage experience, including, *Midnight Rider*, *Once in a Few Moons*, *Fuchsia Daisy* and the stage production of *The Fault in Our Stars*! He finds inspiration from RuPaul and takes pride in his tattooed signature of queen bee, Ke\$ha. Armando would like to give a shout out to McDonalds Chicken McNuggets for keeping real and his mom.



### **Deacon Snider (Pete)**



*Talking Pictures* is Deacon's theatre debut, and he couldn't be happier. Deacon is currently a freshman at Lockhart High School who is actively involved with honors choir and band. He also hopes to be involved in Lockhart High School's annual one-act play! Deacon loves anything and everything music and hopes to make music his full-time career. He would like to thank his cousin, Lauren, for encouraging him in

everything he does; his amazing cast for being fantastic; and of course Nina and Sondra for casting him.

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### **Robyn Gammill (Gladys)**



Robyn is thrilled to be part of this fabulous cast and crew and to work with director Nina Bryant again. Her favorite roles at the Gaslight-Baker have included Olive Madison in *The Odd Couple - Female Version*, Pearl Gold in *The Chicago Gypsies*, Miss Hatchett in *Because Their Hearts Were Pure or the Secret of the Mine*, and Gentle Harmony in *Rex's Exes*. She recently directed the GBT's production *An Empty Plate in the Cafe Du Grand Boeuf*. She offers her gratitude to everyone at the theatre for their enthusiastic encouragement, to Eric and Martin for their love and support, and to Alice for getting her here in the first place and holding her hand all the way.

### **Stephen Fleming (Ashenback)**



Stephen has appeared on the Gaslight-Baker Theatre stage numerous times. His previous roles include Howie Newsome in *Our Town*, Purvis Verdeen in *Red Velvet Cake War*, Other Guy in *Still Life with Iris* and Will Faithful in *Because Their Hearts Were Pure or The Secret of The Mine*. Also he has been Stage Manager for *Dashing through the Snow*, *Sirens*, *USO Tribute Show*, and *The Odd Couple - Female Version*. He also has been a stage hand for *The Chicago Gypsies* and

*Under the Christmas Tree*. Stephen says working at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre has been a challenging and rewarding experience. Stephen enjoys visiting family in New Mexico and Little Rock. He says this experience at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre has been "very rewarding and has been one of the best times of my life -- spent right here at the Gaslight-Baker Theatre. Enjoy the Show!"

### **Will Mercer (Gerard Anderson)**



Will is excited for his debut here at the Gaslight-Baker Theater. Will lives in Austin and works for himself as a Business Development Consultant. He is actively involved in theatre in Austin and Wimberley. Will is also an Instructor at Texas State University in the Communication Studies Department where he has taught for 27 years. Will's favorites roles include Wardell in *Sordid Lives*, Ben Loman in *Death of a Salesman*, Ben Cohen in *Stay*, Inspector Kemp in *Young Frankenstein*, and Thurston, Bertha, Yippy, R.R., Elmer, Leonard, Hank, Rev. Spikes, Sheriff Givens, and Pearl in *Greater Tuna*. Will wants to thank his husband, Luis, for his love and never-ending encouragement. Enjoy the show!

## ~ CREW ~

### Nina Bryant (Director)

Nina has been performing at the GBT since 2011 and is also active in the Austin and Wimberley theatre scenes. Favorite roles include Patty in *Walter Cronkite is Dead*, Latrelle in *Sordid Lives* (Wimberley), Mimi in *An Empty Plate in the Cafe du Grand Boeuf* and Gaynelle Verdeen in *Rex's Exes* and *The Red Velvet Cake War*. She directed last summer's *Chicago Gypsies* and can't seem to get enough of 1930s period drama! She is thrilled to be directing a Horton Foote play and blessed to have such a talented, funny, brilliant and dedicated cast of actors. A Texas State theatre graduate, Nina teaches middle school theatre. She lives in South Austin with her one and only Dave and a grey tabby named Mickey.



### Sondra Schaible (Assistant Director)



Sondra has been actively involved with the GBT over the last five or so years both on and off stage, and this production marks her third time to assistant direct—second with Nina. Sondra thanks her family (husband Chris; their three dogs Ellie, Toby, and Aedan; and her mother, Sharon) and friends for encouraging and supporting her in this endeavor. In addition, she thanks Nina Bryant and the entire cast of *Talking Pictures* for the great times and learning experiences shared on this production. This is truly an amazing ensemble. When not at the GBT, Sondra can be found actively involved with all things Lockhart High School: teaching English, coaching various UIL academic subjects, and assisting with the Spirit groups at Varsity games. This theater is her relaxation from a busy schedule working with students (soon to include two in this cast). Lastly, Sondra hopes you will enjoy the show as much as she has working on it.

### Marshall Davis (Light/Sound Technician)

Marshall is thrilled to be a part of another production at GBT, and to work with Nina again after being a part of the award-winning *Walter Cronkite is Dead*. Since working in theater in high school, 'show biz' has been in his blood. He was the Booking Director and Box Office Manager for a national theater touring company, and has traveled as management with several circuses in the US and Canada. Marshall has designed and installed lighting systems at two area stages.



### Monica Newell (Poster Artist)

Monica Newell is a multi-media artist and musician schooled in film and art in Virginia and Portland, Oregon. Monica and Nina went to high school together where they were both enamored of theatre, art and existential literature. Monica's philosophy: art is open and healing, just like the heart. Visit [monsterart.com](http://monsterart.com) to see some more cool art.



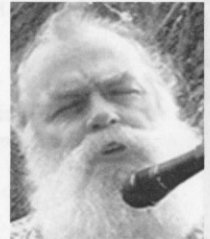
### Alan Krumm (Lighting Design)



Alan channels the Wizard of Oz as the man behind the scenes of the shows. A true pioneer, he has been involved with the GBT since the beginning. Sounds, lights, and explosions are available upon request and for a nominal fee. Just make sure to watch out for his trusty hammer if your cell phone goes off during the show – he can be the epitome of Diva if thwarted! When not at his second home (the theatre), he moonlights as a Quality Manager and CNC Machinist. He is also on the GBT Board of Directors, is the Technical Director for the theatre, and works almost every single show.

### Jim "Bear" Mugford (Master Carpenter)

Bear is a 68-year-old wanderer who found a home here 30 years ago and hasn't left since. He is a navy veteran and semi-retired carpenter who has had music playing in his head since infancy, and has had the gift from the mystery of letting that music out through his fingers and vocal chords. Bear has been a member of the Gaslight-Baker Vaudevillians for the past three years, has performed the intermission music for the GBT's annual *Magic Show* since its inception, and was narrator for *The Christmas Foundling*. His most recent performances include Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol* and singing and playing his guitar in this year's *Vaudeville V ~ The Ned Mulligan Show*. Bear has said, "I look forward to as many more performances as I have in me."



*A great big thank you to the construction crew for building this fantastic set: Eric Beck, Nina Bryant, Tysha Calhoun, Megan Creel, Robyn Gammill, Cindy Jordan, Ellen Massey, Bear Mugford, David Schneider and Deacon Snider.*



*Special thanks to Lori Z. Cordova, Ellen Massey and Nina Bryant for creating the wonderful costumes for this production.*



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For almost a century, The Baker Theatre has played a major role in the cultural community of Lockhart and surrounding areas. By bringing together fine artists with great theatrical works, the Gaslight-Baker Theatre has become an artistic home for actors, playwrights, designers, and directors.

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"Putting the ART in Lockhart."*

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# On Location! Lockhart

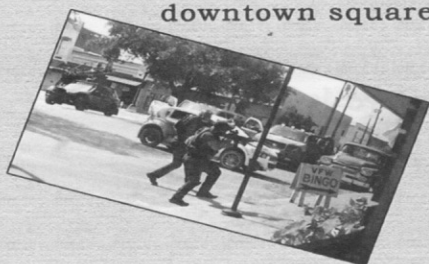


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