

# THE CITY THEATRE COMPANY

proudly presents

# W;t

a play by Margaret Edson

## The Cast:

Vivian Bearing, PH.D.

Judith Laird

Harvey Kelekian, M.D./Mr. Bearing

Craig Kanne

Jason Posner, M.D.

Clay Avery

Susie Monohan, R.N., B.S.N.

Vanessa Marie

E.M. Ashford, D. PHIL.

Kristen Bennett

Lab Technicians/Students/Residents

Mario Silva, Meg Hubbarth Steiner, Barbara Weems

## Setting:

The University Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center  
and other places. Now.

The play is produced with special permission from Dramatist Play Service.

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**“No man is an island, entire of itself...any man's death diminishes me,  
because I am involved in mankind.” – John Donne**



## Special thanks to.

Greater Austin Creative Alliance Austin 360 The Austin Chronicle Austix  
The Austin-American Statesman Mrs. Jennifer Bednorz Now Playing Austin  
Ms. Janice Berkovsky Mr. Greg Brooks Mr. James Tiemann Ms. Karen Loyd  
Austin Live Theatre Mr. Rick Crowley Ms. Mary Ann Crowley Austin on Stage  
Motorblade Postering Service Olden Lighting Costumed Occasions, San Marcos

## 2011 – 2012 Season Tickets.

Annie Zaffrann Bill and Karen Warren Dr. Mark Rumpel Chadwick Otnat  
Mike and Sue Wood Alexandra Wood Clifford Spinac and Steve Lopez  
Michael Meigs W. Michael Murray Susan Stayton Teresa Matlock  
Jonathan and Lourdes Wooley Dan Eggleston Laura Luthy Pat Peterson  
Pam Dozler and Stephen Bayer Rudy Barrera Ed and Jo Ann Farrell Cliff Avery  
Lee Hagan Pat Peterson Sandy Fivecoat Susie O'Neal and Marcy Bernasconi

## City Theatre Contributors.

Rick Crowley Christine Lemp Dr. & Mrs. Ben Berkovsky Carmina Eaton  
Mary Ann Crowley Jennifer Bednorz Ashley Jorge Jonathan and Lourdes Wooley  
Teresa Matlock Lisa Scheps Erik Virkkala Concordia University Mark Banasau  
Rodney & Donna LeRoy Mary Louise Donohoe Arts on Real Theatre  
George & Linda Knapek Paul Strelzick & Patricia Drew Keith and Debbi Anderson

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## WIT Cast and Crew.

**Judith Laird** has appeared in numerous productions for the Wimberley Players, where she served as Artistic Director for six years. She received her PhD from the University of Colorado and is an Adjunct Professor at ACC.

**Vanessa Marie** is a graduate from The College of Santa Fe with a BFA in Acting and a minor in Dance. Vanessa is returning to City Theatre after her first appearance in *HAIR* as Jeannie. Other Roles since college include Betty in *Marvelous Things*, Schwartz in *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Cavale in *Cowboy Mouth*, Hope in *An Infinite Ache*, Lisa in *A Boy's Life*, Trisha in *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, Chick in *Crimes of the Heart*, and Narrator in *The Apple Tree*. A special thank you to Andy, Jeff, the cast of W;t, the wonderful audience for coming out to see the show and to my friends and family for all their love and support. [www.vanessamarie.org](http://www.vanessamarie.org)

**Craig Kanne** has previously appeared at City Theatre in *The Crucible* and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*. His most recent appearances were with Paradox Players in *Guest Artist* and *Getting Betta*. He has also performed with The Chaotic Theatre Company, Different Stages, and Loaded Gun Theory.

**Mario Silva** is appearing in his fourth production at City. Most recently in *Romeo and Juliet* as Sampson (the guy who bites his thumb at the other guy) and Balthasar and the holiday classic *The Reindeer Monologues*. He has greatly enjoyed putting together this very witty and poignant show.

**Clay Avery** is honored to be participating in this wonderfully beautiful and poignant play, but privileged even more to be doing so with such an amazingly talented cast and director. This is Clay's sixth show at City Theatre, having most recently appeared in *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues* and *HAIR*. He is eternally grateful to Jeff, Barb, and Andy for their tireless work on the show. Special thanks go to Clay's parents, friends, and family for their enduring love and support.

**Kristen Bennett** is a drama graduate of St. Edwards University and has been acting in the Austin theatre community for almost seven years. This is her third production for City Theatre having performed in *A Raisin in the Sun* (2010 Iden Payne nomination) and last summer's musical *HAIR*. She is also an Iden Payne winner for *Wiley and the Hairy Man* - Second Youth Theatre and appeared as Joann in Zach Scott Theatre's *Rent*.

**Meg Hubbarth Steiner** has appeared on stage with several companies including The City Theatre (*This Spring of Love*), Zilker Theatre Productions (*Footloose*), and Philadelphia's University of the Arts School of Theatre Arts where she received her BFA in Musical Theatre. Past performances include NYC's Science and Arts premiere *Einstein's Dreams*, *In the Boom Boom Room*, *Into the Woods*, and *This Thing Called Love* with Natalie Weiss. She has also been showcased vocally in a variety of Philadelphia's cabarets, concerts, and dance performances. She teaches creative arts in the greater Austin area. Special thanks to Jeff for his faith and support, this vivacious and generous cast, and her incredible family.



**Barbara Weems** is excited to be making her acting debut! This is her second show as Stage Manager with The City Theatre. Her backstage experience includes stage management for *The Miracle Worker* and Light Board Operator for *HAIR* - both at City Theatre. She would like to thank her awesome husband and sweet mother for all of their support and Jeff "Genius" Hinkle for giving her a chance to stretch her creative abilities.

**Jeff Hinkle (Director)** has been involved in theater for over thirty-five years as an actor, fight choreographer, musician, playwright, and director. He spent ten years as Director of Theater at Concordia University where many of the plays produced received a variety of academic, local and national awards. Jeff was honored to be selected by international stage star and Tony, Drama Desk, and Obie award winner Brian Bedford to direct his work *The Lunatic*, *The Lover*, and *The Poet* for the collegiate stage. Jeff directed *Hair* at the close of City Theatre 2010 - 2011 season for which he is forever grateful. Other recent directorial credits for CTC include *This Spring of Love*, *Hamlet* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (B. Iden Payne nomination for Best Director of a Drama) as well as *The Soldier's Tale* for the Round Top Music Festival. Special thanks go out to all those gifted and dedicated healthcare professionals that continue to work so hard to keep Jeff on his feet. A very special thanks to Shelley Imholte for her compassionate wisdom. To Ophiuchus: peace, love, flowers, happiness, we are eternal. Lastly, but most important, Jeff dedicates all he is and all he will ever be to his beloved soul mate, Viera.

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## *W;t*. What it means to be living.

Cancer. Is there any word in the English language that has such power. Maybe the word love, with all its connotations and permutations rivals cancer in its ability to rivet you and stop you in your tracks. But cancer is, in its singular state of meaning, stark and dreadful. Cancer can swoop into your life and everything changes. The devastation felt by families when a member is diagnosed with any form of cancer, the fear of losing your humanity in the face of the disease or the treatments available to combat it along with the seemingly reckless carelessness of the disease that strikes without warning or mercy, adds to cancer's fearful power. And yet, as *W;t* so eloquently shows, with the choices made in life indeed affecting how life ends, that our humanity is, in all its messy complexity, resolute and beyond cancer's stark and dreadful scope.

January 25th, 2001, my father died after receiving his second dose of an experimental chemotherapy treatment at M.D. Anderson Hospital for an increasingly less rare and extremely lethal form leukemia. He died as he lived, a doctor willing to give all to help others and to advance medical knowledge in the optimistic hope to someday find a cure for leukemia. I held his hand as he died. Life has never been the same for me or my family. Directing *W;t*, being a part of this production, has affirmed for me once again that life, as it is, is beautiful. **Jeff Hinkle – Production Director**

## Production Crew.

Production Director – Jeff Hinkle  
Stage Manager – Barbara Weems  
Costume Design – Lindsay McKenna  
Set and Lighting Design – Andy Berkovsky  
Scenic Painting – Jennifer Cunningham  
Lights and Sound – Ashley DeVille  
Costume Assistant – Lindsay McKenna  
Stage Crew – Jocelyn Edwards  
House Management – Kate Crowley  
Publicity Design – Rachel McGinnis

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## AUDITIONS COMING UP!



**Ongoing thru April**

**March 17 - 18**

Hosted by the City Theatre. Check the website for details

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**Congratulations to City Theatre!!**  
***Voted "Best Theater Company"***  
***Statesman's austin360 A-List 2009 and 2010***

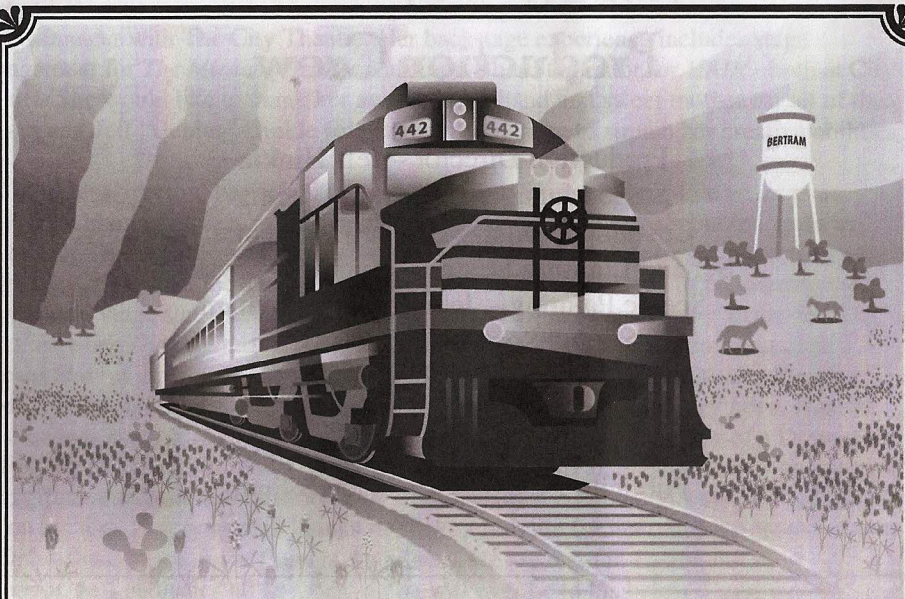
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## This Storyline Has Many Twists & Turns



The Austin Steam Train Association applauds the City Theatre Company and their great season of shows. When you want some entertainment with additional twists and turns, step aboard the train and take a trip down memory lane. Plus, enjoy the many special event trains throughout the year. Schedules, train details, directions to the depot and tickets available at the website.

Plus, buy tickets online and use online code "THEATRE" to **save 10%** on the Hill Country Flyer or Bertram Flyers. Hop online, then hop aboard!

### RESERVATIONS

512-477-8468 • [www.AustinSteamTrain.org](http://www.AustinSteamTrain.org)

A nonprofit volunteer organization.

## City Theatre Production Staff!

**Director & General Manager** – Andy Berkovsky  
**Production Team Leader** – Clay Avery  
**House Manager** – Kate Crowley  
**Business and Technology** – Walter Pohlmeier  
**Technical Advisor** – Daniel LeFave  
**Costume Design** – Lindsay McKenna and Bert Flanagan  
**Publicity Design** – Rachel McGinnis  
**Production Assistants** - Jeff Hinkle, Barbara Cohn  
 Emily Toothman and Samantha Brewer

## 2011 - 2012 Guest Directors!

**Jeff Hinkle** – *Romeo and Juliet, Wit*  
**Karen Sneed** – *Medea*  
**Stacey Glazer** – *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*  
**Perry Crafton** – *Inherit the Wind*  
**Darrell Spencer** – *She Stoops to Conquer*

## What Austin Says!

"CTC's first production *Frozen*...excellent."  
 "*Parallel Lives*...will have you bent over with laughter."  
 "*Crimes of the Heart*...enjoyed this production more than anything else this year." - **The Austin Chronicle**  
 "*Glengarry Glen Ross*...notch up another success for CTC!"  
 "*Alice in Wonderland*...a rollicking musical good time."  
 "*Fences*...theatre not to be missed." - **Austin Live Theatre**  
 "*Nonsense*...A terrific time! Best show I've seen in the Austin theatre scene."- **Austin On Stage**  
 "*Agnes of God*...could expound on the greatness of this show, but words simply wouldn't do it justice." - **Austin Theatre Examiner**  
 "**City Theatre**...a treasure to be found within the realm of Austin theatre." - **Caught In The Act Magazine**  
 "The most affordable theatre in Austin." - **Austin Live Theatre**  
 "City Theatre is adorable." - **Austin's Do512**  
 Best Bets Pick - **The Austin American Statesman**  
 AC Pick - **The Austin Chronicle** Top Event - **Austin 360**  
 Featured Event - **Now Playing Austin**  
 Recommended Event - **Statesman XL**



# 2011-2012 THEATRE SEASON

**Friends of The City Theatre Kick-Off Gala**  
September 30 and 31

**Rumors by Neil Simon**  
September 29 - October 23

**The Miracle Worker by William Gibson**  
October 27 - November 20

**The Eight: Reindeer Monologues by Jeff Goode**  
December 2 - 18

**Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare**  
February 16 - March 11

**Wit by Margaret Edson**  
March 15 - April 8

**Inherit the Wind**  
by Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee  
May 10 - June 3

**Medea by Euripides**  
June 7 - July 1

**She Stoops to Conquer by William Goldsmith**  
July 19 - August 12

**Chicago**  
Music and Lyrics by John Kander and Fred Ebb  
Book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse  
August 16 - September 9

All shows are pending with City Theatre scheduling and royal rights availability

**Great offer on season tickets still available.**

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