

Key Players

Producing Artistic Director: Bonnie Cullum

Managing Director: Whitney Thomas Eads

Cafe Manager: Cedar Stevens

Associate Artistic Directors:

Michelle Fowler-Amato

Heather Barfield Cole

Facilities Manager: Andy Agne

Technical Director: Elaine Jacobs

Box Office and House Managers: Emily Fagan,

Linda Agular, Emily Tindell, Annie Stennis

Cafe Assistants: Joye Ottwell, Treasure Gilmore,

Leon Presley, Katherine Craft

Computer Consultant: Shannon Stennis

ASL Coordinator: Monica Kurtz

Web Master/Photographer: Kimberley Mead

Resident Artists

Andy Agne, Jason Amato, Pixie Avent, Jonathan Blackwell,
Silas W. Bryan, Heather Barfield Cole,

Bonnie Cullum, Mick D'arcy, Christopher Lee Daniels,

David DeMaris, Andrea Dennison, Emily Fagan, Tamara L. Farley,

Steven Fay, Michelle Flanagan, Pam Fletcher Friday, Michelle

Fowler-Amato, Paula Gilbert, Wendy Goodwin, Ann Marie Gordon,

Amber Grundman, Adam Gunderson, JoBeth Henderson,

Matt Hislope, Elaine Jacobs, Content Love Knowles,

Monica Kurtz, Traci Laird, James Laljer, Lorella Loftus,

Gabriel Maldonado, Talena Martinez, Betsy McCann, Briana

McKeague, Kimberley Mead, Alexandra Meier, Josh Meyer,

Ember Nicolazzo, Edna Parra, Kira Parra, Mathew Patterson,

Errich Petersen, Kari Perkins, Leon Presley, Griffon Ramsey,

Elizabeth Rast, Yvonne Reed, John Steven Rodriguez, Jennifer Rogers,

Chad Salvata, Sergio R. Samayoa, Leigh Shaw, Shannon Stennis,

Cedar Stevens, Roy Taylor, Whitney Thomas Eads, Melissa

Vogt-Patterson, Jennifer Underwood, Jonathan Urso, Patricia Wappner

Board of Directors

Lonnie Lepp, Bonnie Cullum, Suzanne McAnna,

Paula Gilbert, Gerrell Moore, Emily Fleming-Nash,

Edna Parra, Yvonne Reed, Corey Hickey, Sarah Bowne

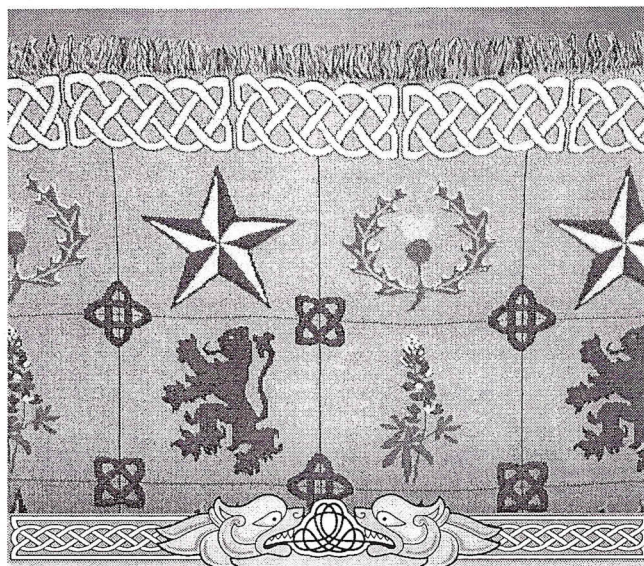
VORTEX

dedicates its 21st season

in celebration of the life of our dear friend,

Shekhar Govind

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Renaissance Austin Theatre
in association with
VORTEX Repertory Company
presents

Good Things

by Liz Lochhead
directed by Karen Jambon

Setting: Present Day, Glasgow, Scotland

Cast

<i>Susan</i>	Lorella Loftus
<i>Frazer, Scuffy Little Man, Tony, Archie, Flower Delivery Man, Insensitive Policeman</i>	Craig Kanne
<i>Scotch Doris, Marjorie, Natalie, Sharp Young Policewoman, Helena</i>	Angela Loftus
<i>David</i>	Michael Hankin

Production Team

Director	Karen Jambon
Assistant Director	Jonathan Urso
Scenic Design	Elaine Jacobs
Sound Design	David DeMaris
Costume Design	Lauren Matesic
Lighting Design	Patrick Anthony
Stage Manager	Adam Gunderson
Asst. Scenic Design	Andy Ange
Floor Manager/Dresser	Marcella Garcia
Light Board Operatory	Jennifer Moore

Good Things has three short acts.

There will be one 15-minute intermission
between Act 2 and 3.

No recording or photography. For the courtesy of our
actors, please turn off cell phones.


Food and Drink from the
Café are allowed in the theatre. Enjoy!

Director's Note

In *Good Things* Susan, like the items for sale in the rummage shop where she volunteers, has been discarded from the life she previously knew. Out of a job and having lost her husband to a younger woman, she's also in danger of losing her relationship with her teenage daughter. Approaching middle age (some would say already firmly entrenched in it) Susan has to sort through the jumble of her life and figure out what are the good things that are worth keeping.

Through Susan's story, Liz Lochhead focuses us on the transience of so many of the good things in life, things that we hold dear one minute and the next minute are changed or gone altogether -- like a home we leave behind, a beloved parent, a child who grows independent of us, a romantic relationship. But good things lost become other good things gained -- a different relationship with the child, a new friendship, a renewed sense of who we are and what we are capable of being.

I would like to thank the amazing cast and crew -- they have truly been my 'good things' during the process of discovering this play. Thanks especially to Lorella Loftus who invited me to be a part of this project and to Bonnie Cullum for her support and assistance. They have both been guiding lights throughout this process. And thanks to Jennie, she's not just a good thing, she's the best thing.



Café Now Open!
Wednesday through Sunday
5pm-Late!
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Good Things

June 12-June 27, 2009; 8pm
478. LAVA or www.vortexrep.org

Production Biographies

Andy Agne (Assistant Scenic Design) was born in Germany, trained as a chef, considers himself a jack of all trades. He works exclusively with The VORTEX as the Facilities Manager and also assists in building sets every chance he gets. VORTEX productions include *Troadas*, *The Shocker*, and *Oceana*. He has an intense love for theatre with all of its facets and moods.

Patrick Anthony (Lighting Design) is an actor, director and designer. He is a recent graduate of Loyola: New Orleans and has since made his way back home. At The VORTEX, he assisted on last year's *School for Scandal* and whirled through the First Night parade. *Good Things* is his first design for The VORTEX and he looks forward to future projects.

David DeMaris (Sound Design) has done composition and sound design for The VORTEX for many years including projects such as: Rob Nash's *Holy Cross* series, *Vitriol and Violets*, *Trickster*, *Wyrld Sisters*, and *Holy Well and Sacred Flame*. He has also been active in performance video and jazz. Upcoming projects include *R.U.R* at The VORTEX and the *Visual Improv Orchestra* at Church of the Friendly Ghost.

Marcella Garcia (Floor Manager/Dresser) is a local poet/performer. Winner of "Best of Week" short fringe at Frontera Fest 2009. She enjoys participating in theatre like it is a team sport. She is grateful to The VORTEX for letting her play.

Adam Gunderson (Stage Manager) has been stage managing and running tech for shows at The VORTEX for 6 years. His credits include *Holy Well and Sacred Flame*, *St. Enid and the Black Hand*, *Scarlet Letter*, *Ghost From a Perfect Place*, *Black Tower*, *4:48 Psychosis*, *Beirut*, *Hamlet* and *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, and Summer Youth's productions of *Wyrld Sisters*, *The Visit* and *Vitriol and Violets*.

Michael Hankin (David) has been a professional actor and director in theatre and films for 35 years and dreams of doing nothing else. Many thanks to Lorella, VORTEX and Karen Jambon for this opportunity.

Lorella Loftus (Susan) Originally from Glasgow, Scotland, Lorella founded Renaissance in 2002 and has produced or co-produced and directed numerous productions for Renaissance, VORTEX Repertory Company, Austin Celtic Festival and Celtic Cultural Center. She has also worked with Zach Scott, Rude Mechanicals, Austin Shakespeare Festival and City Theatre. Most notably she directed Liz Lochhead's *Medea* and William Shakespeare's *Coriolanus* for VORTEX.

Lorella was last seen as Maureen in Renaissance/VORTEX's production of Martin McDonagh's *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (B. Iden Payne award for Most Outstanding Cast). She is looking forward to performing Shekhar Govind's adaptation of *The Wife of Bath's Tale* in 2010.

Angela Loftus (Scotch Doris, Marjorie, Natalie, Sharp Young Policewoman, Helena) is making her second appearance at The VORTEX, after playing The Fool in Summer Youth Theatre's *Wyrld Sisters*. She performed in Renaissance's *MacBeth* at the Dougherty Arts Center, the Austin Celtic Festival, and most recently, in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Lake Travis High School, where she is a student. Angela plays piano and guitar, sings in the school choir, participates in Lincoln-Douglas Debate and loves to dance.

Liz Lochhead (Playwright) is a poet, playwright and occasional theatre director. She was born in Lanarkshire in 1947 and educated in Glasgow School of Art. Her collections of poetry include *Dreaming Frankenstein* and *The Colour of Black & White*. Her dozen original stage plays include *Blood and Ice*, *Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off* and *Perfect Days* -- the "sister play" to *Good Things*. Her many stage adaptations, include versions of Molière's *Tartuffe* and *Miseryguts* (based on *Le Misanthrope*), Euripedes' *Medea* and *Thebans* (adapted mainly from Sophocles' *Oedipus* and *Antigone*). Liz lives in Glasgow and is currently writer-in-residence at, jointly, Glasgow University and Glasgow School of Art. She became the city's Poet Laureate in 2005.

Lauren Matesic (Costume Design), a Dallas native, started doodling pretty dresses when she could hold up a crayon, and started sewing at age 6. A master at the young age of 16, she worked on movie sets in the wardrobe department, including *Ray* starring Jamie Fox and *Midnight Clear* starring Stephen Baldwin. She spent 3 years in LA, graduated with an AA in Fashion Design from FIDM, and continued to work on theatrical productions, at Universal Studios, and building corsets for Farthingales in Santa Monica. She came back to Texas in January, continuing her corset and costume designing career here in Austin.

Jennifer Moore (Light Board Operator) recently graduated from Texas State University with a Bachelor of Education degree in Performance and Production. She is excited to be doing her first show at The VORTEX.

Jonathan Urso (Assistant Director) is pleased to work with Renaissance Austin Theatre for the first time. As a VORTEX company member, he wears many hats: Assistant Director, Stage Manager, Production Manager, Lighting Designer, or Board Op. Other companies he has had the pleasure of working with are ONSTAGE Theatre Company, Different Stages, Buzz Productions, Blue Lapis Light, and the Capital City Men's Chorus, to name a few. He has also directed *Butterflies Are Free* and *Lunch Hour* for ONSTAGE Theatre Company. Many thanks to the cast, crew, Karen, and Bonnie.

Scenic Construction by:

Elaine Jacobs, Andy Agne, Ann Marie Gordon, Jennifer Moore, Melissanda Worthington, CJ Roell

Special Thanks:

CJ Roell, Pam Fletcher Friday, Bonnie Cullum, Lanora Davidson, Lisa Alexander, Austin Celtic Association, Donnelle McKaskle, Celtic Cultural Center of Texas, Ed Miller, Anne Marshall, Scottish Dance Alliance, Heather Gilmer, Loftus family, Heather Barfield, Diane Christopherson, Jennie Underwood, Ann Marie Gordon, Tiffany Slay

Good Things is funded in part by VORTEX Repertory Company, the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



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VORTEX Mission

- to create and present new and innovative performances
- to transgress conventional theatrical forms
- to cultivate new relationships between artists and audiences
- to generate new audiences through outreach
- to foster educational programming
- to anchor The VORTEX, a dynamic and cherished home for the arts of the 21st Century

About VORTEX

- Incorporated 1988
- Artist-owned and operated year-round Cultural Arts Center
- Founder of East Austin Live
- Produced more than 250 different productions since 1988
- Revered around the world as a haven for alternative performance
- Local and national leaders in creating and presenting world premieres, cutting-edge plays, ritual theatre, musical theatre, and opera
- Tuition-free Summer Youth Theatre since 1991
- ADA-Accessible Facility
- ASL-Interpreted Performances
- Pick-your-Price Tickets
- Cafe with antique bar-Beer, Wine, Snacks
- Beautiful, breezy Yard for productions and events
- Salons and Workshops develop artists and new work
- Color-blind casting
- Generating discourse about the issues of our time
- Strong, dedicated company of resident artists
- Dozens of Awards, hundreds of nominations for excellence
- VORTEX has always recycled!