

AUSTIN *Shakespeare*

Noël Coward's Perfect Comedy

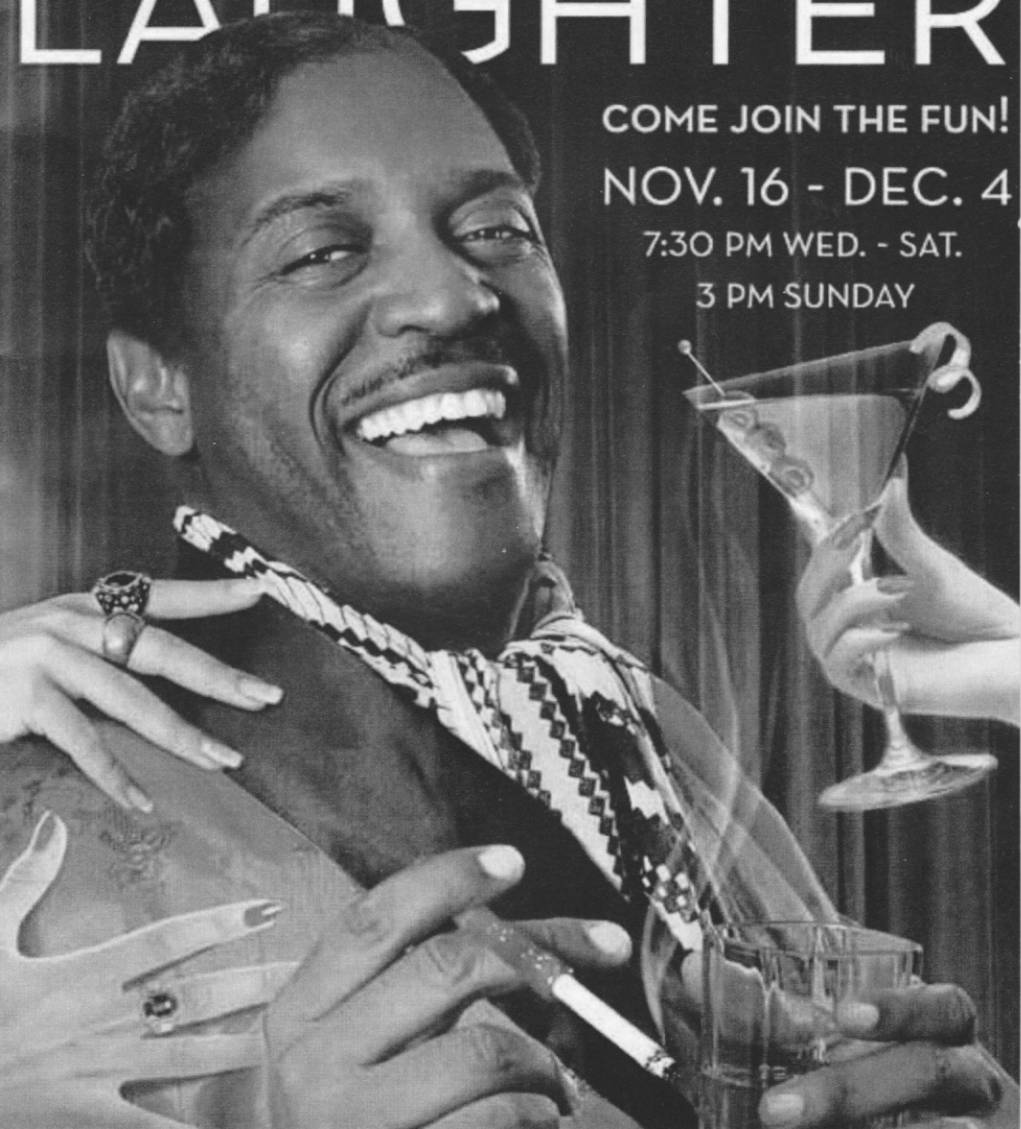
# PRESENT LAUGHTER

COME JOIN THE FUN!

NOV. 16 - DEC. 4

7:30 PM WED. - SAT.

3 PM SUNDAY



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## YOUNG SHAKESPEARE 2017:

*As You Like It*

Performed at the Curtain Theatre, a replica of an Elizabethan Theatre  
Performances: June 15 - 25, 2017



Young Shakespeare our auditioned teen company will perform the romantic comedy, *As You Like It* at the Curtain Theater, a replica of Shakespeare's Globe. A wonderful show for young actors, in it the smartest girl in the world falls for the handsomest guy, but both are banished to the forest of Arden. There, disguised as a man, Rosalind coaches the love-sick Orlando on how to win the heart of his true love. They encounter a band of merry men, silly shepherds and a melancholy philosopher.

Ages 13 - 19

For information, contact: [youngshakespeare@austinsakespeare.org](mailto:youngshakespeare@austinsakespeare.org)

AUSTIN  
SHAKESPEARE

ANN CICCOLELLA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
ALEX B. ALFORD, MANAGING DIRECTOR

present

**PRESENT LAUGHTER**

by Noël Coward

Directed by ANN CICCOLELLA

Scenic Design.....JOHN MAYFIELD  
Costume Design.....BENJAMIN TAYLOR RIDGWAY  
Lighting Design.....PATRICK W. ANTHONY  
Sound Design.....WILLIAM MEADOWS  
Properties Design.....CHAZ SANDERS  
Wig Designers.....TARA COOPER, ALLISON LOWERY  
Production Manager.....MELINDA PARR  
Stage Manager.....LISA GOERING\*  
Assistant Stage Manager.....CAROLINE GASPARD  
Technical Director.....CHRISTOPHER HEJL

November 16 - December 4, 2016

Debra & Kevin R. Rollins Theatre

The Joe & Teresa Long Center for the Performing Arts

Present Laughter is presented by special arrangement with Robert A. Freedman, Inc.

Present Laughter is underwritten by a generous grant from



This production is presented under a Small Theatre Professional Contract with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Managers in the United States. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Art Works. This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Dept.

\* denotes member Actors' Equity Assn.



CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

DAPHNE STILLINGTON.....	CORINNA BROWNING
MISS ERIKSON.....	JANELLE BUCHANAN
FRED.....	TOBY MINOR
MONICA REED.....	ALISON STEBBINS
GARRY ESSENDINE.....	MARC POUHÉ*
LIZ ESSENDINE.....	BABS GEORGE*
ROLAND MAULE.....	STEVE CRUZ
HENRY LYPPIATT.....	ROBERT DEIKE
MORRIS DIXON.....	MICHAEL MILLER
JOANNA LYPPIATT.....	KARA BLISS
LADY SALTBURN.....	JANELLE BUCHANAN

\* denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association

Place: London apartment of actor, Garry Essendine, 1940

Act I Late Morning

Act II Three days later – Midnight

Intermission

Act II Scene 2 - Next Morning

Act III One week later

There will be one 15-minute Intermission

"Austin Shakespeare is thrilled to be part of the Rollins Theater Resident Companies at the Long Center. Our work here over the past nine years has encouraged us to transform the theater in imaginative ways. We are happy to call the Rollins Theater our artistic home."

- Ann Ciccolella, Artistic Director of Austin Shakespeare.



SPECIAL THANKS:

Set Furnishings:

Ambrose - Vin-Taj: Vintage & Eclectic Furnishings

John Mayfield

James Powell Antiques

Costumes:

ZACH

Texas State University

Set Assistance:

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Alcohol Donation:

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Scenic Elements:

Olden Lighting

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON THE PLAYWRIGHT

Noel Coward was born on December 16, 1899 to a lower middle class family in a suburb of London; he started dancing and acting as a child. A voracious reader his whole life, he never attended college. Noel worked diligently to become a composer, poet, short story writer, novelist and one of the history of the theater's most brilliant playwrights. Beginning as a teen, Noel published more than 50 plays. As composer and lyricist Noel wrote hundreds of songs! Some of his most famous are: *Mad about the Boy*, *I went to a Marvelous Party* and *I'll See You Again*. He claimed, "Work is much more fun than fun."

Noel played hard, too; he traveled the world and became good friends with notables from the Queen Mother to Marlene Dietrich. His most successful plays are: *Private Lives*, *Present Laughter*, *Hay Fever*, *Brief Encounter* and *Blithe Spirit*. In the mid-Twentieth Century, Noel's popularity began to wane as playwrights known as the "Angry Young Men" rose to acclaim. Rediscovered in the 60s, he became a celebrated cabaret performer all over the world, especially in Las Vegas. A tax emigr , his knighthood was delayed until 1969. He died in 1973 at his home in Jamaica, where he painted landscapes. In 2006 the Albery Theatre in London's West End was renamed in his honor, The Noel Coward Theatre.

"There are probably greater painters than No l, greater novelists than No l, greater librettists, greater composers of music, greater singers, greater dancers, greater comedians, greater tragedians, greater stage producers, greater film directors, greater cabaret artists, greater TV stars. If there are, they are fourteen different people. Only one man combined all fourteen different labels - The Master."

--on No l's 70th birthday from his friend Lord Mountbatten





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## Season Photography by



### AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE

Founded in 1984, Austin Shakespeare presents professional theater of quality in Central Texas with an emphasis on the plays of William Shakespeare. Bringing to the public performances that are fresh, bold, imaginative, thought-provoking, and eminently accessible, Austin Shakespeare connects the truths of the past with the challenges and possibilities of today. Austin Shakespeare offers fall and spring sessions of "Shakespeare Studio," the organization's professional actor training courses and The Artists Way sessions weekly for adults. In addition, actors, readers, teachers, parents and students are welcome at the "Shakespeare Aloud" year-round weekly reading group. Austin Shakespeare offers a full complement of education programs for students and adults. For more information about the 2016-2017 season, visit [www.austinshakespeare.org](http://www.austinshakespeare.org).

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Austin Shakespeare celebrates plays that love language ... not just Shakespeare, but Stoppard and Schiller and, yes, the comedy of Noel Coward. Our 2013 production of Coward's *Design for Living* brought to life its witty banter topped by the playwright's tender love of people. We discovered Noel Coward as a heart-felt writer, often mistaken for a stuffy one. Now in *Present Laughter* we romp in his all-out comedy!

Like Oscar Wilde, Coward's superb wit won audiences in his lifetime and has eventually become part of the theater's classic repertory. Wilde is often declared a "genius" and Coward was dubbed "the Master" for his wide-ranging talents in creating original works and performing them. Both were homosexuals, Wilde was eventually imprisoned for his flaunting his "indiscretions." Coward sometimes wrote homosexual characters in short stories and made clever "gay" references in songs, but he always kept the reason for his bachelorhood "private." Noel never "came out," even in the 1960s, and said, "There are still a few old ladies in Worthing who don't know."

The comic script is a tribute to the theater business and the often-trying relationships that are forged not just among actors but managers, producers and writers. It may poke fun at the star actor's lost youth, and egocentric foibles, but always with affection for the courage that it takes to get onstage. One thing that is incontrovertible, Noel Coward created masterpieces that live on despite their very specific references in mid Twentieth Century British society. Their characters are captivating, the plots, delightful; and the spirit ranges from joyful to tender.

This Spring, Austin Shakespeare will stage our first production of a play by Harold Pinter, *Old Times*. You might not expect writers from two very different styles to admire each other. However ironically, Pinter relished Coward's precise use of language, and Coward admired Pinter's craftsmanship. Pinter directed a celebrated production of Coward's *Blithe Spirit* in 1976 at London's National Theatre. Coward publicly called Pinter the playwright "successor" to his own use of language. In his later years, Coward wrote to Pinter, "Your writing absolutely fascinates me. It is entirely unlike anyone else's. You cheerfully break every rule of the theatre that I was brought up to believe in, except the cardinal one of never boring for a split-second."



*Ann Ciccolella*

## ABOUT THE CAST



**KARA BLISS** (Joanna Lyppiatt) has won numerous awards for theater and music. Austin Shakespeare: "Dot" in *Sunday in the Park with George*, and "Titania" in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other Austin shows include "Lady Bracknell" in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, "Marian" in *The Music Man*, "Anna" in *Closer*, "Miss Adelaide" in *Guys and Dolls*, "Lulu" in *The Birthday Party*, "Audrey" in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and "Mabel" in *Pirates of Penzance*. In addition to numerous film and commercial credits, Kara is a violinist, photographer, and lead singer with a cabaret/jazz trio.



**CORINNA BROWNING** (Daphne Stillington) making her debut with Austin Shakespeare. Corinna hails from the small town of Channing, Texas. Past credits include "Casilda" in *The Gilbert & Sullivan Society's The Gondoliers*, Fabian in *Present Company's Twelfth Night*, "Aunt Anna" in *TEXAS! Musical Drama*, and "Susannah" in *Carlisle Floyd's Susannah*. She has a B.A. in Theatre and a Masters in Music for Vocal Performance.



**JANELLE BUCHANAN** (Miss Erikson, Lady Saltburn) Austin Shakespeare: "Lady Markby" in *An Ideal Husband*, *Mrs. Whitefield, Man and Superman*. Janelle has performed in Austin more than 30 years at ZACH Theatre, Austin Playhouse, the University of Texas, Hyde Park Theatre and St. Edward's University; including roles in *Doubt*, *August: Osage County*, *Dividing the Estate*, *Steel Magnolias*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *A Delicate Balance*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Bleacher Bums*. She is the recipient of numerous B. Iden Payne and Critics' Table awards.



**STEVE CRUZ** (Roland Maule) last appeared with Austin Shakespeare as "Harry Percy" and "William Brereton" in *Wolf Hall*. Past roles: "Collins" in *Pride and Prejudice*, "Rosencrantz" in *Hamlet* (all Austin Shakespeare), "Bluntshli" in *Arms and the Man*, and "Trofimov" in *The Cherry Orchard*. BFA Acting, Northern Arizona University. Steve was a founding member of Rogue Classical Theater in Tucson, Arizona.



**ROBERT DEIKE** (Henry Lyppiatt) Austin Shakespeare: "Dromio of Syracuse" *The Comedy of Errors*, "Touchstone", *As You Like It*, "Ensemble", *Will Power*. Scottish Rite: *Long Winter's Night In Texas*, *Town Musicians of Mumbai*; *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, "Mistress Page". The Baron's Men's *The Lark* as "Warwick/Beaudricourt"; *Picasso at the Lapine Agile* as "Gaston", Present Company; "Dick Surly, Gentleman" for Hidden Room's *The History of King Lear*, and "Scrooge" in Penfold Theater's *A Christmas Carol*.

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**Benefactors**

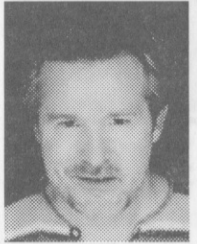
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Shelley Friend & Travis Kessler  
Cheryl George  
Marilyn Good\*





**BABS GEORGE\*** (Liz Essendine) Austin Shakespeare: "Beatrice" in *Much Ado About Nothing*, "Katherine of Aragon" in *Henry VIII*, with Austin Chamber Music. She is a Company member of 25 years at Austin Playhouse, and has worked with: ZACH, Théâtre en Bloc, Penfold, Breaking String, TexArts, St. Edwards and Texas State Universities. She is creator/director of The Actor's School, under Austin Community College Continuing Education, and an adjunct instructor in the Theatre Depts. at Texas State and Southwestern Universities. She has numerous B. Iden Payne and Austin Critic Table Awards.



**MICHAEL MILLER** (Morris Dixon) Austin Shakespeare: "Mitch" *A Streetcar Named Desire*, "Creon" *Medea*, "Jowett/Labouchere" *The Invention of Love*, "de Guiche" *Cyrano de Bergerac*, "Jaques" *As You Like It*, "Iago" *Othello*, "Leontes" *The Winter's Tale*, "Otto" *Design for Living* and "Darcy" *Pride and Prejudice*. Additional: "Bob" *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, "Gareth / Ensemble" *One Man, Two Guvnors*, "Hubert Humphrey" *All the Way*, and "Dan" *Closer* (ZACH Theatre); "Isaac" *Disgraced* (Austin Playhouse); "Tesla" *Requiem for Tesla* (Rude Mechanicals). BFA Theatre (Texas State Univ) and MFA in Acting (UT Austin).



**TOBY MINOR** (Fred) *Twelfth Night* "Antonio" and *Julius Caesar* "Mark Antony" (Present Company); *One Man, Two Guvnors* "Alfie" and *Peter and the Starcatcher* "Smee" (ZACH), *Romeo and Juliet* "Lord Capulet" (Texas State Univ), *The History of King Lear* "Burgundy/Capt." and *The Girl With Time In Her Eyes* "Johnny Decker" (Hidden Room), Nominated for B. Iden Payne "Best Fight Choreography" for *One Man, Two Guvnors*; Falstaff Award nomination "Best Fight Choreography" for Austin Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Winner B. Iden Payne "Outstanding Lead Actor /Comedy" *Qualities of Starlight* (VORTEX). Toby teaches Stage Combat at Texas State Univ.



**MARC POUHÉ\*** (Garry Essendine) *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Wolf Hall* (Austin Shakespeare), *The Mountaintop*, *Satchel Paige and the Kansas City Swing* (Austin Playhouse), *Crowns*, *Spunk* (Spectrum), *Death and the King's Horseman*, *Mr. Burns*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (St. Edwards Univ), *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Exonerated*, *Urinetown* (ZACH). TV: *Friday Night Lights*, *Prison Break*. Film: *Mnemosyne Rising*, *The Overbrook Brothers*. Marc is a 5-time winner of the Austin Critics' Table Award and has a BA in Electronic Media and Theatre (Texas State Univ.)

\* denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association

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Patty Walker in Memory of Anthony Ciccolella  
James Garrison in Memory of Susan Garrison  
Grant & Susan Wood in Memory of Eryk Markham

Austin Shakespeare encourages you to check out **James Powell Antiques**, who graciously provided many of the items on the set of *Present Laughter*.

715 West Avenue  
(512) 477-9939

## ABOUT THE CAST



**ALISON STEBBINS** (Monica Reed) Austin: "Ethel Rogers" in *And Then There Were None* (TexArts), "Ross, Hecate" in *Macbeth*, "Katharine Housmann" in *The Invention of Love*, "Lise" in *Cyrano de Bergerac*, "Phebe" in *As You Like It*, "Bianca" in *Othello*, "Charlotte Lucas", "Mrs. Reynolds" in *Pride and Prejudice*, "Player Queen" in *Hamlet*, (Austin Shakespeare); "Sue Bayliss" in *All My Sons* (Palindrome Theatre). Regional: "Celia" in *As You Like It*, "Goneril" in *King Lear*, "Adrianna" in *The Comedy of Errors*. MA Voice (Central School of Drama, London), Post-Grad Diploma Classical Acting (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts), BA Theatre Arts (University of Oregon).

ABOUT THE STAFF



**ANN CICCOLELLA** (Artistic Director/Co-Director) As Artistic Director since 2007 Ann has directed: *Macbeth* (2016), *The Taming of the Shrew set in Austin 1890's* (2015), *As You Like It* (2014), *The Winter's Tale* (2013), *Bollywood Twelfth Night* (2012), *The Dream* (2010), a Pachuco -style *Romeo and Juliet* (2009) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (2008) for Free Shakespeare in Zilker Park. In the Rollins Studio Theatre, she has staged *Medea*, a Staged Concert Reading of *Sunday in the Park with George*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Invention of Love*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Othello*, *The Belle of Amherst*, *Hamlet*, the world premiere of Ayn Rand's *Anthem*, *Arcadia*, *Design for Living*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Man and Superman*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Measure for Measure*, *Mary Stuart*, *The Tempest* and *Macbeth*. For Austin Shakespeare's "Young Shakespeare" professional program for teen actors, Ann with Nancy Eyermann co-directed *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She directed *The Tempest*, a bilingual *Romeo y Julieta*, and *Julius Caesar* at Richard Garriott de Cayeaux's Curtain Theater. In New York, she directed *The Oresteia Trilogy* at the New York Studio Theatre and did an East Coast tour of *Oedipus Rex* for Renaissance Theater Company. Ann served as executive director for Austin Circle of Theaters (now Austin Creative Alliance), a service organization for Austin's 70 theaters, dance and music groups. At ZACH, Ann served as Stage Director for: *Cabaret*, *Vagina Monologues*, *Full Gallop*, *Closer*, *Master Class*, and *Misery*. For ten years, she led the Renaissance Theater Company as Artistic Director, producing and directing Off-Broadway and along the East Coast; culminating with *Side by Side by Sondheim* and Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. Ann is a graduate of NYU in Dramatic Literature, History of Theater and Cinema. For Austin Shakespeare 2013, Ann directed and produced Jeff Britting's adaptation of Ayn Rand's *Anthem* Off-Broadway in NYC at the Baryshnikov Arts Center. Ann has also directed Sondheim's *Into The Woods* (Zilker Theater Productions) as well as concert versions of *Passion* and *Merry We Roll Along* at ZACH's Kleberg Stage.



**ALEX B. ALFORD** (Managing Director) for the past eight years, Alex has served as Austin Shakespeare's first Managing Director. He worked at Austin Opera for 14 years in a variety of positions, including Director of Administration to Director of Board and Volunteer Services. His previous experience also includes a 12-year stint at ZACH Theatre as Box Office Manager, Volunteer Coordinator, and Project InterAct Business Manager. During this time he was honored to work with Artistic Director Ann Ciccolella. He has served as President of the Board of Austin Circle of Theaters (now Austin Creative Alliance) and Treasurer for the Rude Mechanicals. Alex holds a B.A. in History from the University of Texas, summa cum laude.

THE PRODUCTION & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Lighting Designer.....	Patrick W. Anthony
Costume Designer.....	Benjamin Taylor Ridgway
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Wig Designer for Ms. George.....	Tara Cooper
Wig Designer for Mr. Pouhé.....	Allison Lowery
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Assistant Stage Manager.....	Caroline Gaspard
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Light Board Operator.....	Liz Cordell
Sound Board Operator.....	Lisa Goering
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Substitute Dresser.....	Colleen McCool
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Electricians.....	Katie Anderson, Alyssa Dillard, Noah Kopit
Carpenters.....	David Boss, Chris Conard, Jess Decelle Jeff Gibson, Sydney Hutchison
Scenic Painters.....	Jess Decelle, Sydney Hutchison

\*denotes member of Actors' Equity Association

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Publicity.....	Jess Hughes, Amy Layton, Motley Crew Media



**TARA COOPER** (Wig Designer) is a makeup and wig designer, puppet maker, and was adjunct professor of Theater at St. Edward's University. She designed Cyrano's "nose" for Austin Shakespeare. A diverse artist, her work has been seen in publications from Time to Shape magazines, films featuring stars ranging from Paul Rudd to Willie Nelson, as well *Wicked* and *The Lion King* tours. Her work as a makeup and wig designer is extensive, including many shows for St. Edwards University.

**CAROLINE GASPARD** (Assistant Stage Manager) is delighted to join Austin Shakespeare for her first role in Austin. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre at Southwestern University. While at Southwestern, her Stage Management credits included: *The Fantasticks*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Rumors*, *Bent*, and *Tartuffe*.



**LISA GOERING\*** (Stage Manager) Stage management includes: *Medea*, *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Austin Shakespeare); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Zilker Theatre Productions); *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Penfold Theatre); *The King and I*, *Tommy*, *A Christmas Story*, *Ragtime*, *The Laramie Project/The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later*, *Spring Awakening*, *Hairspray*, *August: Osage County*, *Rent*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Our Town*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Keepin' It Weird* (ZACH).

**ADDITIONAL CREDITS:** Lisa has traveled regionally to work in costume shops, including three summers for the Shakespeare Festival at the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego. She has also served as production manager for Jarrott Productions, and has appeared onstage in *Carousel* and *A Christmas Carol* at ZACH and *The Snow Queen* with Second Youth.



**ALLISON LOWERY** (Wig Designer) is the Wig and Makeup Specialist for Texas Performing Arts at the University of Texas. She is the author of two textbooks, *Historical Wig Styling Volumes 1 and 2*, and the co-author of *Wig Making and Styling: A Complete Guide for Theatre and Film*. She has created wigs for ZACH, Zilker Theatre Productions, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, and many other theaters. She has an MFA in Wig and Makeup Design from North Carolina School of the Arts.



## NOTES ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

### GLOSSARY

"Peer Gynt" – Gary longs to play the title character in Henrik Ibsen's five-act verse play, a Norwegian allegory.

The Athenaeum – Garry's producer, Henry Lyppiatt has recently become a member of this private literary club on the Pall Mall, begun in 1824.

### TITLE OF PLAY COMES FROM SHAKESPEARE

"What is love? 'tis not hereafter;  
Present mirth hath **present laughter**;  
What's to come is still unsure.  
In delay there lies no plenty;  
Then come kiss me, sweet and twenty,  
Youth's a stuff will not endure."  
Song in *Twelfth Night* from Feste, the clown

### "COLOR BLIND CASTING" OR "COLOR AWARE CASTING"

As Austin Shakespeare's artistic director, I often cast actors of color in classical roles. In my youth, I saw James Earl Jones and thought how fabulous he would be in classics like Chekhov. I wanted his Uncle Vanya. It was clear to me that actors of color should be cast in roles they are talented enough to play.

Our Garry Essendine, the star in *Present Laughter*, is Marc Pouhé, who has played Cyrano, Macbeth (twice for us), and Petruccio in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Marc is so comic off stage, audiences deserve to experience his joyful humor on stage! I am delighted to cast him in the role Noel Coward originated himself, Garry Essendine. I look forward to audience comments in Talkbacks about something that was forbidden to actors and audiences: a Black matinee idol in 1940.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM



**JOHN MAYFIELD** (Scenic Designer) is making his debut as a Scenic Designer. He is a local architect specializing in eclectic, contemporary and traditional design for residential and retail projects. His practice also includes garden and interior projects. His work can be seen in Texas and the East Coast. Previous experience includes working with the New York branch of Nordman & Brot, Ltd, specializing in Dutch and English art galleries. He has degrees from Davidson College and The University of Texas at Austin.



**WILLIAM MEADOWS** (Sound Designer) has worked as a composer and sound designer with Blue Lapis Light, Deborah Hay, Forklift Danceworks, UT Dance Department, and Contemporary Dance/Fort Worth. He provided sound designs for Austin Shakespeare productions of *Henry V*, *Cyrano*, *The Invention of Love*, *Medea* and *Wolf Hall*. Meadows' work has been recognized by the Austin Critics' Table Award for Best Sound Design in 2007 and 2010, and with numerous nominations for Best Original Composition, Best Sound Design, and Best Lighting Design.

**MELINDA PARR** (Production Coordinator) Austin Shakespeare: *Wolf Hall*, *Macbeth*, *Medea*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Sunday In The Park with George*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Invention of Love*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *As You Like It*, *Medea*, *Macbeth*, *Design for Living*, *Pride and Prejudice* among others; Other favorites: *Oklahoma!*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Sound of Music*, *Footloose*, *Annie*, *The Music Man*, *The Secret Garden*, *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Beauty and the Beast* with Zilker Theatre Productions; *The Dragon Play* and *Big Love* with Shrewd Productions; *Floyd Collins* and *TOME* with Scott Schroeder Presents.



**CHAZ SANDERS** (Properties Designer) Austin Shakespeare: Young Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth*, *The Invention of Love*. Chaz is a recent graduate of Southwestern University where he received a BA in Theatre. Chaz is also a lighting designer and props designer. Chaz has done props design for shows in Austin: *Sherlock Holmes*, *The Mountaintop*, *Smudge*, and *Incline/Decline*.



**BENJAMIN TAYLOR RIDGWAY** (Costume Designer) is an Austin based costume designer who, after receiving a BA from St. Edwards University, has been working in the field since his graduate training. Immediately after receiving his BA in Costume Design he moved and worked on shows in New York City. Benjamin is the former Head Costume Designer for kidsActing studio. He last designed for Austin Shakespeare in this year's park production of *Macbeth*.

## COMING UP NEXT

### **Old Times by Harold Pinter**

February 15 - March 5, 2017

Rollins Theatre of The Long Center for  
the Performing Arts



**Old Times**, photography by Bruce Malone

This Year in Zilker Park

Free Shakespeare in the Park

### **The Comedy of Errors**

May 3 - 28, 2017

Beverly S. Sheffield Zilker Hillside Theatre

### **Young Shakespeare's As You Like It**

Young Shakespeare presents its ninth year at The Curtain Theatre, Austin's replica of an Elizabethan theater, with Shakespeare's charming comedy *As You Like It*, performed by a teen cast.

June 15 - 25, 2017

The Curtain Theatre

### **Romeo & Juliet** scenes from the play by William Shakespeare

In collaboration with Austin Chamber Music Center's 2017 Summer Music Festival

July 2017

UT's beautiful Bates Recital Hall

With Chamber music under the direction of Austin Chamber Music Director,  
Michelle Schumann

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## MISSION STATEMENT OF AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE

Austin Shakespeare presents professional theatre of the highest quality with an emphasis on the plays of William Shakespeare, bringing to the public performances that are fresh, bold, imaginative, thought-provoking, and eminently accessible, connecting to the truths of the past with challenges and possibilities of today.