## A Groom with a Trew

by E.M. Forster adapted for the stage and directed by Lara Toner







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### Austin Playhouse

Don Toner Producing Artistic Director Lara Toner Associate Artistic Director

presents

# A Room with a View from the novel by E.M. Forster adapted for the stage and directed by Lara Toner

Production Stage Manager

Lighting Designer

Costume Designer

Set Designer

Leslie Ann Turner

Sound Designer Bryan Schneider

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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A Room with a View \* March 23 - April 22, 2012 Austin Playhouse \* P.O. Box 50533 Austin, TX 78763-0533 phone: 512. 476.0084 \* e-mail: austinplayhouse@aol.com www.austinplayhouse.com

#### THE CAST

Claire Ludwig as Lucy Honeychurch
Rebecca Robinson as Charlotte Bartlett
Tom Parker\* as Mr. Emerson
Joey Melcher as George Emerson
David Stahl\* as Reverend Arthur Beebe
Cyndi Williams\* as Eleanor Lavish
& Mrs. Honeychurch

Jason Newman\* as Reverend Eager & Cecil Vyse

Joey Banks as Freddy Honeychurch

\* Member Austin Playhouse Acting Company
• Member Actors' Equity Association

A Room with a View: A Romance in three Acts
Act One: Florence, Italy, Spring 1908
Act Two: Surrey, England, Summer 1908
Act Three: Fall 1908 and Spring 1909

There will be two brief, seven-minute intermissions.

The total run-time, with intermissions, is two hours and 10 minutes.

Photography, recording devices, cell phone use, and texting are strictly prohibited during the performance.

#### PRODUCTION TEAM

S	tage Carpenter	MIKE TONER
S	et PaintingLESLIE ANN TURNER, LARA	TONER, LAURA WALBERG
L	ight Board Operator	LAURA WALBERG
S	Sound Board Operator	RACHEL DENDY
V	Vig Designer	ANNA FUGATE
(	Costume Assistance	DIANA HUCKABY
N	Master Electrician	DAVID WEAVER
(	Graphic Design	TREVOR LEMOINE
V	Website Design	LAURA WALBERG
F	Photography	GRAY G. HADDOCK

#### COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES

Don Toner (Producing Artistic Director) is celebrating fifty years in professional theatre with the tenth anniversary season of Austin Playhouse. He founded Austin Playhouse in 2000. Before that he was Producing Artistic Director of the State Theater Company/Live Oak Theatre for thirteen years. Prior to coming to Austin he was Associate Producer for the inaugural season of the Los Angeles Theatre Center, Associate Producer/Director of the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park for three seasons, and he founded Theatre Center of Mississippi; the state's first Equity theatre. He has also produced and directed at New Stage Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, Theatre Midland and Theatre Four in New York City. For Austin Playhouse he has produced and directed The Lion in Winter, Stop the World, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Trip to Bountiful, The 39 Steps, Jacques Brel...Paris, Misalliance, The Mousetrap, Frost/Nixon, The Fantasticks, A Flea in Her Ear, Dancing at Lughnasa, Amadeus, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Blithe Spirit, Stones in His Pockets, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Don't Dress for Dinner. Inherit the Wind. The Threepenny Opera, Steel Magnolias, An Ideal Husband, The Night Hank Williams Died, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Odd Couple, House, A Man for All Seasons, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Rumors, Enchanted April, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Underpants, Kiss Me Kate, Private Lives, Travesties, The Dead Presidents' Club, Damn Yankees, A Christmas Carol, Copenhagen, The Man Who Came to Dinner, Blues in the Night, The Seagull, Arcadia, Mahalia, and Light Up the Sky. He has appeared in Austin Playhouse productions of Heroes, Afterplay and The Threepenny Opera.

Lara Toner (Director) is Associate Artistic Director at Austin Playhouse and a member of the Austin Playhouse Acting Company. She recently directed Age of Arousal at Southwestern University. For Austin Playhouse she has directed A Christmas Carol, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Turn of the Screw, Age of Arousal, Heroes, It's a Wonderful Life, Dug Up, Women Who Steal, Moonlight and Magnolias, Garden, A Texas Romance, and co-directed Proof, Speed the Plow and Les Liaisons Dangereuses. She has appeared in Austin Playhouse productions of Boeing-Boeing, Proof, The 39 Steps, Misalliance, Frost/Nixon, Dancing at Lughnasa, Blithe Spirit, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Don't Dress for Dinner, An Ideal Husband, The Night Hank Williams Died. House and Garden. A Man for All Seasons, Enchanted April, Rumors, Travesties, The Underpants, The Seagull, and Arcadia. She has appeared in local productions for State Theatre Company, Hyde Park Theatre, Aunt Lulu Productions, and Austin Script Works, among others.

Barry Miller (Production Stage Manager) is a member of the Austin Playhouse Acting Company where he has appeared in Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Amadeus, Inherit the Wind, A Man for All Seasons, The Merry Wives of Windsor, A Christmas Carol and stage managed many productions including The Lion in Winter, The 39 Steps, Jacques Brel...Paris, Misalliance, Frost/Nixon, The Fantasticks, Dancing at Lughnasa, A Funny....Forum, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Inherit the Wind, An Ideal Husband, The Night Hank Williams Died, House, Enchanted April, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Kiss Me Kate, Travesties, The Dead Presidents' Club, Copenhagen and Arcadia. He was a company member of State Theater Company for 13 years where he performed in and stage managed 31

productions. He is also a member of the Hyde Park Theater Company. A thirty year veteran of the Austin Public Library, he holds masters degrees from the University of Michigan and St. Edward's University.

Buffy Manners (Costume Designer) has designed Boeing-Boeing, Stop the World, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Trip to Bountiful, The 39 Steps, Jacques Brel..., Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Misalliance A Flea in Her Ear, Dancing at Lughnasa, Sylvia, Blithe Spirit, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, The Threepenny Opera, An Ideal Husband, A Man for All Seasons, Enchanted April, A Texas Romance, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Travesties, The Fantasticks, The Seagull, and The Merry Wives of Windsor (a co-production with Austin Shakespeare Festival) for Austin Playhouse. She designed all shows under the direction of Don Toner at the State Theatre. She has been nominated for several B. Iden Payne Awards for her work. She has also been nominated for Austin Critics Table Awards for her costume designs for An Ideal Husband, A Macbeth. The Merry Wives of Windsor, Henry V, and Mrs. Warren's Profession. Before getting involved in theatre, Ms Manners started her costume design career in the dance world with Austin Ballet Theatre in the days when they performed at the Armadillo World Headquarters. She is a regular designer for Tapestry Dance Company productions.

Don Day (Lighting Designer) has been designing professionally for over 30 years winning both Austin Circle of Theatre and Austin Critics' Table awards for his work. Don designed light for Austin Playhouse productions of Boeing-Boeing, The Lion in Winter, Stop the World, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Trip to Bountiful, The 39 Steps, Jacques Brel...Paris, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Misalliance, A Christmas Carol, The Turn of the Screw, Frost/Nixon,

The Fantasticks, A Flea in Her Ear, Age of Arousal, Dancing at Lughnasa, It's a Wonderful Life, Sylvia, Dug Up, Amadeus, A Funny...Forum, Blithe Spirit, Speed the Plow, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Stones in His Pockets, Don't Dress for Dinner, Inherit the Wind, Exits and Entrances, Women Who Steal, The Threepenny Opera, An Ideal Husband, The Night Hank Williams Died, The Dead Presidents' Club, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Odd Couple and House. He is currently working with students as Technical Director at Southwestern University in Georgetown. Don holds an MFA from the University Of Texas.

Bryan Schneider (Sound Designer) has also done extensive sound design work and stage management for numerous Austin groups including DA! Theatre Collective, Austin Script Works, MMNT, Naughty Austin/Arts on Real, and Refraction Arts Project. He has also been appearing on Austin stages for over 17 years. Performances include Pageant, When Pigs Fly, Psycho Beach Party, and BatBoy: The Musical (Arts on Real), as well as Grease, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, and Our Country's Good (Mary Moody Northen Theatre). He appeared in, as well as co-produced, recent productions of Jeffrey and Kidnapped by Craigslist.

Leslie Ann Turner (Set Designer) is a scenic designer, costume designer, scenic artist, and actress. Her recent scenic design credits include *The Yellow Boat, Mud, Escape from Happiness, Urinetown, Pinocchio, The Fifth Sun,* and *Back Story,* all at Southwestern University. She has also worked in Austin with Out of Context Productions as the scenic designer for *Shoot/Get Treasure/Repeat, Look Back in Anger,* and *Somewhere in Utopia.* She was recently influenced by her participation in the 2011 Prague Quadrennial and both the 2010 and 2011 Rhodopi International Theatre Laboratories. Leslie is a graduate

of Southwestern University with a BA in Theatre.

Joey Banks (Freddy Honeychurch) last appeared at Austin Playhouse in The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. After graduating from Southwestern University in 2007, he has gone on to work in equity and touring productions around the country and owes every bit of his success to the Austin theatre community. Regional credits include Lysander in A Midsummer Night's Dream with Austin Shakespeare, Leaf Coneybear in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee with ZACH Theatre, Claude in Hair! with San Jose Rep, John in Girlfriend with TheatreWorks, and Pierre in The Madwoman of Chaillot with California Theatre Center. Joseph also played such roles as Tom in The Glass Menagerie, Christopher in On The Razzle, and Peter in Company while attending college at SU and earning his BFA in Theatre.

Claire Ludwig (Lucy Honeychurch) recently moved to Austin from Los Angeles. She has been seen locally in Penfold Theatre's It's a Wonderful Life and GSSA's The Mikado. Other credits include Reefer Madness (Mary Lane), The Cripple of Inishman (Helen), The Importance of Being Earnest (Cecily), The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Rosa Bud), and Carnival (Lili) among others. She graduated from The University of Tulsa with a Degree in Musical Theatre.

Joey Melcher (George Emerson) is a recent Houstonian transplant to Austin. Joey has appeared in various comedy troupes from Guerrilla Improv Comedy Troupe to ComedySportz - Houston to Esther's Follies. Joey graduated from Baylor University Theatre with a B.F.A. in Acting. Favorite credits include: Arcadia, Busytown, Stuart Little, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Main Street Theater); Messenger No. 4, or How to Survive a Greek Tragedy (Cambiare

Productions); Baby in the Basement (FronteraFest Short Fringe 2011); Turn of the Screw (Houston Grand Opera); Much Ado About Nothing (Houston Shakespeare Festival); Freedom is My Middle Name (Ensemble Theatre); One was Nude and One Wore Tails (The Menil Collection); The Beauty Queen of Leenane (Theatre Southwest); Cyrano de Bergerac, Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Baylor University Theatre).

Jason Newman (Rev. Eager/ Cecil Vyse) is a member of the Austin Playhouse Acting Company and has appeared in The Lion in Winter, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Importance of Being Earnest, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, and Misalliance. He graduated from St. Edward's University, where he performed at Mary Moody Northen Theatre in roles including Chris in All My Sons, and Doc in Tracers. Since then he has stayed busy in Austin Theatre with parts such as Rockabilly Boy in Salvage Vanguard Theatre's AmericaMisift, and Mike in Tongue and Groove Theatre's Bomb Shelter. He's also performed at the Los Angeles Comedy Festival and San Francisco Sketch Fest with his sketch comedy group, The Three Actorteers.

Tom Parker (Mr. Emerson) is a founding member of the Austin Playhouse Company and a board member of Austin Playhouse. Tom was most recently seen as Robert in Proof the porters in The Trip to Bountiful, Gaston in Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Bellomy in The Fantasticks, Herr Schwarz/ Baptistin in A Flea in Her Ear and Count von Strack in Amadeus. He originated the role of Harry S. Truman in the 1996 World Premiere production of The Dead Presidents' Club and has played that role in all of the subsequent productions staged at Austin Playhouse. Other Austin Playhouse appearances include A Funny Thing...Forum, Light Up the Sky, The Fantasticks, A Christmas Carol, Damn Yankees, The Underpants, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Rumors, The Odd Couple, The Threepenny Opera, Inherit the Wind and Blithe Spirit. During his thirty years in Austin, Tom has appeared in over seventy-five productions. Tom was the first recipient of the annual John Bustin Award for Conspicuous Versatility presented by The Austin Chronicle. For more information visit Tom's website at: www.tomparkeractor.com.

Rebecca Robinson (Charlotte Bartlett) last performed with Austin Playhouse as Agnes in Dancing with Lughnasa. She was seen most recently in Hyde Park Theatre's reprisal of Marion Bridge and Circle Mirror Transformation and prior to that. three Capital T productions, Sick, Hunter Gatherers, and most recently A Lie of the Mind, which garnered an Austin Circle of Theatre's Outstanding Featured Actress award. Past highlights include Sonata Escondida as part of HBMG Foundation's Love Sonatas at the Long Center, and the role of the volatile Stevie in Different Stages' The Goat, or Who is Sylvia? by Edward Albee, which prompted an Austin Circle of Theatre's Best Actress award. Her latest film credit is in Emily Hagins' My Sucky Teen Romance, which premiered at the Paramount during SXSW in 2011. Rebecca has a degree in Theatre from Hanover College.

David Stahl (Rev. Beebe) is an Austin Playhouse Acting Company member. Austin Playhouse productions include Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The 39 Steps, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Misalliance, Frost/Nixon, The Fantasticks, Heroes, Sylvia, Blithe Spirit, Stones in His Pockets, Don't Dress for Dinner, Inherit the Wind (2008 B. Iden Payne Award), Moonlight and Magnolias, An Ideal Husband, The Odd Couple, House and Garden, A Man

for All Seasons, Rumors, Enchanted April, Private Lives (Austin Critics Table Award), Travesties (Critics Table and B. Iden Payne Award), The Dead Presidents' Club (Critics Table and B.I.P. Award), The Merry Wives of Windsor, Copenhagen, The Man Who Came to Dinner, The Seagull, and Arcadia. He appeared in Eurydice and as Galileo in The Life of Galileo at St. Edward's University and in the State Theatre Company productions of Nightswim and The Glass Menagerie. Other performances include Shakespeare's Richard III (2002 B.I.P. Award), and Yvan in Art (2001 Critics Table Award). David directed The Glass Menagerie for Austin Shakespeare Festival and co-directed Amadeus for Austin Playhouse.

Cyndi Williams (Eleanor Lavish/ Mrs. Honeychurch) is an Austin Playhouse Acting Company member. Austin Playhouse productions include Three Viewings, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Age of Arousal, Dancing at Lughnasa, A Texas Romance, Moonlight and Magnolias, The Seagull, and The Man Who Came to Dinner. Other recent stage appearances include In This House, The Difference Engine for Salvage Vanguard Theater, You Are Pretty for St. Idiots Collective, and The Assumption for Refraction Arts Project. Also an award-winning playwright, her play Dug Up was produced at Austin Playhouse's Larry L. King Theater. She co-directed Proof for Austin Playhouse. She is a Founding Core Member of Austin Script Works. She starred in the independent film Room, which garnered her a nomination for Best Lead Actress in the Independent Spirit Awards, and she received the Karen Morley Award from the American Women Film Critics for her performance. Other film work includes Temple Grandin and Fourplay: San Francisco. By day, she takes reservations for Austin Playhouse.