

Anton Chekhov
UNCLE VANYA

Adapted to the stage by Rod Mechem

The Cast.

Yelena.....**Brianna Ripkowski**

Sonia.....**Julia Salas**

Marina.....**Laura King**

Vasilyevna.....**Jo Rake**

Uncle Vanya.....**Beau Paul**

Dr. Astrov.....**Andrew Fisher**

Serebryakov.....**Matt Flynn**

Telegin.....**Mike Dellens**

Workman.....**Joe Kelley**

Setting: 1900 Serebryakov's Russian provincial estate

**The play is four acts with each act about thirty minutes.
There will be a fifteen -minute intermission between Acts II and III.**

Act I. The garden. A summer afternoon.

Act II. The dining room. Night. The watchman heard tapping in the garden.

Act III. The drawing room. Daytime.

Act IV. Uncle Vanya's room. His living quarters and the estate office.

There are two gunshots during the performance.

Production Crew.

Production Director – Rod Mechem
Production Stage Manager – Matthew Villareal
Costume Design – Christina Little-Manley
Set and Light Design – Rod Mechem
Props and Set Dressing – Andy Berkovsky
Scenic Painting – Jennifer Cunningham
Light and Sound Board Operator – Matthew Villareal
Box and Concessions Volunteers – Kate Crowley
Show Photography – Aleks Ortynski

A special thanks to Will and Marty Lee, Bobby and Anne Manning
Olden Lighting, Cindy Timms, Jo Rake, Lindsay McKenna
Peg in Georgetown for use of the Samovar, The Knitting Cup
and Kevin Smith with Picturebox Studio,

Our Uncle Vanya Contributors

Fred McMillen Terry and Suzanne Burgess Raynona Ham
David Pollard Jonathan and Lourdes Wooley

The 2018 Season

Noises Off Uncle Vanya
All My Sons Bad Jews As You Like It
The Who's Tommy Ruthless! The musical
Playhouse Creatures The Grapes of Wrath

A great deal on season tickets!
\$250 – 2 seats – All the shows of the season.

Show dates on the back of the program.
Get your tickets tonight or send us an email request.

GET YOUR PRODUCER PASS for \$160

Twelve anytime tickets to use at any time during the season

THE CITY THEATRE COMPANY

with the 2018 season opener

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David Pollard Fred McMillen Terry and Suzanne Burgess

Anything to donate? City Theatre is always looking for costumes, props,
furniture, building materials, concessions items. Anything you can give
is greatly appreciated!

The City Theatre
Twice Voted "Best Theater Company"
Statesman's austin360 A-List

The Work of Anton Chekhov.

Anton Chekhov is one of Russia's most important literary figures, and one of the greatest playwrights of modern times. He changed the theatrical world with his plays which include *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Three Sisters*, and *The Cherry Orchard*, works still being performed today. Chekhov once wrote, "The artist must be, not the judge of his characters and of what they say, but merely a dispassionate observer." His literary work has been embraced by audiences throughout the world for their extraordinary insight into the lives of the ordinary. Their lasting appeal lies in Chekhov's talent for exploring universally human situations with grace and dignity. In 1904, he died of tuberculosis at the young age of 44. With alluring wit, his final words were, "It's been a long time since I drank champagne."

Auditions coming up for Joshua Harmon's Austin premiere comedy

BAD JEWS

Check the website for details.

Want to join the City Theatre team?

Stage Crew and Box/Concessions Volunteers needed for the 2018
season.

1868 Samovar and Serving Tray

The Samovar used in the production is available for purchase. A great conversation piece in your kitchen, on your bar, or curio cabinet. It is also functional and has a Sterno that allows you to keep liquids warm.

Talk to one of the CTC staff if you are interested in it.

Thank you for your support!
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Uncle Vanya Production Team

Beau Paul was most recently seen in City Theatre's production of *Christmas Belles* as Deputy John Curtis. Other City credits include Black Will in *Arden of Faversham* and Virgil in *Bus Stop*. Beau has also appeared in Sam Bass Theater's production of *The Crucible*, Different Stages' *Dracula* and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, and Austin Shakespeare's *The Invention of Love*. He studied Acting and Directing at Southwest Texas State (now Texas State University).

Julia Salas is excited to return to theater and make her "serious" Austin debut at City Theatre. Previously, she most enjoyed playing the role of Katherina Minola in *The Taming of the Shrew*, and, since moving to Austin, has worked in improv and sketch comedy with ColdTowne's *Collective Alibi* and The New Movement's *Disposable Income Freak Show*. Julia works as an Executive Asst. in downtown Austin, and enjoys crafts, spending time with animals, and sales at Bath and Body Works.

Andrew C. Fisher writes, directs, acts. He has performed at UCLA, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and The Actor's Studio in New York. Here in Austin, he performed in a play he wrote for FronteraFest at Hyde Park Theatre. Andrew also makes movies. His longest effort, *Seeing Each Other*, won a couple awards at film festivals. Andrew is very excited to be performing in one of his favorite plays of all time here at City Theatre.

Laura King most recently appeared in the Austin Jewish Repertory Theater's *Meshugananukkah*. She regularly performs with the JCC Simcha Readers Theater and the improv troupe the Dog Joggers. In addition, she directed the Paradox Players 2017 production *Clarence Darrow*. She has worked as stage manager/assistant director for the Different Stages productions, *Il Campiello* and *Mrs. Mannerly* and for 2014-2017 Paradox Players productions which included *One Slight Hitch*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* and *The Taming*.

Matt Flynn studied under Peggy Feury (Actor's Studio) and appeared in the Drama Circle Critics Award winning production of *Romeo and Juliette* directed by Milton Katselas. Though his first love is acting his credits include: writing, directing, and producing. Matt is delighted to walk the boards with a truly talented cast under the excellent direction of Rod Mecham. Matt makes his home in Austin with his two beautiful daughters and lovely wife Janice.

Brianna Ripkowski is a BFA Acting graduate from Texas State University. She has appeared as Juliet in Austin Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*, Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and as Tamora in *Titus Andronicus* at Texas State University. Other work includes independent short films in and around the Austin area.

Jo Rake has participated in many aspects of theater: acting (*Thelma*, *All Because of Agatha*; *Sheree*, *Dixie Swim Club*; *Chris*, *Rumors*; *Eleanor*, *Sunrise at Campobello*; *The Director*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* and *Miep*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* are favorite roles), directing, costumes (two Washington (DC) Area Theatre Community Honors nominations), props, even set painting and crew. Jo is a founding member of The Hourglass Players, a "travelling" company that performs in senior independent and assisted living residences and a published playwright.

Mike Dellens has been active in theater for almost ten years and has appeared in several plays around Austin during that time. *Uncle Vanya* is his third show at City Theatre. Previously, he appeared in *Buried Child* and *Othello* at City Theatre. He would like to thank Rod and the cast for their support and friendship. In addition, he thanks his wife Joanne for her continued support.

Joe Kelley is excited to make his City Theatre debut! Previous performances include: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Eurydice*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, and *Spamalot*. Joe wants to extend a huge

thank you to the company for being so welcoming and supportive. One final shout out goes to Rod because he put such an extraordinary amount of love and work into this production, and he doesn't get enough appreciation for that.

Matt Villarreal (Stage Manager) is a second-year student at ACC and has worked with multiple companies around the Austin area. Past productions include: *In The Heights* (ZACH Theatre), *Crimes of the Heart*, *August: Osage County*, *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead* (The City Theatre Company), *Spamalot*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Guys & Dolls* (Summer Stock Austin), *Nevermore*, *Debbie Does Dallas: The Musical* (Doctuh Mistuh Production) and *The Threepenny Opera*, *All My Sons* (ACC Drama). He plans to transfer to Texas State University to further study stage management and has had a great time working on this production

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Rod Mechem (Production Director) holds a BA in Theater from New Mexico State University, and an MFA in acting from the University of Minnesota. He has performed in several shows at City Theatre, including *Buried Child*, and director of the successful *Crimes of the Heart* in 2017. He has also worked in regional theaters in the Mid-West and Southwest

Christina Little-Manley (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be back working with CTC's production of *Uncle Vanya*. Christina enjoys costuming shows (when she is not on stage) and has worked with City Theatre previously on *Buried Child* (costumes) and *Pageant* (wigs and costumes). Christina's other costume experience includes *Cyrano De Bergerac* at the Globe Theatre, Odessa, Texas, *The Christmas Story* and *A Barnyard Christmas* for St. Thomas Church, and wigs and make-up for *Singing in the Rain*. Christina would like to thank Andy and City Theatre for this opportunity, as well as, the cast, crew and director Rod for his hard work and support.

Andy Berkovsky (Artistic Director) is a drama graduate of Sam Houston State University and a three - time Austin B. Iden Payne nominee for Outstanding Director (*The Boys Next Door*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, and *Agnes of God*). Andy began City Theatre in 2006 and has directed over twenty-five productions including *Love Alone*, *August: Osage County*, *Three Tall Women*, and *Into the Woods*. He was honored in 2015 as Best Director by the Central Texas Excellence in Live Theatre Awards. As Producer, City Theatre's 2016 production of *Pageant!* was honored as Best Musical. And in 2017, *August:Osage County* was named Best Drama. Andy is thrilled to work with such outstanding theatre artists and professionals in Austin. A toast to 2018!

Congratulations to City Theatre!

Winner of four 2017
Broadway World Austin Awards

Best Drama – *August: Osage County*
Best Cast of a Drama – *August: Osage County*
Best Lead Actress in a Drama – Robyn Conner
August: Osage County
Best Featured Actor in a Drama – Patrick Wheeler
August: Osage County