

FLORIDA REP



2011-2012

HISTORIC ARCADE THEATRE • FORT MYERS RIVER DISTRICT
ROBERT CACIOPPO, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
PRESENTS



black tie

BY A.R. GURNEY

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STARRING
JOHN FELIX* • ADAM JONES* • CARRIE LUND*
PETER THOMASSON* • HALLIE WAGE

DIRECTED BY
CHRIS CLAVELLI**

SET DESIGNER
RAY RECHT***

LIGHTING DESIGNER
KATE SMITH

COSTUME DESIGNER
JUDITH SKYLES

SOUND DESIGNER
TIM COBB

STAGE MANAGER
AMY L. MASSARI*

ASST. STAGE MANAGER
JUSTIN CORNELL

BLACK TIE is presented by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc., New York.
World premiere produced by Primary Stages, Casey Childs, Founder and Executive Producer,
Andrew Leynse, Artistic Director; Elliot Fox, Managing Director, February 2011.

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This entire season sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Florida Repertory Theatre is a fully professional non-profit LOA/LORT Theatre company on contract with the Actors' Equity Association that proudly employs members of the national theatrical labor unions. *Member of Actors' Equity Association. **Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. ***Member of United Scenic Artists.

CAST LIST

(In Order of Appearance)

Curtis.....	PETER THOMASSON*
Father.....	JOHN FELIX*
Mimi.....	CARRIE LUND*
Elsie.....	HALLIE WAGE
Teddy.....	ADAM JONES*

TIME & PLACE

Present Day. Late afternoon and early evening on a Friday in mid-August. In the sitting area of a resort hotel room near the southern tip of Lake George in the lower Adirondack Mountains.

BLACK TIE will be performed without an intermission.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

A.R. GURNEY (Playwright) was born in 1930 in Buffalo, New York. He graduated from Williams College in 1952, served as an officer in the Navy, and afterwards attended the Yale School of Drama. For many years, he taught literature at M.I.T., but moved to New York in 1982 to devote more time to writing for the theatre. Some of his plays include: *Sylvia, Scenes from American Life, The Dining Room, The Middle Ages, The Cocktail Hour, Love Letters, Later Life, Far East, Ancestral Voices, Big Bill, and Mrs. Farnsworth*. Gurney is the recipient of many awards, notably a Drama Desk Award in 1971, a Rockefeller Award in 1977, and two Lucille Lortel Awards in 1989 and 1994. He has also received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the New England Theatre Conference. He is the husband of one, father of four, and grandfather of six.



Actors' Equity Association (AEA) was founded in 1913 as the first of the American Actor unions. Equity's mission is to advance, promote and foster the art of theatre as an essential component of our society. Today, Equity represents more than 40,000 actors, singers, dancers and stage managers working in hundreds of theatres across the United States. Equity members are dedicated to working in the theatre as a profession, upholding the highest artistic standards. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits including health and pension plans for its members. Through its agreement with Equity, this theatre has committed to the fair treatment of the actors and stage managers employed in this production. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. For more information, visit www.actorsequity.org.

*The Actors & Stage Manager employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



The Director is a member of the **STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.



The Designers at this Theatre are Represented by **United Scenic Artists • Local USA 829** of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

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CREATIVE TEAM



JOHN FELIX* (*Father*)

last appeared at Florida Rep in the 10th anniversary reprise of *Breaking Legs* and is happy to be back again under the direction of Chris Clavelli, who

previously directed him in *The Foreigner*. Other roles at the Rep include *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Greetings!*, *ART*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and many more. He recently appeared in *Little Women* opposite Donna McKechnie at TheatreZone in Naples. Other recent stage credits include: *Cabaret* (Herr Schultz, Maltz Jupiter Theatre); *The Fantasticks* (Bellomy, TheatreZone); *Candida* (Mr. Burgess, Palm Beach Dramaworks); and, with Greenbrier Valley Theatre, in a tour of *Breaking Up Is Hard to Do*, featuring Neil Sedaka's music. His extensive theatre credits in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and his appearances on many Florida stages have earned him multiple Carbonell Award nominations and four "and the award goes to's." John has been a member of Actors' Equity Association for many years and is active in local union matters.



ADAM JONES* (*Teddy*)

is elated to return to Florida Rep for his third season on stage and as volunteer coordinator. A Cincinnati native, Adam graduated from Ohio University with a BFA in theatre performance.

He was last seen in season thirteen's heartwarming comedy *King o' the Moon* as Georgie Pazinski. You may also recognize him from Florida Rep's nationally acclaimed production of *You Can't Take It With You*. Journeys as an actor have taken Adam many places from a *Spelling Bee* on Sanibel Island to embodying the divine Salvador Dali in Prague, Czech Republic. These adventures would not be possible without the love and support of his devoted family.

CARRIE LUND* (*Mimi*) has been the Associate Producer with Florida Rep since its inception, and has acted in over 90 productions in Southwest Florida. Selected credits include



Bedroom Farce, *God of Carnage*, *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *Rumors* (2002, 2011), *August: Osage County*, *Sylvia*, *Noises Off* (1998, 2010), *Boeing-Boeing*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Last Romance*, *Alone*

Together, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Enchanted April*, *Rabbit Hole*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *All My Sons*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and *Private Lives*.

Her work as a voiceover artist can be heard on NPR and industrial DVDs. She founded the Pirate Playhouse on Sanibel Island in 1984, served on the theatre faculty at Florida Gulf Coast University, produced theatre companies in her hometown of Erie, PA and New York City, performed in regional theatres in NY, VT and NC, as well as the Three River Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh Playhouse and American Ibsen Theatre. In 1987, the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce awarded her the Distinguished Citizen Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997. She and her husband, Robert Cacioppo, enjoy empty nesting with Matt at UCF and Julia at FSU. To my father who was dashing in a *Black Tie* and who added that needed punctuation to life's long, incoherent, ungrammatical sentence.



PETER THOMASSON* (*Curtis*)

last appeared at Florida Rep in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* as Freddie Filmore and in *Rumors* as Glenn Cooper. He has appeared at Sarasota's Banyan Theatre in

Becky's New Car, *Ghosts* and *Retreat from Moscow*. At home, in Atlanta, he recently appeared as Oscar Hubbard in Theater in the Square's Suzi Award nominated *The Little Foxes* and *On Golden Pond*. In 2010 he was named Actor of the Year for his work in *The Men of Mah Jong* and *The Sunset Limited*. He worked for 17 seasons at NC's State Theatre, The Flat Rock Playhouse. Favorite Florida Rep roles include Bob Ewell in *To Kill A Mockingbird* and File in *The Rainmaker*.

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CREATIVE TEAM



HALLIE WAGE (Elsie)

is excited to be joining Florida Repertory Theatre's 2011-2012 Season. She was last seen on the Florida Rep Stage in *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*.

Past roles include Viola (*Twelfth Night*), Lucy (*Dracula*), Greek Chorus (*Burial at Thebes*), Sister James (*Doubt*) and Pauline (*West Side Story*). At last year's American College Theatre Festival, Hallie was selected to represent Region IV in the Irene Ryan Competition at the National Festival in Washington DC. She recently received her B.F.A in Acting from the University of Central Florida.



TAYLOR MURPHY HALE (u/s Teddy)

is very excited to be a part of Florida Repertory's company this year. He was last seen on the Florida Rep Stage as the WFRT stage manager in *It's a Wonderful Life:*

A Live Radio Play. Taylor is a recent graduate of Ashland University (Ashland, Ohio) where he majored in Theatre and minored in music. Taylor has been seen in summerstock productions at The Huron Playhouse and The University of Findlay SummerStock. There he played roles like Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Jimmy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Hugo in *Bye Bye Birdie*, and Robert in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. In school Taylor played roles like Bobby Strong in *Urinetown!*, Franz/Dennis in *Sunday in the Park with George*, Dickon in *The Secret Garden*, Joe in *The Spitfire Grill* and more. Taylor would like to thank his family for all of their love and support.

CHRIS CLAVELLI (Director)** is the Associate Artistic Director of Florida Repertory Theatre. He was honored with an Alan Schnieder Directing Award nomination through Theater Communications Group. He was a founding member and co-artistic director of The Neighborhood Theatre for Kids in Brooklyn. Directing credits: At Florida Rep: *Sideman*, *Trying*, *Rounding Third*, *Alone Together*, *The Foreigner*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Santaland Diaries* and *The Lady with All The Answers*. The

Virginia Stage Company: *Irma Vep*, *Vaudeville* and *Rough Crossing*; Off Square Theatre: *All in the Timing*, *Stones in His Pockets*; Two River Theatre Company: *House of Blue Leaves* and 16 productions for The Depot Theatre, most recently *The Drawer Boy* starring John Christopher Jones. Other theatres: Theatre South Carolina, the New York Fringe Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, (*Solo Mio*), the Southwest Florida Symphony, Symphony Space, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Chenango River Theatre, Riverside Theatre, Neighborhood Theatre of Kids, and the famed Actors Studio. As an actor he has worked here at Florida Rep in 14 productions and all over the country. He is the recipient of both the Carbonell and Barrymore Awards. His one-man play, *A Little More Than You Wanted to Spend* recently played Theatre South Carolina and is slated for a New York production in the fall. For Jay and Lee.

TIM COBB (Sound Designer) is excited to return for his third season at Florida Repertory Theatre. This is his second time designing sound here, having previously served as the sound designer for *It's a Wonderful Life*. His usual job at Florida Rep is working in the scenic studio as Lead Carpenter building shows such as *Rumors* and *The Santaland Diaries*. Tim is always excited to branch out and work in different aspects of theatre production, having also worked in electrics and, once, in costume construction. Hopefully, he will never be allowed to do that again.

RAY RECHT* (Set Designer)** is delighted to be back at Florida Rep. Broadway designs include *The Flowering Peach*, *Trick, Slab Boys*, and *The Babe*, several national tours, and over 20 Off-Broadway productions, such as *Collected Stories*, *Marc Salem's Mind Games*, *Mrs. Klein* and sets for the Drama Desk Awards Shows. He has designed over 200 shows for many regional theaters, such as Asolo Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Florida Stage Co., Center Stage and George Street Theatre. He has designed several feature films, and was an art director or assistant art director on many others. He has worked extensively in television, including: NBC, Fox, PBS, ABC, and over 150 TV commercials and many commercial parodies for *Saturday Night Live*. Internationally he designed for The Wien Staatsoper Ballet, The Stratford Festival, Ontario and The Manitoba

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CREATIVE TEAM

Theatre Centre. He is a Professor of Theatre at Marymount Manhattan College in New York City.

JUDITH SKYLES (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be working with Florida Repertory Theatre on this spectacular play. She hails from a small Hawaiian island and is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Florida and the Rep have become a second home to her, and she is very happy to be back for a second season, this time as Florida Rep's Assistant Costume Designer, working with a magnificent production staff and team of guest artists. She held the costume intern position at Florida Repertory Theatre last season, and served as wardrobe supervisor for *Noises Off*, *The 39 Steps*, *Sylvia*, *Gaslight*, *August: Osage County*, *King o' the Moon*, *The Devil's Music*, and more. She recently worked in New York as a Wardrobe Supervisor and Assistant Costume Designer for *Biloxi Blues*, *The Buddy Holly Story*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Chicago*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Shirley Valentine* (with Ms. Loretta Swit), and more. Judith is looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year.

AMY L. MASSARI* (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back, for her second season as Florida Rep's resident stage manager. Amy has been a proud member of Actor's Equity Association for the past 21 years, working in some of the country's finest regional theatres: the Alley Theatre (Houston, TX), the Dallas Theatre Center (Dallas, TX), Stage-West (Springfield, MA), The Pioneer Memorial (Salt Lake City, UT) and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (Boulder, CO). Among her favorite Florida Rep Productions are: *August: Osage County*, *Sylvia*, and *God of Carnage*. Amy has been happily married to her husband of fifteen years, Michael. Michael teaches drama at North Fort Myers Academy

for the Arts and is a terrific father to their children Jesse Cheyenne, eleven, and Caleb Dakota, nine. "Mommy LOVES you!"

KATE SMITH (Lighting Designer) is happy to return for her third season at Florida Rep. She is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). She served as the Sound and Lighting Designer for Florida Rep's studio productions of *Tru*, *The Year of Magical Thinking*, *The Santaland Diaries* (2009, 2010 & 2011), and *The Lady with All the Answers*, as well as last seasons main stage production of *King o' the Moon*. Select lighting design credits include: *Picnic* (2009 KC/ACTF Region II Barbizon Award in Lighting Design for IUP), *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* with Florida Rep and *Evil Dead the Musical* for Keystone Rep. Select sound design credits include: Florida Rep's *Red*, *Bedroom Farce*, *God of Carnage*, *Rumors*, *Sylvia*, *August: Osage County*, *Trying* and *You Can't Take It With You*. Kate has also worked for Brevard Music Center, NC as Master Electrician, as the light board operator at Flat Rock Playhouse, NC. This past summer she worked as the Lighting Designer for IUP's Keystone Rep and part of the staff for the Footlight Players.

JUSTIN CORNELL (Assistant Stage Manager) is a stage management and production intern at Florida Rep, where he was previously ASM for *Bedroom Farce* and *It's A Wonderful Life*. He is grateful for this opportunity to learn from and work alongside established theater professionals. Selected recent SM credits: *Bongani* at Manhattan Theatre Source (FringeNYC '11), *Wanderlust* at the Robert Moss Theatre (NY), *Medea & Medea/For Medea* at Incubator Arts (NY), *Taming of the Shrew* at Ramapo College (NJ), *At Sixes And Sevens* at the Gene Frankel Theatre (NY), and *Two Girls* at the Connelly Theatre (NY).

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