

# FLORIDA REP



2011-2012

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

PRESENTS

# *The Year of* Magical Thinking



BY JOAN DIDION

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*Nu Image Cleaners*  
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STARRING

SARA MORSEY\*

DIRECTED BY  
MAUREEN HEFFERNAN\*\*

SET DESIGNER  
CHRISTOPHER T. SIMPSON

LIGHTING & SOUND DESIGNER  
KATE SMITH

COSTUME DESIGNER  
JUDITH SKYLES

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
JULIE A. RICHARDSON\*

*THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.  
Originally Produced by: Scott Rudin, Roger Berlind, Debra Black, Daryl Roth, The Shubert Organization.  
Executive Producers: Stuart Thompson, John Barlow.

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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

Joan Didion.....SARA MORSEY\*

## TIME & PLACE New York City, 2007.

*The Year of Magical Thinking will be performed without an intermission.*

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

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**JOAN DIDION (Author & Playwright)** is an award-winning and best-selling novelist, essayist and screenwriter. A California native and graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, Didion's career began as a researcher and writer for *Vogue Magazine*. Her first novel, *Run River*, was published in 1963, and though it sold poorly, it led to another novel. Didion's collected essays on 1960's counterculture, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*, were published in 1968 to critical acclaim, and were lauded as one of the signature works of the decade. Her other works include *Play it As it Lays*, *The White Album*, *Salvador*, *Miami*, *A Book of Common Prayer*, *Democracy*, *The Last Thing He Wanted*, *After Henry*, *Political Fictions*, and *Where I Was From*. Together with her husband, writer John Gregory Dunne, she co-wrote screenplays for *Panic in Needle Park*, the 1976 remake of *A Star is Born* with Brbara Streisand, *True Confessions*, and *Up Close and Personal* with Robert Redford. Her memoir, *The Year of Magical Thinking*, received the National Book Award for Nonfiction in 2005, and in 2007 she adapted it for the stage. Her most recent work, *Blue Nights*, was published in the fall of 2011, and is a continuation of her journey through love and loss. She lives in New York City.



**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](http://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 Year  
of  
Magical  
Thinking*

## CREATIVE TEAM



### **SARA MORSEY\* (Joan)**

most recently appeared with Florida Repertory Theatre as Violet Weston in last season's critically acclaimed production of *August: Osage County*, and was also seen as Amanda

in *The Glass Menagerie* (2008) and opposite David S. Howard in *The Last Romance* (2009). A long-time associate artist with The Hippodrome Theatre, Sara has been a regional theatre actor for over twenty-five years. Other theatre affiliations include Actor's Theatre of Louisville, American Stage, New Harmony Theatre, Kentucky Repertory Theatre (formerly Horse Cave Theatre), Playhouse on the Square, American Shakespeare Center and the Kentucky and Indiana Shakespeare Festivals. International: Edinburgh Festival Fringe: Mary Hausch's *An Enchanted Land* (one woman show, pick of the fringe), Ani Collier's *Sex/Female* at the National Palace of Culture in Sofia, Bulgaria. Independent Film: *The First of May* with Julie Harris, *The Votive Pit*, *Borderlines*, *Ashley Lynn*. Professional Narrator, Library of Congress Talking Books. Master of Fine Arts in Acting, University of Louisville. Sara is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

**MAUREEN HEFFERNAN\*\* (Director)** is thrilled to be returning to her favorite Florida Artistic Home for her 10th show, including two of Florida Rep's recent nationally acclaimed productions: *Sylvia* in 2011 and *Dancing at Lughnasa* in 2009, as well as *Opus*, *Doubt*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Art*, *Master Class* and *All My Sons*. Over the past 25 years, Maureen has earned increasing recognition for her directing abilities that include more than 80 professional theatrical productions nationally and at theaters that include John Houseman Theater, Ensemble Studio Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, PlayMakers Repertory Company, Pennsylvania Stage Company, and Florida Repertory Theatre, among others. She is the director of Arts and Education for Young Audiences New Jersey. Maureen also served as Artistic Director for George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, and Acting Artistic Director for the Delaware Theater Company in Wilmington. She was also a founding member of the Crossroads Theater Company in New Brunswick. A respected educator, lecturer, and workshop leader in theater arts and arts administration throughout the New Jersey/New York area,

Maureen has received a New Jersey Governor's Arts Award as a Distinguished Teaching Artist. Maureen has worked extensively in Theater for Young Audience programs adapting, directing and authoring numerous productions. She currently serves on the faculty of the School of Arts & Communication at The College of New Jersey. Maureen holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theater from Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Theatre from Calumet College in Indiana. Maureen dedicates her work on this piece to John Bartis, a great friend to the theatre and a great mentor to her during each show at Florida Repertory Theatre. "John, we will miss you at Dress Rehearsal."

### **JULIE A. RICHARDSON\* (Production Stage Manager)**

is happy to be back at Florida Rep, where this will be Julie's 2nd show this season. She has worked extensively in the southeastern US for many years—from Florida to Kentucky as well as branching out to Ohio and Texas. Most recently she was a stage manager at Theater Emory at Emory University in Atlanta, GA for a production of *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*. She is also the Artistic Director for the outdoor drama *Horn in the West* in lovely Boone, NC. Julie has worked as production stage manager for the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Seaside Music Theater, Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, American Stage, *The Lost Colony*, Blue Jacket and others and has served as staff stage manager at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Alliance Theater, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Flat Rock Playhouse, Theatre On The Square, Theater Emory and Dallas Theater Center. New plays/premiers—*Stand By Your Man*, *The Tammy Wynette Story* (including the Ryman Auditorium and Bass Performance Hall), *Tin Pan Alley Rag* (2 Carbonells), *Mrs. Klein*, *One Flea Spare*, *Shooting Craps*, *Moby Dick! The Musical*, *The Christmas Bus* and many others while working with the Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville. She served as Auditions Director for the Southeastern Theatre Conference for many years and is a proud member of the Actors' Equity Association. 'If you find yourself smiling and applauding this show, please tell five friends and pass the word and thank you for supporting the arts.'

### **CHRISTOPHER T. SIMPSON (Set Designer)**

is returning for a fourth season as Technical Director with Florida Repertory Theatre. His scene designs in Florida Rep's Studio



Theatre include *The Lady with all the Answers*, *The SantaLand Diaries* (2010 & 2011), and the upcoming production of *Tru*. Other design work includes: *Burn This*, *Cinderella*, *Stone Soup*, *Deathtrap*, *Billy Goat & Gruff the Musical*, *Horn in the West*, and most recently *The Imaginators*, *Thomas Edison: Fire of Genius*, *How I Became a Pirate*, and *Amelia Earhart* for Florida Rep's Children's Theatre Series. Chris' theatrical career began with the Gainesville Theatre Alliance in Gainesville, Georgia, and includes work across the state of Georgia with Georgia Shakespeare, Atlanta Puppetry Center for the Arts, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, and Atlanta Classical Theatre. Before coming to Florida Rep, Chris spent six years as Assistant Technical Director with the State Theatre of North Carolina, Flat Rock Playhouse, under the guidance of Technical Director, Bruce R. Bailey. Much love to his family, his friends, and to all the production team for their love and dedication to live theatre. Chris would especially like to thank his new fiancé, Claire Guy, for her love and understanding his late nights at the shop and long weekends in the office.

**JUDITH SKYLES (Costume Designer)** is thrilled to be working with Florida Repertory Theatre on this inspirational 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.

**KATE SMITH (Lighting & Sound 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). Most recently she served as the lighting designer for Florida Rep's production of *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, and the lighting and sound designer for *The Santaland Diaries*. Other lighting design credits include: *Picnic* (2009 KC/ACTF Region II Barbizon Award in Lighting Design for IUP), *The Lady with All the Answers*, and *King o' the Moon* with Florida Rep and *Evil Dead the Musical* for Keystone Rep. Sound Design credits include Florida Rep's *God of Carnage*, *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.



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