

FLORIDA REP

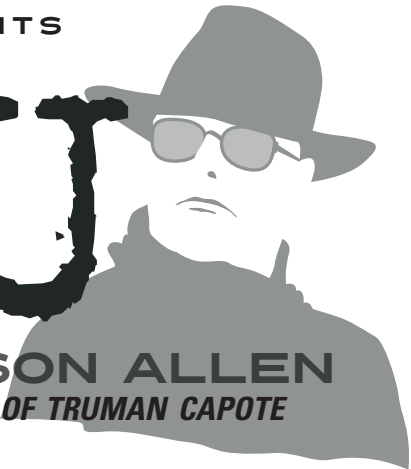


2011-2012

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

PRESENTS

TRU



BY JAY PRESSON ALLEN
FROM THE WORDS & WORKS OF TRUMAN CAPOTE

SPONSORED BY
*Black Tie Tuxedos and
The Southwest Florida Reading Festival*

STARRING
MARK CHAMBERS*

DIRECTED BY
JASON PARRISH

SET DESIGNER
CHRISTOPHER T. SIMPSON

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
AMY L. MASSARI*

COSTUME DESIGNER
ROBERTA MALCOLM

LIGHTING & SOUND DESIGNER
KATE SMITH

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
DREW LaMOTT

TRU is presented by special arrangement with with Samuel French, Inc.
TRU is being presented by special arrangement with the Estate of Truman Capote, Alan U. Schwartz, Executor

2011-12 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS



The Fred & Jean Allegretti Foundation • Bruce & Janet Bunch • Cheryl & David Copham
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This entire season sponsored in part by 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

Truman Capote.....MARK CHAMBERS*

Voice-Over Artists
Julianne Avolio, Viki Boyle,
Sara Morsey, & Jackie Schram

TIME & PLACE
Truman Capote's Apartment in The U.N. Plaza, on New York's East Side.

ACT I
Early in the evening on December 23, 1975.

TRU will be performed with a 15-minute intermission.

ACT II
The next evening. Christmas Eve, 1975.

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

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

JAY PRESSON ALLEN (Playwright) is an American playwright and screenwriter who primarily adapted novels for movies and plays. Ms. Allen started her career as an actress, but she quickly gave up acting for writing. She published her first novel, *Spring Riot*, in 1948 and then moved into writing for television during the 1950's. Her big break came in 1966 with her stage adaptation of Muriel Spark's Novel *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. The London production, starring Venessa Redgrave, won rave reviews. The play brought Ms. Allen continued success in 1968 with a Tony-winning Broadway production starring Zoe Calwell, and the 1969 screen adaptation starring Dame Maggie Smith, which won an Academy Award for best actress. Ms. Allen had a hand in creating some of the most remembered roles for women in the late 1960's and 1970's such as Sally Bowles (Liza Minnelli), Ann Stanly (Liv Ullmann) and Esther Hoffman (Barbra Streisand). Over the course of her career she wrote many stage plays including: *Forty Carats*, *The Big Love*, and *Tru*. She also wrote numerous screenplays including: *Cabaret*, *The Barrowers*, *Funny Lady*, and *Lord of the Flies*. Ms. Allen worked in screenwriting during a time when women were scarcely found in the profession. For this she won the Women in Film Crystal Award in 1982, which is given to outstanding women who, through their endurance and the excellence of their work, have helped to expand the role of women within the entertainment industry.

*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.



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.



Florida Rep is a proud member of the Florida Professional Theatres Association.



CREATIVE TEAM



MARK CHAMBERS* (*Truman Capote*) made his Florida Rep debut in 2006 as Oscar Wilde (and other roles) in *Sherlock Holmes and the West End Horror*. Now a permanent member of the

Florida Rep ensemble, Mark has been seen in *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Rumors*, *King o' the Moon*, *August: Osage County*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *Breaking Legs*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *Rounding Third*, *Scapino*, *The Rainmaker* and *Enchanted April*. His work with other theatres includes Actors Theatre of Louisville, Portland Center Stage, City Theatre, 42nd Street Moon, American Stage, Charleston Stage Company, and extensively with Daytona's Seaside Music Theatre and the Hippodrome State Theatre in Gainesville, Florida. Mark's film work includes the recently released *Baby Jane?* and *I Want to Get Married*, and he can also be heard on the CD, "Veil of Tears", by the Swiss group, MGY. Mark is the 2006 Florida Theatre Conference honoree for Distinguished Career in Professional Theatre.

JASON PARRISH (Director) is in his seventh season as Associate Director with the Florida Repertory Theatre, and has appeared in more than 15 productions including *The Santaland Diaries*, *Bedroom Farce*, *King o' the Moon*, *Noises Off*, *The Big Bang*, *Relatively Speaking*, *The Last Romance*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *Greetings!*, *Moon Over Buffalo* and *Broadway Bound*. TRU marks Parrish's directing debut in Florida Rep's regular season. His other directing credits include *How I Became a Pirate*, *The New Kid*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, and *The Mischief Makers* with Florida Rep's Children's Theatre Series; Neil Labute's *The Shape of Things* as Florida Rep's 2008 Intern Showcase; *It Runs in the Family* (Sanibel's Strauss Theatre), and *Forbidden Broadway* (Broadway Palm). His work with other theatres includes: Actors' Playhouse (Miami), Riverside Theatre (Vero Beach), Capital Rep (Albany, NY), Theatre by the Sea (Rhode Island), and The New York Philharmonic's Young People's Concert Series at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall. Thanks to Robert Cacioppo, Chris Clavelli and to the incomparable Mr. Chambers.

TRUMAN CAPOTE was born in New Orleans, LA on September 30, 1924 as Truman Streckfus Persons. He was a Southern Gothic novelist, journalist, and celebrated man-about-town. He was widely hailed as a stylist after publication of his earliest writings. These include his novel of alienated youth, *Other Voices, Other Rooms* (1948), the Gothic short stories in *A Tree of Night* (1949), and the lighter novel *The Grass Harp* (1951; play, 1952). The novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1958; film, 1961) introduced the charming, hedonistic Holly Golightly as a heroine. Childhood reflections formed the basis of two short stories that were adapted for television: *A Christmas Memory* (1956) and *The Thanksgiving Visitor* (1968). Capote's nonfiction novel *In Cold Blood* (1966; film, 1967) was based on a six-year study of the murder of a rural Kansas family by two young drifters. Capote wrote about the jet set in *The Dogs Bark: Public People and Private Places* (1973). *Answered Prayers*, an unfinished novel, was published posthumously in 1987. He died on August 25, 1984.

DREW LaMOTT (Technical Director) couldn't be more excited for his Florida Rep debut as the Technical Director of TRU. This is his first year on staff as Florida Rep's resident Master Carpenter, building shows such as *Rumors*, *God of Carnage*, and *Bedroom Farce*. After studying technical theatre for 5 years, Drew graduated with a BFA in Technical Direction as well as Scenic Design from Gainesville State College in Gainesville, GA. Prior to arriving at Florida Rep, Drew worked as a carpenter at Flat Rock Playhouse in North Carolina. TRU is a fabulous show that will make you laugh, love, and leave you wanting more. Hope you enjoy the show!

ROBERTA MALCOLM (Resident Costume Designer) After 25 years traveling the country as a costumer/designer for everyone from community theatre performers to Florence Henderson, John Ritter, LeVar Burton, Tony Bennett, Patti LaBelle, Margaret O'Brien, Dean Jones, and Cloris Leachman, Roberta is pleased to be returning for her eighth season at the Florida Rep. Favorite productions include: *Gaslight*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *You Can't Take It*

With You, My Three Angels, Lucky Stiff, Florida Follies starring Florence Henderson, *Too Big to be a Waitress, Show Boat* (Dean Jones and Cloris Leachman national tour), *Little Shop of Horrors, Curly McDimple* starring Margaret O'Brien, *Blithe Spirit, Annie Get Your Gun, A Funny Thing...Forum, Death of a Salesman, and Cinderella – a Rock Fairy Tale*. Thanks to Sean, Becca, John, Bob – family always; and to the Florida Rep and its board for the opportunity to showcase the best theatre around.

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!"

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 Year of Magical Thinking*. 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 fiancée, Claire Guy, for her love and understanding for his late nights at the shop and long weekends in the office.

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 sound designer for Florida Rep's production of *Bedroom Farce* and *God of Carnage*, and the lighting and sound designer for *The Santaland Diaries* and *The Year of Magical Thinking*. Other 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, 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 *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.

JENN WILLIAMS (Properties Master) grew up in the North Georgia Mountains. She graduated from Gainesville State College with her associates in Theatre and transferred to Georgia State University to acquire her bachelor's degree in Film Studies. Discovering theatre later in life allowed her to explore all technical fields; however, it wasn't until she arrived in North Carolina that she discovered the world of props. She has spent the last four years as the Props Assistant at Flat Rock Playhouse. She was Props Mistress for: *Rent, A Few Good Men, and The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Some favorite past projects includes a jukebox for *All Shook Up*, and two upright pianos for *The Producers*. She is excited to begin the next chapter as the Props Master at Florida Rep and would like to thank her dear friends and coworkers for always believing in her potential and encouraging her to constantly take risk in her life and in her career.

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