FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE
GREG LONGENHAGEN, Artistic Director • JOHN MARTIN, Managing Director

2018-2019 SEASON
HISTORIC ARCADE THEATRE • FORT MYERS RIVER DISTRICT

PRESENTS

HAY FEVER

BY NOËL COWARD

STARRING

SETH ANDREW BRIDGES* • RACHEL BURTTRAM**† • KATE LEVY*
JAKE MURPHY* • BRENDAN POWERS**† • LESLEY STAPLES*
OLIVIA STEVENSON • MATT SULLIVAN* • SYDNEY TORRES

DIRECTED BY MARK SHANAHAN**

SET DESIGNER
DENNIS MAULDEN***

COSTUME DESIGNER
JACQUELYN LOY

LIGHTING DESIGNER
DAVID M. UPTON***
ensemble member

SOUND DESIGNER
KATIE LOWE

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
JANINE WOCHNA*
ensemble member

ASST. STAGE MANAGER
KENT JAMES COLLINS

2018-19 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS

This entire season sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and 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. †Member of Florida Repertory Theatre’s Ensemble of Theatre Artists.
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.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Sorel Bliss....................................................Olivia Stevenson*
Simon Bliss..........................................................Jake Murphy*
Clara....................................................................Lesley Staples*
Judith Bliss..........................................................Kate Levy*
David Bliss..........................................................Matt Sullivan*
Richard Greatham............................................Brendan Powers†
Sandy Tyrell......................................................Seth Andrew Bridges*
Myra Arundel....................................................Rachel Burttram†
Jackie Coryton....................................................Sydney Torres

TIME/PLACE:
1927. The hall of the Blisses’ house at Cookham in June.

Act I: Saturday afternoon
Act II: Saturday evening
Act III: Sunday morning

About the Playwright

Noël Peirce Coward was born in 1899 and made his professional stage debut as Prince Mussel in The Goldfish at the age of 12, leading to many child actor appearances over the next few years. His breakthrough in playwriting was the controversial The Vortex (1924), which featured themes of drugs and adultery and made his name as both actor and playwright in the West End and on Broadway. During the frenzied 1920s and the more sedate 1930s, Coward wrote a string of successful plays, musicals and intimate revues including Fallen Angels (1925), Hay Fever (1925), Easy Virtue (1926), This Year of Grace (1928), and Bitter Sweet (1929). His professional partnership with childhood friend Gertrude Lawrence, started with Private Lives (1931), and continued with Tonight at 8:30 (1936).

During World War II, he remained a successful playwright, screenwriter and director, as well as entertaining the troops and even acting as an unofficial spy for the Foreign Office. His plays during these years included Blithe Spirit which ran for 1997 performances, outlasting the War (a West End record until The Mousetrap overtook it), This Happy Breed and Present Laughter (both 1943). His two wartime screenplays, In Which We Serve, which he co-directed with the young David Lean, and Brief Encounter quickly became classics of British cinema.

However, the post-war years were more difficult. Austerity Britain—the London critics determined—was out of tune with the brittle Coward wit. In response, Coward re-invented himself as a cabaret and TV star, particularly in America, and in 1955 he played a sell-out season in Las Vegas featuring many of his most famous songs, including Mad about the Boy, I’ll See You Again and Mad Dogs and Englishmen. In the mid-1950s he settled in Jamaica and Switzerland, and enjoyed a renaissance in the early 1960s becoming the first living playwright to be performed by the National Theatre, when he directed Hay Fever there. Late in his career he was lauded for his roles in a number of films including Our Man in Havana (1959) and his role as the iconic Mr. Bridger alongside Michael Caine in The Italian Job (1968).

Writer, actor, director, film producer, painter, songwriter, cabaret artist as well as an author of a novel, verse, essays and autobiographies, he was called by close friends “The Master”. His final West End appearance was Song at Twilight in 1966, which he wrote and starred in. He was knighted in 1970 and died peacefully in 1973 in his beloved Jamaica.
ABOUT THE CAST

SETH ANDREW BRIDGES* (Sandy Tyrell) is thrilled to return to Florida Rep! A NYC based actor and stuntman, he was last seen here in the regional premiere of The Dingdong. Other regional theatre credits include Noises Off, The Three Musketeers, Great Expectations (Syracuse Stage); Alabama Story (Pioneer Theatre Company, world premiere); A Christmas Carol, The Tempest, Sherlock Holmes, Bear Country, Twelfth Night (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); Peter and the Starcatcher (Arkansas Repertory Theatre / TheatreSquared); Proof, One Man Two Guvnors (TheatreSquared); and The Liar (Gulfshore Playhouse). As a stuntman, his select credits include FBI (CBS); Manifest (NBC); Elementary (CBS); The Blacklist (NBC); Marvel’s: The Defenders (Netflix); Gotham (Fox); The Path (Hulu); Law & Order: SVU (NBC); numerous feature and independent films, and the video game Red Dead Redemption II. He holds a BFA from NYU. @sethandrewb

RACHEL BURTTRAM**† (Myra Arundel) has been a company member since 2002, and has performed in over 25 plays with Florida Rep. In January she helped produce an inaugural theatre festival on the island of Bequai in the Eastern Caribbean Islands where she was also seen in two plays. Favorite roles at the Florida Rep include Steel Magnolias, Disgraced, Outside Mullingar, Miracle on South Division Street, August: Osage County, Trying, Doubt, Amy’s View (with Carol Lawrence). Other Regional Theatre credits: Actors Theatre of Louisville & the Humana New Play Festival, Riverside Theatre, the Kitchen Theatre Company, Penobscot Theatre Company, Hippodrome Theatre, Geva Theatre, Barnstormers Theatre, Gloucester Stage, NYC credits include: Actors Studio, Vital Theatre Company, NYC International Fringe Festival. TV & Film: Emma’s Fine, Burn Notice, World Traveler. Rachel is a proud member of Actors’ Equity. She is married to actor Brendan Powers. www.rachelburttram.com

KATE LEVY* (Judith Bliss) Broadway and National Tours: Bernhardt/Hamlet; On Golden Pond (with Michael Learned and Tom Bosley), The Graduate. New York Theatre: Stalking the Bogeyman, NY Rep; The Memorandum, TACT; The Return of the Prodigal and Soldier’s Wife, The Mint; Halfway Home, The New Group. Regional: Fingersmith, A.R.T.; Third and The Other Place, Hartford TheatreWorks; (CT. Critics Circle and St. Louis Theater Circle awards for Best Actress); Snow Falling on Cedars, Hartford Stage; Well, Denver Center; A Sleeping Country, Cincinnati Playhouse In The Park; The Goat, Arena Stage; Outrage, Portland Center Stage; On Golden Pond, Cleveland Play House; Uncle Vanya, Denver Center; Present Laughter, Pioneer; Heaven, Yale Rep; Dinner with Friends, Alliance; The Real Thing, Alley Theatre. Also: Barrow St. Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Roundabout, The O’Neill, Merrimack Rep, Northern Stage, Theater Under the Stars, Florida Stage, Syracuse Stage, Indiana Rep, Clarence Brown, Philadelphia Festival for New Plays, BoarsHead. Numerous Shakespeare roles at various festivals. Television: The Deuce, Younger, The Sinner, Odd Mom Out, The Affair; Elementary, All three Law & Order’s, Blue Bloods, Unforgettable. A Gifted Man, Royal Pains, The Good Wife, Gossip Girl. Film: Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, BA, Tufts University; MFA, American Conservatory Theatre.

JAKE MURPHY* (Simon Bliss) is a NorCal native with tree pollen allergies. Florida Repertory Theatre debut. Off Broadway: Brecht on Brecht (Potomac Theatre Project) and Dead End (Axis Theatre Company). Regional: Ideaion** and Brecht on Brecht (New Repertory Theatre), Romeo and Juliet (Marin Shakespeare), Sherlock Holmes, Noises Off, and To Killa Mockingbird (Sacramento Theatre Company), Circadia and Missed Connections (Brunch Theatre), and Marnhiapinatapai (Boston Playwrights Theatre). Film: Small Time, We Can Do It, Can Hitler Happen Here?, and Prom King 2010. Television: A Crime To Remember and The Defectives. Awards: IRNE nomination. Education: BFA Theatre Arts, Boston University. Love to ma & B. www.jake_murphy.com
2019-2020 SEASON

A Hot Broadway Musical, a Salute to a Country Icon, a Rolling World Premiere, an Award-Winning Thriller, Gut Busting Comedies, and MUCH MORE!

ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
by Ted Swindley  SEPT 24-NOV 10, 2019
Join us in a heartfelt and powerful celebration of the most popular female country singer in recording history! Hear all of Patsy’s biggest hits, including “Crazy,” “Walkin’ After Midnight,” “I Fall to Pieces,” and more!
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OCT 29-NOV 20, 2019
Marx Brothers hilarity meets country club politics in this signature Ken Ludwig farce about love, life, and man’s eternal love affair with golf! 1,000 laughs in this zany farce from the author of Lend me a Tenor and Moon Over Buffalo! “Phenomenally funny!” -Star Ledger
• In the Historic Arcade Theatre •

AN INSPECTOR CALLS
by J.B. Priestley  DEC 3-22, 2019
A wealthy British family is forced to examine their own morality in this chilling, Olivier and Tony-winning masterpiece! An electrifying and suspenseful thriller filled with twists and turns! “Superbly tense. Breathtaking!” -Daily Telegraph
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ALABASTER  A National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere
by Audrey Cefaly  DEC 17, 2019-JAN 26, 2020
Funny, heartbreaking, and earth-shattering, this powerful new play about healing and survival begins a record-breaking nine-theatre Rolling World Premiere at Florida Rep—before taking the country by storm! Chosen from the 2018 PlayLab Festival! A beautiful and hopeful NEW PLAY!
• In the ArtStage Studio Theatre •

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK
by Neil Simon  JAN 7-29, 2020
A hilarious romantic comedy from the author of Rumors and Lost in Yonkers! Newlyweds decide to play matchmaker and everything that could go wrong, does in this multiple Tony-nominated play! “A bubbling, rib-tickling comedy!” -New York Times
• In the Historic Arcade Theatre •

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*All Titles and Dates Subject to Change
2019-2020 SEASON

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book & lyrics by Robert L. Freedman • music & lyrics by Steven Lutvak
FEB 11-MAR 4, 2020
Can young Monty Navarro juggle his fiancée, his mistress, and knock off all of the heirs ahead of him in the line of nobility without being caught? Find out in this fresh, irreverent, and multiple Tony-winning BEST MUSICAL!
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EVERY BRILLIANT THING
by Duncan Macmillan, with Jonny Donahoe • FEB 25-MAR 29, 2020
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A DOLL’S HOUSE, PART 2
by Lucas Hnath MAR 17-APR 8, 2020
This smart and sophisticated new comedy raises fascinating questions about marriage and the ways the roles of women have – and have not – changed. One of the hottest plays in America! “Smart, funny, and utterly engrossing!” –New York Times
• In the Historic Arcade Theatre •

RIPCORD
by David Lindsay-Abaire • APR 21-MAY 10, 2020
From the twisted and brilliant mind of the Pulitzer Prize & Tony-winning author of Rabbit Hole comes a high-stakes comedy about two women of a certain age locked in a no-holds-barred battle to the death! “Deeply satisfying and vastly entertaining!” –Deadline Hollywood
• In the Historic Arcade Theatre •

FLORIDA REP IS
“One of America’s TOP Repertory Companies!”
—The Wall Street Journal
ABOUT THE CAST

BRENDAN POWERS
*(Richard Greatham)*
Select Florida Rep credits over the past decade include *A Christmas Carol: The Tale of Ebenezer Scrooge*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Outside Mullingar*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *A Christmas Story*, *The Unexpected Guest*, *Dividing the Estate*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, *The Fantasticks*, *Doubt*, *Opus*, *Boeing-Boeing*, and *The Glass Menagerie*. He is married to fellow Florida Rep ensemble member Rachel Burttram and also serves as Community Outreach Coordinator. Other credits include the Tony Award-winning play, *Art*, and *The Big Knife*, both with Alec Baldwin, the Noël Coward revue, *Oh, Coward!* at Off-Broadway’s Irish Repertory Theatre, *God of Carnage*, *August: Osage County*, *Our Town*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and numerous others. TV work includes FBI Agent Rick Cranston on *Graceland* (USA Network) and David Weller in the Netflix original series, *Bloodline*, starring Sissy Spacek. His cartoon captions have been winners for various contests including *The New Yorker*, *Hartford Courant*, *Denver Post*, *Moment Magazine*, *Clinical Psychology*, *Inside Higher Ed*, and the *Greensboro News-Record*.

LESLEY STAPLES
*(Clara)*
Films include *Buena Vista/Disney’s Calendar Girls* (2003) playing calendar girl ‘Jenny’, with Helen Mirren and Julie Walters, and *Royal Faceoff* (2006) playing fictional Queen of England, Queen Matilda. *The Perfect Wedding* (2012), *Phoenix Falling* (2014). TV appearances include leading British soap *Coronation Street*, *Last of the Summer Wine* (with George Chakiris), and BBC mini-series *Into The Fire*. Classically trained in London and a veteran of the British stage, Lesley’s West End theatre credits include the Royal Shakespeare Company’s *Wild Oats*, opposite Jeremy Irons, *No Sex, Please—We’re British*, and *Mindkill*. Musicals include *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Raffles* in Singapore & Hong Kong Arts Festival. Also an experienced voice artist, Lesley was recently chosen by Rosetta Stone (the world’s largest language-learning software company) to record the British-English version of their new product. Other world-wide clients include Barnardo’s, IKEA, Liverpool University, and the World Bank.

OLIVIA STEVENSON
*(Sorel Bliss)* is thrilled to be making her Florida Rep debut. Some of her previous credits include Eliante in *The School for Lies* (Greenbrier Valley Theatre), Mrs. Ford in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Rosalind in *As You Like It* (Shakespeare’s Globe Residency), Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet*, Lucio in *Measure for Measure* (Scranton Shakespeare), Marina in *Pericles* (RADA), and Irina in *Three Sisters*. Olivia is a proud graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland’s MA Acting Classical & Contemporary Texts and Muhlenberg College. Olivia currently lives in New York City. For M&D and J. www.oliviastevenson.com

MATT SULLIVAN
*(David Bliss)*

SYDNEY TORRES
*(Jackie Coryton)* is ecstatic to be part of the team for *Hay Fever*! She made her Florida Rep main stage debut earlier this season in *A Christmas Carol: The Tale of Ebenezer Scrooge* (Fan/Catherine/Others). She is currently touring with Florida Rep’s education program, where she appears in *Refugee* (Isabel), *The Cat in the Hat* (Sally), and *Romeo & Juliet* (Juliet). Selected credits
include The Music Man (Ethel Toffelmier) and Million Dollar Quartet (u/s Dyanne) with Berkshire Theater Group, and Greenwillow (Dorrie Whitbred) with RADA in London. Proud graduate of the BFA Musical Theatre program at Emerson College. Love to Mom, Dad, Zack, Roger, Grandpa, and Dyl. For Grandma and Liz, who lived to laugh. www.sydneyt.com IG:@sydneymtorres

MARK SHANAHAN** (Director) returns to the Florida Rep having directed and adapted A Christmas Carol: The Tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, and directed How The Other Half Loves, Around The World In 80 Days, and The Hound Of The Baskervilles. In 2016, The Rep produced his play The Dingdong, the Off Broadway and regional hit comedy adapted from Feydeau’s Le Dindon. Mark’s directorial work has been seen on numerous stages across the country, including The Alley Theatre, Virginia Stage, The George Street Playhouse, The Fulton Opera House, Arkansas Rep, Merrimack Rep, Penguin Rep, Florida Studio Theatre, Cape Playhouse, Weston Playhouse, Hangar Theatre, Theatre Squared, Westport Country Playhouse, The White Heron Theatre and others. New York acting credits include the Broadway hit The 39 Steps (American Airlines, Cort Theatre); Small World (59E59); The Shaughraun and Checkers (The Vineyard Theatre) As Bees In Honey Drown (Lucille Lortel Theatre); Philadelphia, Here I Come! (Roundabout); and many more. Regionally, he has appeared extensively at The Alley Theatre and The Westport Country Playhouse, as well as Hartford Theatreworks, The Bay Street Theatre, The Fulton, Pioneer Theatre, Merrimack Rep, The Denver Center, The Kennedy Center, and others. Mark has been seen on television on David Letterman and All My Children, and in the films Kill Me, Safe Men, Bug, Endsville, Yellow, Mad About Harry and more. Mark is a graduate of Brown University and holds an MA from Fordham University, where he teaches. He is an award-winning voice-over artist and Edgar Award-nominated playwright. www.mark-shanahan.net.

DENNIS C. MAULDEN** (Set Designer) is delighted to be working with Florida Repertory Theatre again after having designed Disgraced last season. He has served since 1985 as the Resident Scene Designer at Flat Rock Playhouse, the State Theatre of North Carolina where he also serves as Apprentice Administrator. He has headed design programs at the University of Florida and the University of South Carolina, where he also was Departmental Director of Graduate Studies. Maulden, a scene designer since 1970, has designed in other university, community, and regional theatres as well as in New York. In addition to a long list of theatre classics, he considers himself privileged to have designed many premiere productions of straight plays, musicals, and operas. He received his MFA in Design from UNC-Greensboro in 1977 and is a member of USA, NY Local #829.

KATIE LOWE (Sound Designer) is thrilled to be a part of this production! She served as an electrics intern last season at Florida Repertory Theatre. Previously, she has been an electrics apprentice at Endstation Theatre Company after graduating from the University of Kentucky. Previous credits include August Wilson’s Fences, Tenderly, A Christmas Carol: The Tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, Becoming Dr. Ruth, Steel Magnolias, Damascus (Florida Rep, Sound Designer), Cabaret (Florida Rep, A2), Million Dollar Quartet (Endstation Theatre Company, A2), Once On This Island (University of Kentucky, Stage Manager), Sense and Sensibility (University of Kentucky, Sound Designer), She Kills Monsters (University of Kentucky, Stage Manager), In The Red and Brown Water (University of Kentucky, Assistant Stage Manager), and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (University of Kentucky, Assistant Stage Manager).

JACQUELYN LOY (Costume Designer) returns for her second season at Florida Rep as the Costume Shop Manager and a costume designer for select shows. Featured Designs include: Refugee, the world premiere (Florida Rep TYA); A Chorus Line and Heathers (Florida Rep Conservatory), The Drowsy Chaperone (Bigfork Summer Playhouse), Junie B. Jones (Hope Summer Rep), Willy Wonka (Matthews Playhouse), The Fantasticks (Lee Street Theatre); Almost, Maine and Pinocchio’s Sister; the world premiere (St. Thomas Players); Tartuffe, Silent Sky, The Matchmaker, and Violet (USM), The Importance of Being Earnest, Once on This Island, and Charlotte’s Web (Catawba College). Jacquelyn’s technical work appeared on stages across the country, including Montana, Utah, Michigan, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina. Awards: KC-ACTF Region IV First Place for Excellence in Costume Design
ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

(Barbizon Fellow) for The Matchmaker (2017) and Violet (2016), KC-ACTF Region IV First Place in Technical Design/Crafts for Millinery (2016), Marian A. Smith Costume Scholarship from SETC’s Graduate Scholarships (2014). She received her M.F.A. in Costume Design and Technology at the University of Southern Mississippi and her B.A. in Theatre Arts at Catawba College. She has also written plays that have been featured in festivals in North Carolina, Mississippi, Georgia, and Michigan.

DAVID M. UPTON** (Lighting Designer) is happy to be returning to Florida Rep to design Hay Fever. Currently David is the Director of Production at the New Victory Theater in New York City presenting 16 international works annually for children and families. Additionally he has worked as a Lighting Designer and Freelance Production Manager both in NYC and Nationally. New York Design Work includes: National Tour: Sweet Charity, Off-Broadway: Mad Libs Live!, The Dreamer Examines His Pillow, The Bonus Army, Strictly Dishonorable, The Mennonite of Dutchess County and The Tutors. Other designs include work for The New Victory Theater, The Revenge of the Mummy at Universal Studios Singapore, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Alabama Shakespeare, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, Adirondack Theatre Festival, Northeast Shakespeare, North Carolina Theatre, Florida Studio, Tennessee Shakespeare, Northern Stage, Seven Angels, Gulfshore Playhouse, Merrimack Rep, Orlando Shakespeare, ReVision Theatre, Seaside Music Theater, Orlando Opera and Orlando Ballet, among others.

JANINE WOCHNA†† (Production Stage Manager) is delighted to return to Florida Rep where she is an ensemble member, having previously stage managed A Christmas Carol, The Tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, Steel Magnolias, Cabaret; Outside Mullingar; the critically acclaimed House of Blue Leaves, Over the River and Through the Woods, The Cocktail Hour, The Unexpected Guest, Tribes, Around the World in 80 Days, Collected Stories, Time Stands Still, Talley’s Folly, and many others over 12 seasons. Regional theatre credits include The Passion of Teresa Rae King, Brother Wolf, Underneath the Lintel, and Abundance at Triad Stage, four seasons as Resident Stage Manager at the Geva Theatre, and 12 seasons at the Cleveland Play House. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association.

SPECIAL THANKS
Kathy Williams, Jeffrey Hardy, and Stephen Duckham with the Noël Coward Society

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 PROFESSIONAL THEATRES ASSOCIATION (FPTA) is a statewide organization of professional theatre companies and theatre professionals interested in the development and promotion of professional theatre throughout Florida. Florida Repertory Theatre is a proud FPTA member theatre.

Florida Repertory Theatre is a member of THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP (TCG), the national organization for the American Theatre.

Florida Repertory Theatre is a proud Associate Member of the NATIONAL NEW PLAY NETWORK.