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



SPONSORED BY THE RETINA HEALTH CENTER

STARRING ensemble members **DAVID BREITBARTH* • MICHELLE DAMATO* • CARRIE LUND*** and **JOHN OTTAVINO***

DIRECTED BY ensemble member MAUREEN HEFFERNAN**

SFT DESIGNER ensemble member

COSTUME DESIGNER ALEXANDRIA VAZQUEZ

BAY RECHT***

SOUND DESIGNER JOHN KISELICA

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER ensemble member AMY L. MASSARI*

Sylvia is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

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2017-18 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS





LIGHTING DESIGNER

MIKE WOOD***







THE NEWS-PRESS

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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.

CAST

Sylvia	MICHELLE DAMATO**
Greg	
Kate	
Tom/Leslie/Phyllis	

TIME & PLACE

Present. Greg and Kate's Manhattan apartment and various places around New York City.

SYLVIA will be performed with one 15-minute intermission.

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

Asst. Stage Manager: Laura West Assoc. Lighting Designer: Dalton Hamilton Wardrobe Supervisor: Ian Witten Lighting/Sound Board Operator: Eli Carnahan Understudy for Sylvia: Julia Rifino

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



A. R. "PETE" GURNEY 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. He has won a number of awards during his career, and is now a member of the Theatre Hall of Fame and of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Gurney was married to his wife Molly for over 60 years. They have four children and eight grandchildren. Gurney died at his home in Manhattan this past summer at the age of 86.

SPECIAL THANKS

Joseph Brauer

†Member of Florida Repertory Theatre's Ensemble of Theatre Artists. See page 23 for the entire ensemble.



*** The Designers at this Theatre are Represented by United Scenic Artists + Local USA 829



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.





CREATIVE TEAM



DAVID BREITBARTH^{*†} (Tom/Leslie/Phyllis) returns for his 6th season at Florida Rep. Previously, *The Unexpected Guest*, *Tribes* (on the ArtStage), *Social Security, Lend Me A Tenor*, and *Rumors*. 22 years an Associate Artist

at Asolo Repertory Theatre in Sarasota. Over 80 productions there include: *The Little Foxes*, both LBJ plays by Robert Schenkkan, *Both Your Houses*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Clybourne Park*, *God of Carnage*, *Once in a Lifetime*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *The Front Page*, *The Immigrant*, world premieres of *Men of Tortuga* and *Perfect Mendacity*, *A Few Good Men*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *Rounding Third*, *Art*, and *Nicholas Nickleby*. Broadway 1st National Tour: *Spring Awakening*. Film and television: *Frasier*, *Takenl*, *Law & Order*, and *Fame*. David is a proud 2013 Lunt-Fontanne Fellow, selected by the prestigious Ten Chimneys Foundation.



MICHELLE DAMATO*[†]

(**Sylvia**) is returning for her 14th show with Florida Rep. Audiences will remember her from her roles in *The House* of *Blue Leaves*, *The Dingdong*, *I Loved*, *I Lost*,

I Made Spaghetti, Miracle on South Division Street (for which she won Best Featured Actress in a Play from BroadwayWorld.com Fort Myers/Naples), as well as Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Heart Song, Bedroom Farce, Rumors, Sylvia, Rabbit Hole, Almost, Maine, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, and Dancing at Lughnasa. She is a graduate of Circle in the Square Theatre School in NYC and came to Florida by way of Louisville, KY, where she was a company member with Stage One for four years. Some of her favorite roles include Oliver Twist off-Broadway at the Promenade Theatre and the voice of Shawna in MTV's Daria: Is It College Yet? As a voice-over artist Michelle has done over fifty commercials and audio books. She was a founding member of the Circle Players and the Daughters of Monty, both New York City-based improv companies. Michelle is a proud member of Actors' Equity.



CARRIE LUND^{*†} **(Kate)** is co-founder, an ensemble member, and Associate Producer of Florida Rep, and has acted in over 90 productions in Southwest Florida. In 2012, she was named Best Actress of

the Year and named one of the "Power Women of the Year" by Florida Weekly. She produced and acted on Sanibel Island from 1984-1998 at the Pirate Playhouse and on Captiva Island with Carrie Lund Presents. She taught theatre at Florida Gulf Coast University in its early years, produced theatre companies in her hometown of Erie, PA and New York City, and performed in regional theatres in NY, VT and NC, as well as the Three River Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh Playhouse, and American Ibsen Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA. In 1987, the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce awarded her the Distinguished Citizen Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997. Carrie has been in all nine Florida Rep shows reviewed by The Wall Street Journal: The House of Blue Leaves, The Cocktail Hour, One Slight Hitch, Arsenic and Old Lace, The Little Foxes, God of Carnage, Sylvia (2011), You Can't Take It with You, and Dancing at Lughnasa. Other selected credits include Florida Rep's Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End, Becky's New Car, Doublewide, Dividing the Estate, Tribes, Heart Song, Clybourne Park, Rumors (2002, 2011), August: Osage County, Noises Off (1998, 2010), The Last Romance, Enchanted April, Rabbit Hole, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Tale of the Allergist's Wife, All My Sons, and Private Lives. Married to Robert Cacioppo, she enjoys the accomplishments of their best productions: Matthew and Julia.



JOHN OTTAVINO* (Greg)

has done 70 professional productions in 38 states and seven countries: *A Doll's House* on Broadway, *Who's Afraid* of Virginia Woolf in Lithuania & Leningrad

and *Hawk Moon* in Vienna & Prague both directed by Edward Albee. Off-Broadway: *Checkers* – The Vineyard, *Dandy Dick* – Roundabout, *Blackbird* – MTC and *The Poor*



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A Gripping and Electrifying Pulitzer Prize Winning Drama! Don¹t Miss the most performed drama in America! Engaging and provocative, this story explores religion, race, relationships, and betrayal.

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A Tony-Winning BEST PLAY from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Driving Miss Daisy*! "An achingly beautiful play! Luminous and powerful!" —*Los Angeles Times*

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One secret affair, two disastrous dinner parties, and three couples heading for matrimonial mayhem! Marital discord has never been funnier in this farce from the Tony and Olivier Award-winning author of previous Florida Rep Hits, *Bedroom Farce* and *Relatively Speaking*!

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by William Gibson • FEB 13-MAR 7, 2018

A timeless American classic and Tony Award-winning BEST PLAY! Witness the captivating true story of how Annie Sullivan rescued a young Helen Keller from her dark and tortured silence.

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Book by Joe Masteroff • Music by John Kander • Lyrics by Fred Ebb

MAR 20-APR 11, 2018

We celebrate our 20th Anniversary with a hit musical from Broadway's Golden Age! Come hear some of the most memorable songs in theatre history, including "Cabaret," "Willkommen" and "Maybe This Time." Leave your troubles outside — life is beautiful inside the Kit Kat Club!

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• In the Historic Arcade Theatre •

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CREATIVE TEAM

Itch – The Public. Regionally: Circle, Mirror, Transformation – St. Louis (Kevin Kline Award), Seascape – Coconut Grove Playhouse (Carbonelle Award Nomination), Blackbird (Cincinnati Award), and as Heck Tate in last year's To Kill A Mockingbird at Florida Rep. Television: Recurring roles on NYPD Blue, FEDS. His wife Eve teaches fourth grade in Brooklyn, and his son Adam pitches for the Colorado Rockies.

MAUREEN HEFFERNAN**[†] (Director) is delighted to be returning to Florida Repertory Theatre where she most recently directed the world premiere of *Doublewide*. As a member of the Ensemble of Artists, she has directed 11 Florida Rep productions including Dancing at Lughnasa, Sylvia and The Little Foxes all of which received praise from the Wall Street Journal, among other critics. Over the past 30 years, Maureen has directed more than 90 professional theatrical productions nationally. Besides Florida Rep, some of her favorite theaters include New York's John Houseman Theater and Ensemble Studio Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, PlayMakers Repertory Company, and Pennsylvania Stage Company. Maureen also served as Artistic Director for George Street Playhouse in New Jersey, and as Acting Artistic Director at Delaware Theater Company. Last spring, she directed the world premiere of Fixed at Passage Theatre in Trenton, NJ. Maureen has been recognized as a leader in arts education throughout the country and as an innovator in arts programming for special populations. She was the founding Artistic Director of the Unlimited Potential Theater Company of Very Special Arts in New Jersey. Maureen is a member of the faculty of the School of Arts and Communication at The College of New Jersey where she teaches Integrated Visual and Performing Arts. Last year, Maureen left the directing chair to appear on stage playing Benjamin Franklin in an all-female production of the musical 1776. Maureen is a proud member of both Actors Equity Association and Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. This production is dedicated to Chloe and Betsy who changed her from a dog avoider to a crazy poodle mom.

JOHN KISELICA (Sound Designer) is a graduate of West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in lighting and sound design. He is the Resident Sound and Lighting Designer for Endstation Theatre Company in Central VA and acts as the Lighting and Sound Supervisor for year round consultation and project specific work. He has worked on a national tour, *Buddy: the Buddy Holly* Musical, as the master electrician after a contract with Royal Caribbean International as a stage technician. Commercial theatrical work includes installing Prodigy Hoists, an automated rigging system from Electronic Theatre Controls. In addition to his seasonal position with Florida Rep, John continues to freelance in the professional, academic, and community theatre circles.

AMY L. MASSARI*[†] (Production Stage Manager) is pleased to be returning for her ninth season as Florida Rep's resident stage manager and an ensemble member. Amy has been a proud member of Actor's Equity Association for the past 27 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 The Dingdong, Split In Three, The Fantasticks, Lend Me a Tenor, August: Osage County, Sylvia (2011), and God of Carnage. Amy has been happily married to her husband of 21 years, Michael. Michael is a terrific partner and father to their children Jesse Cheyenne and Caleb Dakota.

RAY RECHT***[†] (Set Designer) is delighted to be back at Florida Rep, where as an ensemble member, his designs include One Slight Hitch, Dancing at Lughnasa, Doubt, and others. Broadway designs include The Flowering Peach, Trick, Slab Boys, 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



CREATIVE TEAI

films and was an art director or assistant art director on many others. He has worked extensively in television, including NBC, Fox, PBS, ABC, over 150 commercials, and many commercial parodies for Saturday Night Live. Internationally, he designed for the Wien Staatsoper Ballet, the Stratford Festival, Ontario, and the Manitoba Theatre Centre. He is a professor of Theatre at Marymount Manhattan College in New York City.

ALEXANDRIA VAZQUEZ (Costume Designer)

was born and raised in Orlando, Florida. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Costume Design from Rollins College and a Master of Fine Arts in Costume Design & Technology from West Virginia University. She has designed costumes and worked on productions at both educational institutions and professional theatres including the Ohio Light Opera, Cincinnati Opera, The Lexington Children Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey and Hanger Theatre. Alexandria is thrilled to be joining the Rep as the Costume Shop Manager and Resident Costume Designer for the 2016-2017 season, her third season with the company. She wants to thank her famillia for their continuous support and for being her own personal cheerleaders. www.alexandriavazquezcostumedesign.com

LAURA WEST (Asst. Stage Manager) is a proud 2017 graduate of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. She has fostered her love of travel and theatre by working at theatres across the country, such as Jean's Playhouse in Lincoln, New Hampshire and The Lake Dillon Theatre Company in Silverthorne, Colorado, and she is so thrilled to be joining Florida Repertory Theatre for their 20th season. Some of her favorite past credits include Little Women, Orlando, Godspell, The Wild Party, Assassins, and Sister Act. She is always eager to talk about her two adorable cats or her love of the font Garamond, and she sends a huge thank you to her amazing friends and family for always supporting her.

MIKE WOOD*** (Lighting Designer) is a theatrical lighting designer whose work has been seen throughout the country. He is currently the director of technical theatre at Collegiate School in New York City and also spent several years on faculty at Howard W. Blake School of the Arts and Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, FL. Awards: 2013, 2014, 2015 Theatre Tampa Bay Awards for Outstanding Lighting Design; 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 BroadwayWorld Regional Awards, 2015 Creative Loafing "Best of the Bay" best lighting designer. Proud member, United Scenic Artists USA-829. @mikewoodld • www.mikewoodld.com





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founded in 1913 as the first of the American Actor unions. Equity's mission is to advance, ACTORS Actor unions. Equity a model of the art of the a 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

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