



The Edge of the Universe Players 2 present
as an online radio play

Laughter in the Shadow of the Trees

by James Prideaux

directed by Stephen Jarrett

September 1 to 30, 2021

featuring

Holly Twyford* as Jan

Sarah Marshall* as Felicia

David Bryan Jackson* as Martin

sound design and audio production by

David Bryan Jackson

casting by Naomi Robin

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract

LAUGHTER IN THE SHADOW OF THE TREES is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

About the playwright

James Prideaux was the author of some twenty plays, including, on Broadway, *THE LAST OF MRS. LINCOLN*, which won Tony Awards for Julie Harris and Leora Dana, and the New York Drama Desk Award for Mr. Prideaux. His plays have been produced at Playwrights Horizons, Lincoln Center, and The Kennedy Center in Washington. Drama or comedy, Prideaux was adept at both. His musical spoof *JANE HEIGHTS* was a major hit of the Los Angeles theatrical season in the mid-1980s. And yet he was also the author of *LYNDON*, an incisive inquiry into the world of Lyndon B. Johnson during the Vietnam War, starring Jack Klugman on the stage and Laurence Luckinbill on the screen. For television, Mr. Prideaux created three films starring Katharine Hepburn. For radio, Mr. Prideaux created *Stuffings*, which starred Meryl Streep, and *Laughter in*

the Shadow of the Trees, with Sir John Gielgud and Dame Wendy Hiller, on the BBC. Mr. Prideaux died in 2015.

The cast

Holly Twyford as Jan



Actor/director Holly Twyford has performed in close to eighty productions in many of the acclaimed theaters in and around Washington metro area, including Arena Stage, Shakespeare Theatre, Studio Theatre and Woolly Mammoth Theatre to name a few. She has been nominated for multiple Helen Hayes awards and is a four-time recipient for Outstanding Actress. She was honored with Shakespeare Theater Company's Emery Battis Award for Acting Excellence for her portrayal of Anna in Harold Pinter's *Old Times*. Ms. Twyford is proud to be a Lunt-Fontanne Fellow, a member of the Studio Theatre's Cabinet, and a Ford's Theatre Associate Artist. Her credits include commercials, voiceovers, educational and

training films, TV and several independent films, most recently the feature film *Dakota*. Ms. Twyford is proud to be a resident of Washington, D.C.

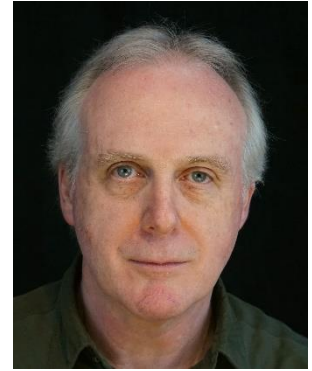
Sarah Marshall as Felicia

Ms. Marshall has performed in Washington, DC for decades. Her recent (pandemic) credits include a live stream production of *Steel Magnolias* for Ford's Theatre, directed by Holly Twyford, and an audio production of the short story "Revelation" by Flannery O'Connor, with the Compañia de' Colombari. Audiences would have last seen her on stage in *Doubt* at Studio Theatre. She is delighted to be part of this radio production for The Edge of the Universe Players 2 and reunited with Holly and David.



David Bryan Jackson as Martin

also Sound Designer and Audio
Producer

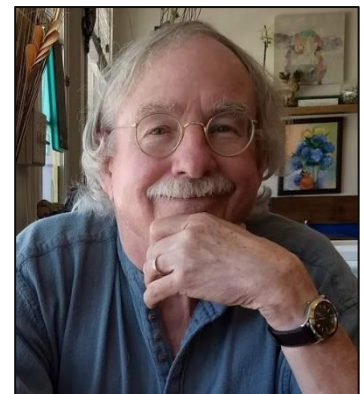


was in The Edge of the Universe
Players 2's production of *Entertaining Mr.
Sloane*, and has also acted at the
Shakespeare, Folger, Woolly Mammoth,
Studio, Source, Scena and Signature
theatres, as well as Washington Stage Guild,
Washington Shakespeare Company, Arena
Stage, The Kennedy Center, the Potomac
Theatre Project, Olney Theatre Center
(where he was also literary manager for
several years), and Pittsburgh Irish &
Classical Theatre. He has performed David
Hare's one-man play *Via Dolorosa* many
times over the last 20 years, both locally
(Theater J) and across the country. He
recently designed the sound for Mosaic
Theater's production of *Inherit the
Windbag* and for *Bloomsday* at Washington
Stage Guild (where he has been sound
designer for several prior productions), and
composed the music for *Cloud 9* and *Les*

Liaisons Dangereuses at The Nora Theatre in Cambridge, MA. His *Song for the Earth* can be heard on Zoe Ravenwood's album *The Problem Might Be Me*, and he wrote the title track on her forthcoming *Welcome to the World*.

Stephen Jarrett's (Director)

local credits include Anton Chekhov's *The Marriage Proposal* (as an online radio play), Joe Orton's *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, and *The Summoning of Everyman* for The Edge of the Universe Players 2, as well as Murray Schisgal's *Luv*, Terry Curtis Fox's *Cops*, George Kelly's *The Show-Off* and Aly Currin's *Treadwell: Light and Dark* for the American Century Theatre. His New York directing credits (nine productions) include the first N.Y.C. revivals of Lanford Wilson's *The Rimers of Eldritch*, Frank D. Gilroy's *Who'll Save the Plowboy*, Lawrence and Lee's *The Gang's All Here*, and Douglas Moore's *The Ballad of Baby Doe*. Other career highlights include



ten years as an Equity stage manager (N.Y.C. and points West), three years running an Army theater in Zweibruecken, Germany, and twelve years as Staging Director and Production Manager for the annual Hispanic Heritage Awards (Kennedy Center). He was the founding Director of Performing Arts at the BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown, MD, and spent ten years as the Executive Director of the Washington Area Performing Arts Video Archive (WAPAVA). He is a Principal of White Dog Video Services. His theater training was at the University of Iowa, Catholic University, and Yale Drama.

Naomi Robin, Casting Director

For many years, Naomi Robin was a professional stage actress based in New York, performing in theatres all over the U.S. and in Canada with such actors as Theodore Bikel, Robert Merrill, and Jan Peerce. Later, she combined that with a second career as a SAG/AFTRA voiceover



artist, doing thousands of spots and long-form narrations. Returning to her theatre roots, she then spent many years as Casting Director at Theater J, with occasional freelance projects on the side. She also served as a judge, and earlier as a nominator, with the Helen Hayes Awards. Most recently she has focused on freelance casting and coaching projects. Naomi cast the 2020 online radio play of *The Marriage Proposal* with the wonderful actors Kimberly Gilbert, Cody Nickell, and Jamie Smithson.

The Edge of the Universe Players 2 Inc. was founded in 2013 with the goal of producing plays with both high entertainment value and big meanings that transcend particular ages and cultures. The organization continues in the belief that theatre can change some part of the human family toward a more bearable, insightful, hopeful, or self-determining state. The productions have received nearly unanimous positive reviews and enthusiastic audiences. Tax-deductible

contributions may be made via
UniversePlayers2.org.

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