

Raptured

by
**MATT LYLE &
MATT COLEMAN**

directed by
JEFFREY SCHMIDT



25
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THRU
MAY
19
2019



#t3raptured

#t3leftbehind

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THE ARMOR PLAYS: CINCHED & STRAPPED

By Selina Fillinger • Directed by Leslie Swackhamer

Two one acts by another young female playwright talent round out the 2018-19 season. Paired together, the plays explore gender and rebellion by examining the past and exploring the future. The first, *Cinched*, is set during a 19th century high-class, noble dinner part. Fast forward several centuries to *Strapped* – the second piece which introduces hardened warriors in a dystopian future. Together, Fillinger's *The Armor Plays* examine the ever-evolving roles of men and women and question which will lead the way in the future.

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This playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. in support of *Raptured* (the sixth show in the 2018-19 season) on the Norma Young Arena Stage.

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Join us for post-performance discussions following each Thursday evening and all matinee performances. These "T3 Talks" are hosted by Cindee Mayfield.



Theatre Three has new Hearing Assistance devices which may be checked out without charge from the box office. These devices enhance the performance experience for audience members with any degree of hearing limitation. The box office personnel can provide you with the devices either before the show or at intermission. Theatre Three's staff and board are most grateful to the anonymous donor who allows us to offer this enhancement to our patrons.



Raptured

by Matt Lyle and Matt Coleman
Directed by Jeffrey Schmidt

THE
NORMA
YOUNG
ARENA
STAGE

ARTISTIC STAFF

DIRECTOR

Jeffrey Schmidt

SCENIC DESIGN

David Walsh

COSTUME DESIGN

Sarah Harris

LIGHTING DESIGN

Aaron Johansen

SOUND DESIGN

Marco Salinas

FIGHT/ INTIMACY

CHOREOGRAPHY

Jeffrey Colangelo

CAST

AL

Jeff Swearingen**

DICK

Chad Cline**

GRACIE

Sally Soldo

MARTHA

Shannon J. McGrann*

ROBIN

Jeremy Whiteker

RUTH

Stephanie Cleghorn

Jasso

SAM

Jakie Cabe*

CAST (cont.)

TONYA

Alle Mims**

TROY

Christopher Lew*

PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER

Katie Marchant*

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Emily Ann Probus

SPECIAL THANKS

Kris Ikejiri

Adam & Eve

* indicates members working under Actors' Equity Association contracts in this production

** indicates members who are Equity Membership candidates

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never trust a round pizza!

■ DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Raptured is set in the 3rd Baptist Church of Uncertain, Texas. Uncertain is a real, genuine Texas town on the shores of Caddo Lake near the border of Louisiana. Many people insist that, regionally, Texas is part of the western United States. East Texas, however, is undeniably the SOUTH. People there are characters, painted with large strokes and not always within the lines. My theory is that the longer it takes a person to say a vowel, the more vibrant their personality is. All Texans use the word “y’all.” However, East Texans pronounce it “y’aaawll.”

Both playwrights and I grew up behind the pine curtain. Matt Lyle grew up outside of Paris, Texas. My formative years were spent in Whitehouse, Texas. Matt Coleman hails from Texarkana. And technically, that’s Arkansas, but come on. The name starts with Tex! Now, if you didn’t know this about us, you might think we are poking fun at the people in this play. Well, we are. But, it’s without malice. We know these people, not biblically, but we grew up with them. And as the idiom goes, “To know someone is to love them.”

Matt and Matt have known each other (not biblically) since college. Coleman worked in the college bookstore and the other Matt would hang out there. So I can only guess that they were both super popular and hid out in the bookstore to avoid all the sexy ladies that were chasing them. They also talked about writing a lot. Ever since, they’ve come to rely on each other’s feedback and encouragement when working on a writing project. In Coleman’s case, the genre is mystery novels, and in Lyle’s case, it’s knock-down, drag-out funny plays like the one you are about to see.

Raptured is the first play on which the Matts have collaborated. They chose to set the play in East Texas. When asking them about their experiences growing up and living there, good and bad. Coleman said this: “I had a cousin who traveled and visited a lot of places, and said he thought he had a strong understanding of what it’s like to live in a big city. But, someone coming from the opposite end will never understand what it’s like to live in a small town. Also, property values are great,” said Coleman. Astute observations from Coleman and his cousin.

Jeffrey Schmidt

■ BIOGRAPHIES

Artistic Staff Biographies

Matt Lyle

(CO-PLAYWRIGHT)

Originally from Atlanta, Texas Matt Lyle is a writer, actor, director, husband and dad (not at all in that order). His plays, *The Boxer*, *Hello Human Female*, *Barbecue Apocalypse* and *Big Scary Animals* all garnered DFW Critics Forum Awards. Matt was honored as the 2018 Distinguished Alum of the Stephen F. Austin State University School of Theatre,

a damning indictment of the entire art form. Wink. His work is published by Broadway Play Publishing.

Matt Coleman

(CO-PLAYWRIGHT) is

a writer of mystery and comedy. His debut novel, *Juggling Kittens*, was recently optioned for a feature film. His second book, *Graffiti Creek*, was not. Matt’s crime fiction can be found between the pages of Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine, online at Shotgun Honey, or

at www.mattcolemanbooks.com. His detective comedy, *A Rocky Divorce*, hits shelves during the fall of 2019 from Austin-based Pandamoon Publishing.

Jeffrey Schmidt

(DIRECTOR) is an actor, director, and designer.

Favorite directing assignments for Theatre Three include *She Kills Monsters*, *Hands on a Hardbody*, *On the Eve*, *The Farnsworth Invention*, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad*

■ CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES

Zoo, and *Tally's Folly*. He has worked with many other professional theaters in the metroplex including Casa Mañana, Shakespeare Dallas, Trinity Shakespeare, Kitchen Dog Theater, Undermain Theatre, Dallas Children's Theater, Second Thought Theatre, Stage West, and WaterTower Theater, to name a few. He has appeared in numerous TV shows and films, including *Parkland*, *American Crime*, *Queen of the South*, *Crash*, *Friday Night Lights*, and *Distant Vision* with Francis Ford Coppola. In addition to being Theatre Three's Artistic Director, he is the Executive Artistic Director of The Drama Club.

David Walsh (SCENIC DESIGN) has been involved in the theater world for most of his life, starting in community theater at the age of 12 and continuing through today. David has been involved in more than 400 productions in every capacity from chorus boy to scenic designer. Since designing *Cedar Springs* or *Big Scary Animals* in Theatre Too last season, David is thrilled and honored to be designing another set for a "Matthew Lyle Original." Some favorite set designs include *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Theatre Three), *Passing Strange* (Theatre Three), *Hairspray*, *Joseph...*, *Fantastiks*, *As Bees In Honey Drown* (Amarillo

Little Theatre), *POMPEII!!* (Kitchen Dog Theater) to name a few. Beak legs!

Sarah Harris (COSTUME DESIGN) A Milwaukee native, Sarah is a Scenic, Costume, and Projection Designer pursuing her MFA from SMU. She is thrilled to be making her Theatre Three debut. Other designs include *The Wolves* (Dallas Theater Center); *Spring Awakening*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *In the Blood*, *Eurydice*, *A Bright New Boise*, and *Alcina* (SMU); *Annie* and *Sense and Sensibility* (Cape Fear Regional Theatre). Sarah is currently designing *Smart People* (SMU) and *Penny Candy* (DTC). www.sharrisdesigns.com

Aaron Johansen (LIGHTING DESIGN) is pleased to be back with Theatre Three, having most recently designed *Solstice: A New Holiday Adventure* and *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*. Previous collaborations have included: Dallas Theater Center; Kitchen Dog Theater (Company Member); Dallas Children's Theater; Second Thought Theater (Artistic Associate / Resident Lighting Designer); Stage West; Uptown Players; Cry Havoc Theater Company; Cara Mía Theatre Co and Sweet Tooth Hotel Art installation.

Follow me and my work on Instagram @Famoustrendywizard

Marco Salinas (SOUND DESIGN) has designed sound around DFW for over 20 years. He worked extensively with Dallas Children's Theater, and has also designed and directed for Shakespeare Dallas, where he currently serves as their Director of Educational Tours. Marco has received two Theater Critics Forum Awards and is a multiple recipient of many Outstanding Sound Design awards.

Katie Marchant (STAGE MANAGER) As a stage manager, Katie has worked locally for Theatre Three, Shakespeare Dallas, The Fort Worth Community Arts Center, Jubilee Theatre, Lyric Stage, Kids Who Care, and Casa Mañana. She spent eight months on two Theatre for Young Audiences national tours, stage managed three summer stock productions at the Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, CT, and stage managed theme park entertainment shows at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, VA. Currently Katie is the Coordinator of Special Programs and Events for the UTA Department of Music.

CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Cast Biographies



Jeff Swearingen (AL) is thrilled to be back at Theatre Three. His last appearance was as Castano in *Trysts in Toledo*. Other recent local roles include Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* at Shakespeare Dallas and The Magician in *Pompeii* at Kitchen Dog Theater. He is represented by The Mary Collins Agency.



Chad Cline (DICK) This is Chad's first show at Theatre Three since playing Clark in *Cedar Springs* or *Big Scary Animals* by Matt Lyle in Theatre Too. Chad has appeared on stages across the metroplex and currently is the Training Center Director for Stomping Ground Comedy. Chad continues to work in Commercial, Voice Over, Film and Recently was scene in *True Detective* with Mahershala Ali and Stephen

Dorph. Chad has proudly been represented by The Mary Collins Agency since 2000.



Sally Soldo (GRACIE) is thrilled to be back at Theatre Three, where she has starred in 19 productions including *A Catered Affair*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *Angry Housewives*, *Musical of Musicals*, *Putting It Together*, *Heartbeats*, *Myth and Hymns*, *Blood Brother*, *Lucky Stiff* and *Terry Dobson's My Own Private Diva*. Her awards include The Leon Rabin Award, The Column Award, and The Dallas Times Herald's Best Musical Actress Award. Sally makes her home in Dallas with her son, Jonathan, and works as the Archivist for the Dallas Summer Musicals.



Shannon J. McGrann (MARTHA) Select regional

credits include: *Incognito* (Second Thought Theatre); *A Doll's House, Part 2*, *A Funny Thing....* (Stage West); *Hand to God*, *Silent Sky*, *Noises Off* (WaterTower Theatre); *It's Only A Play* (Uptown Players); *Gypsy*, *As Thousands Cheer* (Lyric Stage); *A Christmas Carol* (Dallas Theater Center); *The Wizard of Oz* (Lyric Theatre OKC & Casa Manana). TV/ Film work includes: *The Price of Fame: Carrie Fisher*; *The Good Guys*; *Lone Star*; *My Generation*; *The Marina Oswald Story*; and regional and national commercial credits.



Jeremy Whiteker (ROBIN) is happy to go back in the closet for Theatre Three. He was last seen playing 13 different characters in Matt Lyle's *A Brief, Endless Love* at Dallas Comedy House. Other favorite roles include, Brother Brightbee in *The Book of Liz*, Oedipus in *Tab A, Slot B: A New-Age Sexiology*, Stuart in *Breast Men* and Dad in *WASP*, Mitchell Lovell in *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*, and Ray in *Lonestar*. He studied acting at the American



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CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

Conservatory Theater and in real life plays the role of realtor and dog dad.



Stephanie Cleghorn Jasso (RUTH) Stephanie has performed with Shakespeare Dallas, Dallas Children's Theater, Ochre House Theatre, Water Tower Theatre, Amphibian Stage Productions, Dallas Theater Center and Undermain Theatre, where she is a company member. In 2015 she received recognition for Outstanding Acting Performance by the DFW Theater Critics Forum. She is also a producer, teaching artist and will direct her first production with Cry Havoc this summer; she continues her acting training with Blake Hackler.



Jackie Cabe (SAM) last appeared at

Theatre Three in *The Farnsworth Invention*, *La Bete*, *Travesties*, and in *Sherlock Holmes and the Crucifer of Blood*. Recent performances include *Luna Gale*, *Funnyman*, and *Mass Appeal* at Circle Theatre, *Life Sucks* at Stage West, and *The Big Meal* at WaterTower Theatre. Jackie also performed at the Dallas Theatre Center, Casa Manana, Amphibian Productions, Trinity Shakespeare, and FW Shakespeare in the Park. Jackie has an M.F.A. in Acting from LSU, and is an Associate Professor of Theatre at Tarrant Co. College. Represented for film, television, and voice-over by the Kim Dawson Agency.



Alle Mims (TONYA) Alle is blessed to be back at Theatre Three! You may have witnessed her as Demetrius/A *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lily & Joan), Iris/*The Tempest* (Shakespeare Dallas) or Queen Anne/

The Three Musketeers (Theatre Britain). Her last resurrection on the Theatre Three stage was Evil Gabbi in *She Kills Monsters* as well as Sophia in Matt Lyle's divine *Cedar Springs*. She would like to thank all her friends and family, especially the sinners. God bless!



Christopher Lew (TROY) Clew is exalted to make his second coming at Theatre Three, having previously appeared in *She Kills Monsters*. Other regional credits include The Ochre House Theatre (*Doom McCoy & the Death Nugget*); Flexible Grey Theatre Co. (*Gruesome Playground Injuries*); Stage West (*An Octoroon*; *The Royal Society of Antarctica*); Dallas Children's Theater (*Jungelbook*); and The Undermain (*Galileo*). Thanks be to Jeff and the Matts for sharing the gospel of *Raptured!*, and blessings upon the cast and crew. Love to fam and friends! IG @champlew

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THEATRE 3 **THE IMMIGRANT**



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THRU
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DIRECTED BY JEFFREY SCHMIDT

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Society • Dallas Chamber Symphony • Dallas Children's
Theater • Dallas Symphony Orchestra • Dallas Theater Center
Dallas Winds • Dark Circles Contemporary Dance • Echo
Theatre • Fine Arts Chamber Players • Greater Dallas Youth
Orchestra • Junior Players • Kitchen Dog Theater • Lone Star
Wind Orchestra • Lyric Stage • Nasher Sculpture Center
Orchestra of New Spain • Orpheus Chamber Singers • Plano
Civic Chorus • Plano Symphony Orchestra • Sammons
Center for the Arts • Second Thought Theatre • Shakespeare
Dallas • Soul Rep Theatre Company • Teatro Dallas • Texas
Ballet Theater • Texas Winds Musical Outreach • The Black
Academy of Arts and Letters • The Dallas Opera • Theatre
Three • TITAS • Turtle Creek Chorale • Undermain Theatre
Uptown Players • Voices of Change • WaterTower Theatre

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