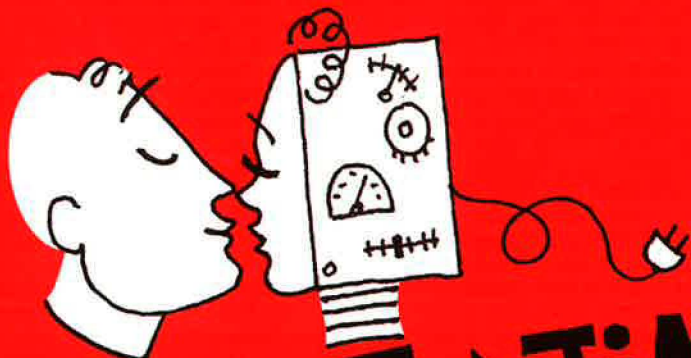


**THEATRE
THREE**

THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director, presents



COMIC POTENTIAL

A Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn

SHOW THREE / 2002-2003 SEASON / October 10-November 14, 2002

1961: *The Reluctant Debutante, The Lady's Not for Burning, Home of the Brave, Liliom, Born Yesterday, Sabrina Fair, Waiting for Godot*; **1961-62:** *Six Characters in Search of an Author, The Moon is Blue, The Tavern, Look Back in Anger, Mrs. McThing, The Little Foxes, Waiting for Godot, The Member of the Wedding, Physician in Spite of Himself, Don Juan in Hell*; **1962-63:** *To Gettysburg, And Someday I'll Die, Rock-a-bye Charlie, Burlie Victorious, The New Drunkard, All the Way Home, The Hostage, Two for the Seesaw, Julius Caesar, Light Up the Sky*; **1963-64:** *Zoo Story, The American Dream, The Time of Your Life, Night of the Iguana, Count Dracula (Or a Musical Mania from Transylvania), Champagne Complex, The Caretaker, The Emperor Jones*; **1964-1965:** *Alice in Wonderland, Oh Dad Poor Dad Momma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad, The Little Hut, Thurber Carnival, The Tender Trap, Tea and Sympathy, Of Mice and Men*; **1965-1966:** *The Solid Gold Cadillac, In White America, The Glass Menagerie, Write Me a Murder, Thieve's Carnival, Back of the Moon, Visit to a Small Planet, The Devil's Disciple, Cat's Eye, Stop the World I Want to Get Off*; **1966-67:** *The Boyfriend, Eh? Pantaglieze, The Innocents, Stop the World I Want to Get Off, The Great Sebastians, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; **1967-1968:** *Gallow's Humor, The Cave Dwellers, The Roar of the Greasepaint the Smell of the Crowd, The Miracle Worker, The Venetian Twins, The Fantasticks*; **1969-70:** *Tartuffe, The Adding Machine, Loot, Celebration, Hedda Gabler, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; **1970-71:** *The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Issac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes*; **1971-72:** *The Play's the Thing, The Me Nobody Knows, Indians, The Philanthropist, Colette, The Venetian Twins, The Rainmaker*; **1972-73:** *Twice Over Lightly, Company, The Irregular Heart of Monsieur Ornifle, And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little, The Emperor Jones, The Front Page, School for Wives*; **1973-74:** *Canterbury Tales, The Boys in the Band, The Importance of Being Earnest, Electra, Raggedy, Godspell, Scuba Duba*; **1974-75:** *Gingerbread Lady, Twigs, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, That Championship Season, The Misanthrope, Whispers on the Wind, Purlie*; **1975-76:** *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder? Smaller, Member of the Wedding, A View from the Bridge, Seven Keys to Baldpate, Corral, S'Wonderful*; **1976-77:** *Fallen Angels, Jeepers Creepers Here's Harry!, Road to Rome, Little Mary Sunshine, In Celebration, Tartuffe, The Fantasticks*; **1977-78:** *Robber Bridegroom, The Learned Ladies, Ladies at the Alamo, Porter Please!, After the Fall, Candide, Sleuth, Otherwise Engaged*; **1978-1979:** *The Runner Stumbles, The Shadow Box, Happy End, Jumpers, The Miser, Starting Here Starting Now, Side by Side by Sondheim, Small Craft Warnings*; **1979-80:** *New York Idea, Chicago, The Seagull, For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf, Present Laughter, Yip Yip Hooray!, Drinks Before Dinner, Taking Away of Little Willie, How I Got That Story*; **1980-81:** *A Woman of No Importance, House of Flowers, The Miss Firecracker Contest, Strider, Bedroom Farce, Rise and Shine, The Elephant Man, Father Dreams*; **1981-82:** *Billy Bishop Goes to War, Working, Design for Living, Physician in Spite of Himself, The Gondoliers, Close of Play, Eden Court, Splendid Rebels, The World of Paul Crumie*; **1982-83:** *She Stoops to Conquer, True West, Sweeney Todd, Man and Superman, Don Juan in Hell, Tomfoolery, Morning's at Seven, The Crashing of Moses Flying By, The Quality of Mercy*; **1983-84:** *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf, Second Threshold, Charlotte Sweet, A Day in Hollywood A Night in the Ukraine, The Actor's Nightmare, The Wake of Jamie Foster, School for Wives, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*; **1984-85:** *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow, Quartermaine's Terms, Arms and the Man, Foxfire, Angry Housewives, Outside Waco*; **1985-86:** *Little Shop of Horrors, Painting Churches, Homefront, Anything Goes, A... My Name is Alice, Season's Greetings, Infidelities*; **1986-87:** *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Patio/ Porch, The Showoff, A Little Night Music, Animal Farm, Lies and Legends*; **1987-88:** *A Luv Musical, Light Up the Sky, Benefactors, Waltz of the Topadors, Personals, Safety, Toppirls, El Gesticulador*; **1988-89:** *Claptrap, Clap Yo' Hands, Taking Steps, The Middle of Nowhere, A Quarrel of Sparrows, The Colored Museum, Hunting Cockroaches, The Fantasticks*; **1989-90:** *Broadway, The Fantasticks, The Traveling Lady, Nothing Sacred, Woman in Mind, The Road to Mecca, Groucho A Life in Revue, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; **1990-92:** *Joanna's Husband David's Wife*; **1992-93:** *Carole Cook in Dress Up!, Stringbean, Waiting for Godot, Heartbeats, The Fantasticks, The Head Chronicles, Homeward Bound, Amateurs*; **1992-93:** *Shirley Valentine, Assassins, Born Yesterday, Denise LeBrun in Revue, The Piano Lesson, Risky Games, Diary of a Madman, Droid*; **1993-94:** *A Small Family Business, Ball Games, Wholly Moliere, Shadowlands, The Fantasticks, Always Patsy Cline, Hello and Goodbye*; **1994-95:** *The Knife Thrower's Assistant, Fortinbras, Tiger Lady, Mandragola, The Frogs, The Fantasticks, Lucky Stiff, Black Nativity, A Tale of Two Cities, Manchild in the Promised Land*; **1995-96:** *Pump Boys and Dinettes, The Gingerbread Lady, All in the Timing, The Cocoanuts, The Price, Our Town, The Fantasticks, Black Nativity, Tobacco Road, All I Really Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten*; **1996-97:** *Murderer, For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All to You, Into the Woods, Sylvia, Blithe Spirit, Once on This Island, Arcadia, A Grand Night for Singing, Black Nativity, The Fantasticks*; **1997-98:** *Burn This, Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music, Amphitryon, Racing Demon, Dreams from a Summer House, Old Wicked Songs, Rise & Shine, June Moon*; **1998-99:** *Old Wicked Songs, Death Defying Acts, The Three-penny Opera, We Won't Pay We Won't Pay, The Miser, Triumph of Love, Gross Indecency The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde, As Bees in Honey Drown, Lady in the Dark*; **1999-2000:** *Beyond Therapy, The Boy Friend, Broken Glass, The Women, Company, Major Barbara, Mizlansky Zilinsky or Schmucks*; **2000-2001:** *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!, How the Other Half Loves, The Happy Times, Saturday Night, Art, The World Goes 'Round*; **2001-2002:** *The Unexpected Guest, Over the River and Through the Woods, Absurd Person Singular, Spinning Into Butter, God's Man in Texas, Side Show*; **2002-2003:** *The Great Sebastians, A Class Act, Comic Potential, Beguiled Again, Copenhagen, Paris-Dallas Project, Batboy, the Musical*

PHONE DIRECTORY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PLAYBILL CREDITS

Enter to win in
Theatre Three's lobby!

A Dinner for a party of four at
Ruggieri's Ristorante
Italian Restaurant

2800 Routh Street
Dallas, Texas 75201
214-871-7377

Offering excellent food and
service in Uptown's Quadrangle.

2800 Routh Street, Dallas, TX 75201
Box Office 214.871.3300, option 1
Administration 214.871.3300, option 2
Administration Fax 214.871.3139
Telemarketing 214.871.3300, option 3
E-Mail theatre3@airmail.net
Web Page theatre3dallas.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

David Luther, Chair; Jac Alder, Al Anderson, Brenda Austin, D'Metria Benson, Michael Brennen MD, Martin L. Camp, Michael Davis, James Patrick Dow, Virginia & Roland Dykes, David Forsythe, Matt & Dorothy Garland, John Hauge, Kim Hogan, Ed & Rosie Hughes, Melinda Johnston-McLaughlin, Shirley Miller, Don Allen Price, Elizabeth Rivera, Enika Schulze, Janet Spencer Shaw, Helen Spence, Karen Washington

The Theatre Three playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. 2800 Routh Street, Dallas, Texas 75201.

This playbill is published for Comic Potential, the third show of the 2002-2003 season,

"BEHIND THE SCENES."

Cover art by Harland Wright Playbill Editors: Jac Alder, Kimberly Richard

Time to say farewell to your car, truck, boat,
motorcycle or trailer?
Then please donate it to Theatre Three!

CARS INTO
COSTUMES!



AUTOS INTO
ART!



Even if it doesn't run any longer, donate your vehicle, and we'll tow it at no cost too! The money will provide much needed funds for costumes...or medical coverage for an actor. And you get to deduct the *maximum* blue book value regardless of condition!

Call 214.871.2933

PLAYGOER INFORMATION AND SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The **Hoblitzelle Foundation** kindly awarded Theatre Three a grant for installing a new air-conditioning system for the facility. Last June, work began on these enhancements. The work has been completed and we sincerely thank Hoblitzelle for its generosity.

CONTRIBUTORS to the Threshold Campaign whose bricks have not yet been installed include Paul and Barbara Bierbrier. Theatre Three looks forward to adding their names to the threshold bricks at the entry to the theatre, and extends sincere thanks to these generous individuals.

Regarding Theatre Three...

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution founded in 1961 by Norma Young. It serves to celebrate and honor the three essentials of theatre for which she named it: gifted playwrights, talented theatre artists, and adventurous audiences.

Regarding this performances...

- There will be a fifteen minute intermission. Concessions are available in the lobby.
- Cameras or recording devices of any kind are prohibited.
- Please turn off (or silence) all cell phones and pagers.
- Please finish refreshments in the lobby.

For theatre goers with disabilities...

- Please feel free to call upon our staff for assistance.
- Wheelchair locations are available at stage level.
- Half of the seats may be reached by handrails.
- A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- Handicapped parking is next to the Dream Café and the new Sigel's, The Epicurean.

Regarding parking...

All parking is free. Surface parking surrounds The Quadrangle. Garage (tower) parking is accessible just off Routh on Laclede Street.

IN MEMORIAM

Contributions have been made in memory of or from the estates of...

Sam Catter, Bill Dallas, Scott Everheart, Paula Goodlet, Oliver Hailey, Lloyd W. Kitchens Jr., M.D., Anne Weeks Jackson, Jim Jackson, Masha Porte, Carolyn Ryburn, Frank Rey, Mary Blanche Scales, Charlotte E. Schumacher, Evelyn Wilke, and Norma Young.

Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated are placed in the theatre's new permanent building endowment fund.

SEASON SPONSORS



Theatre Three is supported by its Board of Directors, by subscribers, by funds from the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, and The Texas Commission on the Arts. Supporters also include TACA. Major corporate season sponsors include American Airlines, The Dallas Morning News, and WFAA Channel 8.

THE PHOENIX CAMPAIGN

Dear Playgoer,

The first person who made a donation to Theatre Three got no pleasure from it. That person was a relative of our Founding Director, Norma Young, who left Norma a \$3000 inheritance. Norma, in turn, used that money to start us up. I've always thought it sad that Norma's great aunt never saw what her bequest made possible. Now forty-one years later, Theatre Three has provided pleasures to tens of thousands of playgoers and an artistic home for dedicated, gifted artists.

The Phoenix Campaign is our annual drive for individuals. Without it, the theatre would never have risen from the ashes of the late eighties' difficult economics. This season, we face similar issue due to post 9/11 economics and budget cuts from the City of Dallas.

Fortunately for us, donations from individuals (yes, you!) has always been a major support. Furthermore, Theatre Three has earned more of its income: more 69% of last season's budget came from tickets sales and other earned revenues. Add these two strengths together and we have a plan for keeping that Phoenix bird in flight.

I'm confident that you, like I, believe there's value in continuing to gather here regularly to celebrate the human heart, and mind. Indeed, in these post 9/11 days, there's more value than ever. Please help. If you haven't contributed yet, please consider doing so using the blank at the right. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JAC ALDER

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director

YES, list my name in support of Theatre Three's PHOENIX FUND DRIVE for this year. In these extraordinary times, I'd like to help as follows:

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$1,000)
PRODUCER'S COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
(to support production costs for sets, lights, costumes, and designers)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$500)
DIRECTOR'S COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
(to support outreach, audience development and artistic administration)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$250)
ACTOR'S BENEFACTORS
(to support salaries and benefits for the resident acting company)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$125)
AUTHOR BENEFACTORS
(to support royalties to composers, lyricists, and playwrights)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$50)
BACKSTAGE BENEFACTORS
(to support stipends for Theatre Three's intern staff)

Write your total contribution in the blank...
\$ _____

NAME _____

☐ My check is enclosed for the full donation, **OR**
Charge my donation to...
☐ VISA; ☐ Discover; ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex
(if charging, write account number and exp. date)

If you wish, your charged donation can be paid in three equal monthly installments. We'll charge one third of the gift upon receipt, and one third in each of the two following months. If you wish this option, check here ☐

If you wish your gift to be anonymous, check here ☐
Bring or mail to:
Theatre Three
2800 Routh Street, Dallas, TX 75201

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PHOENIX DONORS

As of October 3, 2002

Producer's Council Membership

Ms. Emily Jefferson, Mr. & Mrs. J. Roland Dykes, Mr. William R. Bond, Mr. & Mrs. H. Matthews Garland, Stan Graner & Jim McBride, David Luther, Mr. & Mrs. Tom H. McCasland Jr.

Director's Council Membership

Mr. & Mrs. Doug Bailey, Janet Spencer Shaw

Actor's Benefactors

Martin Camp, Col. William H. Hastings, Mr. D. Leland Turner, Charles W. Yates, Gen. & Mrs. Harry J. Dalton Jr., Ms. Florence Doswell, Bobby & Anne Fincher, Mrs. Ebby Halliday Acers, Peggy L. Townsley

Author Benefactors

Mr. Joe & Luclare Hamby, Mr. Alexander B. Hamerman, Ms. Nan Moser, Susan & Gene Johnson, Dr. & Mrs. Warren C. Johnson, David & June Jones, Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Martin Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Philip Fischer, Mr. & Mrs. Donald W. Flint, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence G. Besson, Mr. W. Richard L. Russell, Mr. & Mrs. John E. Garrett, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Secrest, Stan & Elissa Hirschman, Mr. & Mrs. Jack W. Hawkins

Backstage Benefactors

Mr. & Mrs. L. M. Castleberry, Ms. Billie Maxine Cook, Robert & Janet Hader, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Herbison, Betty E. Hill, Mr. & Mrs. W. Kenneth Hubbard, Mrs. Mina Jacobs, Mr. Robert D. Meade, Bernice Catherine Moss, Mr. Richard & Roxanne Scott, Ms. Nancy H. Strickland, Mr. & Mrs. John B. Tolle, Alvena & Naomi Unruh, Mr. Benjamin Vincent, Ms. Marlene Webb, Julie & William Wilkinson, Catherine B. Bass, Ms. Rosanne Bell, Carl & Jeanette Benson, Paul & Beth Braziller, Dorothy Nieman, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Felice, Mr. & Mrs. Doug & Linda Gilpin, Fred & Paula Grinnell, Mr. & Mrs. Dan & Susan Kasten, Ms. Charlotte Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Harold R. Avery, Mr. & Mrs. James E. Mitchell, Mr. & Mrs. John & Rusty Jagers, Mrs. John H. Rowley, Bonnie S. Pearson, Lynne Richardson, Mr. & Mrs. John Sutherland, Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Stone, Robert S. Williams, Jane Pearce Nash, Mr. & Mrs. Miller Patrick Henley, Jerome M. Haynes, Sarah Andriani, Ms. Sarah M. Hansen, Peggy & Franklin Hyde, Mr. Steve Lamberti, Kevin Cloutier

These donation also reflect additional donation made by
Theatre Three's Board of Directors.

What's Going on at Theatre Three!

A Special Thanks to



For their support of Theatre Three
And
For making Theatre Three's "Jacie" a
little more beautiful!



Upcoming Shows at Theatre Three



November 28, 2002 — January 4, 2003

Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart songs for the holiday season : what could be better? Unmatched for wit, heartfelt feeling, groundbreaking content, and sophistication, the songs of Rodgers and Hart are a great American theatrical treasure packaged as a great holiday gift for our playgoers!

For tickets and information, call Theatre Three's box office at
214-871-3300!

THEATRE THREE presents the third show of the 2002-2003 season...

Permission for this production has been granted to Theatre Three by Samuel French, Inc.
45 West 25th Street, New York, NY 10036



**A
Comedy
by
Alan
Ayckbourn**

Artistic Staff:

Director: Jac Alder
Set Design: Harland Wright
Lighting Design: Mike Garner
Original Music: John Pattison
Theatre Three Sound Design: Jay Jones
Choreography: Jane Chalk-Davis
Costume Design: Patty Korbolic Williams
Wigs and Make-up: Ryan Smith
Dialect Coach: Sue Birch
Production Manager: Linda Harrison

Carpenters and Painters:

Jeffrey Schmidt, Linda Harrison, Rebecca Pense, John Forkner, Susannah Linnett, Harland Wright & Trey Albright

Propmaster:

Linda Harrison

Master Electrician:

Carl Munoz

Electricians:

Jonas Houston, Nick Jirasek

Production Stage Manager:

*Tommy Looney

Production Assistant: & Floor Manager

Susannah Linnett

Light Board Operator:

Rebecca Pense

Special Thanks :

The Quadrangle for rehearsal space

Cast

Humans (in order of appearance)

Laura Yancey — Prim Spring, the programmer of *Hospital Hearts*
Lysandra Dial-Meek — Trudi Floote, Prim's technician partner
***Vince Davis** — Chandler (Chance) Tate, the American director of *Hospital Hearts*
Rebecca Graham — Carla Pepperbloom, Regional Director of British Branch TV
***Michael Turner** — Adam Trainsmith, a young American writer on a journey
Chris Messersmith — Lester Trainsmith, Adam's press mogul uncle
Justin Martindale — Marmion Çedilla, Lester Trainsmith's communicator

Justin Martindale — Grand Hotel Desk Clerk
Chris Messersmith — Man at the Boutique
Lysandra Dial-Meek — Girl at the Boutique
***Sally Cole** — Saleswoman at the Boutique
Ryan Roach — Waiter 1
Stephen Tickner — Waiter 2
***Sally Cole** — Prostitute, working for Turkey
Ryan Roach — Turkey, the brothel operator
Stephen Tickner — Technician

Actoids (in order of appearance)

***Dana Schultes** — the Nurse, played by Jacie Triplethree
Ryan Roach — the Doctor
Stephen Tickner — the Young Man
***Sally Cole** — the Mother
Ryan Roach — the Farmer
***Sally Cole** — the Farmer's Wife

***Dana Schultes** — the Girl who fell off a truck, played by Jacie Triplethree

** indicates members working under Actor's Equity Association contracts in this*

Synopsis of the Scenes

Act One:

Scene One: A TV Studio. One Morning
Scene Two: The same. Later that day
Scene Three: The same. A few days later

Time:

The foreseeable future when everything has changed except human nature.

Act Two:


Scene One: The studio. The same day
Scene Two: The Grand Hotel Foyer. That evening
Scene Three: The studio. The same evening
Scene Four: The Grand Hotel Boutique. The same evening
Scene Five: The studio. That same evening
Scene Six: The Hotel Restaurant. The same evening
Scene Seven: The studio. The same evening
Scene Eight: The Hotel bedroom. The same evening
Scene Nine: The Hotel Mombassa. Later that night
Scene Ten: The studio. The next morning

BIOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTOR



Jac Alder (Executive Producer-Director of Theatre Three and Director of *Comic Potential*) Two seasons ago, he directed *How The Other Half Loves*. Other Ayckbourn directing experiences include *Taking Steps* and *Woman in Mind*. He would like to express his appreciation to actress Sue Birch who is the production's dialect coach, and to Janie Chalk-Davis (one of the founders of Dancers Unlimited) who devised and taught Jacie's choreography.

"There are many good people who have given generously over the years in order to support the work of the theatre and I am grateful to all. During the rehearsal and performance period of *Comic Potential*, the theatre is holding its annual drive for individual contributions, The Phoenix Fund. Somehow it seems appropriate that this multi-faceted comedy (which manages, in my view to be both hilarious and profound) is the example of what we're asking people to support. It has everything in it that interests us: exuberance, laughter, and for all its invention and dazzle, a serious examination of power, of love, of community, of betrayals, and of the hope there is in hope itself. I feel fortunate to run a theatre during a time when a writer like Ayckbourn is giving his full attention to the stage. He's not only a prolific and important writer, he spends most of his time at his theatre in Scarborough directing other people's plays. What an intimidating inspiration."



STILL PLAYING DOWNSTAIRS IN THEATRE TOO!

Continued by
popular demand! Performances Th at
7:30, Fri & Sat at 8:00, Sun at 2:30 & 7:30

STAFF OF THEATRE THREE

Jac Alder Executive Producer-Director

Administration

Terry Dobson, Company Manager; Joan Sleight, Director of Business Affairs; Nick Rushing, Computer Service Manager; Kimberly Richard, Director of Publications and Staff Communications

Production

Harland Wright, Director of Design; Terry Dobson, Musical Director; Patty Korbelic-Williams, Costumer; Linda Harrison, Production Manager, Jeffrey Schmidt, Master Carpenter; Trey Albright, Production & Facility Assistant

Customer Services

Tommy Looney, Subscription and Box Office Manager; Carol Crosby, Director of Telemarketing; Patty Korbelic-Williams, Performance Box Office Supervisor; Rebecca M. Dees and Elaine Foster, Assistant Performance Box Office Supervisors; John Lang, House Manager; Darius Warren, Daytime Box Office Supervisor; Sally Cole Ainsworth, Assistant Daytime Box Office Supervisor; Jared Graham, Electronic Publications; Tony Banda, Kristen Lamberth, Nancy Meeks, Liz Mikel, Joe Page-Russell, Ryan Smith Reservationists; Adair Ahrens, David Curtis, Trinity Johannsen, Roger Wilson, Telemarketing Staff; John Forkner, Susannah Linnett, Rebecca Pense, Intern Staff.

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS



Sally Cole
*Mother, Farmer's
Wife, Dress Shop
Attendant, Prostitute*

Theatre Three patrons remember this longtime friend of the theatre from her role as Miss Hodge in *Design for Living*. Her other Theatre Three roles include Louise in *The Runner Stumbles*, Flipotte in *Tartuffe*, Catherine in *A View from the Bridge*, Cheryl in *When You Comin' Back Red Ryder*, and Titania in a children's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She has also performed the role of Edith in *Blythe Spirit* at New Arts Theatre. In addition to appearances on Dodge and Pepsi commercials, Sally has also played DarlaKay on Mr. Peppermint. She would like to thank Jac for giving her this great opportunity. She would also like to thank her wonderful husband Michael and precious son, Nicholas, for their support.



Vince Davis
Chandler Tate

This stage veteran happily returns to the Theatre Three family. Theatre Three audiences may remember him as John Merrick in *The Elephant Man*, Rosencrantz in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, Alian in *School for Wives*, Aloysius Benheim in *Sister Mary Ignatious...* Other favorite theatre roles include Lenny Bruce in *Lenny* at More Sugar Productions, and Arles (et. al.) in *Greater Tuna* at Stage West/Wayside Theatre. His numerous film and television appearances include *Leap of Faith*, *Bad Girls*, and *Witness to the Execution*. This award-winning actor dedicates this performance to the finest family in the world, wife Jane Evelyn Chalk renowned dancer, teacher, educator, and president of the Dance Council and handsome son Michael, perhaps the next James Finlayson.



Lysandra Dial-Meek
*Trudi Floote & Girl in
the Shop*

After attending the University of Oklahoma, Lysandra crossed the Red River to make her home in Texas. She made her Theatre Three debut during last season's production of *Blood Brothers*. Other favorite roles include Mazeppa in *Gypsy* at Garland Summer Musicals and Flower Mound Performing Arts, Emily in *Our Town* at Oklahoma Children's Theatre, Poopay in *Communicating Doors*, Tood in *Cover of Life*, Heather and Margaret in *Six Women with Brain Death*, and Mary MacGregor in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, all produced at Carpenter Square Theatre. She would like to thank Jac for giving her the opportunity to work with such a great cast and crew and thank her wonderful husband, Scott.



John Forkner
Understudy

After recently completing his BFA in performance from Baylor University, John joined Theatre Three's intern staff and is making his mainstage debut. Other roles include the Professor in *The Lesson* at WaterTower Theatre's Out of the Loop Festival, Anthony in *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* at Dallas Children's Theatre, Perchik in *Fiddler on the Roof* at Granbury Opera House, FDR in *Annie Warbucks* at Granbury Opera House, Cassio in *Othello* at Oklahoma Shakespeare Festival, Samuel in *Pirates of Penzance* at Oklahoma Shakespeare Festival, and Dromio of Syracuse in *Comedy of Errors* at Baylor University. John would like to thank Jac for giving him this opportunity.

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED



Rebecca Graham
Carla
Pepperbloom

Rebecca last graced Theatre Three's stage last season, playing Miriam in *Absurd Person Singular*. She has also been in Theatre Three's productions of *The Happy Time* (Maman) and *As Bees in Honey Drown* (multiple roles). She has appeared on the Fort Worth stage as Harper Pitt in *Angels in America Parts I & II*, Rose Mundy in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Lady MacDuff, Lord Lenox, and Witch in *Macbeth*, and Mrs. Soames in *Our Town* at Stage West and played various roles in Moonwater Theatre's *Addiction* play festival.



Justin Martindale
Marmion & Desk
Clerk

Justin is making his Theatre Three debut after completing his B.F.A in Theatre Performance at Baylor University. His theatre experience includes Antipholus of Syracuse in *Comedy of Errors* at Baylor University, Le Beau in *As You Like It* at Peterborough Players, Johnny in *Misalliance*, Aegisthus in *Oresteia*, and Valentine in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* at Baylor University, and Oberon in *Midsummer Night's Dream* at Waco Civic Theatre. He is new to Dallas from San Antonio and he would like to thank the Baylor North crew for helping him get started. He would like to thank God for helping him and blessing him daily. He would like to dedicate this performance to his mother, Debbie.



Chris Messersmith
Lester Trainsmith &
Man in Dress Shop

Chris' most recent role at Theatre Three was as Novotny in the 2002-2003 season opener, *The Great Sebastians*. Last season, he charmed Theatre Three audiences as Meyers in *Spinning Into Butter*. Other area performances include Epureim Cabot in *Desire Under the Elms* at WaterTower Theatre and Judge Harper in *Miracle on 34th Street* at The Dallas Children's Theatre. His television and film experience include *Broke Sky*, *Scrooge and Marley*, and starring roles in the Emmy Award-winning series *In Search of Heroes*. He is also fluent in pig latin.



Charles Ryan
Roach
Doctor, Farmer, Waiter,
& Turkey

This University of North Texas graduate was last seen on Theatre Three's stage as Mr. Lyons in last season's production of *Blood Brothers*. He has performed several roles at Theatre Arlington including Norman in *The Boys Next Door*, the Baker in *Into the Woods*, John/Judas in *Godspell*, and Malcolm in *Bedroom Farce*. He has also played the Narrator in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* at Sage & Silo Theatre and various roles in *Greater Tuna* at Seville Dinner Theatre in Pensacola, Florida. His television and film experience includes *Born on the Fourth of July* and *Necessary Roughness*. He would like to thank his family, the Casa crew, the RAG, and Trashmonkeys.

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED



Dana Schultes
Jacie Triplethree

Dana is making her Theatre Three debut with this production, but she has performed numerous roles for Stage West including Emily Webb in *Our Town*, Stella Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Lisa Morrison in *Collected Stories*, Madeleine in *Quills*, and Scotland Road in *The Woman*. She also played the Butterfly's Evil Spell in *The Butterfly* at Hip Pocket Theatre. This Irene Ryan recipient has also appeared in several industrials and P.S.A.'s Dana recently discovered a passion for sky diving during a three and a half month backpacking trip through Europe.



Stephen Tickner
Son, Waiter, &
Technician

Comic Potential is this current K.D. Studio student's Theatre Three debut. Favorite theatre roles include Philinte in *The Misanthrope* at Progrexssive Arts, Marcellus in *Hamlet* at N.M. Productions, Tony in *The Dining Room* at Black Box Operations, Watch in *Much Ado About Nothing* at Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, Gloucester in *Henry V* at Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, and Louie in *Lost in Yonkers* at Stage Door in Oklahoma.



Michael Turner
Adam Trainsmith

Last season Michael appeared twice on Theatre Three's stage as Greg in *Spinning Into Butter*, and Mickey in *Blood Brothers*. He studied theatre for two years at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts before receiving a BFA in Theatre Performance from Baylor University. Since his graduation, he performed several roles including Alexander in the Dallas Children's Theatre's production of *Alexander and the Terrible...Day*, Finch in Baylor's production of *How to Succeed in Business...*, Newsboy/Student in a New York production of *Houdini*, the Baseball Player in Dallas Children's Theatre production of *Our Town*, and Tommy in SMU Program Council's production of *Tommy*. Besides numerous TV commercials, he also appeared on *Walker, Texas Ranger*.



Laura Yancey
Prim Spring

This talented actress and writer holds a BA in Drama from Tulane University, a MFA in professional acting from SMU and trained at HB Studio in New York. She has performed in Theatre Three productions of *Canterbury Tales*, *Tomfoolery*, and *Claptrap*. Her resume includes playing Wanda in *Bad Roof* by Tim Hatcher at Festival of Independent Theatre/ Ground Zero Theatre, Rona in *Kennedy's Children* at Encompass Theatre in New York, and Amanda in *Private Lives* at New Arts Theatre. Her solo performances include *The Magic of Mary Martin*, and *The Tale of Beatrix Potter*. She was voted Best Actress by Tulane Drama Faculty Awards. She would like to dedicate this performance to her husband, Bob Burford and to their children, Julia and David.

ABOUT *COMIC POTENTIAL*

Born in London in 1939, Alan Ayckbourn spent most of his childhood in Sussex and was educated at Haileybury. Leaving there one Friday at the age of seventeen, he went into theatre the following Monday and has been working in it ever since as, variously, a stage manager, sound technician, scene painter, prop-maker, actor, writer, and director. These last two talents he developed thanks to his mentor, Stephen Joseph, whom he first met in 1958 upon joining his newly formed Studio Theatre Company in Scarborough. A BBC Radio Drama Producer from 1965 to 1970, upon the early death of Stephen Joseph he returned to Scarborough to become the company's Artistic Director. He holds the post to this day, though the theatre is now named after its founder. He is the author of over fifty plays, most of which received their first performance at the Yorkshire theatre, where he spends the greater part of the year directing other people's work. More than half of his plays have subsequently been produced in the West End, at the Royal National Theatre or at the RSC. They have been translated into over thirty languages, are seen on stage and television throughout the world, and have received many national and international awards. Alan Ayckbourn was appointed a CBE in 1987 and in 1997 became the first playwright to be knighted since Terence Rattigan.

A note from the script of *Comic Potential*

After over 40 years in the theatre, Alan Ayckbourn is still curious. *Comic Potential* is his fifty-third play and he is the most frequently performed playwright after William Shakespeare. He is amazed by the future of technology, and loves exploring the effects of technology on human nature. As much as he enjoys the possibilities technology has to offer, Ayckbourn fears that it may cut people off from each other and make the world more impersonal. He believes theatre is the medium that allows society to come together as a community and explore ignored emotions.

While Ayckbourn may worry about the effect of technology, MIT has mounted a study of artificial intelligence may provide more information about humans than robots. Since 1959, MIT has been developing a lab to study artificial intelligence. However, to create robots that could interact with humans, they had to learn about the complexity of human emotions. Researchers consider questions such as "Where does the mind reside?, What is the nature of memory?, What are the roles of emotions? and What is consciousness?". As a project, MIT developed Kismet, a robot that is engineered to learn to react in social situations and relate various emotions. Kismet is programmed with various emotional abilities, but the robot doesn't know how or when to use the reactions. Researchers intend the robot to be in an infant state and hope that a programmer can teach Kismet how to interact with humans in an appropriate way. In this experiment, the programmer acts as a "mother" who is teaching her "infant" how to comprehend the world around it. Researchers hope to learn if emotions can be learned by a computer and if a real interaction between robot and programmer can develop. Even if Kismet does not learn human emotions and social cues, MIT's research may reveal more about human interaction, relationships, and emotions.



In theater,
experience life.

For centuries, the theater and the arts have enriched millions of lives.

Just like a newspaper, theater introduces us to new ideas, experiences and new perspectives — which makes life better for all of us. Through our support of the arts, we are committed to providing the opportunity for everyone to "experience life."

The Dallas Morning News

In touch with the arts.

dallasnews.com

THEATRE THREE'S 2002-2003 SEASON



SHOW ONE: JUL 3 - AUG 10, 2002



A Comedy-Adventure by Lindsay and Crouse

A just-after-World War Two story of a combative vaudeville husband and wife mind-reading duo who get dangerously (but hilariously) entangled in behind the Iron Curtain intrigues.

SHOW TWO: AUG 22 - SEPT 28, 2002



Music and Lyrics by Ed Kleban, Book by Linda Kline and Lonny Price

This perceptive, passionate, and amusing musical biography of Ed Kleban, the lyricist of a *Chorus Line*, spins out the story of a life dominated by a passion for theatre, and penchant for women, and a monumental talent

SHOW THREE: OCT 10 - NOV 16, 2002



A Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn

Favorite Theatre Three playwright, Alan Ayckbourn has looked into the future to write about backstage television when robots will act in soap operas, and everyone's getting confused about what's real!

SHOW FOUR: NOV 27, 2002 - JAN 4, 2003



A Musical Revue by Rodgers and Hart

Unmatched for wit, heartfelt feeling, groundbreaking content, and sophistication, the songs of Rodgers and Hart are a great American theatrical treasure packaged as a holiday gift for our playgoers.

SHOW FIVE: JAN 16 - FEB 22, 2003



A Drama by Michael Frayn

How is it that the Nazis didn't get the atom bomb built before America did?

In this taut drama, we see the extraordinary combination of science, politics, friendships and nearmiss circumstances that changed the world.

SHOW SIX: MAR 6 - APR 12, 2003



The Paris-Dallas Project

Paris-based American musician, actor, and director John McLean, working with Theatre Three's Jac Alder, will select, translate, and stage a contemporary Paris-produced play in a project that will give an American premiere to a contemporary French theatrical success.

SHOW SEVEN: APR 24 - May 31, 2003



A Musical by Farley, Flemming, and O'Keefe

An off-Broadway musical/horror show about a half boy/half bat creature discovered in a cave in West Virginia that manages to be funny, touching, inventive and unpredictably delightful.



An Exciting Season Exploring Behind-The-Scenes Scenarios in Love, War, and Show-Biz