

**THEATRE
THREE**

THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director, presents



A comedy adventure by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse

SHOW ONE / 2002-2003 SEASON / July 3-August 10, 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 in the Tavern, Look Back in Anger, Mrs. McThing, The Little Foxes, Waiting for Godot, The Member of the Wedding, The Skin of Our Teeth, Don Juan in Hell; **1962-63:** To Gettysburg, And Someday I'll Die, Rock-a-lula, Charlie Victorious, The New Drunkard, All the Way Home, The Hostage, Two for the Seesaw, Julie, Light Up the Sky; **1963-64:** Zoo Story, The American Dream, The Time of Your Life, Night of the Iguana, Dracula (Or a Musical Mania from Transylvania), Champagne Complex, The Caretaker, The Elephant Man, The Solid Gold Cadillac, In Wonderland, Oh Dad Poor Dad Momma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' Sad, The Little Hut, Thurber Carnival, The Tender Trap, Tea and Sympathy, Of Mice and Men; **1965:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, In White America, The Glass Menagerie, Write Me a Murder, Thieve's Carnival, The Moon, Visit to a Small Planet, The Devil's Disciple, Cat's Eye, Stop the World I Want to Get Off; **1966:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, 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 and the Smell of the Crowd, The Miracle Worker, The Venetian Twins, The Fantasticks; **1969-70:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Celebration, Hedda Gabler, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum; **1971:** The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1971-72:** The Play's the Thing, The Me Nobody Knows, Indians, The Rainmaker; **1972-73:** Twice Over Lightly, Company, The Rainmaker; **1973-74:** Canterbury Tales, The Boys in the Band, The Importance of Being Earnest, Electra, The Godspell, Scuba Duba; **1974-75:** Gingerbread Lady, Twigs, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, That Thing Called the Miser, The Misanthrope, Whispers on the Wind, Purlie; **1975-76:** When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1976-77:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **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, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1980-81:** A Woman of No Importance, House of Flowers, The Miss Firecracker Contest, The Elephant Man, The Elephant Man, The Elephant Man, The Elephant Man; **1981-82:** Billy Bishop Goes to Sea, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1982-83:** She Stoops to Conquer, True West, Sweeney Todd, Man of the Hour, The World of Paul Crumie; **1983-84:** For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1984-85:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1985-86:** Little Shop of Horrors, Painting Churches, Homefront, Anything Goes, A...My Name is Alice, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1986-87:** Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Patio/ Porch, The Showoff, A Little Night Music, A Farm, Lies and Legends; **1987-88:** A Luv Musical, Light Up the Sky, Benefactors, Waltz of the Toreadors, Personals, Safety, Topgirls, El Gesticulador; **1988-89:** Claptrap, Clap Yo' Hands, Taking Steps, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1989-90:** The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1990-92:** Joanna's Husband David, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1993:** Carole Cook in Dress Up!, Stringbean, Waiting for Godot, Heartbeats, The Fantasticks, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1993-94:** A Small Favor, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1995-96:** Pump Boys and Dinettes, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1996-97:** Murderer, For Whom the Bell Tolls, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All to You, Into the Woods, Sylvia, Blithe Spirit, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1997-98:** Burn This, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1998-99:** Old Wicked Songs, Death Defying Acts, The Three-penny Opera, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **1999-2000:** Beyond Therapy, The Boy Friend, Broken Glass, The Great Gatsby, The Great Gold Cadillac, The Skin of Our Teeth, The Last Sweet Days of Isaac, Misalliance, Come Back Little Sheba, Nobody Loves an Albatross, Anything Goes; **2000-2001:** I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!, How the Other Half Loves, The Happy Times (Nov 22 - Jan 7, 2001); **2001-2002:** The Unexpected Guest (Jul 5 - Aug 12); Over the River and Through the Woods (Oct 11 - Nov 25); Absurd Person Singular (Dec 6 - Jan 13); Spinning Into Butter (Jan 24 - Mar 3); God's Man in Texas (Mar 14 - Apr 21); Side Show (May 2 - Jun 9).

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

This playbill is published for The Great Sebastians, the first show of the 2002-2003 season,
"BEHIND THE SCENES."

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

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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 one 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.

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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 The 500, Inc., and TACA. Major corporate season sponsors include American Airlines, The Dallas Morning News, and WFAA Channel 8.

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Music and Lyrics by **Edward Kleban**
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August 22 — September 28, 2002

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THE PHOENIX CAMPAIGN

Dear Playgoer,

This year has been an extraordinary time for Theatre Three. This fall, we celebrated our fortieth anniversary in grand style with some dear friends. In *Theatre Too!, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!* continues to run successfully. The theatre continues to grow and thrive.

However, after the events of September 11th, it has been hard to focus on celebration. I usually write a letter of appeal for the Phoenix campaign at about that time, but it seemed an untimely and unreasonable task. Instead, I turned my focus to our 40th anniversary and remembered this theatre's incredible history of rejuvenating stories of perseverance, reassurance, hope, and accomplishment.

The Phoenix Campaign was named for the mythical bird that rose from the ashes. It's a name evocative of a time when we weren't really sure whether Theatre Three would reach its 40th anniversary. Now as this nation tries to raise itself from the ashes, and the needs of our society change, please continue your support for Theatre Three. Do something extraordinary and support an organization that strives to delight, entertain, and inspire. If you haven't contributed yet, please consider doing so using the blank at the right. Thank you.

Sincerely,



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:

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(to support production costs for sets, lights, costumes, and designers)

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(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)

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Permission for this production has been granted to Theatre Three by Samuel French, Inc.,
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Cast:

J. Brent Alford* — Rudi Sebastians
Elizabeth Rothan* — Essie Sebastian
Dona Safran — Many
James Kille — Josef
Lem White* — Sergeant Javorsky
Larry Randolph* — General Zandek
Brendan Hogan — Soldier #1
Greg Wohead — Soldier #2
Nicole Javier — Vlasta Habova
Kelly Thomas — Colonel Jarka Bradacova
Melinda Mills — Sophie Cerny
Fred O'Brien — Karl Cerny
Chris Messersmith — Novotony
Steve Jones — Pavlat
Jennifer Halteman — Marie Balzar
Matt Halteman — Tani Balzar
Tim Elliot — Stepan Bacilek
Jennifer Clary — Many (understudy)

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

Artistic Staff:

Director: Jac Alder
Set Design: Harland Wright
Lighting Design: Mike Garner
Sound Design: Jay Jones
Costume Design: Patty Korbelle Williams
Production Manager: Linda Harrison

Carpenters and Painters:

Jeffrey Schmidt, Linda Harrison, Harland Wright,
Robert Prentiss, Vicki Phung, Jennifer Clary, Greg
Wohead, Brendan Hogan, Susannah Linette, Trey
Albright, Carl Munoz, Nick Jirasek

Propmasters:

Harland Wright and Linda Harrison

Master Electrician:

Carl Munoz

Electrician:

Jonas Houston, Nick Jirasek

Production Stage Manager:

*Terry Dobson

Production Assistant:

Niko Fruechting

Light Board Operator:

Susannah Linette

Floor Manager:

Niko Fruechting

Synopsis of Scenes:

Act One

Scene One: The stage of the Théâtre Variété. (The scene starts just as the Great Sebastians have concluded their mind-reading act.)

Scene Two: A combination sitting room and dressing room in the Théâtre Variété. (The scene starts a few minutes before the end of Scene I.)
There will be a 15 minute intermission

Act Two

The living room of General Zandek's home. The same night

There will be a ten minute intermission

Act Three

The same as Act Two, one hour later

Setting:

March, 1948
Prague, Czechoslovakia

Special thanks to:

Duncanville Community Theatre and Amy Jackson for the loan of a followspot.



Dear Playgoer,

When I decided Theatre Three patrons might enjoy a season of plays to elaborate on a "behind the scenes" theme, Joan Sleight reminded me of *The Great Sebastians*, a play we produced (and I directed) in '67-'68 season. She announced, "It's perfect for summer: very funny, something of a mystery, a great vehicle for performers, and part of it is literally set behind the scenes — in a dressing room!" She was, as usual, right!

Joan, now on the theatre's administrative staff, had done the lighting for the show that featured two of the theatre's most important early performers, Bernadette Whitehead and T.Y. Hill as Essie and Rudi Sebastian. Hugh Feagin, still regularly seen these days here — remember Hugh as the older pastor in *God's Man in Texas*? — played Sgt. Jovorsky.

The show's Broadway debut was 1956 and starred the Lunts. Lindsay and Crouse knew how to write for the Lunts' legendary comic vigor and extravagant theatricality. And they knew how to write a fun plot with a large number of vivid characters surrounding them. What a lot of fun it's been for me to revisit *The Great Sebastians* and to work with a company determined to show how entertaining a great mid-century, three act comedy can be!

Thank you for coming! We're looking forward to seeing you all season long!

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer— Director and Director of the Great Sebastians



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Jac Alder.....Executive Producer-Director

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

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BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED

J. Brent Alford (Rudi Sebastian) is thrilled to be making his debut at Theatre Three in *The Great Sebastians*. Since moving to Fort Worth six years ago, Brent has become a fixture in the Fort Worth theatre scene. Recent performances include John Adams in *1776* and John Utterson in *Jekyll and Hyde*, both at Fort Worth's Bass Hall. For Casa Manana, Brent has appeared in over twenty productions including *A Chorus Line* (Zach), *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Melvin P. Thorpe), *The Who's Tommy* (Capitan Walker), *Big River* (The Duke), *Oklahoma!* (Ali Hakim), *Rumor* (Lenny Ganz), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Charlie Davenport), and the world premieres of *Dodsworth* and *Grossinger's*. For Casa's acclaimed Tomorrow Project, Brent has been seen in *The Big Bang*, *The Revolution of Betsy Loring*, and *Dorian*. Other work in the Metroplex includes: Fort Worth Shakespeare Festival in the Park's *The Tempest* (Stephano), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick), *Twelfth Night* (Orsino) and *Othello* (Montano), Stage West (Season's Greetings) and the Dallas Theatre Center (*Little Mahogany*). Brent is a former company member of Houston's Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre and has appeared off-Broadway and in regional theatres across the country. His greatest performance to date is as a father to his twenty-month old son, Joshua.

Jennifer Hope Clary (Manya understudy) is pursuing degrees in drama and film at Vassar College. She is presently interning at Theatre Three, performing in the Dallas Shakespeare Festival's



J. Brent Alford



Jennifer Hope Clary



Tim Elliot



Jennifer Halteman

production of *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and working on her first film. Her favorite roles include Obedience in the opera *The Rite of the Virtues*, Maria in *West Side Story*, and Ado Annie in *Oklahoma*.

Tim Elliot (Stepan Bacilek) is thrilled to be making his Theatre Three debut. Favorite recent roles include Narracott in *Ten Little Indians* and Dr. Wyatt in *Witness for the Prosecution* (Richardson Theatre Center) and Glenn Cooper in *Rumors* (Greater Lewisville Community Theatre). After moving to the Dallas area several years ago he discovered that his new hometown had a theater, got a part in the first show he auditioned for and has been acting and learning ever since. It's never too late to live your dreams! Thanks and love to Tricia for always being there for me.

Jennifer Halteman (Marie Balzar) has worked in several Chicago area theaters such as New Tuners, Players Workshop, Artistic Home, and Act One. Local theaters include Casa Manana, Dallas Children's Theater, and Ground Zero. This is her first show with Theatre Three. She holds a BM in Vocal Performance from SMU. Commercial/Industrial credits include voice-overs for Color Tyme, Suretel, and Gladney Adoption Center. She also teaches children's drama classes for Dallas Children's Theatre, Capers for Kids and Junior Players. Roles include Rosaline in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Alex in *On the Verge*, and Mrs. Anderssen in *A Little Night Music*.

Matt Halteman (Tani Balzar) has performed leading roles in *A Doll's*

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED

House, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Mousetrap*, and *Love's Labour's Lost*. He has been involved with The Festival of Independent Theatres for the past two years, performing with Ground Zero Productions Core Performance Manufactory. Matt appeared as George in Echo Productions' *Stop Kiss* and was Macbeth in the premiere of *Shakespeare for the Modern Man: Lesson 1*, *MacBeth*. Matt recently appeared as Carl in Dallas Theatre Center's production of *The Front Page* and as Dionysus in Ground Zero's Productions' *The Temple of Dionysus* for the Out-of-the-Loop Festival at Watertower Theatre.

Brendan Hogan (Soldier) is happy to be making his Theatre Three debut. He is a junior studying Theatre and Political Science at TCU. Previous roles have included Pete in the world premiere of *Pete the Florist* at KCACTF, Dull in *Love's Labour's Lost*, Algemon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Jan in *The Unexpected Guest* (not the T3 production) Austin in *Complete History of America Abridged*, and The Patient in *The Recovery*. Thank you, Jac, for giving me this opportunity!

Nicole Javier (Vlasta Habova): is thrilled to join the cast of *The Great Sebastians*. She was last seen at Theatre Three as Dolly in *The Threepenny Opera*. Other credits include: the regional debut of *Mirette* (Gaby), *Gypsy* (Electra), *She Loves Me* (featured tango dancer)- Lyric Stage, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Gymnasia)-GCT, *Calamity Jane* (Kaie Brown),



Matt Halteman



Brendan Hogan



Nicole Javier



Steve Jones



James Kille

Anything Goes (Erma), *Phildelphia Story* (Traci Lord), *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania), *Carnival* (Rosalie), *Father of the Bride* (Kay Banks), *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (Dorothy). Nicole would like to thank her "Gardener" for all of his love and support.

Steve Jones (Pavlat) is pleased to be returning to Theatre Three. He last appeared at Theatre Three as Tolkin in *Mizlansky/Zilinsky or Shmucks*. Recent performances include Dad in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and the Gentleman in *The Three Sillies*, both at Dallas Children's Theater and Pegasus Theatre. Steve also just shot a national commercial for Furr's Cafeteria, which has just begun airing. He is represented by the Home Agency.

James Kille (Josef) is pleased to return to Theatre Three, having previously appeared in *The Frogs*. James last performed at Granbury Opera House as Geoffrey in *The Lion in Winter*. Other favorite roles include Marchbanks in *Candida* (Gyphon Players), Roote in *The Hothouse* (11th St. Theatre Project), and Bernardo in the U.S. premiere of *The Holy Inquiry* at Teatro Dallas. He has worked at other local theatres including Dallas Theater Center, Kitchen Dog Theatre, Shakespeare Festival of Dallas, Pegasus, Stage West, Echo Theatre, Addison Centre Theatre, and Dallas Children's Theatre.

Chris Messersmith (Novotny) Having warmed the hearts of millions with his sensitive portrayal of Meyers in *Spinning Into Butter*, Chris makes his second appearance

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED

at Theatre Three. A survivor of three seasons of touring rep, his local credits include productions at WaterTower Theatre, Dallas Children's Theater, Jubilee, and Pegasus Theatre. He played both starring and featured roles on the Emmy Award winning series *In Search of Heroes*, and can be heard as Tim in the syndicated radio comedy/drama, *Just South of Normal*.

Melinda Mills (Sophie Cerny) This is the second production in which Melinda has appeared at Theatre Three. She portrayed Mrs. Moorhead in their critically acclaimed 1999-2000 production of *The Women*. She most recently appeared in Addison's WaterTower Theatre comedy, *I Hate Hamlet* and in Granbury Opera House's production of *Cactus Flower*. Melinda has appeared in many other metroplex stages in her 35-year career including Circle Theatre, Plano Repertory Theatre, 11st Street Theatre Project, Gryphon Players, and Theatre Arlington. Melinda is a founder of the Garland Civic Theatre; and she holds a B.A. and M.A. in Theatre. She is currently director of Drama Ministry at her church in Lewisville.

Fred O'Brien (Karel Cerny) is a native of Brooklyn, New York. Back in the sixties, Fred played and sang in a rock-standard band at clubs and private parties in New York City. He always wanted to act, but a career, wife, three children and returning to school to obtain his Bachelor's degree at Dallas Baptist University kept him pretty busy. This past September, Fred got a message in a fortune cookie



Chris Messersmith



Melinda Mills



Fred O'Brien



Larry Randolph

that read, "Follow your dream that keeps returning." He started to audition, was cast, and made his debut as Balthazar in N&M's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. He has performed with the Duncanville Community Theater in their productions of *The Dining Room* and *Some Enchanted Evening*. Fred has been killed several times a night playing multiple roles with Keith & Margo's Murder Mysteries, and has also played principal and supporting roles in SMU and UTA senior film projects, and with several independent film production companies. This is Fred's first appearance at Theatre Three.

Larry Randolph (General Zandek) At Theatre Three, Larry has appeared in *Traveling Lady* and directed Ronnie Claire Edwards in her one-woman show *The Knife Thrower's Assistant*. While living in Los Angeles, he appeared in a variety of films and television such as *Chaplin*, *Days of Our Lives*, *Columbo*, *Beverly Hills*, *90210*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Dharma and Greg* and many others. In San Francisco, he appeared for three years in over 1200 performances in *Greater Tuna*. Since relocating to Dallas, Larry has appeared in *Walker*, *Texas Ranger*, *Rough Riders*, *Two Mothers for Zachery*, *It's in the Water* and various TV commercials. For several seasons, he has been a guest actor and director at the historic Granbury Opera House having recently appeared in *Sabrina Fair* and directed *Driving Miss Daisy* and *Dames at Sea*.

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE ARTISTS, CONTINUED

Elizabeth Rothan (Essie Sebastian) is thrilled to be making her debut at Theatre Three. She holds a MFA from Rutgers University. Her New York credits include Shakespeare's *Cymbeline* and Carol Churchill's *Top Girls*. Regionally, she has been seen in numerous productions, most memorable being *Steel Magnolias*, *Marvin's Room*, *Moon Over Buffalo* and Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. In the Dallas area she worked with Adrian Hall in *One Flew Over a Cuckoo's Nest* at the Kitchen Dog Theater. She's worked on two new productions: one at the Dallas Theater Center's Big D Festival called *Quake*, and the other with Tony Award winning writer Mark Medoff on *Gunfighter*, a *Gulf War Chronicle*. Also at the Dallas Theater Center: *Twelfth Night*, *Night of the Iguana*, and *Christmas Carol*.

Dona Safran (Manyu) is pleased to be making her debut at Theatre Three with *The Great Sebastians*. She was recently seen as Abby in *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*, one of the "Black and Whites" at Pegasus Theatre. Also for Pegasus, she appeared in *Time of Death*, *Frequency of Death*, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, and as Kate in *Sound Biting*. Other area appearances include *Macbeth* for Bucket Productions, *The Return of the Phantom of the Opera* for Pocket Sandwich Theatre and *Floral in Impossible Marriage* for 11th Street Theatre Project. Dona has also done voiceovers in advertisements for the National Arthritis Foundation and Justin



Elizabeth Rothan



Dona Safran



Kelly Thomas



Lem White



Greg Wohead

Boots.

Kelly Thomas (Col. Bradacova) *The Great Sebastians* is Kelly's first production with Theatre Three. Since moving from Los Angeles to Texas, Kelly has performed in Allied Theatre's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Echo Theatre's *Why We Have a Body*, and twice for Circle Theatre's *Sordid Lives*. Her work in East Texas, where she resides, includes Adrians Hall's *Country Christmas — A Christmas Carol*, Fanny in *For Marrieds Only*, and Sister Robert Anne in *Nunsense*. While not acting, Kelly keeps busy by directing and designing. Ms. Thomas has an M.A. in theatre and degrees in art and education. She currently teaches theatre at Kimbrough Middle School.

Lem White (Sergeant Javorsky) This is his fourth time working with Theatre Three in the past couple of seasons. He was previously seen in *Major Barbara*, *Mizlansky/Zilinsky or Schmucks*, and *The Happy Time*. He's very happy to be working with this theatre again. From everyone who works in the office to the audience members, there is always a welcome feeling which always enhances the artistic experience. Some of his favorite productions that he was in before moving back from New York include *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *Deathtrap*, *The Mousetrap*, and *The Foreigner*. He dedicates his performance to R.C.

Greg Wohead (Soldier) is happy to make his Theatre Three debut with *The Great Sebastians*. He is a student at Austin College and currently works as an intern at Theatre three. At Austin College, he has appeared in such productions as *Macbeth* and

THE GREAT SEBASTIANS : A STORY OF GREAT PARTNERSHIPS

When *The Great Sebastians* opened in February of 1956 at the Fulton Theatre, the audience saw the results of two of the greatest partnerships in theatre history.

Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne were considered the most brilliant, most respected actors of their time. Not long after Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne married in 1922, they signed a contract with The Theatre Guild with two very important stipulations: that they always perform together as a team and that they spend their summers offstage. This legendary team was a talented and professional powerhouse, onstage and off. They were known for a naturalistic style that revolutionized theatre. Unlike previous actors who used more of an oratory style, the Lunts preferred demanding physical contact, and overlapping dialogue to reveal a more passionate truth and vigor about their characters. Their timing was extraordinary and the vitality they brought to the American stage inspired actors around the world. Realizing their extraordinary popularity, film producers did everything they could to lure the Lunts into doing film work. In 1931, MGM released *The Guardsman*, the Lunts' only full-length motion picture. They hated the process of film making and decided to devote themselves to live theatre. During three-fourths of the year, they were onstage, but the Lunts had specific ideas for their summer vacation. In 1914, Alfred Lunt used an inheritance from his father to purchase land in Genesee Depot in Wisconsin. He designed the main house as a permanent home for his family and the chicken coop was redesigned for he and Lynn to live in when they were not performing. As the years passed, additions were made to the estate and soon it included a 18-room main house, a eight room country cottage, and 18th century Swedish log cabin, a pool and pool house, a creamery, a greenhouse, barns, stables, and a few other outbuildings. During the treasured summers, actors including Laurence Olivier and Noel Coward gathered at the estate, now named Ten Chimneys, to develop their skills as actors. Today, the estate is filled with mementos from the Lunts' acting career and those summers when they devoted so much time to mentoring other artists. Saved from destruction and restored beautifully, the estate will open in 2003 as retreat for artists. Alfred Lunt died in 1977 and Lynn Fontanne died in 1983, but their desire to inspire artistic creativity continues at their beloved estate.

When they were approached about writing a play for the Lunts, Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse were enjoying an extremely successful Broadway writing partnership that had already resulted in many memorable works. In 1934, producer Vinton Freedley begged Lindsay and Crouse to rework a libretto to musical that was scheduled to go into rehearsal. Freedley was concerned because the script resembled a recent sea disaster, the burning of the Morro Castle off the coast of New Jersey. The reworked script, *Anything Goes*, was a success and marked the beginning of a partnership that lasted over 28 years. Their work includes writing librettos for Cole Porter's *Red, Hot, and Blue*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Call Me Madam*. In 1946, they won a Pulitzer Prize in Drama for *State of the Union*, a play that was adapted into a intriguing political film starring Spencer Tracey, Katharine Hepburn, and Angela Lansbury. One of their most popular collaborations was the comedy, *Life With Father*. It became the longest-running non-musical play on Broadway and starred Howard Lindsay and his wife, actress Dorothy Stickney. With the Lunts' lively acting style and Lindsay and Crouse's witty writing, *The Great Sebastians* sparkled.

For all of you long-time subscribers, can you remember when Theatre Three first produced *The Great Sebastians*? It was during Theatre Three's 1967-68 season and Theatre Three called a converted seat-cover garage at 2211 Main Street home. Jac Alder directed that production, Joan Sleight, Theatre Three's current Director of Business Affairs, was the lighting designer, and Hugh Feagin (*Over the River and Through the Woods* and *God's Man in Texas*) played Sgt. Javorsky. Below are a couple of pictures of some old friends, Pat Glass, Peggy Pate, Ed Choen, Bernadette Whitehead and T.Y. Hill as *The Great Sebastians*.



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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 26, 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 near-miss 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.



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