

**BIG  
SCARY  
ANIMALS**



WRITTEN BY  
**MATT LYLE**

DIRECTED BY  
**REBECCA MCDONALD**

**SEPTEMBER 1 – 25, 2022**



# 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON

## 2022/23



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Photo by Jeffrey Schmidt



## Big Scary Animals

By MATT LYLE

### ARTISTIC STAFF

DIRECTOR

**Rebecca McDonald**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

**Zetra Goodlow**

SCENIC DESIGNER

**Jeffrey Schmidt**

COSTUME DESIGNER

**Christie Vela**

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

**Isa Flores**

LIGHTING DESIGN

**Jacob Hughes**

SOUND DESIGN

**Mason York**

INTIMACY & FIGHT

CHOREOGRAPHER

**Danielle Georgiou, Ph.D**

### CAST

DONALD

**Bob Reed\***

RHONDA

**Charlotte Akin\***

MARCUS

**Bradley Atuba\***

CLARK

**Chad Cline\*\***

SOPHIA

**Monica Jones**

RONNIE

**Brady White**

*\*Indicates Actor's Equity Membership*

*\*\*Indicates Actor's Equity Membership  
Candidate*

### PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER

**Mary Ruth Knackstedt\***

PRODUCTION

ASSISTANT

**Kendalynn Clemons**

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## ■ CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES

### **Matt Lyle**

(PLAYWRIGHT)  
(he/him)

Originally from the Eastest of East Texas, Matt Lyle is a comedy writer living in Dallas. His plays have been produced across the U.S. and several are published by Broadway Play Publishing. His plays *The Boxer*, *Hello Human Female*, *Barbecue Apocalypse* and *Big Scary Animals* all garnered DFW Theater Critics Forum Awards for "Outstanding New Play" and *Barbecue Apocalypse* was nominated for an American Theatre Critics Association Steinberg New Play Award but lost real bad. His most recent short play, *A Dance of Joy* was produced by Kitchen Dog Theater. His previous work at Theatre Three includes the premiere of *Big Scary Animals* in 2017 in Theatre Too (then titled *Cedar Springs* or *Big Scary Animals*), and the end of the world church/sex farce, *Raptured*. He's currently busy co-writing five episodes of *The Smile! Radio Hour*, a 1930's style radio show that will be recorded in front of live studio audiences this fall at Arts Mission Oak Cliff. Google it!

### **Rebecca McDonald**

(DIRECTOR)  
(she/her)

is excited to make her Theatre Three directing debut and to work with the fantastic cast and crew of *Big Scary Animals*! She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art and Performance from the University of Texas at Dallas, and a Masters of Arts in Drama from Texas Woman's University. She is also an alumnus of the Collin College Theatre where she was inducted into the Hall of Fame. She has had the privilege to perform, choreograph, and direct internationally and around the DFW Metroplex, as well as perform in film/TV. She is currently a co-director of the Raider Theatre and national award-winning Step Team Choreographer/Coach at North Garland High School. Selected recent directing credits include *Cardboard Piano* (Proper Hijinx), *Anna in the Tropics* (Eastfield College), *The Champion* (Bishop Arts Theatre), and multiple years with Kitchen Dog Theater's PupFest and One Minute Play Festival.

### **Zetra Goodlow**

(ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)  
(she/her)

was born & raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is a Director/Multidisciplinary Artist who serves as Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Helianthus Annuus Theatre Company. Zetra studied at Point Park University

in Pittsburgh, Pa; You may have seen her work at some of our favorite theatres here in Dallas, Bishop arts theatre center, Amphibian Stage, and the one and only Theatre Three. She wants to thank the staff, cast, and crew for an unforgettable experience. We are pumped to see more of Zetra's work in the future.

### **Mary Ruth Knackstedt**

(STAGE MANAGER)  
(she/they)

is excited to be working with Theatre Three for the first time! Most recently they stage managed *If Pretty Hurts* at Jubilee Theatre and 10 Seconds at Dallas Children's Theater. A true jack of all trades, she is an educator, director, and stage manager focused on telling stories that prompt Big Scary Conversations and help us connect.

### **Jeffrey Schmidt**

(SCENIC DESIGNER)  
(he/him)

is an actor, director, designer and writer with a 25 year history in theatre, film and television. He grew up in Whitehouse, Texas. Currently, he serves as the Artistic Director of Theatre Three in Dallas. His affiliation with Theatre Three goes back to 90's in many different capacities. He was last seen on the Theatre Three stage in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* His passion is for new work and more specifically new work from Dallas and Texas based artists. He has been involved in more than 20 world premiere productions many of which were written by Dallas artists. Additionally, he is the Executive Artistic Director of The Drama Club and served as Artistic Director of Moonwater Theater Company for three years. He is represented by the Mary Collins Agency.

### **Christie Vela**

(COSTUME DESIGNER)  
(she/her)

is the Associate Artistic Director. Founding Member of the Brierley Resident Acting Company at Dallas Theater Center. She was most recently seen in *Tiny Beautiful Things* at DTC where she directed *A Christmas Carol* (2015, 2021), *Gloria, Fade and Real Women Have Curves*. You've also seen her work as director/actor in the Metroplex at Echo Theatre, Amphibian Stage, Undermain Theatre, Shakespeare Dallas, Teatro Dallas. She frequently directs outside of Dallas at Trinity Rep in Rhode Island and is adjunct faculty at Booker T

Washington HSFPVA. She's an actual mom and a cat mom.

### **Isa Flores**

(ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER)  
(she/her)

is a Dallas native and has worked on a number of productions throughout DFW. She is a graduate of KD Conservatory where she studied film production. Isa has done SFX and prop work for Second Thought Theatre many times, as well as DGDG and Theatre Three. She has also done SFX for indie films, most recently *Stuck* (2016) and *Final Dress* (2019)

### **Jacob Hughes**

(LIGHTING DESIGNER)  
(he/him)

is a Dallas based lighting designer working in theater, dance, and opera. This summer you can catch him with David Dorfman Dance with their piece (A)Way Out Of My Body and Curtis Institute of Music Opera Theatre's *The Dangerous Liaisons*. In his free time, he enjoys setting up fun and quirky photoshoots with friends and exploring infrared photography. Catch him @ hue\_in\_lighting on instagram or hughesjacob.com.

### **Mason York**

(SOUND DESIGNER)  
(he/him)

is pleased to return for another production with Theatre Three! Mason is a director, designer, and educator, with an interest in adapting sound and video installations into challenging spaces. Recent credits at Theatre Three include *Noises Off* (Sound Designer), *The Manufactured Myth of Eveline Flynn* (Sound Designer & Audio Engineer), Education: UT Dallas – BA, Art & Performance; MFA, Arts & Technology. Special thanks to Lauren York for her constant support and encouragement.

### **Danielle Georgiou, Ph.D.**

(INTIMACY & FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER)  
(she/her)

is a director/choreographer based in Dallas, TX. She has worked at the Dallas Theater Center, Undermain, Kitchen Dog Theater, Theatre Three, Echo Theatre, Stage West, Junior Players, Second Thought Theater, and Circle Theatre. Since 2011, she has been the Artistic Director of the Danielle Georgiou Dance Group. She

## ■ CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

holds a Ph.D. in Humanities-Aesthetic Studies from the University of Texas at Dallas and is a Professor at Dallas College-Eastfield campus.

**Bob Reed**  
(he/him)



(DONALD) is thrilled to be back at Theatre Three after the highly acclaimed run as Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Recently he was seen as Wilbur in *Hairspray* at the Dallas Theater Center. Other roles include Will Parker in *Oklahoma*, Jeff Douglas in *Brigadoon*, Andrew in *I Hate Hamlet*, Ken in *Rumors*, Charlie in *On Golden Pond*, Luther Billis in *South Pacific* with Tony Award winner Sutton Foster, and Alan in *God of Carnage*. Bob has a dog "Coby" and is an avid golfer with a six handicap.

**Charlotte Akin**  
(she/her)



(RHONDA) was last seen in Undermain's production of *Hedda Gabler* as Miss Julie. Previous productions include: *Madame Bovary* at Undermain, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* at Theatre Three, *Cedar Springs* or *Big Scary Animals* at Theatre Too, *Finding the Sun* at Wingspan and *Tomas and the Library Lady* at Dallas Children's Theatre. While living in Washington DC, (2000-2016) some of Charlotte's projects include: The Smithsonian's American History Museum, Discovery

Channel and The World War II Memorial. Agent: Kim Dawson Agency. Website: [www.charlotteakin.com](http://www.charlotteakin.com)

**Bradley Atuba**  
(he/him)



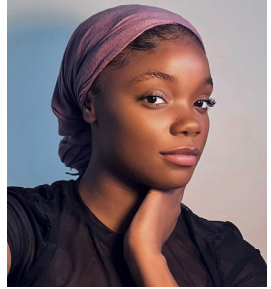
(MARCUS) is thrilled to be a part of this project. He recently graduated with his Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A) in Acting at Southern Methodist University. Roles include Antonio in *Cake Ladies* (Dallas Theater Center), Frank in *Witch* (StageWest), and Juliet and Mercutio in *Romeo & Juliet* (Great River Shakespeare Festival). In his spare time, Bradley loves streaming Renaissance by Beyonce, hanging out with friends and family, and weekend brunch.

**Chad Cline**  
(he/him)



(CLARK) is grateful to get to come back to his favorite role in his favorite show!!! He loves comedy, Improvisation, and sketch, in particular, and he stays busy during the day as the Director of Education at Dallas Comedy Club, which is like adult recess!! He has worked in theatre, on camera, and as a voice actor for over 25 years and is represented by The Mary Collins Agency.

**Monica Jones**  
(she/her)



(SOPHIA) is making her first professional debut. Originally from Bronx, New York, she moved to Texas and is currently a senior pursuing a BFA in Theatre – Acting track. She attends the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. Monica discovered her passion for acting as a child and has been fortunate enough to be training for the past 8 years. In her free time, Monica spends time with family on their farm in Felda, Florida.

**Brady White**  
(he/him)



(RONNIE) was fascinated by human behavior from the moment his child brain noticed nobody really knows what they're doing, we're all just winging it! Brady recently graduated SMU with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting. His recent credits at SMU include *The Moors*, *The Aliens*, and *Lysistrata* as well as two self-written shows, *Brothers Keeper* and *This is Outrageous*. He is ecstatic to be acting in his first professional production at Theatre Three! Good Show!

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