83rd Season • 537th Production





#### THE GIONE HOPE HOPE

# By KEN LUDWIG

"Ken Ludwig's The Gods of Comedy" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

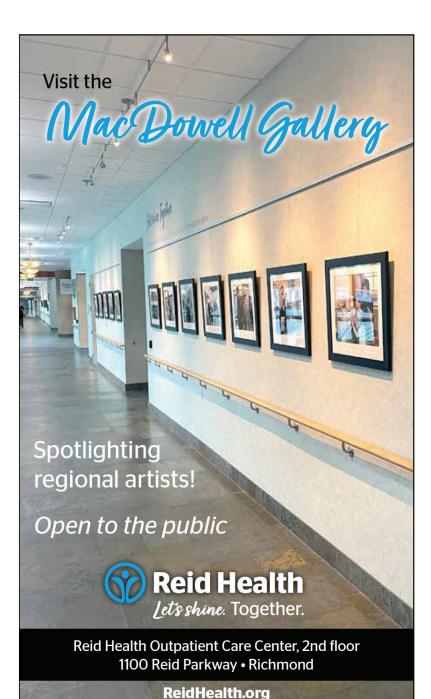
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#### **Directed by BRADY DAY**

# By Ken Ludwig

"Ken Ludwig's The Gods of Comedy" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Ken Ludwig's THE GODS OF COMEDY was originally produced byMcCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, NJ
Emily Mann, Artisitic Director; Michael S. Rosenberg, Managing Director and The Old Globe, San Diego, CA Barry
Edelstein, Erna Finci Viterbu Artistic Director; Timothy J. Shields, Managing Director

This performance includes a 15-minute intermission

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

#### **Welcome to YOUR Richmond Civic Theatre!**

Thank You for joining us for our 2023–2024 season! We are thrilled to offer you a wide range of theatrical experiences this year. Opening our 2023–2024 First Bank Richmond Main Stage Series is Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (August 3–13, 2023) directed by Tammy Cornell. Then, we open our 2023–2024 3 Rivers Federal Credit Union Stage One Youth Theatre Series with a hilarious stage adaptation of the classic fairytale, *The Almost Totally True Story of Hansel & Gretel* (September 15–24, 2023) directed by Shelley Wambo. Keeping with the spirit of the Halloween season, we are bringing back our new annual fundraiser, Stage Fright Masquerade (October 21, 2023)—this year, at the historic Starr-Gennett Piano Factory. As we step into November, we will finally present Jonathan Larson's Pulitzer Prize winning musical, *Rent* (November 2–12, 2023) directed by Robyn Zitnick. And we round out the end of this calendar year with the Stage One production of the Broadway classic, *Peter Pan JR* (December 8–17, 2023) directed by Ryan Shaw.

After a short break for the holidays, we ramp right back up again with Ken Ludwig's side-splitting comedy, *The Gods of Comedy* (January 18–28, 2024) directed by Brady Day. Then, the Stage One kids will present the whimsical Broadway Hit, *Seussical JR* (March 1–10, 2024) directed by Allison Blanford. As we step into spring, we will tell the story of the heroic women who gave their lives for a company that considered them to be expendable with our Main Stage production of *These Shining Lives* (March 28–30 & April 5-7, 2024) directed by Kathy Clopper. Lastly, we close out our 2023–2024 season by taking a jab at William Shakespeare with our Main Stage production of the irreverent and bawdy Broadway hit comedy, *Something Rotten!* (May 9–19, 2024) directed by Becky Jewison.

We are so glad you are here with us! Now, sit up on the edge of your seat, brace yourself, and enjoy the ride!

Thank you for supporting YOUR RCT!

Fondly,



John Faas Executive Director



**Jeff Sheridan**President, Board of Directors

#### **Meet the RCT Staff**

Our Richmond Civic Theatre staff members are here to help!
Whether you want to buy tickets, sponsor a show,
or get involved creating local live theatre, reach out!

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## **Cast & Crew**

Aleksi: Andy Shepherd Ares: Josh Hunsinger Aristide: Ian Kinder

Zoe/Brooklyn: Justine Blank

Daphne: Kori Jennings
Dean Trickett: Angi Wilson
Dionysus: Eric Swango
Ralph: Daniel Phelps
Thalia: Allison Mopps
Nikki: Brooklyn Fowler,
Nolan Hiederich

**President of The College:**Various Cameo Recordings

#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director: Brady Day

Assistant Director: Hollie Day Stage Manager: Madison Dishmond

Scenic Designer: Cindy Perez
Props Supervisor: Connie Gareiss
Costume Designer: Julie Pickett

Hair & Make-up Supervisor: Halie Scott

Lighting Designer: Aaron Clarke Sound Designer: Sajen Hernandez Technical Director: Aaron Clarke

#### **CREW**

Deck Manager: Barb Blanford

Deck Crew: Mike Day, Emily Hobson, Patricia Burns Shields,

Patricia Burns Shields Trevor Dishmond Fly Crew: Sean Andreas

Light Board Operator: Emma Day

Sound Board Operator: Sajen Hernandez

Hair and Make-up Team: Ella Jaynes,

Alaina Harris

Lead Scenic Painter: Carol Sexton

Assistant Scenic Painters: Larry Sexton,

Lynn Voss, Sarah Alexander Set Build Team: Mickey White, Carol Sexton, Aaron Clarke

#### **SPECIAL THANKS:**

Rick Funk



## Cast



Andy Shepherd



Josh Hunsinger



lan Kinder



Justine Blank



Kori Jennings



Angi Wilson



Eric Swango



Daniel Phelps



Allison Mopps



Brooklynn Fowler



Nolan Heiderich



Brady Day



Hollie Day

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## **Bios**

The Old Globe: The Tony Award-winning The Old Globe, in its 85th year, is one of the country's leading professional regional theatres. Under Erna Finci Viterbi Artistic Director Barry Edelstein and Managing Director Timothy J. Shields, the Globe produces 16 productions year-round of classic, contemporary, and new works, including its internationally renowned Shakespeare Festival, More than 250,000 people annually attend productions and participate in artistic and arts engagement initiatives that make theatre matter to more people in neighborhoods throughout the region. Numerous world premieres have been developed at The Old Globe and have enjoyed successful runs on Broadway and across the country.

McCarter Theatre Center: McCarter's mission is to create world-class theater and present the finest artists for the community's engagement, education, and entertainment. Winner of the 1994 Tony Award® for Outstanding Regional Theatre, world premieres include Christopher Durang's Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike (2013 Tony® – Best Play); Tarell Alvin McCraney's The Brother/Sister Plays; Emily Mann's Having Our Say; and Danai Gurira's The Convert. McCarter also hosts artists from around the world in Princeton. New Jersey; including David Sedaris, Audra McDonald, Lang Lang, and more. Education and outreach efforts serve tens of thousands through student matinees, in-school residencies, and adult classes. More at mccarter.org."

lan Kinder: Ian has been a regular at RCT since 2012, including appearances in Ken Ludwig's Moon Over Buffalo and Three Musketeers. After an extended break, post-2019, he returned with Hello Dolly! and is having a ball with this production! Offstage, he tends bar, watches old movies, (bonus points for subtitles) and reads sci-fi books with hideous covers.

**Daniel Phelps:** Daniel is thrilled to return to RCT after 6 years! A few favorite roles include Graham in *Informed Consent*, Dr. Watson in *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, and Clifford in *Death Trap.* He has also been with Connersville's Imagine Performing Arts since their inception 10 years ago. He can often be found taking long walks. "May the gods bless you with great adventures & even greater happiness!"

Justine Blank: Justine is very excited to be a part of her first non musical play. Recently she was in the ensemble in *The Little Mermaid* here at RCT, now she is stepping out of her comfort zone with this gut busting comedy play. When she's not doing theater, in the winter she is baking and spending time with her family. She wants to thank her family and husband for always being supportive.

**Brady Day:** This is Brady's 2nd directing outing at Richmond Civic Theater. His previous directing credits include



Drinking Habits at RCT and assistant direction on three different productions in undergrad at Anderson University. He was last seen on the RCT stage during Hello Dolly! as Barnaby, and as Plankton in The SpongeBob Musical. He would like to thank his wife, his family, and God for all the support.

Hollie Day: Hollie is a social worker at Centerstone working with youth. She has acted in several RCT productions, served as a assistant director, as well as backstage a few times. Hollie is active on a worship team at LifeSpring Church, attends BSF, and supporting her husband, Mike as he coaches 3 sports at Centerville. Hollie is thankful for this opportunity to work alongside her son, Brady!

Andy Shepherd: Andy, most recently seen as Detective Ross in *Breaking the Code*, is appearing in his 12th production at RCT, using his sixth different accent. He lives with his wife Sarah and works as a Rehabilitation Therapist at Richmond State Hospital. Andy enjoys long distance running, trivia games, learning languages on DuoLingo, and has recently taken up water aerobics.

**Eric Swango:** Eric is happy to be working with the Richmond Civic Theatre again in their production of *The Gods of Comedy*. He is currently a junior studying business administration at Indiana University East in Richmond. Other notable RCT productions that Eric has been involved with include *The SpongeBob Musical* and *The Little Mermaid*.

**Brooklynn Fowler**: Brooklynn is excited to make her debut as Nikki! She has enjoyed getting to know the cast, and the theatre. Brooklynn loves reading, playing basketball, building Legos and spending time outdoors.

Kori Jennings: Kori Jennings (Daphne) is excited to return to the RCT stage! Past favorite roles include: Corie in Barefoot in the Park (IPA), Annelle in Steel Magnolias (RCT), and Beth in Til Beth Do Us Part (Undercroft Players). She wishes to thank Tyler for helping run lines and Dustin for ensuring she showed up to auditions. Kori bids you all days filled with adventure and nights filled with happy endings.

**Allison Mopps:** Ta-daaa! Allison is so excited to be playing Thalia! Often found in the orchestra pit, Allison does have a couple past acting credits as Pat from *Breaking the Code* and a mersister in *The Little Mermaid*. Outside the theater, she can be found playing in the Community Orchestra, building movie prop replicas, or practicing dentistry at West Main Family Dental and Aspen Dental as Dr. Mopps.

Angi Wilson: Angi's RCT debut was as Ernestina in Hello Dolly!. Since then, she's been in The Little Mermaid, backstage for Hansel & Gretel and ran spotlight for Rent. As a child, she was in Music Man, Fiddler on the Roof, and Cinderella with John Conner Players. After many years, she returned to the stage last year in IPA's Oliver and Barefoot in the Park. She's a proud grandma and a doxie mom and is thankful for God's guidance!

Josh Hunsinger: This is Josh's debut theatrical performance. He is known for being creative and living life to the fullest. He ambitiously goes outside of his comfort zones to try new things in life. Josh would like to thank all the cast and crew for helping him along in this new endeavor and also to his family and friends for their love, help and support. He would also like to thank everyone in attendance.



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Directed by ALLISON BLANFORD RATED G

Mar 28-30 & Apr 5-7, 2024

SINING SILVES

Book By MELANIE MARNICH

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Directed by KATHY CLOPPER RATED PG-13



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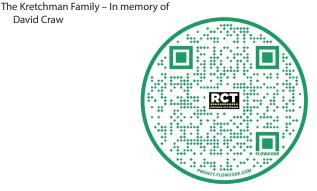
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