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## School of the Performing Arts Faculty and Staff

Director of the School of the Performing Arts - Dr. Kenneth Robbins

Coordinator of Theatre - Cherrie Sciro

Coordinator of Music- Dr. Jon Barker

Assistant Coordinator of Music - Dr. Alan Goldspiel

Director of Bands - Jim Robken

Dr. Steele Moegle

Dr. Joe Alexander  
Rose Butler  
Lawrence Gibbs  
Paulette Gilbert  
Scott Gilbert  
Mark Guinn  
Dr. John Heard  
Dr. Sue Holder



Dianne Maroney-Grigsby

Rebecca Pesnell  
Michael Rasbury  
Sheri Robken  
Dr. Rick Rowell  
Laura Thompson  
Don Webster  
Gary Westbrook  
David Wylie

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### More Theatre Coming Soon...

**Six Characters in Search of an Author**  
Feb. 11 - 14 and 18 - 21

**Henry IV**  
April 26 - 30 and May 1

**Original Play Festival**  
May 10 - 12

**Tech Tony Awards**  
May 15

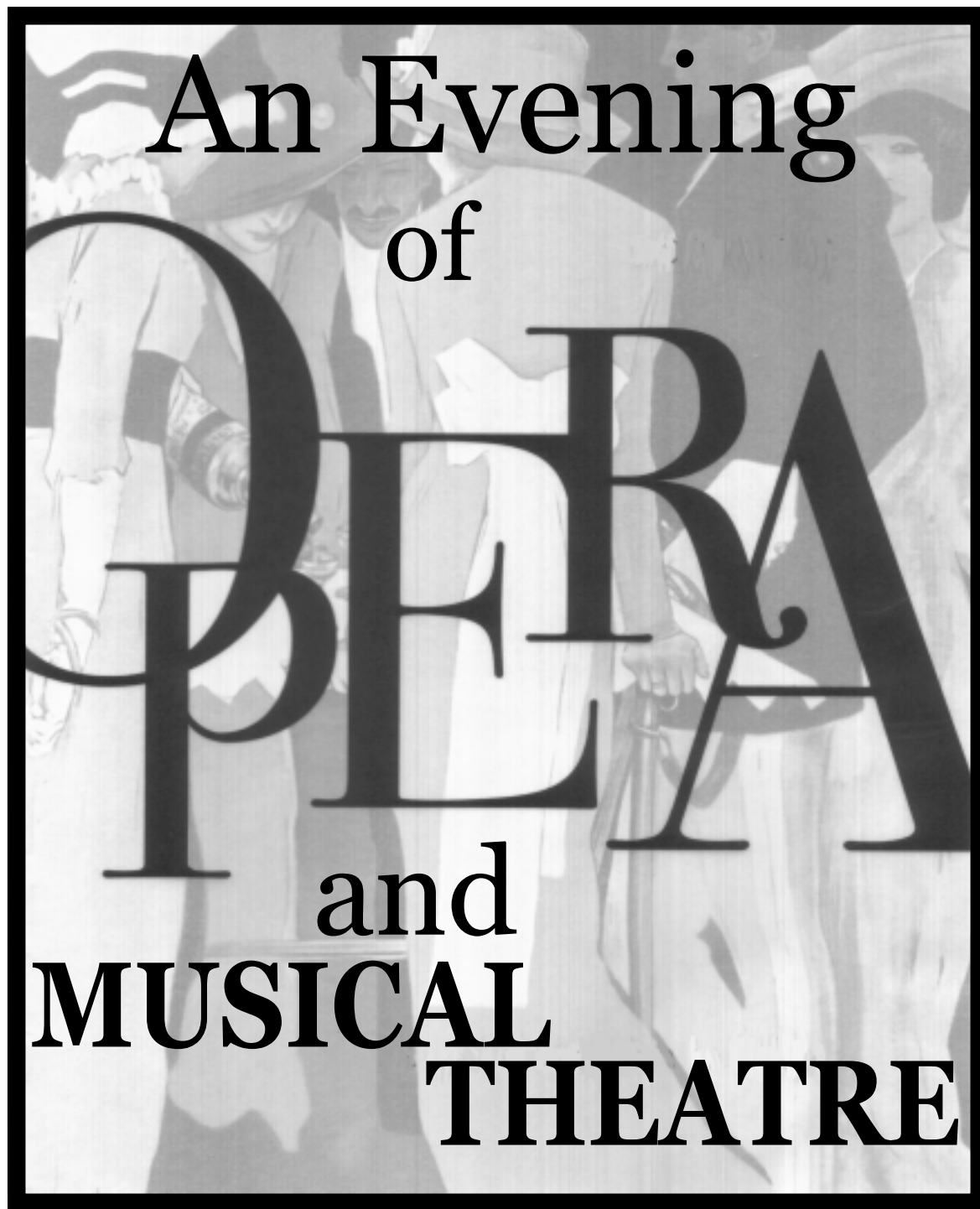
CALL (318) 257-3942 for ticket information, gift certificates, and group rates  
Box Office Hours: Monday - Friday 1:30 - 4:45 P.M.

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Please visit us online at <http://performingarts.latech.edu>.  
Our website includes downloadable music, video, photos, and  
information about our productions and programs.

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A black and white photograph of an opera house scene, showing several performers in elaborate costumes and masks. The text is overlaid on this image.

An Evening  
of  
**OPERA**  
and  
**MUSICAL  
THEATRE**

Costume Design  
**Paulette Gilbert**

Sound Design  
**Casey Franklin**

Production Stage Manager  
**Paul Pharris**

Scenic/ Lighting Design  
**Mark Guinn**

Properties Design  
**Rodney Peel**

Choreography  
**Paulette Gilbert**

Musical Director  
**Laura Thompson**

Director  
**David Wylie**



### **University Theatre Production Team**

Production Manager . . . . . Mark Guinn  
Musical Concept/Compilation. . . . . David Wylie  
Rehearsal Pianist . . . . . Laura Thompson  
Vocal Coaches . . . . . Laura Thompson, David Wylie  
Narration . . . . . David Wylie  
Set Construction Crew. . . . . Theatre Majors & Minors, SPTH 290 & 101, OpShop Cast  
Sound Operator . . . . . Christina Linza  
Production Management . . . . . G&G&W Consultants

### **University Theatre Front of House Staff**

Publicity Director . . . . . Catherine Brehaut  
Publicity Staff . . . . . Lucky Arledge, Jena Sharpton  
Box Office Managers . . . . . Rachael Shaw, Rebecca Taylor  
Business Manager . . . . . Laurie Bass  
Box Office Staff . . . . . Andrei Constantinescu, David Reed  
Box Office Night of Show. . . . . Andrei Constantinescu, David Reed,  
and Rebecca Taylor

### **THE COMPANY**

Scott Gilbert  
as the Narrator

Stuart Amidon  
Nathan R. Bolden  
Toni Brown  
Nina Buggage  
Lauren R. Davis  
Benjamin DeCou  
Heidi DeCou  
Casey Franklin

Nick Harrison  
Christina Hendrick  
Lexie Lee  
Elisabeth Page  
Josh St. Cyr  
Joel Sharpton  
Rachael Shaw  
Andraé Smith

with special guest appearance by  
Jake Guinn as the boy

***There will be a ten-minute intermission.***

***Out of consideration for your fellow audience members and the cast,  
please turn off cell phones and beepers.***

***Please, no flash photography or recording devices.***

# Program

## ACT I

"Invocation and Instructions to the Audience".....Company  
from *The Frogs*; Stephen Sondheim (1974)

"Quanto roba!.....Cruda sorte!"..... Toni & Men  
from *L'Italiana in Algeri*; Gioacchino Rossini (1813)

"On My Own".....Lexie  
from *Les Misérables*; Claude-Michel Schönberg (1987)

"Ehi! Rodolfo!.....O soave fanciulla".....Stuart, Casey, Andraé, Ben & Heidi  
from *La Bohème*; Giacomo Puccini (1896)

"What a Game!".....Scott, Jake & Men  
from *Ragtime*; Stephen Flaherty (1998)

"Belle nuit, ô nuit d'amour".....Heidi, Lauren & Company  
from *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*; Jacques Offenbach (1881)

"Coffee in a Cardboard Cup".....Company  
from *70, Girls, 70*; John Kander (1971)

### \*Ten-minute Intermission\*

## ACT II

"Porgi amor, qual che ristoro".....Rachael  
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*; Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1786)

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change".....Casey, Christina, Elisabeth, Josh,  
Lexie, Nathan, Nick & Rachael  
from *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; Jimmy Roberts (1996)  
with Dr. Christopher Thompson, violin

"Take Care of This House".....Women  
from *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*; Leonard Bernstein (1976)

"The King of Broadway".....Joel & Company  
from *The Producers*; Mel Brooks (2001)

"Via, via di qua.....O mio babbino caro".....Andraé, Ben, Heidi, Joel,  
Josh, Lexie, Nathan, Nick, Nina & Toni  
from *Gianni Schicci*; Giacomo Puccini (1918)

"I Know the Truth".....Lauren  
from *Aida*; Elton John (1998)

"What a joy to be here.....Chacun a son gout.....Finale".....Toni & Company  
from *Die Fledermaus*; Johann Strauss (1874)

# University Theatre Faculty

**Cherrie Sciro** is the Coordinator of Theatre and an Associate Professor for the School of the Performing Arts at Tech. Her Broadway and national credits include Production Coordinator of the Tony Award-winning productions *Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and *Miss Saigon*. She was also the Production Manager for the Olympic Games in Barcelona and Atlanta. Her most treasured directing experience here at Tech is the 1999 production of *Six Women with Brain Death...*, which was awarded a total of 21 awards throughout the region and state, including the Richard A. Weaver Best Production Award, a first for the University Theatre.

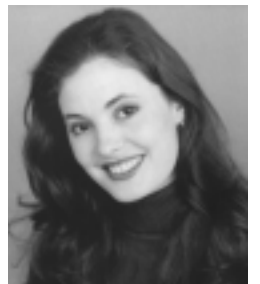
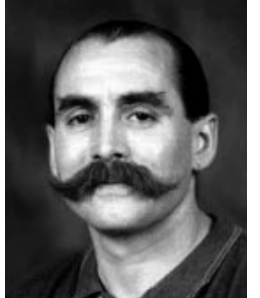
**Mark D. Guinn** is an Associate Professor of Design and Movement for Tech. Mark's scenic design credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* and the world premiere of *Shane*. His lighting design credits include *Blue Jacket*, the epic outdoor drama, and *The Flaming Idiots* Off-Broadway at the New Victory Theatre. Mark is a Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors.

**Scott Gilbert** teaches directing, acting and theatre history, and has directed many productions for the University Theatre including *Twelfth Night*, *Buried Child*, *Tartuffe*, *The Comedy of Errors* and *The Hostage*. In the summer of 2002, he directed *Greater Tuna* at the Foothill Theatre Company in California, and was an acting company member at the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival. Acting roles at various theatres have included Biondello in *Taming of the Shrew*, Trout Shue in *Zona*, and George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Besides directing and acting, Scott's recent credits around the country include fight choreography, and costume and set design.

**Michael Rasbury** is an Assistant Professor of Music Technology and Theatre at Tech. As an award-winning composer, Michael's music has been heard around the nation in theatrical productions and television. He has composed musical scores for some of the nation's largest outdoor dramas. His professional credits include the Humana Festival, New American Playwrights, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, and the New York Shakespeare Festival. He has worked with some of the most innovative playwrights of the 20th century, including Naomi Wallace, Jane Martin, and John Patrick Shanley.

**Paulette Gilbert** is the Costume Studio Supervisor and primary Costume Designer for the department. She has numerous professional credits as both a costumer and an actor. As a performer, she has appeared on the stage of The Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Blue Jacket, New Stage Theatre, and The Foothill Theatre Company. Her last Tech appearance was in *West Side Story*, but her most memorable roles were M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias* and Du in *Keely and Du*.

**Dianne Maroney-Grigsby** is our Staff Choreographer. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Grambling State University and her Master of Arts from Louisiana Tech University. Dianne has instructed dance students in America, Europe, Asia, and Africa for the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. She is also the choreographer for the Orchesis Dance Company. Ms. Maroney has been the featured dancer in Twin City Ballet Company. Her training is in Modern, Horton, Graham, Classical Ballet, Tap and Jazz techniques. She teaches Dance for Theatre.

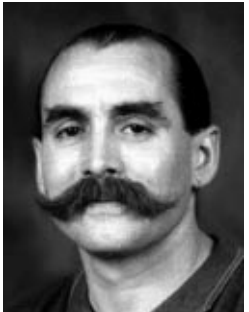




**David Wylie** (Director) is an Associate Professor of Music and a member of the voice faculty at Louisiana Tech. He has a Bachelor of Music degree in Voice from Louisiana Tech University and a Master of Music degree from the University of Arkansas. He obtained additional training in voice and opera at the Julliard Opera Center. At Tech, he has appeared in *Company*, *Annie*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and most recently as Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*. He has sung leading tenor roles with opera companies throughout the U.S.A. and Europe.



**Laura Mobley Thompson** (Musical Director) currently serves as the Director of Choral Activities at Louisiana Tech University, where she is an Assistant Professor in the School of the Performing Arts. Mrs. Thompson has performed as a vocal soloist with the Alabama Festival Chorus and Orchestra, Memphis Oratorio Society and Paducah Symphony and Chorus. She served for two years as President of the North Louisiana District of National Association of Teachers of Singing and now serves as Treasurer. She is also a candidate for the Doctor of Arts Degree in Vocal Pedagogy from the University of Mississippi.



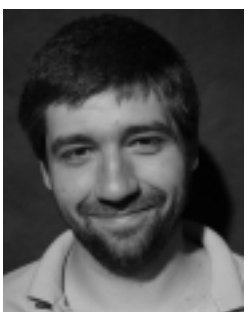
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**Rodney Peel** (Properties Design) is a Freshman Computer Science major from Jonesboro, LA. He was last seen as a Marley Ghost Puppeteer in *A Christmas Carol*. At the Drama Workshop at Jonesboro-Hodge High, he portrayed Hortensio in *The Taming of the Shrew*.



**Paul Pharris** (Production Stage Manager) is a first year graduate student in Theatre from Alexandria, LA. He received his B.A. in English from Louisiana Tech University last year. He was the First Assistant Stage Manager for *A Christmas Carol*, Production Stage Manager for *Goiter on Rye* and the 2001-2002 Opera Workshop *Broadway in Love*, and he was the Assistant Stage Manager for *Peter Pan*. He co-designed the sound for *The Greeks*, and his acting credits include Antonio in *Twelfth Night* and Robert Crawshaw in *Wurzel-Flummery*.

## Creative Team

## The Company

**Stuart Amidon** is a Freshman Theatre major from Jonesboro, LA. You may have seen Stuart in the fall production of *A Christmas Carol* as Bob Cratchit. He is a member of the Louisiana Tech University Chamber Singers. This is his first performance with Opera Workshop.

**Nathan R. Bolden** is a Senior Chemistry major from Oak Grove, LA, and is currently minoring in music. This is Nathan's third performance with Opera Workshop. He is also a member of the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers. Some of his accomplishments include being a Presidential Scholar, a student recruiter for Tech, a member of AED (medical honors organization), and the American Chemical Society.

**Toni Brown** is a Sophomore Vocal Performance major from Luling, LA. This will be Toni's second performance in the Louisiana Tech Opera Workshop. Toni was last seen as a caroler in *A Christmas Carol*. She also performed in *Twelfth Night* for the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) in the winter of 2000. Toni has a certificate of Vocal Performance by the NOCCA.

**Nina L. Buggage** is a Senior Vocal Performance major with a minor in piano and is from Napoleonville, LA. Nina has been seen on the Tech Theatre stage in two previous Opera Workshop performances. She was last seen as a caroler in *A Christmas Carol*. Nina is also a Louisiana Tech Chamber Singer and a member of the Music Teachers' National Association.

**Lauren R. Davis** is a Senior Nursing major from West Monroe, LA. She has performed with Opera Workshop for the last three years. Lauren also appeared on Tech's stage in 2000 in the production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. She has received multiple awards from National Association of Teachers of Singing and is on the Dean's List.

**Benjamin DeCou** is a Senior Vocal Performance major from Jonesboro, LA. This is Benjamin's third performance with Opera Workshop. He has many honors, including the TOPS Award Scholarship, president of the Music Teachers' National Association, member of Golden Key International Honor Society, All-American Scholar, American Choral Director's Association, Dean's List and Chamber Singers.





**Heidi DeCou** is a Senior Vocal Performance major with a minor in Piano and is from Jonesboro, LA. Heidi has participated in Opera Workshop for the last two years. She is also on the International Dean's List, Music National Teachers Association, and the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers.



**Casey Franklin** (also Sound Design) is a Senior Theatre major from Natchitoches, LA. He was last seen as the head Puppeteer for the Ghost of Christmas Future and a Street Person in *A Christmas Carol*. Last year, he portrayed Israeli Soldier 5 in Louisiana Tech's production of *Goiter on Rye*. He was also seen as a Pirate in *Peter Pan* and as Howie in *The Rape of Bunny Stuntz*. To Casey's technical credits, he was the sound board operator for the 2002 Opera Workshop and *Zastrozzi*.



**Nick Harrison** is a second year Theatre graduate student from Grambling, LA. He graduated with a Bachelors degree in Theatre from Grambling State University in 2002. He was last seen as the Ghost of Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol*. Last year he received a Tech Tony for his performance as Kalippedes in *Dyskolos*. His other roles include Sam in *Master Harold and the Boys*, and Husband in *The Old Settler*.



**Christina Rechelle Hendrick** is a Sophomore Political Science major with a minor in English and is from Concordia, LA. This will be her debut performance at Louisiana Tech University.



**Lexie Lee** is a Vocal performance major with a minor in Computer Information Systems and is from Ruston, LA. She has performed vocally in the Ruston Peach Festival and the Miss Apache Pageant in Minden. Lexie is on the Dean's List, as well as member of the Music Teachers National Association. Lexie's other musical achievements include Choral Director of the 3-6 year old Children's Choir at Cook Baptist Church, and she is also the secretary of the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers.



**Elisabeth Page** is a Junior Theatre major from Slidell, LA. She was last seen as Millie in *A Christmas Carol*. This summer, while working at The Greenbriar Valley Theatre, she portrayed Lucy Tritt Shill in *The Greenbriar Ghost*.



**Josh St. Cyr** is a Senior Electrical Engineering major with a minor in Political Science and is from Slidell, LA. Though this is Josh's first performance with Opera Workshop, he made his stage debut last spring as Dennis Sanders in the Louisiana Tech production of *Smoke on the Mountain*. Josh is the captain of the Lady Techster Practice Basketball Squad and a member of the Association of Catholic Tech Students.



**Joel Eutaw Sharpton** is a Senior Theatre and Political Science major from Bastrop, LA. He was last seen as Jake in *A Christmas Carol*. His past roles include Cadmus in *The Bacchae*, Dionysus in *The Frogs*, Sir Toby in *Twelfth Night* and Harold in *Master Harold and the Boys*. He received a Tech Tony for his performance as Roy in *Lonestar* and the Best One Act Award last spring for his direction of *Pvt. Wars*. Joel is also a recognized Actor Combatant with the SAFD and BASSC. Joel spent his last two summers working at the epic outdoor drama *Blue Jacket* where he has portrayed Chief Black Hoof, Captain Arbuckle and Col. Gibson.



**Rachael Elizabeth Shaw** is a second year Theatre graduate student from Newnan, GA. Rachael graduated from Wesleyan College with a BA in Music. She last appeared at Louisiana Tech as Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*. This will be her second appearance in the Opera Workshop. Other roles include an audience plant in *Goiter on Rye*, the Hostess in *The Frogs*, and a member of the Chorus in *The Bacchae*. Rachael was also the Assistant Director and Dramaturg for *Antigone*. She performed at Wesleyan College in *The Vagina Monologues* and was a committee member for *STUNT*.



**Andraé Joseph Smith** is a Sophomore Engineering major. He was last seen on the Louisiana Tech stage as a caroler in *A Christmas Carol*. This will be his debut performance with Opera Workshop. Andraé is also a member of the Louisiana Tech University Chamber Singers.



**Jake Guinn** is a seventh grader at Ruston Junior High School. Jake was last seen as the Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*. He has appeared at Louisiana Tech University as a Leafman in *The Leafmen and The Brave Good Bugs* and Tootles in *Peter Pan*. In 2002, Jake received his first professional acting credit as Bobby in *Shane* while working in Xenia, OH. Jake is the youngest recognized Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors. He is recognized in rapier and dagger, unarmed, quarterstaff.