

---

## 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

---

## More Theatre Coming Soon...

**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.

---

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

---



Luigi Pirandello's



# SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR



Costume Design  
**Lucky Arledge**  
Lighting Design  
**Wes Smith**  
Sound Design  
**Casey Franklin**

Scenic Design  
**Catherine Brehaut**  
Properties Design  
**Mary Leviner**  
Production Stage Manager  
**Laurie Bass**

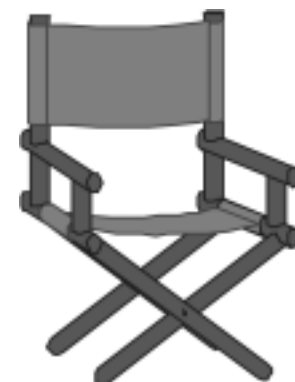
Director  
**Scott Gilbert**

## University Theatre Production Team

Production Manager ..... Mark Guinn  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Joakima "Jai" Mayes  
Fight Captain ..... Jonathan Jolly  
Assistant Scenic Designer ..... Fauzia Khatkhatay  
Set Construction Crew ..... Theatre Majors & Minors, SPTH 290 & 101, Cast  
Wardrobe Crew ..... Paul Jameson, Ashley Larsen  
Sound Board Operator ..... Justin Howard  
Light Board Operators ..... Helen Armstrong, Josh Phillips  
Electricians ..... Caleb Baumgardner, Christina Linza  
Stagehands ..... Lane Coffey, Michael Depew, Adrien Dion  
Paul Jameson, Josh Phillips

## 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 ..... Rachael Shaw, Rebecca Taylor  
House Manager ..... Macy Helms





## From the Director...

I have always wanted to direct Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, ever since I read it as an eager young college student much like the actors in the production you are about to see. To have the opportunity, almost twenty years later, to actually do so is wonderful, and it has been particularly delightful to work with this Robert Brustein / American Repertory Theater adaptation of Pirandello's modern classic. This version highlights the very things that we do well here at Louisiana Tech, and that brings us full circle: what is most important about any play is what actually goes on on the stage, and the response of the people in the audience. And that is you!

*Six Characters* is an acknowledged modern masterpiece, and Pirandello won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1934. His plays dominate the repertory in Italy to this day, and are frequently performed around the world. One website asserts that *Six Characters* is the second most important play of the Twentieth Century (behind, I have to assume, *Waiting for Godot*) and while this may be going a little too far even for me, the play deserves its reputation. Not only is it a fascinating and enduring work of theatre, but it has been enormously influential, opening the doors for the plays of Beckett, Ionesco, and Genet, as well as for modern movies (*The Orchid Thief*) and even David Letterman's television show. Trust me.

Of course, no play is perfect, and for today's audience, a faithful translation of *Six Characters* can seem excessively full of discussion and explanation. In addition, Pirandello's plays were so bold, so ahead of their time, that much of what was innovative about them has been completely adopted and assimilated into the theatre, leaving Pirandello's work sort of historically stranded. Robert Brustein's adaptation, done in collaboration with his acting company, addresses these issues, and transforms some of the philosophical discussions of the original into tangible and intense dramatic action. He wanted to tailor his production to the actual company and stage of the A.R.T., and in his script graciously encourages other companies to do the same. We have seized this opportunity, and the play you will see is a combination of Brustein's flexible innovations, and the fresh perspective of the Louisiana Tech actors, designers, and crew. Importantly, the whole thing strives to maintain the original genius of Pirandello.

Luckily for us, besides being a philosopher and theatrical innovator, Pirandello was capable of constructing a story for his six fictional characters worthy of the best of *Days of Our Lives*. A separated husband and wife, their son who has never known his mother, and her three children by another man are thrown together. Their long-held feelings clash, and they find themselves enmeshed in a tawdry sex scandal, which they bring onto the stage of an unsuspecting theatre. The arrival of the tormented characters, who suffer from the uncompleted state of their horrifying story, interrupts the company's rehearsal of another play, thereby committing an unforgivable breach of theatre protocol. The questions that arise, about the responsibility of artists for their creations, about whether the stage can really represent the pain of mankind, and about truth vs. illusion, are fundamental to our existence.

We hope you enjoy our effort to examine these questions in the most entertaining way we can. The play is about art and fiction on the one hand, and the actors and playwrights who create them on the other. The necessary third party is the audience. Without you, none of it means anything.

Scott Gilbert

**Laurie Bass** (Production Stage Manager) is a second year Theatre graduate student from Ruston, LA. Laurie received her BS in Accounting from Louisiana Tech in May of 2002. She currently serves as the Stone Theatre Business Manager. Laurie spent three years as the Louisiana Tech Concert Association Liaison. Her past theatre experience includes multiple stints as House Manager, and the Assistant Stage Manager for *Peter Pan* in 2002. Laurie spent the summer as a Company Management Intern at Williamstown Theatre Festival. She is a member of the Phi Mu Sorority Ruston Alumnae Chapter, and is an Alpha Lambda Chapter Advisor.



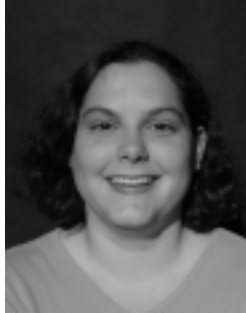
**Joakima "Jai" Mayes** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Junior Theatre major from Houston, TX. She was last seen as Mrs. Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*. Her other roles include Short Stack in *Peter Pan*, Halima in *Goiter on Rye*, and She in *Counting the Ways*. Last spring she took on the role of Production Stage Manager for the *One Act Play Festival*-a very interesting experience. Joakima is a new member of Alpha Kappa Alpha.



## Creative Team



**Scott Gilbert** (Director) is an Assistant Professor who teaches directing, acting and theatre history. He has directed many productions at Tech, including *Smoke on the Mountain*, *The Greeks*, *Twelfth Night*, *Buried Child*, *Tartuffe*, *The Comedy of Errors*, and *The Hostage*. Other recent directing credits have been at Foothill Theatre Company in California, the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, and Oregon State University. When called upon, Scott designs, (*Six Women with Brain Death*, *Leaf Men*) acts, (numerous Shakespeare roles, George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*) choreographs fights, or does whatever is required to make theatre happen - and his comedy narration stylings annually grace Tech's Opera Workshop.



**Lucky Arledge** (Costume Designer) is a first-year Theatre graduate student from Springdale, AR. Lucky's previous experience includes Second Assistant Stage Manager for *A Christmas Carol* here at Tech, and she was the Production Stage Manager for *Fen* and *Lysistrata* at Lyon College. Her other credits at Lyon College range from directing *The Vagina Monologues* to lighting design in *The Memory of Water* and *Fen*. She also served as the Technical Director for *Joined at the Head* and is a member of Alpha Psi Omega.



**Catherine Brehaut** (Scenic Designer) is a second year Theatre graduate student from Spartanburg, SC and parts west. She was the Production Stage Manager for *Electra* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* at Limestone College, where she was also the Scenic Designer for *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Her credits here at Tech include Production Stage Manager for *A Christmas Carol* and *Smoke on the Mountain*. Catherine's original one-woman show *Boobies*, which was staged during the Original Play Workshop here at Tech, has been selected as a finalist in the Regional Festival. She has also performed as Emily in *Our Town* and Luisa in *The Fantasticks*.



**Wes Smith** (Lighting Designer) is a Senior Theatre major from Alexandria, LA. Wes has appeared on stage in a variety of roles such as Squire Boone in *Blue Jacket*, Bernardo in *Zastrozzi*, an Ant Goblin in *The Leaf Men and the Brave Good Bugs*, and the title character in *Jake Misco: Paranormal Investigator*. Wes has also served as Technical Director for *A Christmas Carol*, *Goiter on Rye* and *Twelfth Night* and is a recognized actor combatant in unarmed combat, single sword, rapier and dagger, quarterstaff, and knife.



**Casey Franklin** (Sound Designer) is a Senior Theatre major and is from Natchitoches, LA. Casey was last seen as a company member in *An Evening of Opera and Musical Theatre*. He was 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*. Among Casey's technical credits, are sound board operator for the 2002 Opera Workshop and *Zastrozzi*.



**Mary Leviner** (Properties Designer) is a Sophomore Theatre major from Alexandria, LA. She was last seen as a Street Person in *A Christmas Carol*. Mary was also seen as a Bacchic Dancer in *The Bacchae*. Her other roles include Alice in *The Restaurant* and Leila Metwali in *Goiter on Rye*.

## The Cast

**Dan R. Aswell** (Son) is an Industrial/ Organizational Psychology graduate student from Downsville, LA. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Louisiana Tech University in the summer of 2000. Dan's past acting experience includes Iago in *Othello*, Don Baker in *Butterflies are Free*, and Paul Bratter in *Barefoot in the Park* at Ruston Community Theatre.

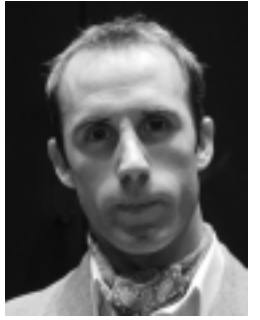
**Richard E. Bennett** (Stage Manager) is a Senior Theatre major transfer student from Jones County Junior College. He was the Scenic Designer for *A Christmas Carol*, Master Electrician for Opera Workshop 2002, the Lighting Designer for *Antigone*, and Assistant Lighting Designer for *Smoke on the Mountain*. Last year, he received a Tech Tony for his performance as Silvio in *Pvt. Wars*. Before coming to Tech, he appeared as Mickey in *Blood Brothers* in Ellisville, MS.

**Giselle M. Chatelain** (Little Girl) is a Junior Theatre and English double major and is from New Orleans, LA. She last appeared as Little Bo Peep in *A Christmas Carol*. You may also remember seeing her in *The Bacchae* as a Bacchic Dancer, *The Frogs* as a member of the chorus, *Goiter on Rye* as a Croatian Woman, *Laundry and Bourbon* as Hattie, and in *Peter Pan* as an Indian.

**Andrei Constantinescu** (Stagehand) is a second year Theatre graduate student from Shreveport, LA. He was last seen as Dick Wilkins in *A Christmas Carol*. His other roles include Doug in *Light Years*, Knemon, the title role in *The Dyskolos (The Grouch)* and a Messenger in *The Bacchae*, and has also served as the Assistant Stage Manager for *Smoke on the Mountain*. Andrei is a recognized member of the SAFD. He spent his summer in Xenia, Ohio as Bright Eagle in the epic outdoor drama *Blue Jacket*.

**Allie Gilbert** (Actress) is a Senior Theatre major from Thibodaux, LA. She last appeared as Mrs. Crow in *A Christmas Carol*. She has also played the title role in *Antigone*, a Bacchic Dancer in *The Bacchae*, a Fairy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and a Doodle Bug in *Leaf Men and the Brave Good Bugs*. Allie serves as the President of Tech Theatre Players.

**Nicholas R. Harrison** (Director) is a second year Theatre graduate student from Grambling, LA. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre from Grambling State University in 2002. He was last seen as a company member in Opera Workshop's *An Evening of Opera and Musical Theatre*. Last year he received a Tech Tony for his performance in *Dyskolos (The Grouch)* as Kalippedes. Nicholas's past roles include the Ghost of Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol*, Sam in *Master Harold and the Boys*, and Husband in *The Old Settler*. He spent his summer portraying Yellow Hawk in Xenia, Ohio in *Blue Jacket*.





**Jonathan Jolly** (Actor) is a Junior Theatre major from West Monroe, LA. His most recent stage experience here at Tech includes Eduard and Saudi Man in *Goiter of Rye* and also as Gorgias and Watchman in *The Greeks*. He has previously been seen at Bellhaven College in roles such as Jack in *The Boys Next Door*, Silvius in *As You Like It*, and Sir Studley in *Once Upon A Mattress*. Jonathan is a recognized actor combatant in single sword and broadsword by the Society of American Fight Directors, and also a certified stuntman with the United Stuntmen's Association.



**Levy Leatherman** (Actor) is a Senior History and French double major and is from Pineville, LA. He was last seen in *Dyskolos (The Grouch)*. Levy's other roles at Louisiana Tech include Mladen/ Khalid Metwali in *Goiter on Rye*, Fabien in *Twelfth Night*, and Ford in *Bachelor Holiday*. He has also performed with the City Park Players in Alexandria as Earthquake McGoon in *Lil' Abner*.



**Emily Loeffler** (Stepdaughter) is a Junior Theatre major from Alexandria, LA. She was last seen as Nell in *A Christmas Carol*. Her other roles include Denise in *Smoke on the Mountain*, Eurydice in *Antigone*, a Nymph, in *Dyskolos (The Grouch)*, a Bacchic Dancer in *The Bacchae* and Anybodys in *West Side Story*. Emily is a recognized actor combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors.



**Timothy Karl Sebastian Makin** (Father) is a Junior Theatre major and is from Walker, LA. He was last seen as Charity Man #2 in *A Christmas Carol*. Some of his past roles include: Tiresias in *Antigone*, Chadie in *Goiter on Rye*, Noodler in *Peter Pan*, and The Captain in *Twelfth Night*.



**Elisabeth Page** (Actress) is a Junior Theatre major from Slidell, LA. She was last seen as a company member in *An Evening of Opera and Musical Theatre*. Her past roles include Millie in *A Christmas Carol*, Daphne in *Light Years*, Charon in *The Frogs*, a Bacchic Dancer in *The Bacchae*, Wilma Trumbo in *The Rape of Bunny Stuntz*. This summer, while working at The Greenbrier Valley Theatre, she portrayed Lucy Tritt Shue in *The Greenbrier Ghost*.



**Jessica Phillips** (Mother) is a Junior Theatre major from El Dorado, AR. She was last seen as Mrs. Dilber in *A Christmas Carol* this past fall. Last year, she appeared on the Tech theatre stage as Ms. Myrtle in *Smoke on the Mountain*, Ismene in *Antigone*, and Sylvia in *Goiter on Rye*. Also last year, she won a Tech Tony for her performance as Geta in *Dyskolos (The Grouch)*.

**David Reed** (Actor) is a first year Theatre graduate student from Tonganoxie, KS. He received his BA in Theatre from Saint Mary College. He was last seen as Jacob Marley in *A Christmas Carol*. Some of his most recent credits from Saint Mary College include Father in *Six Characters In Search of An Author*, Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*, Player in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and Max in *Bent*.



**T. J. Reynolds** (Boy) is a Freshman Theatre major from Camden, AR. He last appeared as a Special Effects Technician in *A Christmas Carol*. His previous theatrical experience includes John Proctor in *The Crucible*, Andrew McNair in *1776*, Hamlet in *Hamlet*, and Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing*. T.J. is also an Assistant Coach for the Ruston Junior High Soccer Team.



**Reece Roark** (Actor) is a Sophomore General Studies major from Urania, LA. He last appeared as Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. You may also remember him as Stanley last year in *Smoke on the Mountain*, for which Reece received a Tech Tony.



**Joel Eutaw Sharpton** (Emilio Paz) is a Senior Theatre and Political Science double major from Bastrop, LA. He was last seen in *An Evening of Opera and Musical Theatre*. His past roles include Jake in *A Christmas Carol*, 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*. He is a recognized Actor Combatant with both the SAFD and the BASSC. Joel has 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.



**Caty Steward** (Stagehand) is a Freshman Theatre major from Baton Rouge, LA. Caty made her debut performance at Louisiana Tech University as a Ghost in *A Christmas Carol*. Her past theatrical experience includes Tink Solheim in *The Museum*, Chorus in *The Trojan Women*, A.J in *The Runaways* and Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

