GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

by Todd Kreidler | based on the screenplay by William Rose

directed by
Curtis J. Williams

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100th Season
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Theatre Jacksonville presents

4th Production

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

A play by TODD KREIDLER
Based on the screenplay by William Rose

Directed by Curtis J. Williams

Sponsored by Delegal & Poindexter P.A.

CAST

MATILDA BINKS . . . . . Brandy Durham
HILARY ST. GEORGE . . . . . Gloria Ware
CHRISTINA DRAYTON . . . . . Grace Bryan
MATT DRAYTON . . . . . Michael Ray
JOANNA DRAYTON . . . . . Abigail Hunger
DR. JOHN PRENTICE . . . . . David Girard
MONSIGNOR RYAN . . . . . Bob Gerard
JOHN PRENTICE, SR. . . . . Ronnie McKinnon
MARY PRENTICE . . . . . Tongie Davis

TIME & PLACE

Drayton Home, San Francisco, 1967

There will be a 10-minute intermission.

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner is produced by special arrangement with Playscripts Inc.

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WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY

GRACE BRYAN (Christina Drayton) is so happy to be back in her third production at Theatre Jacksonville, after previously appearing as Joy Davidman in *Shadowlands* and Henrietta Leavitt in *Silent Sky*. She likes to help out in regional film productions as an actor and producer, and you may have seen her in a few commercials here in Florida and Georgia and as Elizabeth Applewood in the soon to be released feature film "Applewood." She also works as a Physician Assistant in neurosurgery at Mayo Clinic. She is thankful for the patience of her husband Kendall, son Henry, and loving, supportive family and friends. Grace is grateful to Curtis, Rhonda, Joy, Sarah, Michelle, Ron and all the cast and crew and volunteers of Theatre Jacksonville for another opportunity to learn. Thank YOU for supporting your local theatre! Jeremiah 29:11.

TONGIE DAVIS (Mary Prentice) is a native of Jacksonville. She started Acting in 2009 in Atlanta, GA and is excited to be making her debut at Theatre Jacksonville. Her favorite role was playing the lead character, Clarissa Cannon in The Ansley Park Playhouse production of *Tea Party*. She has appeared in various short films, such as "Bereaved Heart" and "Unusual Circumstances" and television episodes of "Swamp Murders" & "Tyler Perry's House of Payne". Special thank you to her husband of 35 years, Anthony J. Davis, her children DeVon and Megan Davis(wife) and Justin and Angie Davis(wife) and her granddaughter, Ryleigh McLean.

BRANDY DURHAM (Matilda "Tillie" Binks) was born in Charlotte, NC and raised in Rock Hill, SC. A natural born performer, Brandy began singing in church and found her love of acting while in middle school. Though eventually switching professional career paths in college, Brandy, as a proud Florida State University College of Music Alumna and graduate of the Florida A&M University College of Law, never lost sight of who she is at her core and has continued to pursue her love for the performing arts. Although she has a knack for comedic performances, her most notable roles to-date are Mara in Markeshia Gordon-Hines' drama-stage play *Bitter* in Tallahassee, Florida. Brandy relocated to Jacksonville in 2019 and quickly found her way to the stage, auditioning and earning her place here. She knows that she could not be where she is today without the love and support of her amazing family and village, especially her parents, Donald and Bridget Durham, grandmother, Margaret Sawyer, and her amazing son, Donovan. Brandy has been welcomed with open arms by the Jacksonville theatrical community and is excited to bring the role of Matilda "Tillie" Binks to life!

DAVID FISHER (Assistant Stage Manager) is serving for the first time as an Assistant Stage Manager. Previously, he has been a part of the running crew at Theatre Jacksonville for *The Miracle Worker*, *The Subject was Roses*, *The Games' Afoot*, *Mamma Mia!*, and *Love Quest*.

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY CONTINUED

RHONDA FISHER (Stage Manager) has performed onstage at Theatre Jacksonville in such productions as *Rumors*, *The Subject was Roses*, *The Miracle Worker*, *The Games' Afoot*, and *Wolf Hall*. She has stage managed *Boeing Boeing*, *Old Love*, and *Love Quest* and served as an assistant stage manager for *Mamma Mia!*. Rhonda is thrilled to be able to participate in live theatre again.

ROBERT 'BOB' GERARD (Monsignor Mike Ryan) is happy to be back on the Theatre Jacksonville stage in his third show. Bob was last seen in *Shadowlands* and *12 Angry Men*. He is active in theatre in Baker County, directing and acting. Thanks to Kelley and his family for their love and support.

DAVID GIRARD (Dr. John Prentice) was most recently seen in Theatre Jacksonville's live, virtual presentation of *Thurgood* and in the film, "The Artifice Girl". Other credits include: His one-man show, *The Other Side*, *The Exonerated*, *Julius X*, *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, *Crumbs*, *Angels in America*, *The Full Monty*, *Gem of the Ocean*, *Superior Donuts*, *Spunk*, *The Trojan Women*, *Passing Strange*, *August: Osage County*, *The Whipping Man*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *Sweat*, *Fences* and *Cocaine*. David is thrilled to be a part of *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. Special thanks to Theatre Jacksonville, and, of course, his amazing family.

ABIGAIL HUNGER (Joanna Dryden) is delighted to once again be unleashed upon the Theatre Jax stage! She handled lockdown like any respectable adult: in pajamas, eating constantly, and performing off-key, one-woman versions of Broadway musicals for her cat. She is filled to the brim with joy to once again be on front of a real, non-feline audience! You may have seen her in *Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Wolf Hall*, *Savannah Sipping Society*, or playing a host of creatures online for *Storytime with Jason Woods*. She is honored to be working once again with Curtis and Rhonda, and humbled to have the opportunity to bask in the talented glow of this incredible cast. As always, her successes can be fully attributed to her mother, Wendi's, exceptional parenting; and her quirks to her father, Kevin's DNA. She wishes to thank them for their endless and enthusiastic support of her theater addiction.

RONNIE MCKINNON (John Prentice, Sr.) is a pastor at All Saints Holiness Church who answered the call of service to this production just five days before seeing an audience. As a diehard FSU football fan, he is used to things not always going according to plan but he believes and knows everything works out in the end. The cast, crew and staff are thrilled he is making his theatrical debut with us!

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY CONTINUED

MICHAEL RAY (Matt Drayton) is so happy to be stepping on stage again. And not just any stage. The Theatre Jacksonville stage, where he has been blessed to portray so many memorable characters over the years including Lenny in *Rumors*, Vince Lombardi in *Lombardi*, William Gillette in *Holmes for the Holidays*, Bud in *Old Love*, and others. He is now thrilled to be playing one more with this incredible group of storytellers in a show that couldn't be more timely or important. Thank you to Sarah, Michelle, Curtis (and Joe before that) for trusting me in this role. Thanks also to Lee for a place to hang. And finally, thank you, the audience, for coming back and supporting Theatre Jacksonville and the entire cast and crew as live theater returns to San Marco!

GLORIA WARE (Hilary St. George) is excited to be back on the boards at Theatre Jacksonville. Gloria has performed around Jacksonville and recent roles include Hilda in *Hilda's Yard*, Clairee in *Steel Magnolias*, Lillian in *I Hate Hamlet*, Mama in *Memphis*, Lady Bird Johnson in *All The Way*, Judy Boone in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Helen in *Absence*, Narrator for *Bent* and Lane in *The Clean House*. Prior to acting, coaching and directing locally, Gloria worked in New York, Texas, California, Kansas, Indiana, Arizona and Missouri. Her early acting career started in NYC (what seems like a lifetime ago) and is happy to make Jacksonville her home. Hugs and kisses to Honey and Harley!

CURTIS J. WILLIAMS (Director) is celebrating being back in person in 2021to help wrap up Theatre Jacksonville's 100th season. He spent his childhood in musical theatre, but was soon taken in by the world of ballet. From 2000 to 2008, he worked as a company artist/resident choreographer with The Florida Ballet and attended the University of North Florida and American University during the first years of his professional career. During that time, he also served as a permanent guest artist and choreographer with Virginia Ballet Theatre, Sierra Nevada Ballet, Los Angeles Ballet, Dayton Contemporary Ballet and various dance galas across the U.S. In 2003, Mr. Williams co-founded Coastal Arts Project in eastern North Carolina and served as its artistic director and costume designer for five years. After retiring from the world of classical performance, Mr. Williams first returned to musical Theatre as a rehearsal director of works from the Bob Fosse repertoire. Since then, he has directed, choreographed and/or costumed productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Hot Mikado*, *Nine to Five: The Musical*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, *Les Miserables*, *Always A Bridesmaid*, *Hairspray*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Urinetown*, *Cats*, *The 39 Steps*, *Love Goes To Press*, *The Laramie Project* and *The Explorer's Club*. An avid hat maker, his millinery skills can be seen in shows around the southeast.

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PRODUCTION TEAM

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Stage Manager . . . . . Rhonda Fisher
Assistant Stage Managers . . . . . Dave Fisher and Christie Wilson
Properties/Set Dressing. . . . . Ron Shreve
Light/Sound Board Operator . . . . . .Patience Donovan, Mark Rubens
Costume Design . . . . . Curtis J. Williams
Graphic Design . . . . . .Green Onion Creative LLC
Lighting Design . . . . . .Loudise Ortiz Hernandez
Sound Design. . . . . Curtis J. Williams
Scenic Design . . . . . .Tim Watson
Set Construction . . . . Lora Christl, Bob Gerard, Dylan Gerard, Ben Girvin,
. . . . . Jake Kindy and Jason Woods

SPECIAL THANKS

Daniann Rawls, Saul Lucio and The Florida Theatre, The Gerard/Norman Family,
Johnny Pettigrew, Peterbrooke Chocolatiers,
and Jon, Ross and the whole Minuteman Press Team

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