

News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

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Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents Regional Premiere of

POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive

Richmond, VA – Virginia Repertory Theatre introduces the regional premiere of **POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive**. Hot off its Tony Award-nominated Broadway debut, **POTUS** is a very current feminist farce that tracks a White House in chaos. When the President unwittingly spins a PR nightmare into a global crisis, the seven brilliant and beleaguered women he relies upon most risk life, liberty, and the pursuit of sanity to keep the commander-in-chief out of trouble.

Written by playwright Selina Fillinger and directed by Dorothy Holland, this show is dedicated to the memory and work of Carol Piersol. It runs Sept 1 – Oct 1 in the November Theatre downtown.

A content advisory is suggested for **POTUS**: Explicit language. Adult content and situations. Ages 17 and up.

Reviews of the Broadway show point out just how riotous and saucy it is:

"Gleefully filthy." - The New York Times

"A broad, zany, old-school comedy... You can feel how hungry the spectators are to laugh together, and they get to do it often in this silly, fast-paced lark." – *TimeOut NY*

"I am woman, hear me roar — with laughter, at *POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive*, playwright Selina Fillinger's delicious feminist farce... There are no secondary characters here, but a tight, fiercely funny ensemble of women... irresistibly funny." – *Variety*

"Sly wit and inspired goofiness." – The New York Sun

The creative team and cast list is below.

Direction & Design

Direction Dorothy Holland Scenic Design Chris Raintree

Costume Design Elizabeth Weiss Hopper

Lighting Design Steve Koehler
Sound Design Tosin Olufolabi
Stage Management Donna Warfield*

Cast

Stephanie Elizabeth Byland*

Dusty Liv Clayton
Margaret Sonja Durant

Jean Anne Michelle Forbes

Chris Bree Ogaldez

Bernadette Catherine Shaffner*
Harriet Denise Simone*
Stephanie u/s Juliette Aaslestad
Jean u/s Juliana Caycedo
Bernadette u/s Kelsey Cordrey
Dusty u/s Emily Dandridge
Margaret u/s Jianna Hurt

Chris u/s MacKenzie Sheppard

Ticket Information

Box Office: 804-282-2620

www.virginiarep.org

Tickets range from \$39 - \$59 (Discounted Group Rates and Rush tickets available.)

^{*}Member of Actors' Equity Association

⁺Member of USA, United Scenic Artists

[^]Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

Press

The play runs 1.5 hours **plus** a 15-minute intermission

Press Kits will be available at http://va-rep.org/press.html

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About Virginia Repertory Theatre

Virginia Repertory Theatre is a regional professional theater headquartered in downtown Richmond, and is one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Virginia Rep will stage productions in four venues in 2023-2024: the **Signature** Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, the **Barksdale** Season at the Hanover Tavern. The **Children's** Season at Virginia Rep Center for Arts and Education, 4204 Hermitage Road in Richmond's Northside, and **Partner Productions** in the Theatre Gym located within the November Theatre complex downtown. Virginia Rep also tours children's shows, both virtual and live, and provides educational programming to schools throughout Virginia and to major performing arts centers throughout 32 states.

Season Supporters

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