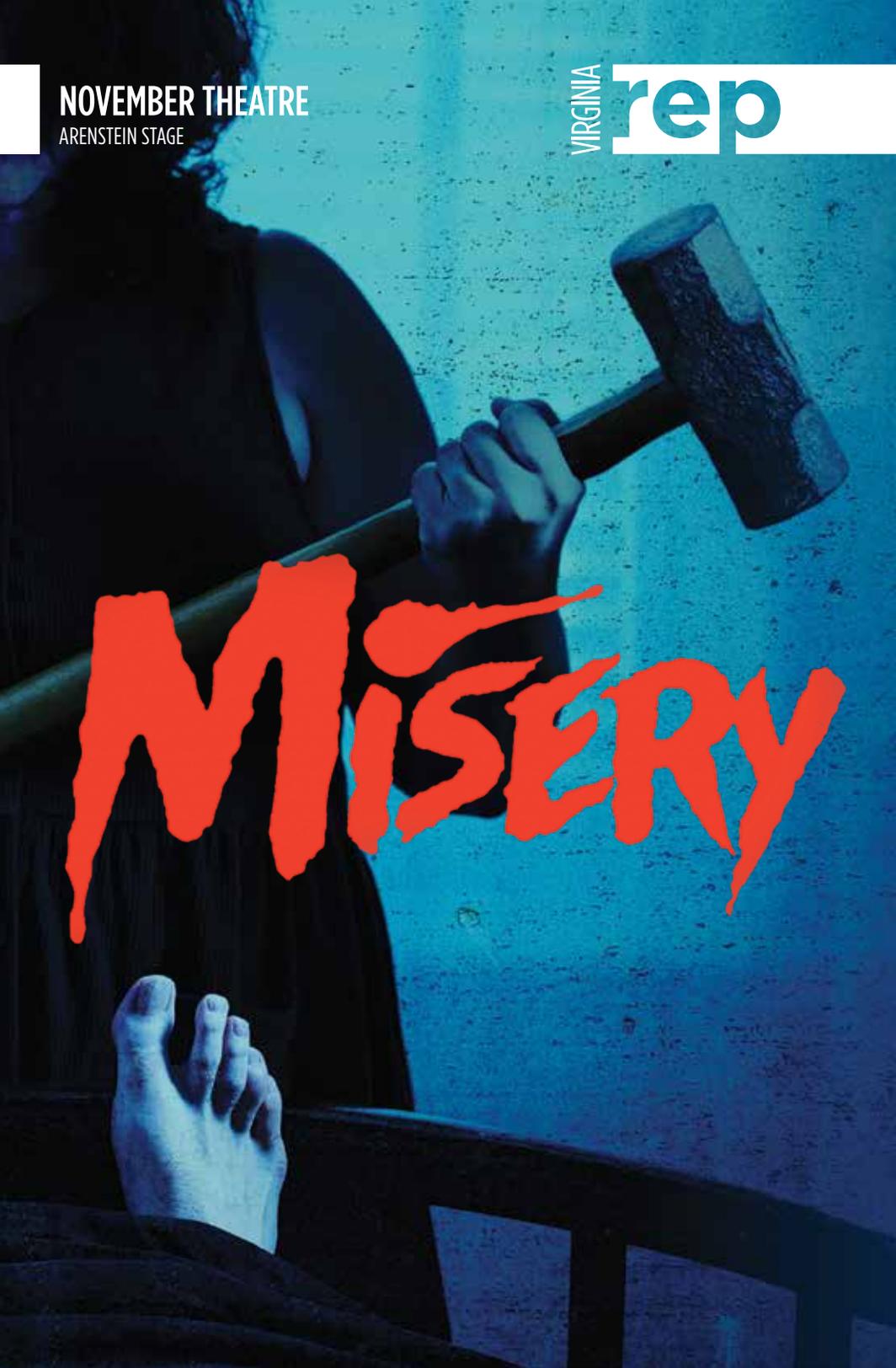


NOVEMBER THEATRE
ARENSTEIN STAGE

VIRGINIA
rep

A person in a dark, sleeveless dress is shown from the waist down, holding a large wooden mallet. The person's right foot is visible in the foreground, resting on a wooden chair. The background is a textured, light-colored wall. The entire scene is bathed in a blue light.

MISERY

**2024/25
SIGNATURE SEASON**

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**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR
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CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Music by Marc Shaiman,
Lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman,
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FAT HAM

By James Ijames
A CO-PRODUCTION WITH VIRGINIA STAGE COMPANY
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Book by Jessie Nelson, Music and Lyrics
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MISERY

BY **WILLIAM GOLDMAN**

Based on the novel
by Stephen King

Original Broadway production produced by Warner Bros. Theatre ventures in association with Castle Rock Entertainment, Liz Glotzer, Mark Kaufman, Martin Shafer, Raymond Wu

World Premiere produced at Bucks County Playhouse, New Hope, PA
(Jed Benstein, Producing Director)

SCENIC DESIGN
Chris Raintree

COSTUME DESIGN
Marcia Miller Hailey

LIGHTING DESIGN
BJ Wilkinson

SOUND DESIGN
Joey Luck

PROJECTION DESIGN
Dasia Gregg

STAGE MANAGEMENT
Donna Warfield*

FIGHT DIRECTION
Casey Kaleba

WIG DESIGN
Jeanne Nugent

DIRECTION
Rick Hammerly^

SARA BELLE AND NEIL NOVEMBER THEATRE | MARJORIE ARENSTEIN STAGE

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CAST

Annie Wilkes **Susan Sanford***
Paul Sheldon **Matt Meixler***
Buster, U/S Paul **Andrew Firda***
U/S Annie **McLean Fletcher°**
U/S Buster **Joe Pabst**

° Performing September 4, 14, 18, and 28 matinees.

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

Assistant Director **Durron Marquis Tyre**
Assistant Lighting Designer **Vivien Smith**
Assistant Scenic Designer **Van Montes**
Assistant Stage Manager **Carissa Lanstra**
Deck Crew **Daryus Gazder,**
Amber Hooper, David Ramirez
Wardrobe Supervisor **Sassy Rychalski**
Audio Engineer **Trusten Murrah**
Light Board Operator **Griffin Hardy**
Photographer **Aaron Suttan**
Videographer **Dewey Collins**

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

Special Thanks to: Barter Theatre, Pursue Props, Dennis Buck, Kylie Clark, Daryus Gazder, Robb Hunter, Justin Janke, Tariq Karriem, and Susan Verbeeck.



*Appearing through an Agreement between Virginia Rep and **Actors' Equity Association**, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



+Member of USA, **United Scenic Artists**, local 829



^The Director is a member of the **Stage Directors and Choreographers Society**, a national theatrical labor union.

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COMPANY BIOS



Susan Sanford, she/her, (Annie Wilkes) is thrilled to return to the November stage where she spent the summer playing Violet in “9 to 5 *The Musical*”. Other roles with Virginia Rep include Berthe in *Boeing Boeing*, the Adult Women in *Spring Awakening* and Mayzie in *Seussical*, all of which garnered her RTCC nominations. Most recently Susan could be seen playing The Witch in *Into the Woods* with Richmond Shakespeare.

Other notable roles include Big Edie/Little Edie in *Grey Gardens* and Georgette in *It Shoulda Been You* at Richmond Triangle Players, Toni in *Appropriate* with Cadence Theatre, and The Baroness in *The Sound of Music* at Virginia Rep, for which she won RTCC awards. Susan is also an accomplished director whose credits include Elephant & Piggie’s “*We Are in a Play!*”, *Knuffle Bunny*, *Goodnight Moon*, and *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, all for Virginia Rep. By day Susan teaches theatre and public speaking at The Steward School. As always, Susan sends her love and appreciation to her husband, Foster, and her children, Jordan and Willow.



Matt Meixler, he/him, (Paul Sheldon) is thrilled to be making his Richmond debut with Virginia Rep. After receiving critical acclaim in No Rules Theatre Company’s “*Touch*” (Washington, D.C.), Matt spent the next 13 years away from the stage. He feels incredibly fortunate to be making his return, and would like to thank his amazing mother, family, and friends for their uncompromising support. Special thanks to Rick, the cast, and crew... and to you for supporting live theatre. Matt is a graduate of NYU’s Tisch

School of the Arts.



Andrew Firda, he/him, (Buster, Paul u/s) is delighted to return to Virginia Rep where he last appeared in *After December*. Richmond credits: Cadence Theatre, Richmond Triangle Players, Firehouse Theatre, University of Richmond. Off-Broadway: The Pearl Theatre Company. Off-off-Broadway: Metropolitan Playhouse, Gallery Players. Regional appearances with the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina,

Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Northern Stage, Smoky Mountain Shakespeare Festival, and The Monomoy Theatre. Television: *Law & Order: SVU*, *One Life to Live*, *As the World Turns*, truTV, The History Channel, and on the web with The Onion News Network. He holds an M.F.A. from Ohio University.



McLean Fletcher, she/her, (Annie Wilkes u/s) is excited to be back on a Richmond stage where her previous credits include Betsy/Lindsey in *Clybourne Park* and Jill in *Equus* at Cadence Theatre in partnership with Virginia Repertory Theatre, Mabry in *The Human Terrain* at Fifth Wall, Sarah in *Grace* with TheatreLab, and many others at Richmond Shakespeare, Firehouse and Sycamore Rouge. She has also performed with Studio Theatre, Constellation Theatre, Synetic Theatre, Folger Shakespeare,

Shakespeare Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, Drama League and others. McLean earned her MFA in classical theatre at The George Washington University.

COMPANY BIOS



Joe Pabst, (Buster u/s) most recently appeared in Virginia Rep's production of *The Silver Belles* playing Earl Early, and as John Mitchell in *Martha Mitchell Calling* at the Hanover Tavern. He began his Richmond career as an understudy nearly 35 years ago and has covered dozens of roles since. Other Virginia Rep roles include the Father in *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, Inspector Andre in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, multiple roles in *Equivocation* (co-produced with Richmond Shakespeare), and many more. He sends love to his wife, Debra Wagoner, and their fur family.

Rick Hammerly, he/him, (Director) See biography on Leadership page.

Chris Raintree, he/him, (Scenic Designer) is the Head of Scene Design at Virginia Commonwealth University. He holds a B.F.A. from Virginia Commonwealth University and an M.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon University. Select credits include *9 to 5*, *POTUS*, *Chicken & Biscuits*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Virginia Rep); *Roman A Clef*, *Berta Berta*, *The Barber of Moville*, *Passing Strange*, *Songs From Bedlam*, *Desire Under The Elms* (Firehouse Theatre); *Moth*, *A Doll's House* (TheatreLAB); *An Act of God*, *Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England* (Richmond Triangle Players). Upcoming productions include *Lake Effect* (Firehouse Theatre).

Marcia Miller Hailey, (Costume Designer) has been working in Richmond theatres for over 30 years, and now currently works in the costume shop at Virginia Rep as a Cutter/Draper. Some of her favorite shows she designed for Virginia Rep include *Beehive*, *Forever Plaid*, *Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End*, *Miracle on South Division Street*, *Charitable Sisterhood*, *Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, and *Boeing Boeing*. She has also worked for the Richmond Ballet, Virginia and Utah Shakespeare Festivals, and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

BJ Wilkinson, he/him, (Lighting Designer) received his B.A. from the University of Northern Colorado, & his M.F.A. from the University of Cincinnati-CCM. He serves as Head of Lighting for VCU, where he recently designed *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Men on Boats*. He has designed over 40 productions with Virginia Rep and created the lighting design for the Eobalaenoptera whale display at the Caroline County Visitor's Center. Special thanks to Samm, Molly, and Jameson.

Joey Luck, he/him, (Sound Design) is very excited to be a part of this production of *Misery*! His most recent theatre credits include: *The Best of Times* (RTP), *Scrooge in Rouge* (RTP), *Let the Right One In* (VCUArts Theatre), and *Head Over Heels* (RTP). Joey has received RTCC awards for his sound design work on the following productions: *A Bright New Boise* (2013, Firehouse Theatre), *Cabaret* (2014, RTP), *Psycho Beach Party* (2015, RTP), *The Toxic Avenger* (2017, 5th Wall Theatre), *Sweeney Todd* (2019, TheatreLAB), *Small Mouth Sounds* (2022, Cadence Theatre), and *After December* (2023, Virginia Rep). Joey would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support! You can check out more of his work at www.joeyluck.com

COMPANY BIOS

Dasia Gregg, she/her, (Projection Designer) is a projection and scenic designer based in Richmond, VA, and currently works as a scenic artist at Virginia Repertory Theatre. Some recent and favorite credits include Animator for *The Dragon King's Daughter* (The Kennedy Center), Scenic and Projection Designer for Disney's *Descendants: The Musical* (VCUArts Theatre), Assoc. Projection Designer for *Cinderella: Enchanted* (Flat Rock Playhouse), Scenic and Projection Designer for *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* (SPARC), and Assoc. Projection Designer for *On Your Feet! The Musical* (Gala Hispanic Theatre). Dasia graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in 2018 with a BFA in Theatre and concentration in Scenic Design.

Donna Warfield, she/her, (Stage Manager) joined Virginia Rep on staff in 2022 and currently serves as Production Associate. Past VA Rep stage management credits include *9 to 5*, *Satchmo at the Waldorf*, *POTUS*, and *Gold*. Other notable past stage management credits include *Jersey Boys* (Norwegian Creative Studios), *The Nutcracker* (Atlanta Ballet - Fox Theatre/Kennedy Center), and *Hair* (Serenbe Playhouse). Donna would like to thank her partner Ben, her Mom and brothers, and her friends near and far for their endless support.

Casey Kaleba, (Fight Director) has arranged violence for nearly 600 productions, most recently at Signature Theatre (Soft Power), Wolf Trap Opera (Cosi fan Tutte and Silent Night), and the Glimmerglass Festival (Pagliacci and Elizabeth Cree). He has worked throughout the country, including Northern Stage, Washington National Opera, Ford's Theatre, Round House Theatre, Spoleto Festival USA, Guthrie Theatre, and as an audition choreographer for Marvel Universe Live. A Fight Director and Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors, Casey holds a PhD in Theatre History from the University of Maryland - College Park. For more of his work go to www.ToothAndClawCombat.com

Jeanne Nugent, (Wig Designer) hails from Chicago and is a graduate of Northern Illinois University. Jeanne has recently returned to Richmond after working in film/tv for the past few years. Credits include Asst. Costume Designer on HBO's *White House Plumbers* and *Walking Dead World Beyond* Season 2. Most recently she was Principal Set Costumer on Paramount Plus *Lioness*. She has designed over 30 major musical productions. Some of her favorite credits include *Shrek the Musical*, *Croaker: The Frog Prince Musical*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Wiz*, and *The Silver Belles*. Jeanne is very excited for the opportunity to be working on *Misery* with such a talented artistic team.



Save the Date

The Anything Goes Gala

WILL BE ON

February 8, 2025

AT THE VIRGINIA REP CENTER FOR ARTS AND EDUCATION.

The graphic features a black background with a white, ornate, Art Deco-style border. The text is centered and uses a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts. The words "Save the Date" are at the top in a serif font, followed by "The Anything Goes Gala" in a larger serif font. Below that, "WILL BE ON" is in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font, and "February 8, 2025" is in a medium-sized serif font. At the bottom, "AT THE VIRGINIA REP CENTER FOR ARTS AND EDUCATION." is in an all-caps sans-serif font.

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 Production Associate Donna Warfield
 Technical Directors .. Thomas Hawfield, Hans Paul
 Carpenters Michael Cienfuegos-Baca,
 Shawn Goodman
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RICK HAMMERLY
Artistic Director

Rick has worked as an award-winning actor, director, filmmaker, and arts manager, formerly based in Washington, DC,

for over three decades.

Since moving to Richmond and joining Virginia Repertory Theatre's leadership team, he has directed *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, for which he received an RTCC Award for Best Direction of a Musical, *Martha Mitchell Calling*, and *After December*. In addition, he received a 2018 Helen Hayes Award for his direction of *Lela & Co.* and a 2020 Helen Hayes Award nomination for his direction of *Agnes of God*, both for Factory 449. Other directing credits include *Dizzy Miss Lizzie's Roadside Revue's The Brontes* (New York Musical Theatre Festival), *Reykjavik* (Rorschach Theatre), *Emilie: La Marquise du Châtelet Defends Her Life Tonight* (WSC Avant Bard), *Driving Miss Daisy* featuring Karen Grassle (Riverside Center for the Performing Arts), *Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook* (Adventure Theatre MTC), *Dead Man Walking* (American University), and *Closet Land* (Factory 449).

As an actor, he has performed Off-Broadway and regionally, receiving a Helen Hayes Award for his turn as Hedwig in Signature Theatre's production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, as well as nominations for his work in *Angels in America* (Signature Theatre), *Me and Jezebel* (MetroStage) and *Oliver!* (Adventure Theatre MTC). For ten years, he played Mr. Fezziwig in Ford's Theatre's annual production of *A Christmas Carol* and was most recently seen as Miss Tracy Mills in Round House Theatre's *The Legend of Georgia McBride*.

He is a founder and Producing Artistic Director of Factory 449, the recipient of multiple Helen Hayes Awards, including the John Aniello Award for Outstanding Emerging Theatre Company, and the Executive Director of the Washington Area Performing Arts Video Archive (WAPAVA). For Idle Rich Productions, he wrote, directed, and produced signage, his debut film, which screened in over 60 film festivals world wide, garnered 5 festival awards, and was purchased by MTV and programmed on their LOGO channel.

Rick is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) and Actors' Equity Association (AEA). He received a B.A. in Theatre from the University of Virginia, an M.A. in Film & Video Production from American University, and has completed the coursework for an M.A. in Arts Management, also from AU.



KLAUS SCHULLER
Managing Director

Schuller boasts more than 20 years of experience managing the operations of complex, multi-venue and multi-disciplinary

organizations and has produced and presented live, touring and televised events that included collaborations with The Kennedy Center and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Known as much for his collaborative nature as his creativity, he has worked on various projects with celebrities such as Martin Short, Eugene Levy, Tina Fey, Catherine O'Hara, Bob Martin, and Dave Thomas.

Most recently, Schuller served as the executive director and producer for Randolph Entertainment, which presented Teatro

ZinZanni and Cabaret ZaZou in partnership with Broadway in Chicago, from 2018-23. He led the planning, construction and launch of a unique new theater in a "forgotten" space that was rediscovered during a hotel renovation that revealed the original grand space inside the historic 1926 building in the Chicago Loop.

Schuller also served as executive director and producer for The Second City Canada from 2005-17, where he supervised the planning and construction of its Mercer Street home in Toronto and planned or led the construction of venues in Toronto, Cleveland and Las Vegas.

"Virginia Rep's exceptional reputation and the diversity and quality of its offerings immediately appealed to me," Schuller said. "I am humbled to have the opportunity to contribute to the incredible legacy the organization has built over the past 70-plus years and its impact on the arts community in Richmond, Central Virginia and beyond."



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Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Accountability Statement

Since 2020, Virginia Repertory Theatre has been intentional in our efforts to become an artistic home that is multicultural in representation and where everyone is welcomed and included. We still have much work to do and continue to commit to doing our part to dismantle systems of oppression, not only in the theatre community, but everywhere it is present.

Our Commitment

We commit to examining our organizational culture to assure that we are an artistic home centered on anti-racist and anti-oppression practices. We will actively pursue and embrace inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all aspects of art, business, and life in our community.

We will intentionally make space for the diverse voices of our board, staff, artists, and theatre community.

We will seek to include and reflect on the varied experiences of our community to ensure everyone has access to live theatre that entertains, inspires, and challenges. We will be mindful of Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC); Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI); People with Disabilities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ (LGBTQ+), and other marginalized communities in our efforts and we will actively seek to learn from them.

We make these commitments to the theatre community and to the community at large and we ask that they take this journey with us and hold us accountable.

We will commit to implement our action plan so that
we can honestly say:

At Virginia Repertory Theatre, everyone has a voice.

At our theatre, everyone is welcomed and included.

*Please refer to the Social Justice section of our website for
our full Anti-Racism Commitment & Accountability Statement
and our history in support of racial equity.*

OUR MISSION

Our Mission: To entertain, challenge and uplift our communities through the power of live theatre. To that end, we seek national caliber excellence in the arts, education, and community health and leadership.

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