

**Artistic Director** Bruce Miller  
**Managing Director** Phil Whiteway

VIRGINIA **rep**

# SUMMER *and* SMOKE

BY  
**TENNESSEE WILLIAMS**

"Summer and Smoke" is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, INC.

STAGE MANAGEMENT  
**Rick Brandt\***

COSTUME DESIGN  
**Sue Griffin**

LIGHT DESIGN  
**BJ Wilkinson**

SET DESIGN  
**Rich Mason**

DIRECTION  
**Bruce Miller**

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## CAST (in order of appearance)

Young Alma/Rosemary . . . . .	<b>Keely Seward</b>
Young John/Roger Doremus . . . . .	<b>Trace Coles</b>
Rev. Winemiller/Vernon/Gonzales . . . . .	<b>Thomas L. Cunningham</b>
Rosa Gonzales/Mrs. Winemiller . . . . .	<b>Alexandra Deglise</b>
Alma Winemiller . . . . .	<b>Carolyn Demanelis</b>
Dr. John Buchanan, Jr . . . . .	<b>Alexander Sapp*</b>
Nellie Ewell/Mrs. Basset . . . . .	<b>Dana Colagiovanni*</b>
Dr. Buchanan/Dusty/Young Man . . . . .	<b>Charley Raintree</b>



\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the U.S.A.

## FOR THIS PRODUCTION

Assistant Director . . . . .	<b>Kelsey Schneider</b>
Dialect Coach . . . . .	<b>Thomas L. Cunningham</b>
Run Crew . . . . .	<b>Luke Robinson</b>
Light Board Operator. . . . .	<b>Linwood Guyton</b>
Sound Board Operator . . . . .	<b>Jason Winebarger</b>
Dresser/Crew . . . . .	<b>Kelsey Schneider</b>
Cover Art Illustration . . . . .	<b>Robert Meganck</b>
Photography . . . . .	<b>Aaron Suttan and Jay Paul</b>

## TIME AND PLACE

Turn of the Century through 1916, Glorious Hill, Mississippi

## DEDICATION

With the greatest love and respect, this production is dedicated to the memories of **Helen Levinson** and **Glenn Crone**, two irreplaceable members of the Barksdale / Virginia Rep family. They gave generously of their talent, hard work, and love of theatre, enriching countless productions. Their unique and exceptional contributions will live on in us forever.

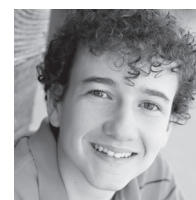


The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

## COMPANY BIOS



**Dana Colagiovanni** (Nellie/Mrs. Basset) is thrilled to be working at Virginia Rep on this beautiful show! She earned her BFA from the University of Mississippi, and will be graduating this spring with her MFA in Acting from UVa's Professional Actor Training Program. Previous credits include: *One Man, Two Guvnors*; *Almost, Maine*; *Spamalot* (Heritage Theatre Festival), *Vodka Variations*; *Wonderful Town*; *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball* (UVa Drama), *The Full Monty*; *Boeing, Boeing* (Pagosa Springs Center for Arts). Many thanks to Mom, Dad, John, and Jeremy for the unwavering support and unconditional love. A big thank you to Bruce for trusting me to help tell this story.



**Trace Coles** (Young John/Roger Doremus) is a 9th grader at Steward School and is very excited to be in his first VA Rep production! He has been in 14 Steward shows, *The Boy Friend*, *The Wiz* and *All In The Timing* are some favorites. He has also attended several Virginia Rep camps and was Donkey in a summer production of *Shrek Style*. He currently takes acting at Steward and participates in TRAIN, Cadence Theater Company's pre-professional actor training program. Trace would like to thank Bruce Miller for this opportunity, his family, Craig Smith and his TRAIN coaches for their guidance and support! .



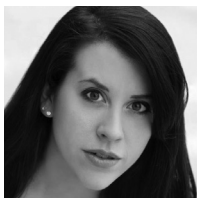
**Thomas L. Cunningham** (Rev. Winemiller/Vernon/Gonzales) is a PhD candidate and head of voice/speech at Virginia Commonwealth University. Recent performance credits include: *Hamlet* as Horatio, *King John* as King John, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Bottom, *King Lear* as The Foole, and *Twelfth Night* as Malvolio with Quill Theatre; *Closer as Dan* with TheatreLab; and *The Importance of Being Earnest* as Jack, and *Devil Boys from Beyond* as Lucinda Marsh with Richmond Triangle Players.



**Alexandra Deglise** (Rosa/Mrs. Winemiller) is delighted to make her Virginia Rep debut. She is getting her Acting MFA at UVa (class of 2016) and has a Masters in Journalism (Université Lyon 3). She lived in New York City for eight years and trained at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and at the T. Schreiber Studio. She has worked for several years as a financial TV and Radio Journalist, reporting live from the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Most recent credits: *Luv* (Heritage); *9 Parts of Desire*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball* (UVA).

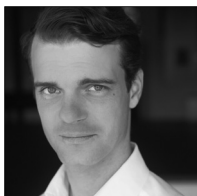
## COMPANY BIOS

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**Carolyn Demanelis** (Alma Winemiller) is part of the 2016 MFA Acting Program at UVa and this is her first show with Virginia Repertory Theatre. She couldn't be more thrilled to join the cast of *Summer And Smoke*. Some credits: *9 Parts of Desire*; *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*; *Our Town*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UVa); *I Love A Piano* (Heritage); *Macbeth* (Wit Theatre Company); *Titus Andronicus*; *Hamlet*; *Taming of the Shrew*;

*Pericles* (Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival). She would like to thank her family for their constant love and support, and she sends love to her fiancé, Zach.



**Charley Raintree** (Dr. Buchanan/Dusty/Young Man) is happy to appear on the November stage. Some of his prior credits include Alf in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Prospero in *The Tempest*, Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Edgar in *King Lear*, Ben Gunn in *Treasure Island*, Sheriff Twisdale in *Santa's Christmas Miracle*, Otis Holloway in *Twain's Tales*, Junior in *This World We Know*, Mitch in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Henry Carver in *Design for Living*, Billy Bibbit in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Tom in *The Glass Menagerie* and Touchstone in *As You Like It*.



**Alexander Sapp** (Doctor John Buchanan, Jr.) was last seen in the title role of *Croaker: The Frog Prince Musical* at Virginia Rep's Children's Theatre. Other credits include Lt. Buz Adams in *South Pacific* (Virginia Rep), Frankie in *A Lie of the Mind* (Cadence Theatre), Jim Hawkins in *Treasure Island* (Virginia Rep), Richard in *The Lion in Winter* (Quill Theatre), Patrick in *Mame* (Virginia Rep), Buckingham in *Richard III* (Quill Theatre), Himself in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare...Abridged* (Quill Theatre), Steve in *Grace* (TheatreLAB), Damis in *Tartuffe* (Virginia Rep), Stevie in *Good People* (Cadence Theatre).



**Keely Seward** (Young Alma/Rosemary) is in 8th grade at St. Catherine's School and has been in numerous school plays and SPARC productions over the years. Some of her roles have included Smee in *Peter Pan* and Imogene in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She was also part of the comedy improv troupe for the LiveArtSoul concert last summer. She thanks her family and many directors/drama teachers for all of their support.

**Rick Brandt** (Stage Manager) is happy to be back at Virginia Rep and working with this wonderful company. His Virginia Rep stage management credits include *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*; *Gypsy*; *Peter and the Starcatcher*; *South Pacific*; *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*; *The Whipping Man*; *Equivocation*; *Tartuffe*; *To Kill a Mockingbird*; *Red*; and *A Wonderful Life*. He served as Assistant Stage Manager on *Mame*, *The Color Purple*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

## COMPANY BIOS

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**Sue Griffin** (Costumer Designer) has headed up the Virginia Rep costume department for the last fifteen years. Over this time, the shop has produced costumes for more than 300 shows, from traveling fairy tales to major musicals. With the help of the full time shop, hundred of costumes, wigs, shoes and hats are sent out on a stage or packed up on tour. Some of the most memorable shows: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Color Purple*, and *Mame*.

**Bruce Miller** (Director) has been founding Artistic Director of Virginia Rep (Theatre IV) for the last 41 years. He has received critics' awards (Phoebe, RTCC) as Best Director of the Year for *Do Lord Remember Me*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *The Little Foxes*, *The Crucible*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Anything Goes*, and *The Little Dog Laughed*. He thanks this wonderful cast for working with him to honor the Barksdale Theatre founders, who had the courage to embrace their passions and follow them throughout their lifetimes.

**Rich Mason** (Scenic Designer) is happy to be designing for Virginia Rep again having last worked on the mainstage as Lighting Designer for *The Rainmaker* many, many years ago. Rich works as the Resident Designer and Production Manager for Cadence Theatre, having just recently designed scenery and lights for *The Mountaintop*, scenery for *Equus* and scenery and lighting for last year's *A Lie of the Mind*. Rich received his MFA in Production Design from Ohio University's School of Theatre. While at OU he designed Dostoyevsky's *The Idiot* and Phillip Barry's *Holiday*. His *Holiday* design won Ohio Valley USITT's Peggy Ezekiel 2011's Award of Distinction and Board's Choice Award, and was one of twelve designs showcased in USITT's TD&P Magazine in June of 2012. He also serves as Creative Consultant and Resident Designer for West End Assembly of God in Richmond, VA and continues a freelance career regionally. Rich has worked in New York, Virginia and Michigan designing for such shows as *Deyos Dance*, *Shrek Jr.*, *Tarzan*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Jane Eyre*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Waiting for Godot*, and *Our Country's Good*. For nine summers, Rich was on Faculty at Interlochen Arts Camp as Scenic Designer for the High School Technical Design and Production Program. Rich also holds an MA in Liberal Arts from University of Richmond and a BFA from TheatreVCU. [www.richmasondesign.com](http://www.richmasondesign.com)

**BJ Wilkinson** (Lighting Designer) received his BA in Design & Technology from the University of Northern Colorado and his MFA from the University of Cincinnati - College Conservatory of Music. Recent lighting designs include *Croaker: The Frog Prince Musical*, *I Do! I Do!*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Whipping Man*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, and *Equivocation* for Virginia Rep. Recent designs for Quill Theatre include; *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *Sam & Carol*, *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Wittenberg*, *Death and the Maiden*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Othello*, *The Tempest*, and *MacBeth*. He would like to thank Samm and Molly.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

While still a theatre student at U of R, I joined the Barksdale family as an actor in their 1971 production of *Invitation to a March* at an erstwhile studio theatre space in downtown Richmond known as Barksdale Experimental. Eight years later, my second professional directing opportunity outside of Theatre IV was on the Barksdale mainstage at Hanover Tavern (*The Good Doctor*, 1979). When Barksdale founders Muriel McAuley and Pete Kilgore offered me the job, they asked for a short list of the plays I'd like to direct. At the top of my list was Tennessee Williams' *Summer and Smoke*.

Over the years, I had been enthralled by countless stories about the founding of Barksdale in 1953, when six New York theatre artists decided to risk everything to move to Hanover to start metro Richmond's first professional performing arts organization of the modern era. I knew well that one of the founders, Stu Falconer, had left his job as stage manager of the legendary Off Broadway production of *Summer and Smoke* to join his friends on their bold adventure.

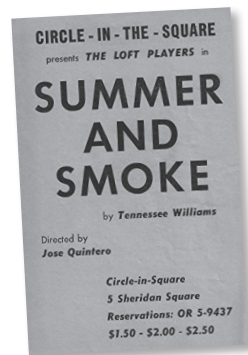
That 1952 production of *Summer ...* was not just any NYC show. It had been the talk of the town — the *Hamilton* of its day. After initially flopping on Broadway in 1948, the *Summer ...* revival was directed by José Quintero and starred Geraldine Page at the original Circle in the Square in Greenwich Village. Because of that revival's unparalleled critical and commercial success, it has long been credited as the start of Off Broadway. For Stu to leave his secure job in that

**... six New York theatre artists decided to risk everything to move to Hanover to start metro Richmond's first professional performing arts organization of the modern era.**



production to start a brand new theatre in a rundown tavern in rural Virginia was a huge and astounding gamble, to say the least.

And yet, to the best of my knowledge at the time, *Summer and Smoke* had never been produced by Barksdale Theatre at Hanover Tavern.



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES (CONTINUED)

When I handed Muriel McAuley my list of play suggestions, and she read the first title, she emphatically said, "No. We retired that jersey." I asked what she meant. She let out a sigh, and told me this story.

On a hot night in August, 1953, about a week after the intrepid New York artists and their two children had invested every penny they ever hoped to have into purchasing and moving into Hanover Tavern, with no glass in the windows, no indoor plumbing, and certainly no air conditioning, they all gathered in the unfinished English basement that they dreamed one day to turn into a theatre. They held a private reading of *Summer and Smoke*. No one else was there. Nonetheless, it was the first play ever to be brought to life by the motley company that has now become Virginia Rep.

"And it was the best damn *Summer and Smoke* that will ever be done anywhere by anyone," Muriel assured me.



I have no reason to doubt her word. *Summer and Smoke* is about many things. One of them is the importance of risking everything you have to find, claim, and follow your passion. That's what the founders of Barksdale did when they were all in their 20s. That's what Phil Whiteway and I did in 1975 when we founded Theatre IV. Now, as I direct the final show of my 41-year career as Artistic Director, I am honored to work with this wonderful cast of six eager actors all in their 20s, and two talented kids, to honor that evening in 1953 when a similar group used *Summer and Smoke* to validate the craziness, the camaraderie, and the commitment that would determine the direction of the rest of their lives.

Like Pete and Muriel and the other Barksdale founders, I have been privileged to build a life in Richmond theatre. I have not done it alone. To each and every one of you who have been there for the journey, I offer my undying gratitude. Thank you for giving me my life.

Bruce Miller  
Director





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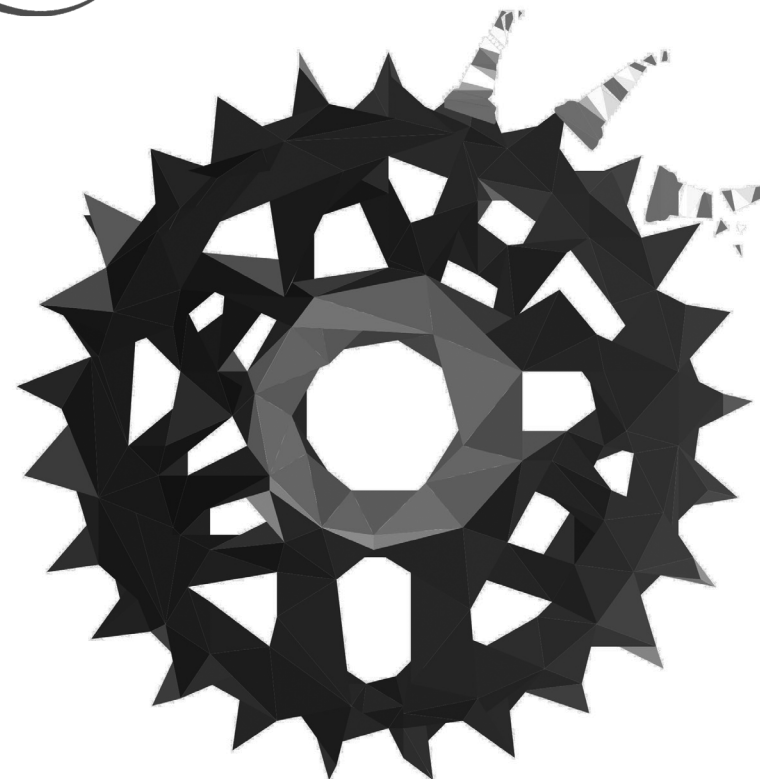
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Virginia Rep is grateful for the generous challenge grants of \$260,000 each from **The Cabell Foundation** and **Mary Morton Parsons Foundation** to support the continuing restoration of our historic facilities on Broad Street. We are currently raising funds to meet the matching requirement from individuals. Gifts noted with the symbol ^ include contributions to this effort.

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