

## News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

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# Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Richmond, VA - Celebrated local actress Grey Garrett will lead Virginia Repertory Theatre's regional premiere of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, portraying multi-Grammy Awardwinner Carole King, at the November Theatre beginning June 23. Other Virginia Rep appearances include Sibella in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and Tanya in *Mamma Mia!*, for which she won an Artsy Award for Best Supporting Performance in a Musical at the 14th Richmond Theatre Community Circle Awards.

Garrett's additional credits include *Grey Gardens* (Richmond Triangle Players), *Bright Star* (Swift Creek Mill), *MAMMA MIA!* (Riverside Center of the Arts); *LYSISTRATA* (Quill); *Alice* (RTCC Winner: Best Ensemble, Firehouse/TheatreLAB); *HAIR, Wild Party, POP!* (Firehouse Theatre Company); *Beyond The Rainbow, I Love A Piano* (Swift Creek Mill); *Rabbit Hole* (RTCC Winner: Best Supporting Actress), *Equus, August: Osage County* (RTCC Winner: Best Play) (Cadence/Virginia Rep); *Junie B. Jones, Croaker* (Virginia Rep); *It Shoulda Been You* (Richmond Triangle Players); and *The Boy From Oz* (RTCC Winner: Best Supporting Actress).

**Beautiful:** The Carole King Musical will be directed by Virginia Rep's Artistic Director of Programming, Rick Hammerly, with music direction by Jason Marks, choreography by Simeon Rawls, scenic design by Frank Foster, costume design by Sue Griffin, lighting design by Joe Doran, sound design by Jacob Mishler, Wig and Hair Design by Bettie O. Rogers and stage management by Hannah Hoffert.

**Beautiful:** The Carole King Musical follows Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom, from her partnership in a hit songwriting team with husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to her becoming one of the most successful and celebrated solo acts in popular music history.

Featuring a stunning array of beloved songs written by Gerry Goffin/Carole King and Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil—including "I Feel the Earth Move," "One Fine Day," "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman," "You've Got a Friend," and the title song—*Beautiful* took home two 2014 Tony Awards®, as well as a 2015 Grammy® for Best Musical Theater Album, and features a book by Tony® and Academy Award®-nominated writer Douglas McGrath.

The show runs from June 23 to August 6. Tickets can be purchased online at <a href="https://varep.org/">https://varep.org/</a> beautiful-carole-november.html or by calling the Box Office at 804-282-2620.

#### The creative team and cast list is below.

#### **Direction & Design**

Direction Rick Hammerly^
Music Direction Jason Marks
Choreography Simeon Rawls
Scenic and Projection Design Frank Foster
Costume Design Sue Griffin

Wig/Hair Design

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Stage Management

Bettie O. Rogers

Joe Doran+

Jacob Mishler

Hannah Hoffert\*

#### **Cast**

Little Eva, Shirelle, Ensemble

Carole King **Grey Garrett** Genie Klein Jan Guarino Betty, Ensemble, Carole u/s Rachel Marrs Don Kirschner Mark Persinger Gerry Goffin Devon Goffman\* Sam Bostic Drifter. Ensemble Drifter, Ensemble Simeon Rawls Garrett D. Reese Drifter, Ensemble Drifter, Ensemble **Durron Marquis Tyre** Cynthia Weil Katie Goffman\* Logan Foster\* Barry Mann

Miciah Jenel

Shirelle, Ensemble

Shirelle, Ensemble

Zahra Ndirangu

Lucille, Janelle, Shirelle, Ensemble

Bree Ogaldez

Nick, Righteous Brother, Ensemble, Gerry u/s

Lou Adler, Righteous Brother, Ensemble, Barry u/s

Marilyn Wald, Ensemble, Cynthia u/s

Swings Ian Page, Brandi Pleasant, David Ramirez, Audrey Kate Taylor

#### **Ticket Information**

Box Office: 804-282-2620

www.virginiarep.org

Tickets range from \$39 - \$69 (Discounted Group Rates and Rush tickets available.)

#### **Press**

The play runs 2 hours plus the 15-minute intermission
Press Kits will be available at <a href="http://va-rep.org/press.html">http://va-rep.org/press.html</a>
Pass code accessible Hi Res photos available to the media.
username = press
password = HiRes121

#### **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 three primary seasons in 2022-2023: the Signature Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, the Barksdale Season at the Hanover Tavern. Virginia, and the Children's Season at Virginia Rep Center for Arts and Education, 4204 Hermitage Road in Richmond's Northside. 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.

#### **Show Sponsors**

Dominion Energy
Atlantic Union Bank

<sup>\*</sup>Member of Actors' Equity Association

<sup>+</sup>Member of USA, United Scenic Artists

<sup>^</sup>Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

### **Season Supporters**

Altria

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