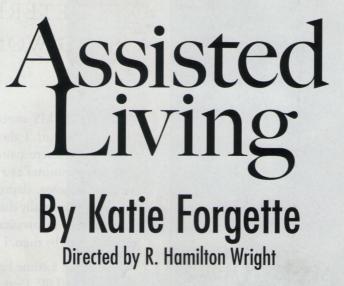




April 19 - May 12, 2013



Kurt Beattie Artistic Director

Carlo Scandiuzzi Executive Director

ACT – A Contemporary Theatre presents



Beginning April 19, 2013 • Opening Night April 25, 2013

#### CAST

Joe Taylor \*Kurt Beattie \*Julie Briskman Nurse Claudia Tim Gouran Kevin \*Laura Kenny Mitzi Kramer \*Marianne Owen Beatrice "Judy" Hart \*Jeff Steitzer Wally Carmichael

#### **CREATIVE TEAM**

R. Hamilton Wright Director Martin Christoffel Scenic Designer Catherine Hunt Costume Designer **Rick Paulsen** Lighting Designer Brendan Patrick Hogan Sound Designer \*Erin B. Zatloka Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager \*Melissa Y. Hamasaki Verhanika Wood Production Assistant

Running Time: This performance runs approximately two hours and 15 minutes with intermission. \*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage managers in the United States.

#### **PRODUCTION SPONSORS:**



THE PAUL G. ALLEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

#### SEASONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:



SHUBERT FOUNDATION

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A Contemporary Theatre Foundation 

Eulalie Bloedel Schneider Artists Fund

THE JOHN GRAHAM FOUNDATION



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Audience members are cordially reminded to silence all electronic devices. All forms of photography and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please do not walk on the stage before, during, or after the show.



# Welcome to ACT

Kurt Beattie

Many of us arrive with astonishment at old age—if we are lucky enough to get there. How did those 60 plus years go by in the blink of an eye? And who is that person in the mirror? Why doesn't she or he look like the inner self we feel ourselves still to be: questing, eager to learn, and if not youthful in outlook the way we were when we were in our twenties, still with something like youthful expectation, maybe even hope, present in us as we look at the sky each morning?

The "Boomers," that is, everyone between 47 and 67, are reaching a time when accounting for one's life becomes an unavoidable meditation. As a group, is it possible to reflect with any satisfaction on our achievements, we, "the leaders of the 21st Century", as the Mickey Mouse Club told us we were through our televisions in the late afternoons of the '50s and early '60s? Or, quite simply, have we been a disaster?

In America, one way to look at the question is through the dilemmas of our health system; its real values and excellences, and its utterly disorganized costly maze of inadequacies and abuses. Current and future technologies and research will continue to improve life expectancy and our chances to survive illness to an extent no one could have imagined even fifty years ago. But most actuarial calculations concerned with healthcare describe coming disasters, among them a complete collapse of the healthcare market place. Doctors won't be paid enough to sustain their practices; there will be less and less resource to train new doctors; insurance companies won't be able to make money; and eventually relatively few people will be able to afford any care at all.

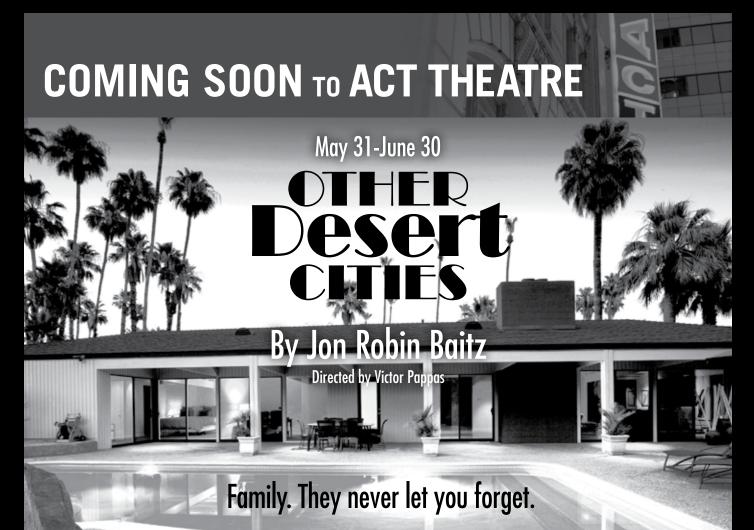
And, after the dust settles, if the processes of bare knuckles capitalism are all that's left to create health care for the millions who will need it, severe social unrest and conflict in an overpopulated angry world will be likely outcomes.

Against this backdrop of a probable and nottoo-distant health care debacle Katie Forgette takes aim at the boomer generation's plight. But rather than lean into the horror and dehumanization of the situation facing the inmates of Federal Nursing Home #273, she focuses, with sly humor and deep compassion, on the survival instincts hard-wired in the human spirit, and the essential elements of a life worth living; community, hope, and love.

We are so grateful to share be sharing this splendid world premiere with you.

Thurt Beat

Kurt Beattie, Artistic Director





#### Construction Zone April 23 & June 18

ACT teams up with Washington Ensemble Theatre for a reading series discovering today's hot new plays. April's installment is *Sex Lives of Our Parents* by Michael Mitnick. Come back in June for *Modern Terrorism* by Jon Kern.

#### IAN BELL



### Seattle Confidential: Rewind May 9-10

After two fascinating seasons and eight riveting installments, it's time to look back! The very best of over 60 wonderfully written anonymous submissions, will be presented in a TWO NIGHT ONLY event.



#### Hedgebrook Women Playwrights Festival May 20

Hedgebrook celebrates the work of women writing for the theatre. This year's writers are Julia Cho, Elizabeth Heffron, Dael Orlandersmith, and Catherine Trieschmann.



#### An Evening with Groucho June 13-30

He's back! Award-winning actor/director Frank Ferrante returns with his portrayal of legendary comedian Groucho Marx. Directed by Dreya Weber.

#### PAUL STETLER

#### Dear Dad June 16

Over 25 personal letters written to or from famous luminaries, brought to voice by Seattle's finest actors.

#### Rapture, Blister, Burn July 12-August 11

When Catherine and Gwen reconnect, both women attempt to find happiness by travelling a very bumpy road not taken, with surprising and hilarious results.

acttheatre.org | (206) 292-7676 | 700 Union Street, Seattle

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# A Director's Letter in One ACT

**September 2012** (**AP**) – ACT Theatre Artistic Director Kurt Beattie has announced that *Assisted Living*, a new play by Katie Forgette, will be given its World Premiere in ACT's 2013 Season. The play will be directed by the usually reliable local actor R. Hamilton Wright, who also happens to be Ms. Forgette's husband.

*Lights rise slowly to reveal the living* room of a small but pleasant house in the North End of Seattle, Washington. Daytime. It is raining. The Wife sits in a comfortable but slightly worn chair. She is reading a book. The Husband enters, eating a piece of toast with peanut butter and jelly. He leans in the doorway and watches his wife read. Beat. HUSBAND: Hey Sweetheart. WIFE: Hi you. HUSBAND: What are you reading? WIFE: Something for the play. HUSBAND: Oh. WIFE: How's your toast? HUSBAND: Never disappoints. (Beat) HUSBAND: Kurt called. WIFE: Oh yeah? What did he want? HUSBAND: He wants me to direct a play. WIFE: What?! That's great! (She gets up and goes to him) HUSBAND: I know. I can't believe it. WIFE: Darling, that is so wonderful! They embrace. HUSBAND: Thanks. WIFE: What play? HUSBAND: Yours. Lights change. A tight spot on The Playwright. PLAYWRIGHT: Oh Sweet Jesus! What if he screws it up! No, no, he won't screw it up. He's good. He's really good...I think.

Lights change back. WIFE: Oh my God, that is so cool! HUSBAND: I know, it is cool. I mean, you know how much I love your play. WIFE: Well, I hope you do... HUSBAND: Of course I do. I told you I'd love to direct it. WIFE: And now – you get to direct it! *Lights change. Tight spot on Director.* DIRECTOR: Oh no! What if I screw it up?! No, no, I won't screw it up. I'll have a great cast and it's a wonderful play. I mean, it probably needs a little work... some cuts, maybe... Lights change back. HUSBAND: I am so psyched! This is so great. WIFE: I know. HUSBAND: And aside from everything else - we get to spend all that time in rehearsal together! WIFE: So Much Fun! Lights change. Spot on Playwright. PLAYWRIGHT: How can I possibly give him notes? He's such a baby, sometimes. Like that business with the oatmeal – I cook it too long and it's "slimy" or I don't cook it enough and it's "too nutty" - it's this whole thing he has with "texture." Lights change. Spot on Director. DIRECTOR: But will I be able to give her notes? Ask her to cut lines,

cut a speech, maybe cut whole scenes? She can be so defensive, like when I was trying to help her with the oatmeal. I mean, I suppose it's a little thing, but a play is very much like oatmeal it's all about "texture.s" Lights return to normal. HUSBAND: It's great. WIFE: Really great. Long Pause. WIFE: You know...it could get kind of crunchy. HUSBAND: Of course it'll get crunchy. It's rehearsal for a new play. WIFE: Yeah? HUSBAND: But we'll be okay. WIFE: You think? HUSBAND: Sure. I mean, if we can make it through -WIFE/HUSBAND: The Oatmeal! They laugh. Beat. Lights change. Spot on Playwright. PLAYWRIGHT: I just hope he likes the play. Lights change. Spot on Director. DIRECTOR: I love this play. Lights return to normal. The Husband leans in the doorway watching his Wife read her book. He finishes his toast with peanut butter and jelly. The rain whispers down. As the *lights fade - achingly beautiful* music is heard. End of play.



between Anita Montgomery, ACT's Literary Manager and Katie Forgette, playwright of Assisted Living.

**AM:** You have a very interesting day job that has obviously influenced the writing of this play. Would you talk a bit about that?

**KF:** I work in a retirement home with some really wonderful seniors. We have a theatre group and we've read everything from *Hedda* to, yes, *Glengarry*. What can I say? They're a game bunch. They've also spent their lives — for the most part — taking care of themselves physically and financially. Their average age is 87. That got me thinking about all the people who don't take care of themselves — some, almost aggressively. There is this tsunami of retiring Boomers headed for our shores and I just don't know what we're going to do, especially given the multiple "epidemics" we have going on — type 2 diabetes being one of the largest. The statistics on preventable/reversible illness in the U.S. are just nuts. We have a national dialogue going on about the healthcare crisis, why can't we have one about...health?

#### AM: What would or could that conversation sound like?

KF: Okay, what if — this probably sounds crazy, but — what if Gov. Chris Christie started to blog about his new walking program and went on Good Morning America to talk about it and to ask the American people to join him? What if he issued a challenge to his constituents, "Let's make New Jersey the healthiest state in the Union!" What if other politicians/talking heads did the same, came forward with their own programs? I think that would be incredibly powerful. Or ... maybe not. Michelle Obama said the word "vegetable" and she was accused of trying to implement a nanny-state. Look, I'm no expert — and no saint — dear god, I have the eating habits of an unattended five year old, and my "relationship" with sugar is, well, have you ever seen that movie Panic in Needle Park? In fact, when I wrote Nurse Claudia's lines, I was the one she was talking to. I'm making some progress, I'm living healthier than I used to, but I still have work to do, habits to break. Making changes like these, lifestyle changes, is easier when you have the support of others, so I guess my wish is that we could start a dialogue, as a nation, to try to turn this situation around.

**AM:** You've mentioned the term "hidden community." Can you elaborate on what you mean by that?

**KF:** A "hidden community" is the opposite of where I work. I work at a Four Seasons-type community. The SPA facility in the play is a hidden community, and there are many more in the real world. You lose your health and your job and your family and friends and your house and your money and you find yourself living in a room with other people who may keep you awake at night or smell or lash out. You never go anywhere because there's no one to take you. You can't be rescued because no one even knows you're missing. When your world gets this small, it's almost impossible to convey to a healthy, employed, socially engaged person how much power there is in having something to look forward to.

**AM:** We've known each other for a long time — you're one of the first people I met when I came to visit Seattle — and from our first meeting I've considered you one of the wittiest and most deeply skeptical (and I mean that as a compliment) women I know. This combination of traits infuses *Living* in a very particular way. Can you talk about your feelings about comedy as an approach to serious subject matter?

**KF:** Yeah, I'm a fan of black comedy, laughing at something that most people would agree is no laughing matter. Laughter in those situations is so much more than your standard punch line reaction. It's fortifying and cathartic and, I guess, hopeful, in a way. I worked in a dementia unit several years ago and whenever anyone laughed — patient, family member, or employee — it meant so much more than "that's funny," it meant "let's keep going."

**AM:** You are a Seattle native and were a member of its acting community for years. How does it feel to be now writing for this community?

**KF:** It's a bonus to know so many talented people who then keep popping into my head whenever I sit down to write. We're lucky so many high-calibre actors choose to make Seattle their home. Many of them could have gone off to LA or New York, but they didnt't, they stayed here, and that's a gift.

**AM:** Do you think working on this play with your husband is going to ruin your marriage?

**KF:** Yes. The marriage is pretty much doomed, I'm afraid. In fact, Bob's already dating. No! Dear God, I hope not. We've worked together as actors a number of times with no problems. I'll admit that this experience may end up testing the tensile strength of the vows (like "...honor and obey..."), but we'll either get through it and end up with a stronger relationship, or one of us will "go missing."

**AM:** Well I know I'm all set for retirement and my future life on the Riviera. How are you fixed?

**KF:** Fixed? Oh, I'm "fixed," all right. Bob and I will probably be selling our bodies to science before we die, just to make the mortgage. Seriously, I've spoken to some of my siblings who, like myself, forgot to have children, about starting our own group home. We'll pool our resources, buy a level house and go back to the "bath nights" we used to have when growing up (three to a tub of water!). Whoever is most compos mentis will handle the finances and hire the aides. I'm not kidding.

# Health Care and the Baby Boom

rom 1954-1964, there were approximately four million births a year in the U.S.A., nearly twice as many as in previous decades. A surging economy, and the stabilization and settling down of World War II veterans, led to a tremendous growth in the number of children born to average families, and although by the late '60s and early '70s birth rates had dropped back to a more regular rate, as many of the Boomers either did not have children or waited until later in life to reproduce, the Boomer generation itself is still numerically larger than most of those preceding and following it. Boomers are currently between 49 and 67 years old, and many are headed for the age at which they will retire.

As of January 1st, 2011, more than 10,000 Baby Boomers reach the age of 65 every single day, and that pattern will continue every day for the next 17 years. The senior age group is now, for the first time, the largest in terms of size and percent of the U.S. population, growing at a faster rate than the total population between 2000 and 2010, according to a 2010 Census brief. By 2015, those aged 50 and older will represent 45% of the U.S. population. By 2030, the 65-plus population will double to about 71.5 million, and by 2050 will grow to 86.7 million people, more than double the number from 2010. Most of these Baby Boomers do not have a traditional pension plan because such plans have been going out of style over the past 30 years. According to Time Magazine, in 1980 some 39% of private-sector workers had a pension that guaranteed a steady payout during retirement. Today that number stands closer to 15%. Couple this with the fact that 35% of Americans already over the age of 65 rely almost entirely on Social Security payments alone, and it is hypothesized that we will soon face a large elderly population dependent entirely on the Social Security system to survive.

Many people already dependent on Social Security have only barely enough to get by. Approximately three out of four Americans start claiming Social Security benefits the moment they are eligible at age 62. Most are doing this out of necessity, but by claiming Social Security early they get locked in at a much lower amount than if they waited, and according to a recent AARP survey of Baby Boomers, 40% of them plan to work "until they drop."

Between 1991 and 2007 the number of Americans between the ages of 65 and 74 that filed for bankruptcy rose by a staggering 178%. What is causing most of these bankruptcies among the elderly? The number one cause is medical bills. According to a report published in *The American Journal of Medicine*, medical bills are a major factor in more than 60% of the personal bankruptcies in the U.S. Of those bankruptcies that were caused by medical bills, approximately 75% of them involved individuals that actually did have health insurance. "I think there's no question that it's been true for quite some time that the system of health insurance in the United States is collapsing... We keep thinking things will get to a point at which they become unsustainable and they pass that point and life goes on. So again, I think there's a variety of reasons why politicians like to say, you know, "One more step and we're going to have to do something," but I'm not sure that the situation is such that we'll ever have the clear-cut right line which we cross and everybody knows, "Oh, now we have to do something."

- Bruce Vladeck, Director of the Center for Medicare Practice

Statistics show that by age 65 two-thirds of all Baby Boomers have at least one chronic disease and have seen seven physicians. Over the age of 65, two-thirds of the populace are expected to have five or more chronic diseases, see 15 physicians and average over 40 doctor visits a year. Even with Medicare, many older Americans face large out-of-pocket health care costs: most pay premiums for coverage under Part B and Part D of Medicare; they may pay additional premiums to private Medigap plans or to Medicare; they must make direct payments to covered by traditional Medicare; they must make direct payments to doctors, hospitals, and nursing homes for services not covered by their health insurance; and one-third of America's Medicare beneficiaries lack prescription drug coverage, while the cost of prescription drugs most frequently used by seniors rose more than four times the 1998 rate of inflation.

The Medicare population is growing. By 2030 it is expected to nearly double to 76 million Americans. Medicare is already the third largest government program, and its spending as a percentage of the federal budget has doubled in just twenty years. The number of senior citizens in the United States is increasing steadily, and advances in medical technology are keeping them alive longer and longer. As a result, there is growing concern about the cost of financing care for future generations – although on a very positive note, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provides 100% Medicare coverage for annual preventive sessions for Baby Boomers over 65 and seniors. This will be a great benefit to practitioners with geriatric patients, allowing physicians time to discuss a variety of important issues with their older patients.

Compiled and adapted by Daniel Rector, Literary Intern, and Margaret Layne, Artistic Associate and Casting Director, from material on the websites BABYBOOMER HEADQUARTERS (www.bbhq.com) and PBS HEALTHCARE CRISIS: WHO'S AT RISK? (www.pbs.org./ healthcarecrisis/medicare.html). There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.

Always be nice

to your children

who will choose

your rest home.

**Phyllis Diller** 

because they

are the ones

## Sophia Loren

The aging process is not gradual or gentle. It rushes up, pushes you over, and runs off laughing. No one should grow old who isn't ready to appear ridiculous.

#### John Mortimer

There's no advantage in getting older. I'm 74 now. You don't get smarter, you don't get wiser, you don't get more mellow, you don't get more kindly. Nothing good happens. Your back hurts more. You get more indigestion. Your evesight isn't as good. You need a hearing aid. It's a bad business getting older, and I would advise you not to do it.

You don't stop laughing when you grow old, you grow old when you stop laughing.

#### **George Bernard Shaw**

The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age.

metimes I think it would

easier to avoid old age,

u'd never complete your

#### Lucille Ball

Social Security is a government program with a constituency made up of the old, the near old and those who hope or fear to grow old. After 215 years of trying, we have finally discovered a special interest that includes 100 percent of the population. Now we can vote ourselves rich.

P. J. O'Rourke

Woody Allen	Lucille
Old is always fifteen years from now.	Sometimes I think it would be easier to avoid old age to die young, but then you'd never complete you life, would you? You'd never wholly know you.
t Bill Cosb	y Marilyn Mo

#### **Marilyn Monroe**

If I knew I was going to live so long, I'd have taken better care of myself.

**Mickey Mantle** 

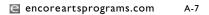
their "number" and are prepared for retirement (it happens, rarely), these conversations aren't easy. At dinner one night, a friend told me how much he has in retirement assets and said he didn't think he had saved enough. I mentally calculated his mortality, figured he would die sooner than he predicted, and told him cheerfully that he shouldn't worry. ("Congratulations!") But dying early is not the basis of a retirement plan.

Even for those who know

#### Teresa Ghilarducci

One of the many troubles of growing older is that it gets progressively harder to find a famous historical figure who hadn't yet amounted to anything by the time he was your age.

Sebastian Horsley



Coming to see new work is always a leap of faith...

## Thanks for being a believer!

We here at ACT think that producing new work is vital to keeping the Theatre landscape fresh and interesting. In that spirit, we are pleased to announce that Mark Jenkins' new work *Red Earth, Gold Gate, Shadow Sky* is the recipient of the 2013 ACT New Play Award. The play will get a full workshop and free public reading this summer and it has already been selected to be in the 2014 Mainstage season.



Mark Jenkins



Be a part of the journey. Mark your calendar for July 27 & 28

### Who's Who in Assisted Living



(Nurse Claudia) is a proud founding producer of THE SEAGULL PROJECT and appeared as Arkadina in the highly acclaimed production of *The Seagull* earlier this year

as a part of ACT's Central Heating Lab. Assisted Living marks her 15th role at ACT since moving to Seattle in 2000. Favorite roles at ACT include Jane Hopcroft in Absurd Person Singular, Julie in Celebration, Lottie in Enchanted April, Sylvia Fowler in The Women, ensemble in Stuff Happens, Louise Maske in The Underpants, Mae/Jo in Dirty Blonde, and Anne/Eppie in The Lady With All The Answers (Gregory Award Nominee Best Actress). Other local favorites include: Seattle Repertory Theatre (Imaginary Invalid, Spinning Into Butter, Beard Of Avon, and As You Like It; Seattle Shakespeare Company (Three Penny Opera); The 5th Avenue Theatre (Damn Yankees); and Seattle Children's Theater (The Wizard Of Oz). Julie was a member of The Guthrie Theater acting company for seven years where her roles ranged from Olga in Three Sisters and Gwendolen in The Importance Of Being Earnest, to the title role in Molly Sweeney. National credits include, Yale Repertory Theater, Berkeley Repertorty Theater, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Arizona Theater Company, Portland Center Stage, Trinity Repertory Theater, and the Old Globe.

#### Kurt Beattie (Joe Taylor) Please see page 9



(Kevin) is very happy to be back at ACT with the folks of Assisted Living. Tim was last seen at ACT as Lakshmana in Ramayana. He was part of the Icicle Creek Theatre

Tim Gouran

Festival, and was in *A Lie Of The Mind* as a part of ACT's Central Heating Lab. He has performed with many Seattle theaters including ACT, Azeotrope, Intiman Theatre, The Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company, Seattle Public Theatre, Book-It Theatre, Washington Ensemble Theatre, Endangered Species Project, Strawberry Theatre Workshop. He got his start with The Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis. He has appeared in several movies and T.V. episodes and his voice can be heard on many video games and commercials. He can next be seen in Intiman Theatre's 2013 summer season.



#### Laura Kenny (*Mitzi Kramer*) Just finished successful runs at the 5th Avenue Theatre as Eulalie in *The Music Man* and at the Village Theatre as Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof.* Other work:

ACT: The Women, The Night of the Iguana,

#### Julie Briskman

Wintertime (Footlight Award), Grand Magic, The Cover of Life, The Language of Flowers, A Christmas Carol. The 5th Avenue Theatre: The Music Man, Guys and Dolls, Mame, Secret Garden. Seattle Repertory Theatre: Restoration Comedy, The O'Connor Girls (by Katie Forgette), Romeo and Juliet, Don Juan, Pygmalion, The Good Times Are Killing Me, Six Characters in Search of an Author, The Merry Wives of Windsor. Village Theatre: Fiddler on the Roof, The Importance of Being Earnest, Bye Bye Birdie, Steel Magnolias. Book-It Repertory Theatre: The Cider House Rules Parts 1 & 2 (Footlight Award, Gregory Awards). Other theatres: Old Globe, McCarter, Shakespeare Theatre Co. in D.C., Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Intiman, SCT, Seattle Shakespeare Co. Film/TV: Rose Red (Kay Waterman), A Bit of Bad Luck, Harry and the Hendersons, 10 Things I Hate About You, Mad Love, Northern Exposure. Proud Union member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.



#### Marianne Owen

(Beatrice "Judy" Hart) last appeared at ACT in One Slight Hitch, The Trip to Bountiful, Intimate Exchanges, and many more shows over the past 26 years. She was most

recently seen in Good People at Seattle Repertory Theatre. and has worked at Book It Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company, Seattle Children's Theatre, The Empty Space, Village Theatre, and Intiman Theatre. A founding member of the American Repertory Theatre Company, she has also worked at The Public Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, La Jolla Playhouse, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Playwrights' Horizons, Guthrie Theatre, Goodman Theatre, the George St. Playhouse and toured nationally in The Real Thing (directed by Mike Nichols). She holds her M.F.A. from the Yale School of Drama and is a co-founder of Bridging the Gap, a theatrical studio for Seattle actors and directors. For more information, go to bridgingthegapseattle.blogspot.com.



(Wally Carmichael) has appeared on Broadway (Inherit the Wind with Christopher Plummer and Brian Dennehy, Mary Poppins), off- Broadway (Mint Theater Company),

in Regional Theaters (most recently as Scrooge in ACT's A Christmas Carol, Mayor Shinn in The Music Man at The 5th Avenue Theatre and in Laughing Stock at Pioneer Theatre Company; also The Old Globe, Geva Theatre Center, Long Wharf Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Co., and just about every theater in Seattle), film (The Beaver, Jodie Foster, director; Georgia, The Beans of Egypt, Maine), TV (Law & Order, 30 Rock, The Fugitive, The Cleveland Show) and has been heard extensively in radio and games.

### Who's Who in Assisted Living

#### Katie Forgette (Playwright)

is a Seattle native. Her plays include: Evidence of Things Unseen, Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily, It Went Like This, Cindy Rella, Circle of Willis, Everybody's A Critic, Ladies First, and The O'Conner Girls. She also spent a number of years acting at The Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman, ACT, The Empty Space, The Village, and Seattle Children's Theatre. Special thanks to her legal team, Simon H. Forgette, Priya S. Cloutier, and Francois X. Forgette for counsel regarding trademark "issues" with the title Assisted Living. Thanks also to her extended family and the Play Reading Group for their participation in the Please Help Me Find A New Title For My Play! contest (submission window now closed — winner to be announced). Honorable Mentions go to Ms. Forgette's 10 year-old, grand-nephew, Elijah, for his submissions: Super Action Old People Riot! and These Pill-Takers Mean Business! and to her 101 year-old friend, Mr. Isidore Starr, for CheneyCare. Ms. Forgette lives in a tiny brick house with her favorite husband, Bob Wright, and their two cats, Eddie Mars and Carmen Sternwood.



#### R. Hamilton Wright

(Director) has been a professional actor for thirty-five years and in that time he has appeared in over 130 productions. He was last seen on stage at ACT as Scrooge in A

Christmas Carol, as Harry Wilson in The Pitmen Painters, and as Doc in One Slight Hitch. Some of his other ACT favorites include Henry Bell in Alan Ayckbourn's The Revenger's Comedies, Ariel in Martin McDonough's The Pillowman, and George W. Bush in David Hare's Stuff Happens. His directing credits at ACT include A Christmas Carol, Souvenir, and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Mr. Wright lives in a little brick house in North Seattle with his remarkably talented wife — Katie Forgette.

#### Martin Christoffel (Scenic Designer)

Martin is a local designer, happy to be returning to ACT where previously he designed *The Lady with All the Answers, Runt of the Litter, The Woman in Black,* and contributed projections to *Alki.* Other recent shows include *The Music Man* and *Rent* at the 5th Avenue, and *Sleuth* and *The Odd Couple* at Village Theatre. He also collaborated on the "Can't Look Away" horror exhibit at EMP. In addition, Martin designs corporate events internationally.

#### Catherine Hunt (Costume Designer)

Previous ACT productions include *The Pitmen Painters, In The Next Room, or the vibrator play, Vanities,* and *The Lieutenant of Inishmore.* Hunt's work has been seen at Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Opera, Intiman Theatre and Village Theatre. Hunt is a NEA/ TCG design fellow and a guest lecturer at The University of Washington.

#### Rick Paulsen (Lighting Designer)

is delighted to be returning to ACT, where his lighting was first seen in 1984. This production marks the 60th play he has lit at ACT. Some favorite projects from past seasons include First Class, Vincent in Brixton, Fiction, The Trip to Bountiful, Lonely Planet, Becky's New Car, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Yankee Tavern, and Double Indemnity as well as last season's One Slight Hitch, The Pinter Festival, and Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam. Paulsen's work has appeared all around Seattle and across the nation. Some recent works of note include Double Indemnity (San Jose Rep), The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (Syracuse Stage), Fiddler On the Roof (Village Theatre), and The Wizard of Oz (Seattle Children's Theatre). He is, most importantly, devoted to his wife Roberta and daughter Paige.

Brendan Patrick Hogan (Sound Designer) is the resident sound designer at ACT, where he has designed more than 20 productions since 2009. Favorite productions include Rock & Roll, Below the Belt, Yankee Tavern, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World, Double Indemnity, and Ramayana. Other design and composition credits include Red (Seattle Repertory Theatre/Arizona Theatre Company - Gregory Award winner for Sound and Music Design), RoboPop!, Titus, God's Ear, and Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom (Washington Ensemble Theatre), Demonology (NextStage), This Wide Night (Seattle Public Theatre), and Cymbeline (Seattle Shakespeare Company). A multiinstrumentalist, Hogan performs regularly with Miss Mamie Lavona and The Bad Things.

#### Erin B. Zatloka (Stage Manager)

is glad to be back at ACT where she last assistant stage managed A Christmas Carol. Last season she assistant stage managed Oklahoma! and Damn Yankees at The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theatre. Other favorites at ACT include Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Rock 'n' Roll, and Eurydice. Nothing in her life could happen without friends and family. Love to Greg and Zoey.

Melissa Y. Hamasaki (Assistant Stage Manager) is pleased to return to ACT for Assisted Living. Previous ACT credits include: Ramayana, The Women, Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World, Intimate Exchanges, A Marvelous Party, Fiction. Other local credits include: Romeo and Juliet, Dirty Story, All My Sons, The Thin Place (Intiman Theatre); The Last Witch (UW School of Drama); Two by Pinter (Shadow and Light Theatre); Memphis, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (The 5th Avenue Theatre); Tales of Hoffman, Ariadne auf Naxos (Seattle Opera). Selected regional credits: Metamorphoses, Julius Caesar, Enchanted April (Pioneer Theatre, UT); L'elisir d'amore (Pine Mountain Music Festival, MI). Training: Arena Stage Allen Lee Hughes Stage Management Fellow and Technical Apprentice at Santa Fe Opera.



#### Kurt Beattie

(Joe Taylor/Artistic Director) has been creating theater for Puget Sound audiences for nearly 40 years as an actor, playwright, and director. His productions at ACT include Grey Gardens,

Ramayana (with Sheila Daniels), The Pitmen Painters, Double Indemnity, In the Next Room, or the vibrator play, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Rock 'n' Roll, Becky's New Car, Intimate Exchanges, First Class, The Pillowman, Mitzi's Abortion, The Underpants, Bach at Leipzig, Vincent in Brixton, Black Coffee, Alki, Moon for the Misbegotten, Fuddy Meers, Fully Committed, Via Dolorosa, and the holiday classic, A Christmas Carol. Elsewhere he has directed at Seattle Repertory Theatre, The Empty Space, Intiman Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, University of Washington, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, The Alley Theatre in Houston, and Ojai Playwrights Festival. As an actor, he has appeared in leading and major roles at ACT (most recently as Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol), the Seattle Repertory, Intiman, Empty Space Theatre, Seattle Shakespeare Company, as well as many regional theatres throughout the country. Beattie is a recipient of the Theatre Puget Sound Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement Award and the Arts Fund Outstanding Achievement in the Arts Award.



#### Carlo Scandiuzzi

(Executive Director) is a founder of Agate Films and Clear Pictures, producing such films as Prototype, Dark Drive, Outpatient and The Flats, and Indieflix, a distribution

company. In 1979, Scandiuzzi started Modern Productions, bringing to Seattle such legendary bands as The Police, Devo, Nina Hagen, Iggy Pop, The Ramones, John Cale, Robert Frip, James Brown, Muddy Waters and many more. He performed in several plays at The Empty Space Theatre including *Aunt Dan and Lemon, The Return of Pinocchio* and *Dracula*. In the early '80s, he collaborated with many Seattle performance artists such as Norman Durkee, Alan Lande and Jesse Bernstein. He also acted in various films including *Bugsy, The Public Eye, Another You, Casanova's Kiss* and *Killing Zoe*. He graduated from the Ecole Superieure D'Art Dramatique of Geneva. Carlo is a member of the Seattle Arts Commission.

## ACT operates under agreements with the following:



## Patron Information

#### **Emergency Evacuation Procedures**

In the event of an emergency, please wait for an announcement for further instructions. Ushers will be available for assistance.

#### Emergency Number

The theater's emergency number in the Union lobby is (206) 292-7667. Leave your exact seat location with your emergency contact in case they need to reach you.

#### **Smoking Policy**

Smoking is NOT allowed in any part of the theater or within 25 feet of the entrance.

#### **Firearms Policy**

No firearms of any kind are allowed in any part of the theater.

#### Food

Food is not allowed in the theater. Tuxedos & Tennis Shoes is the preferred caterer of ACT Theatre.

#### Accessibility

Wheelchair seating is available. The theater is equipped with the Sennheiser Listening System for the hard of hearing; headsets are available from the house manager for use, free of charge, with a valid ID and subject to availability. ACT Theatre offers American Sign Language interpreted, audio-described performances. For more information, email RHankins@acttheatre.org.

#### Lost & Found

Call (206) 292-7676 between12:00pm and 6:00pm, Tues-Sun.

#### Address & Website

ACT Theatre is located at 700 Union Street, Seattle WA 98101. Ticket Office Phone number: (206) 292-7676. Administrative Office Phone Number: (206) 292-7660. Fax Number: (206) 292-7670. Website: www.acttheatre.org.

#### Theater Rental:

For information regarding booking, please contact events@acttheatre.org.

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Our commissioners are venture capitalists of new ideas and we commend their bravery!

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by Steven Dietz Commissioned by Charles Staadecker in honor of Benita Staadecker

#### Hell Leaves Odessa

*by Julie Marie Myatt* Commissioned by Art Wahl in honor of Eva Wahl

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from a Carpet by Laura Schellhardt Commissioned by Paul and Paula Butzi

#### **Title TBA** by Jason Grote

by Jason Grote Commissioned by Gian-Carlo and Eulalie Scandiuzzi

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#### A Long Distance

*by Doug Lucie* Commissioned by Gian-Carlo and Eulalie Scandiuzzi

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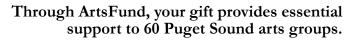
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- 2. Stretch your gift on May 15 with The Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG event.



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#### Finance

Sheila Smith Director of Finance

Tobi Beauchamp-Loya Payroll & Human Resources Manager

#### Marketing, Sales, and Communications Becky Lathrop Director of Marketing and

Communications

#### Marketing and Communications

Aubrey Scheffel Associate Director of Marketing Nora Taylor

Marketing Coordinator Mark Siano

Public Relations Manager Sebastien Scandiuzzi Video Manager

Linas Phillips Video Production Associate

Apex Media Advertising Chris Bennion Production Photographic Services Christa Fleming Graphic Design

Reesa Nelson Marketing Intern

#### Sales and Audience

Services Jessica Howard Associate Director of Sales Robert Hankins Sales Operations Manager Lynch Resources Telemarketing Joe Mangialardi Ticket Office Supervisor Scott Herman Assistant Ticket Office Supervisor Georgina Cohen Aiden Karamanvan Julia Nardin Ticket Office Representatives Jim Moran House Manager

Jeremy Rupprecht Assistant House Manager

Javonna Arriaga Michelle Berweiler Katie Bicknell Kristi Krein Dave Thomas Adam Vanhee Cadi Weaver Audience Services Christine Jew Volunteer Usher Coordinator

#### Development

Jennessa West Development Consultant

Ben Derby Interim Development Director John Osebold

Grant Writer

Angela Palmer Donor Relations Coordinator Kyle Thompson

Board Liaison and Development Coordinator

#### Production

Joan Toggenburger Producing Director

Alyssa Byer Central Heating Lab Production Manager

Emily Cedergreen Production Office Manager

Skylar Hansen Production Runner

#### Stage Management

Jeffrey K. Hanson Production Stage Manager Melissa Y. Hamasaki JR Welden Frin B Zatloka Stage Managers

Verhanika Wood Production Assistant

#### **Costume Departments**

Carolyn Keim Costume Director Connie Rinchiuso Costume Shop Foreman Kim Dancy First Hand & Lead Dresser Sallv Mellis Wardrobe Master Joyce Degenfelder Wig Master

#### Scenic Departments

Steve Coulter Technical Director Derek Baylor Assistant Technical Director Austin Smart Master Scenic Carpenter Sean Wilkins Lead Scenic Carpenter leff Manzolli Nick Murel Scenic Carpenters Mona Lang Scenic Charge Artist Lisa Bellero Assistant Charge Artist Marne Cohen-Vance Properties Master Ken Ewert Master Properties Artisan

Thomas Verdos Lead Properties Artisan

#### **Stage Operations**

Nick Farwell Stage Operations Supervisors James Nichols Master Stage Carpenter Pam Mulkern Master Electrician Max Langley

Master Sound Engineer Brendan Patrick Hogan

Resident Sound Designer Brad Howe Central Heating Lab Technical

#### For This Production

John Small Electrician Kurchta Harding

Associate

Stage Carpenter

lennifer Bacon Sound Engineer

Susannah Anderson Scenic Painter