LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

JAN 17 - FEB 2
/ 2020
LOOBY THEATRE,
NASHVILLE TN

Back by
HARVEY FIERSTEIN

Lyrics by
JERRY HERMAN

Based on the play by
JEAN POIRET

Directed by
JEFFREY ELLIS

La Cage Aux Folles is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Directed by
NATE PAUL

Costumes by
KELVIN AMBURGEY

Tickets & Info: www.CirclePlayers.net Tel: 615-332-7529

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On behalf of the Circle Players Board of Directors and all Artist Members, we once again welcome you to the Looby Theater and Circle Players’ production of La Cage Aux Folles. Circle Players’ 70th Season continues with yet another great production that hopefully will have us facing life with a little guts and lots of glitter! Make sure to join us for the final two shows of our season with A Raisin in the Sun, and Oliver! coming later this year.

We face life though it’s sometimes sweet and sometimes bitter and I believe this production will be plenty sweet. This production is a long time coming. In our 50th season we mounted a production of La Cage Aux Folles to great renown with the same venerable director, Mr. Jef Ellis. I am looking forward to seeing what this cast will do on with just a little more mascara. This production brings home the message that we should all be accepted for who you are no matter what. That message is one I take to heart and a message I hope our community continues learn and act on.

Please continue to follow our social media pages and visit our webpage www.circleplayers.net. We are @circleplayersnashville on Facebook and @CirclePlayers on Instagram and Twitter. While there, I hope you consider supporting the great work of this local community theater. Please also consider checking out the links to our auditions if you would like to participate in one of our productions. We would love to have you join our Circle family.

I want to be sure to thank our volunteer Board of Directors, our corporate and government sponsors, all the volunteers on the stage, backstage, in the booth, those working on the costumes, those working on the props, those designing the sets and building them, and the countless others who contribute to getting our productions to stage. Without you, none of this is possible.

Now, let’s bring back the best of times and enjoy ourselves as Circle Players proudly present La Cage Aux Folles!

Henry Harrington III

President, Circle Players Board of Directors
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Twenty years ago – give or take a couple of days/weeks/months – Circle Players announced the line-up for the company’s 50th Anniversary Season, which would include the Nashville debut of the Tony Award-winning La Cage Aux Folles, a critically acclaimed musical by Jerry Herman and Harvey Fierstein. While talking with a friend about it, I fantasized about directing the show, thinking I might bring something unexpected and authentic to the production. But, never having directed a full-scale musical before (special events were more my bailiwick at the time), I didn’t think it would be possible.

My friend, however, thought otherwise and suggested I submit a proposal for La Cage, suggesting that my background as a theater critic made me an ideal choice for the job: “You’ve seen more shows than anyone I know,” she said. “You know what works and what doesn’t. I think you should do it.”

And so, I did. Thankfully, the members of the play selection committee agreed and gave me the opportunity to put my special skill set to use. It was daunting, to be sure, but it was even more exhilarating and challenging – and my creative team, my wonderful cast and I worked together to bring the show to life to great effect. It remains one of the best experiences of my career as a director (I’ve since directed thirty-some shows, both plays and musicals, in the intervening two decades).

When Circle Players announced the search for directors for the 70th Anniversary Season, I determined to put myself up for a show in celebration of those 20 years since my very first production for the theater company which has been my theater home since 1999. Surprisingly, on the list of “greatest hits” was La Cage Aux Folles. To be frank, I’d never had the desire to “revisit” a show I had already directed, but there was no way I would let “my show” fall into the hands of someone else. Yet when the board of directors entrusted this lovely musical to me once more, I found myself gobsmacked by the possibilities and I found that La Cage Aux Folles had an even more profound tug on my creative heart than I ever realized. When the word came I had been chosen to direct it this season, I was emotional and grateful and set about to assemble a top-flight creative team and to bring together a cast of tremendously talented individuals to bring the show to life for you over the next few weeks here at the Looby.

I hope you love it as much as I and that you’ll fall as deeply in love with these characters – and these wonderful actors – as I have. La Cage Aux Folles isn’t just about the hilarity and hijinks of a gay nightclub in 1980s-era St. Tropez; rather, it’s about the abiding love and devotion that defines “family,” whether that means a group of people to whom you are connected by blood and genetics, or if it’s a tribe of people you gather about you to ensure life is truly fabulous. La Cage Aux Folles is ridiculously flamboyant and ingratiatingly funny – with Harvey Fierstein writing the book, what else could you expect? – and its score is nothing short of spectacular, one of the best written by the late Jerry Herman with his customary optimism and warmth. When you leave the theater after the show, I hope you’ll take these songs and these characters and their stories with you, to savor and to think about for much time to come. In this fractious world in which we live, the themes of love, family and loyalty reverberate even more than they did 20 years ago.

I have had the time of my life directing La Cage, as if I’ve been reunited with old friends and family.

The best of times is now

Jef Ellis
Director
MUSICAL NUMBERS

The run time of this production is approximately 2.5 hours, including one 15 minute intermission. Recording and/or distributing video or audio recordings of this production by any means is strictly prohibited by United States Copyright Laws.

Act I
- "Prelude"..................................................................................................................................................... Orchestra
- "We Are What We Are"................................................................................................................................. Georges and Les Cagelles
- "(A Little More) Mascara"............................................................................................................................... Albin and Les Cagelles
- "With Anne on My Arm"................................................................................................................................. Jean-Michel and Georges
- "With You on My Arm".................................................................................................................................... Georges and Albin
- "Song on the Sand".......................................................................................................................................... Georges
- "La Cage aux Folles"......................................................................................................................................... Albin, Jacqueline and Les Cagelles
- "I Am What I Am"............................................................................................................................................ Albin

Act II
- Entr'acte............................................................................................................................................................. Orchestra
- "Song on the Sand" (Reprise)............................................................................................................................ Georges and Albin
- "Masculinity" ................................................................................................................................................. Georges, Albin, M. Renaud, Mme. Renaud and Tabarro
- "Look Over There" .......................................................................................................................................... Georges
- "Cocktail Counterpoint".................................................................................................................................. Georges, Edouard Dindon, Mme. Dindon and Jacob
- "The Best of Times".......................................................................................................................................... Albin, Jacqueline and Company
- "Look Over There" (Reprise)............................................................................................................................ Jean-Michel
- "La Cage aux Folles" (Reprise).......................................................................................................................... Georges
- Finale.................................................................................................................................................................. Company
WHO’S WHO IN THE CAST, CREW & BAND

CAST

Macon Kimbrough ............................................................ Georges
Michael Baird ............................................................... Albin/Zaza
Callum Ammons ............................................................. Jean-Michel
Russell Forbes ............................................................... Jacob
Joseph Bosse ................................................................. Francis
Alivia Dupree ................................................................. Anne

Jonathan Wilburn ........................................................ Eduoard Dindon
Ann Street-Kavanaugh ................................................. Marie Dindon
Kristian Dambrino ........................................................ Jacqueline
Howard Snyder ............................................................. M. Renoud
Caroline Dawson ........................................................ Mme. Renoud
Steve Raimo/Veronika Electronika ................................ Simone, the Maitre d’hôtel

LES CAGELLES

Kane Dayton ................................................................. Hanna
Konnor Davis ................................................................. Chantal
Alex Van Buren ............................................................... Phaedra
Jacob Brashar ............................................................... Angelique

Becky Charlton ............................................................... Clo-Clo
Ashley Wheeler ............................................................. Bitelle
Poem Atkinson ............................................................... Nicole
Schuyler Phoenix .......................................................... Monique

ENSEMBLE

Lauren Duarte ............................................................... Colette
Austin Jeffrey Smith ......................................................... Etienne

Hillary Mead ................................................................. Suzette
Brad Hunter ................................................................. Tabarro

PRODUCTION TEAM AND CREW

Director ............................................................................ Jeffrey Ellis
Musical Director .................................................................. Nate Paul
Choreographers .................................................................... Kelvin Amburgey-Walton, Leila Jones
Stage Manager ...................................................................... Alexis LaVon
Director’s Assistant/Props .................................................. Sara Kistner
Set Designer ......................................................................... Jeffrey Ellis
Set Construction ..................................................................... Jim DeVault, Macon Kimbrough
Sound Designer ...................................................................... Cameron Cleland
Lighting Designer .................................................................... Daniel DeVault
Sound Operator ......................................................................... Sam Bartholomew
Costumers ........................................................................ Blake Danford, Dan Hayes, Christen Heilman, Lisa McLaurin
Photography ........................................................................ Ashley Eve Newnes
Rehearsal Pianists ................................................................Matt McNeil, John Todd
Board Liaison ......................................................................... Tyler Samuel
Producers .............................................................................. Andie Sanders, Brian Jones
Graphic Design/Program ....................................................... Megan Ward
Logo Design .......................................................................... VMLY&R

BAND

Nate Paul ................................................................. Conductor/Accordion/Guitar
Matt McNeill .............................................................. Piano/Keyboard
Logan Scarbrough .......................................................... Percussion
Tom D’Angelo ............................................................... Bass
Kelly Hagan ................................................................. Violin
Daniel Johnson ............................................................ Trumpet
Michael Luttrull .......................................................... Trombone
Raymond Ridley .......................................................... Woodwinds

Special Thanks

THE PRODUCTION TEAM WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND ITS HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND ASSISTANCE TO THIS PRODUCTION: LEILA JONES, LORENE BENTLEY, LAURA MOULD AMOND AND EMILY IRENE PECK OF NASHVILLE REPERTORY THEATRE; JOY TILLEY PERRYMAN OF CHAFFIN’S BARN DINNER THEATRE; MARK DAVID WILLIAMS OF CENTER FOR THE ARTS; METRO PARKS THEATRE TEAM; JOHN TODD; JIM DeVault; CIRCLE PLAYERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS; OUR VOLUNTEER Ushers; THE CIRCLE PLAYERS FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE.
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM

Callum Ammons  Poem Atkinson  Michael Baird  Joseph Bosse  Jacob Brashar  Becky Charlton

Kristian Dambrino  Konnor Davis  Caroline Dawson  Kane Dayton  Lauren Duarte  Alivia Dupree

Russell Forbes  Brad Hunter  Macon Kimbrough  Hillary Mead  Schuyler Phoenix  Steve Raimo/Veronika Electronika

Austin Jeffrey Smith  Howard Snyder  Ann Street-Kavanagh  Alex Van Buren  Ashley Wheeler  Jonathan Wilburn

Jeffrey Ellis  Kelvin Amburgey-Walton  Nate Paul  Alexis LaVon
**MEET THE CAST**

**Callum Ammons (Jean-Michel)** is delighted to share the stage with a wealth of talented performers in this fabulous classic musical. At the Murfreesboro Center for the Arts he has recently appeared in NEWSIES (Davey Jacobs), The Producers (Lead Storm-trooper/Ensemble), The Secret Garden (Lt. Shaw) and Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Adam) at Springhouse Theatre Company.

**Poem Atkinson (Nicole)** is thrilled to be playing a Cagelle in La Cage Aux Folles! She recently moved to Nashville to further pursue her acting career. After completing The Rocky Horror Picture Show (Columbia), she is back at it again and can’t get enough of the wonderful people at Circle Players! Poem is honored to be in such a classically loved production. So grab a seat, and get ready to be transported to the sparkly and dangerous world of La Cage Aux Folles!

**Michael Baird (Albin/ZaZa)** is excited to be making his debut on a Nashville stage. His favorite credits include Hedwig in Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Dr. Frank-N-Furter in The Rocky Horror Show, and Chip in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

**Joseph Bossé (Francis)** is making his Circle Players debut! Most recent theatre experience includes Prince Dauntless in Once Upon a Mattress and roles in Room at the Inn and Almost, Maine. While enrolled at the University of Tennessee - Chattanooga, Joseph took classes in acting and theatre. He also studied acting in Atlanta at Alliance Theatre and The Company Acting Studio. After graduating he began studying the Meisner Technique at the Actors Bridge Ensemble in Nashville where he continues to take classes.

**Jacob Brashar (Angelique)** is super excited to be in this show and is very honored to be working with Jef. This is his first show at Circle Players. He has done many shows out of high school including Footloose, Mamma Mia!, and A Christmas Story.

**Becky Charlton (Clo-Clo)** couldn’t be more excited to perform as a Cagelle in Circle Players (and Jef’s) 20th Anniversary performance of La Cage Aux Folles. Becky is fairly new to the community theater scene, having performed in her first show (since college - 30ish years ago) with Jef Ellis as Zelda in Singin’ in the Rain at the Arts Center of Cannon County - this is another anniversary! She has since had the opportunity to be in Chicago with Millennium Repertory Company in Manchester and We Will Rock You (Teacher and dance captain), again at the Arts Center of Cannon County. Dance is my first love, so I appreciate any opportunity given to me.

**Kristian Dambrino (Jacqueline)** A former Ms. Mississippi and contestant in Ms. America, Kristian has worked as a Production Vocalist for Celebrity Cruises, as a graphic designer in Nashville, and a dinner theatre comedienne in Pigeon Forge. Having performed with Morgan Freeman, Oprah Winfrey, Sela Ward, Faith Hill, Samuel L. Jackson, Delta Burke, Macy Gray, Ray Romano, Jason Alexander, and Gary Morris to name a few, Kristian has helped raise more than $15 million in Hurricane Katrina relief aid and has been featured as a performer on MSNBC, CNBC’s The Big Idea with Donny Deutsch, and CMT. A published author showcased in Katrina: Mississippi Women Remember, Kristian recently co-wrote and released a jazz/blues album, Bluer Than This, awarded the 2017 Mississippi Institute of Arts & Letters Award for Best Contemporary Music Composition. Kristian holds a Master in Music Business from Berklee College of Music and a MS in Nursing from Vanderbilt University, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. She currently practices as a board-certified psychiatric nurse practitioner in the greater Nashville area.

**Konnor Davis (Chantal)** Growing up in a small Tennessee town as a gay man was never easy, but nothing has ever stopped me from following my dreams. Wearing heels and dancing while singing on a stage has been a goal of mine for years, and I’m excited to get the opportunity. I’m a musical theater student at Lipscomb University, love self expression and pushing the limits. Chantal is ready for her closeup!

**Caroline Dawson (Mme. Renaud)** is thrilled to be making her debut performance in Nashville with Circle Players. New to the area, she recently graduated from West Virginia University’s School of Theatre and Dance with a BFA in Acting. Past regional theatre credits include: Charlotta Ivonovna in The Cherry Orchard (PAC Productions), Alf in Peter and The Starcatcher (West Virginia Public Theatre), and Mrs. Carter, Missy in It’s A Wonderful Life.
(West Virginia Public Theatre). During her time at WVU, a few of her favorite roles include: The Moor-Hen in The Moors, Mrs. Kirby in You Can't Take It With You, Cecilia Johnson in Fefu and Her Friends, and Miss Julie in a solo piece produced and adapted by Caroline titled, Miss Julie: (Not) Guilty. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with a group of such talented artists, as well as for the love and support from her wonderful family and friends. You can find out more about Caroline at carolineedawson.com.

Kane Dayton (Hanna) is a new face to the Nashville area, having trained in Lexington, Kentucky, where he received a B.A. in Theatre and a Certificate of Global Studies. Kane has performed in a variety of roles from Disney classics to ten-minute plays, while choreographing and performing in dance pieces. Some of Kane’s theatrical highlights include performing as Dragon in Shrek the Musical, Genie in Aladdin, and Recorded Voice in 1-900-DESPER-ATE. He also remains passionate about K-Pop dancing, which he performs and teaches across the globe.

Lauren Duarte (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her return to the stage with La Cage Aux Folles. She can be found around the local drag scene performing as Gamma Del Rey. She was last seen on stage as Maggie Cutler in The Man Who Came to Dinner at The Arts Center of Cannon County in 2017.

Alivia Dupree (Anne) is making her Circle Players debut and is honored to be part of a production with such an amazing cast and crew. She is also very thankful to Jef for giving her this opportunity.

Russell Forbes (Jacob) is thrilled to be performing with Circle Players for the first time. Previously, he has worked with director, Jef Ellis in his rendition of The Boys in the Band (Emory) in the fall of 2018. Some of his favorite productions include The Producers (Roger DeBris), The Little Mermaid (Flotsam), and Spamalot (Prince Herbert) at Center for the Arts in Murfreesboro and Evil Dead: The Musical (Ed Getley) with Radical Arts. He was also featured in Disney’s Newsies (Finch/Bunsen), Hairspray (IQ), and Memphis (Ensemble). He has been involved in film and acting for several years now having featured spots on Nashville, working on many short films, and helping out in educational programs. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Film/Video production from MTSU where he was also involved in the MTSU dance theatre company. He is thankful to be working with the talented cast and crew of La Cage Aux Folles, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

Brad Hunter (Tabarro) moved to Nashville in 2005 to be closer to family and loves living here. Originally from Mobile, Alabama, he works freelance in marketing, research and the food photography world, while teaching tennis on the weekends. A proud theatre grad from Auburn University #wareagle, some of his favorite experiences were A Raisin in the Sun, A Tuna Christmas, and For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls. This show is his second with Jef, the first being the Nashville debut of the revival of The Boys in the Band. Much love to Jef and the amazing cast and crew.

Macon Kimbrough (Georges) is thrilled to be back onstage with Circle Players again. His past Circle roles include Mr. Ismay in Titanic: The Musical, Mr. Bumble in Oliver!, Andrew Carnes in Oklahoma!, and Mr. Livesay in Treasure Island, as well as directing Mame. Other roles in Nashville theater are Roy Cohn in Angels in America: Perestroika, Brian in The Shadow Box, Wardell in Sordid Lives, Harold in The Boys in the Band and Oscar in Sweet Charity. Eternal thanks to Jef for this bucket list role.

Hillary Mead (Suzettte) is a local actress and graphic designer, focusing her freelance work on theatre art design and marketing. Her favorite roles have been Cheryl Williams in Evil Dead: the Musical, Beatrice in Much Ado About Nothing, and Vivienne Kensington in Legally Blonde the Musical, and most recently, Audrey II in Little Shop of Horrors. She also performs and runs Marketing/PR for the Hamilton Sing-A-Long group, Hamiltunes Nashville. She would like to thank Jef Ellis and the wonderful cast and crew for making this show such a fun experience!

Schuyler Phoenix (Monique) is thrilled to be performing in the 2020 production of La Cage Aux Folles. From Birmingham, AL, she has performed in shows such as The Producers, Hunyak in Chicago, Paris in Violent Delights, and her previous performance in The
Rocky Horror Show with Circle Players. If she is not performing in musicals, she is continuing her practice in aerial arts and performing burlesque throughout Nashville. Schuyler is very thankful to her family and friends for the support they give her in the arts. And to her sister, Tara, for giving her the love of theatre. You can find her on Facebook and Instagram @schuylerphoenix - Support local performers!

**Steve Raimo/Veronika Electronika (Simone)** celebrates her 16th year of performing and wouldn’t trade any moment of it for anything. A native of NYC, Veronika moved to Nashville in August of 2000 to finish college. Little did she know that her life was about to change. Befriending several local queens, Veronika took to the stage. At first Veronika had no idea that this would lead to a career. Over the last 16 years Veronika has performed all over the US and won multiple contests and pageants - most notably Ms. TN Continental. Veronika’s main focus on stage is to transport her audience into a world of fantasy and imagination, emulating multiple music and stage Divas like Dolly, Cher, and Madonna. Veronika invites you into her digital world and see what Nashville nightlife has to offer!

**Austin Jeffrey Smith (Ensemble)** holds a BFA in Vocal Performance from Cumberland University. Regional: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Grand Old Opry); Annie and The Wedding Singer (Chaffins Barn Theatre). Other credits: Singin’ In The Rain (Don Lockwood); A Chorus Line (Alan DeLuca); Newsies (Albert, u/s Jack Kelly); Cabaret (Ernst Ludwig); Mary Poppins (Bert); The Light in the Piazza (Priest/Ensemble); and The Secret Garden (Dickon).

“Love to my family and friends for their constant support!” @officialaustinjeffreysmith

**Ann Street-Kavanagh (Marie Dindon)**, a Nashville native, studied performing arts at WKU and is delighted to again be working with Jef Ellis! Professional roles include Molly in The Unsinkable Molly Brown, Nellie in South Pacific, Adelaide in Guys & Dolls, Titania in A Midsummer’s Night Dream, Sr. Robert Anne in Nunsense, Lily St. Regis in Annie, Becky in Do Black Patent Shoes Really Reflect Up?, and Reno Sweeney in Anything Goes. She’s done the rounds in Steel Magnolias playing Shelby, Truvy and Ouiser and won a Best Actress award for Mama Rose in Gypsy (directed by Jef Ellis) and Mother Superior in Agnes Of God. She played Mary Margaret in the world premiere of And Where Were You, Dr. Spock?, Mary in the world premiere of So She Lived, Rachel in the midwest premiere of Rachel and Brandy in the midwest premiere of Rhythm Ranch, which was featured in the Festival Of First Stage Musicals in NYC. She toured and recorded with legendary Vern Gosdin, "The Voice," for over 10 years. Currently, she sings with Nashville Vocal Jazz Company. Hello to husband, Tom and children, Katie & Brad!

**Alex Van Buren (Phaedra)** is currently a sophomore at APSU in Clarksville, TN, working on a BFA in Musical Theatre. He is a trained gymnast, singer, actor, and dancer. Some of his theatrical credits include All Shook Up (Dean Hyde), The Rocky Horror Show (Riff Raff), The Pajama Game (Prez), High School Musical (Ryan Evans), Kiss Me Kate (Paul/Ensemble), Mamma Mia! (Featured Dancer) and 1776 (The Courier). He would like to thank the creative team for this wonderful opportunity and his wonderful friends and family for their continuous support.

Ashley Wheeler (Bitelle) is thrilled to be making her debut with the Circle Players. Her previous roles include Lead Dancer in Chicago and Detective Morris in The Nether, both at the TTU Backdoor Playhouse.

**Jonathan Wilburn (Eduoard Dindon)** is a Nashville native, and has been dabbling in community theatre for about 10 years. His love for theatre and performing grew from singing in high school choir and acting in college. Also, some credit should go to his mother and aunt for taking him to countless shows over the years. By day, his real job is in the risk/insurance field, but no one really wants to hear about that, do they?! By night, he is
happy to sometimes have the good fortune to slip into a role that someone else has written to entertain or engage an audience. Jonathan was most recently seen as Boolie in Keeton Theatre’s production of Driving Miss Daisy, and he’s excited to play along with this very talented cast.

Jeffrey Ellis (Director) is delighted to join Nashville’s Circle Players in celebration of their 70th Anniversary Season. He initially directed La Cage — his first production to helm as director — in 1999 as part of Circle’s 50th Anniversary Season. He is senior contributing editor for BroadwayWorld.com and is a Nashville-based writer, editor, and critic, covering the performing arts in Tennessee for more than 40 years. Jef is the recipient of the TN Theatre Association’s Distinguished Service Award for his coverage of theatre in the Volunteer State and was the founding editor/publisher of Stages, the Tennessee Onstage Monthly. A past fellow of the National Critics Institute at the Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center, he is the founder/executive producer of The First Night Honors, which honor outstanding theater artists in TN in recognition of their lifetime achievements and includes The First Night Awards, The First Night Star Awards and the Most Promising Actors. For Circle Players, Ellis (a former president of the company’s Board of Directors) directed the Nashville premieres of La Cage Aux Folles, The Last Night of Ballyhoo and An American Daughter, as well as award-winning productions of Damn Yankees, Gypsy and The Rocky Horror Show and William Inge’s Picnic. Jef directed Company for ACT 1 and was honored by The Tennesseean as best director of a musical for both Company and Rocky Horror in the same year. Ellis has directed Jason Robert Brown’s The Last Five Years for WVA Theatricals, The Little Foxes for ACT 1, The Secret Garden for Murfreesboro’s Center for the Arts, Singin’ in the Rain for Arts Center of Cannon County and The Miss Firecracker Contest, Cabaret, My Fair Lady, Daddy’s Dyin’...Who’s Got the Will?, South Pacific, The Winter Wonderettes and The Wizard of Oz for The Larry Keeton Theatre. He will direct Little Women, The Musical for Center for the Arts in Spring 2020.

Nate Paul (Music Director) was born in Strawberry Plains, TN, is thrilled to be music directing his first show with Circle Players! He is a National Orpheus Voice Competition semi-finalist, a Tom Naylor Solo Artist Competition finalist, and winner of the NATS State Voice Competition in the Musical Theatre category. Here in middle Tennessee, he is a private voice, guitar, and music theory teacher, and performer. He recently performed as Pirelli in Sweeney Todd and you can catch him performing as Gomez Addams in The Addams Family this March in Smyrna!

Kelvin Amburgey-Walton (Choreographer) As both a performer and choreographer he has worked with companies from the Philadelphia Opera Theatre to Vaudeville shows in Ohio, Tennessee and Florida as he acted, danced and sang his way through the states. Kelvin moved to Nashville in 1992 and has worked at several theaters as a performer and/or choreographer and got to appear in one of his dream roles as Albin/Zaza in La Cage Aux Folles 20 years ago with Jef. He has also made appearances on both the CMT Countdown and on the tv series One Tree Hill. He danced professionally with Tennessee Dance Theater, Acme Moving Company, and his own company, Shards Dance Project. He has taught as guest and as faculty in Theater and Dance with many different companies, studios, colleges and universities. He is currently teaching in the Theatre and Dance Program at MTSU and has branched out into studio arts and is now a painter and visual artist as well. Kelvin is thankful for getting to opportunity to embrace La Cage Aux Folles again (my 3rd time involved), it is a show that is in my heart and soul and embraces every part of my performance career from Stage to Drag (Dakota St. James) and every layer in between.

Alexis LaVon (Stage Manager) is an arts enthusiast who grew up in Nashville by way of Chicago. She recently worked as stage manager on the productions of The Last Season (Kennie Playhouse Theatre) and The Wedding Singer (Chaffins Barn). She is happy to be back with Circle Players after working as Stage Manager in previous seasons. She has numerous productions to her credit and has worked with the following companies in Nashville: Kennie’s Playhouse Theatre, The American Negro Playwright Theatre, Sista Style Productions, Destiny Theatre Experience, Dream 7 Productions, Street Theatre, Nashville Children’s Theatre, Chaffin’s Barn, Humanity Theatre Project & Tennessee Playwrights Studio. Hugs and Kisses to Jef...it is always a pleasure. Cast/Crew: You All Rock! Enjoy the Show and thank you for supporting live theatre!
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