

THE 5 & DIME
Jacksonville's newest theatre company
presents

NEXT FALL

BY
GEOFFREY NAUFFTS

JULY 20-29, 2012



We offer an invitation to all Jacksonville artists to join in our mission to stimulate this city's potential for the rich culture local audiences and art lovers have been craving and deserve. We started with a simple question, 'Why not us?' And so we offer this: why not YOU?

www.The5andDime.org

"In a moment. in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet, for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

— I Corinthians 15:52

"No one's a devil, here. We're all just trying to get along."

— Anonymous

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I am a story-teller from way back. Just ask my mom.

When I first started studying the craft of acting, I landed my first lead: Emily Webb in *Our Town*. (It's totally cliché, but *Our Town* remains one of my favorite stories to this day.) It's a beautiful snapshot of life – the good and the bad – simply told, but resonant in a myriad of ways...a lot like the piece you're about to see: Transparent, fully exposed and honest.

In August 2009, I was visiting New York and had the honor of seeing *Naked Angels'* Off Broadway production of *Next Fall*. I loved it on face value for its *Our Town* references and connections. But what I found in the telling was so powerful to me.

I didn't know much about the story and it had the potential to be a little judge-y considering the themes involved: gay couple, one's an atheist and one's a Christian in a relationship where the religious differences are palpable. I am a Christian who believes in the risen Christ and the "law" of love. But let's face it, there are "Christians" out there who haven't ever lived from a place of love. Judging others is not in the job description – loving is – and Geoffrey Nauffts does such a beautiful job conveying that through the wonderfully written *Luke*.

So to me, *Next Fall* is a beautiful snapshot of love (in its various forms) and the idea that we love people both in spite of AND because of who they are. What I found in *Next Fall* was a thought-provoking, honest, funny piece about two people falling in love and trying to navigate a typical couple issue. In most relationships such a completely divisive conflict would be a deal-breaker. But love wins.

Telling this story wouldn't have been the same without the contributions of this spectacular cast of sensitive artists, the devoted storytellers of The 5 & Dime, a terrific production team, and the love of a remarkable man. Being loved well in spite of and because of who I am is the greatest gift God could give me...so thank you, God for Brian Grant.

I'm excited to bring this show to Jacksonville in light of all of the dialogue recently being stirred up. But at its core, this play is about two people in love dealing with issues any couple might deal with - they just happen to be two men. I hope their love speaks loudly and that more conversations in our community are sparked as a result.

— Staci Cobb Grant

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NEXT FALL

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CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

HOLLY	Kelby Siddons
BRANDON.....	Brooks Studier
ARLENE	Antoinette D'Amico
BUTCH	Isom Steve Philips
ADAM	Kevin Roberts
LUKE	Joe Walz

TIME & PLACE

ACT 1

Scene 1	The Present, A Waiting Room at Beth Israel Hospital
Scene 2	5 Years Earlier, A New York City Rooftop
Scene 3	The Present, A Waiting Room at Beth Israel Hospital
Scene 4	5 Years Earlier, Adam's Apartment
Scene 5	4 Years Earlier, Adam and Luke's New Apartment
Scene 6	The Present, A Waiting Room at Beth Israel Hospital

ACT 2

Scene 1	The Present, A Waiting Room at Beth Israel Hospital
Scene 2	3 Years Earlier, Adam and Luke's Apartment
Scene 3	2 Years Earlier, Adam and Luke's Apartment
Scene 4	The Present, A Makeshift Temple at Beth Israel Hospital
Scene 5	1 Year Earlier, Central Park
Scene 6	The Present, Luke's Hospital Room
Scene 7	Yesterday, Adam and Luke's Apartment
Scene 8	The Present, A Waiting Room at Beth Israel Hospital

THERE WILL BE ONE 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

NEXT FALL was produced on Broadway by Elton John and David Furnish, Barbara Manocherian, Richard Willis, Tom Smedes, Carole L. Haber/Chase Mishkin, Ostar, Anthony Barrile, Michael Palitz, Bob Boyett, James Spry/Catherine Schreiber, Probo Productions, Roy Furman, in association with Naked Angels.

NEXT FALL is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Staci Cobb Grant
Stage Manager	Abigail Saenz
Asst. Stage Manager	Evan Gould
Production Manager	Zeina Salame
Set & Costume Design	Lee Hamby
Multimedia Design	Caryl Butterley
Marketing Coordinator	Zeina Salame
Website & Promo Artwork.....	Caryl Butterley
Box Office Manager	Judy Gould
PR Photographers	Mark O'Connor, Maya Adkins
PR Videographer & Editor	Tami Salame
Performance Videographer.....	Susan J Roche

THE CAST



ANTOINETTE D'AMICO (ARLENE) is a graduate of Bauder College (Radio and Television) and spent 18 years in the radio business as a disc jockey and music director. She has worked in theatres all the way from Las Vegas to South Florida, and currently resides in Fernandina. Toni has directed productions of *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Play it Again Sam*, *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*, all at Amelia Community Theatre. On stage she has been seen as "Dr. Vivian Bearing" in *Wit* at South Georgia College, "Pixrose Wilson" in *The Wake of Jamie Foster* at the Las Vegas Little Theatre, "Nat" in *Rabbit Hole* and "Frankie Futrell Dubberly" in *Dearly Beloved* at Theatre Jacksonville, and most recently as "M'Lynn" in *Amelia Community Theatre's production of Steel Magnolias*. Other shows include *Enchanted April*, *Sly Fox*, *Postmortem*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Parallel Lives: The Kathy and Mo Show*, *Bad Seed*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *On Golden Pond*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, and *Macbeth*.



ISOM STEVE PHILIPS (BUTCH) is honored to,once again,be working with The 5 & Dime under the Direction of the multi-talented Staci Cobb Grant and have the good fortune to be a part of such an outstanding Cast. Isom appeared in the HBO film *Recount* as well as regional commercials and independent films and has worked as an Actor for local Industrial clients. He is currently represented by First Coast Talent in Jacksonville. Isom was nominated for Best Actor in the Savannah 2011 48hr Film Project for his portrayal as a Detective in *The Williams Chronicles*. On stage, Isom has appeared in Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre's production of *After The Murders* as "Judge Dewey" and also as "Dub Dubberly" in the Theatre Jacksonville production of *Dearly Beloved*. Isom appeared in The 5 & Dime's inaugural production, *Fahrenheit 451* as "Professor Faber". Isom wants to thank his wife Toni for her love & support and his cat Murphy who was instrumental in helping him learn his lines.



KEVIN ROBERTS (ADAM) Most recently seen as the sociopathic Irishman, “Coleman Connor”, on the *Players by the Sea* stage in Martin McDonagh’s black comedy, *The Lonesome West*, Kevin is thrilled to be making his debut with The 5 & Dime. Kevin has appeared as “Lord Ganesha” in Terrence McNally’s *A Perfect Ganesh* (Best Supporting Actor - *Players By the Sea*), as “Eugene Jerome” in *Broadway Bound* (Best Actor - Theatre Jacksonville), “Ellard” in *The Foreigner* (Best Supporting Actor - Theatre Jacksonville), “Lt. Barney Greenwald” in *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial*, “Arnold Epstein” in *Biloxi Blues* at the

Alhambra Dinner Theater, as well as roles in *The War of the Worlds*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *City of Angels* and *How We Talk in South Boston*. Kevin has appeared onstage along with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra in *Peter VS the Wolf*, *Yes Virginia*, *There is a Santa Claus* and in the “Costello” role of Abbott and Costello’s *Who’s on First?* routine. This past March, he portrayed WA Mozart with the San Marco Chamber Music Society, and also brought down the house with the Jacksonville Symphony as the guest “cell phonist” in Jim Stephenson’s *Concerto for Cell Phone and Orchestra*. For the latter, he literally phoned it in.



KELBY SIDDONS (HOLLY) is an actor, director, designer, educator, and playwright who studied at Northwestern University. Her original plays have been performed in New York (Manhattan Theatre Club), Chicago, Houston, Milwaukee, and Jacksonville, where she recently won Theater Jacksonville’s 24-hour playwrighting competition for the second year running. She directed *Three Days of Rain* at Players by the Sea, where she also appeared as “Portia” in Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice*. She’s proud to appear in her second production with The 5 & Dime since *Fahrenheit 451*.



BROOKS STUDIER (BRANDON) has waited a very long time for the chance to be a part of a show such as this, and he could not be happier. When he is not working on exciting plays or reading scripts, he works as a support specialist for private investigators! While investigations can be interesting, the experience with this cast and crew has been much more fun. Much thanks to everyone who made it happen. Previous credits include *Fahrenheit 451* (The 5 & Dime), *HAIR* (Players by the Sea), *Sabrina Fair* (Players by the Sea) and *Heroes* (Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre). This performance is dedicated

to my parents who have always wanted me to simply love myself and be happy.



JOE WALZ (LUKE) is very excited to be a part of his first 5 & Dime production. Most recently, you may have seen Joe at the Limelight Theatre in *Children of a Lesser God* (James Leeds), and before that in *Death of a Salesman* (Happy) and *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Nick). You may have also seen Joe at the Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre in *The 39 Steps* (Richard Hannay); at Players by the Sea in *Three Days of Rain* (Walker/Ned), *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *The Lonesome West* (Father Welsh), *The Merchant of Venice* (Bassanio), *ART* (Yvan), and *It’s a Wonderful Life* (George Bailey); at

Theatre Jacksonville in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (George) and *Romeo & Juliet* (Mercutio); at the Orange Park Community Theatre in *Willy Wonka* (Wonka), *The Producers* (Leo), *Barefoot in the Park* (Paul), and *A Funny Thing...* (Pseudolus); with the First Coast Opera Co. (*Threepenny Opera*; *Street Singer*); in independent films and regional and national commercials, or at his day job as a lawyer teaching at Florida Coastal School of Law.

PRODUCTION TEAM

STACI COBB GRANT (Director) is a graduate of DASOTA (dance), and JU (Theatre/Dance/Voice). Post-graduation she spent 8 years working/studying in New York City, returning home to Jacksonville in 2003. Staci has sung back up for the late Phoebe Snow, played a lead in an Indian feature film (*Inscrutable Americans*), performed with Tony Award winner Donna McKechnie (TJ's *Happily Red* 2006), sung in an Amanda McBroom master class, and played lots of dream roles onstage. Staci has had the pleasure of playing "Anne" in *Bill W. and Dr. Bob*, "Lucille Frank" in *Parade* – winning a Players by the Sea Pelican Award for Best Actress, "Lesley" in *Talking Heads* (PBTS), "The Baker's Wife" in *Into the Woods* (Theatre Jacksonville), "Martha" in *The Secret Garden* (TJ Supporting Actress Award), "Sara Jane Moore" in *Assassins* (also co-produced), "Fastrada" in *Pippin* (PBTS), "Meredith" in *Bat Boy* (Pelican Award for Best Actress), and that lovable vixen "Roxie Hart" in *Chicago* (PBTS). Most recently, she had the pleasure of playing another notorious "Vixen" - in The 5 & Dime's Yule-time tribute *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*. Jacksonville directing credits include *Anatomy of Gray*, *Moon Over the Brewery* (TJ) and *The Who's TOMMY* (Players). She's also had the honor of performing as a featured soloist and actress with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. Staci's a recent newlywed to Brian Grant, a fabulous production manager for Players by the Sea. She is a Jacksonville native and a co-founder of The 5 & Dime, where, along with her fellow 'dimers, she is committed to building an even more vibrant arts scene in the urban core...bloom where you're planted!

ABIGAIL SAENZ (Stage Manager) can't express how excited she is to be working on this production of *Next Fall!* Her passion for all things production related, in fact, have led her to study Media/Communications at Florida State in Tallahassee, work on a couple of PBS documentaries in New York City, and, now, work as an Associate Producer at WJCT right here in Jacksonville. Special thanks to Staci for teaching me everything I needed to know about quick costume changes.

EVAN GOULD (Asst. Stage Manager) teaches chorus and drama at Lake Asbury Jr. High and, as an actor, has performed in theaters throughout the city, most recently as "Pooh-Bah, The Lord High of Everything Else" in *Hot Mikado* at Theatre Jacksonville. Evan is a founding member of The 5 & Dime.

ZEINA SALAME (Production Manager) has been directing and performing across North and Central Florida for the last 10 years. She holds an MA in English from UNF and an MS in Theatre from FSU. Zeina is an adjunct professor of English & Theatre at Daytona State College and is a founding member of The 5 & Dime.

LEE HAMBY (Set & Costume Design) is a Jacksonville native and a graduate of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts majoring in Vocal Music/Musical Theatre. Lee went on to study Musical Theatre at The Broadway Theatre Project and The American Musical and Dramatic Academy under the direction of such greats as Gregory Hines, Tommy Tune, Ann Reinking, Jules Styne, Chita Rivera and Patricia Birch. Working as a professional actor for almost two decades, Lee has traveled the US and Europe performing in national tours, regional theatres, amusement parks and dinner theatres in a vast array of musicals, plays and revues. Residing in Jacksonville once again he is currently very active in the local arts community as a performer, producer, designer, teacher and director. He is one of the founders and board members of The 5 & Dime, A Theatre Company.

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THANK YOU

THE 5 & DIME would first and foremost like to thank WJCT and CreativeworX for sharing their beautiful space and making us feel at home.

The following people and organizations helped in ways both large and small, but each has made a significant impact in the quality of this production experience – for the performers, production team, as well as for the audience. To them we offer our most sincere thanks.

Travis Cagle and Fast Signs, Tonia Eastman, David & Natasha Girard, Al Letson, Mark O'Connor, Ellen Easter Powell, Susan J Roche, Tami Salame, Rev. Gary Lee Webber

and

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With a vast array of entertainment and educational opportunities for art lovers and audiences, community members may take great pride in this city's flourishing presence on the map of places in which the cultural arts community is busy making change. Ask yourself what you can do to help support the arts — then do it.