

THE 5 & DIME

presents



MATT & BEN

by Mindy Kaling & Brenda Withers



directed by

JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA

starring

KAT McLEOD and ABIGAIL SAENZ

THE PANGAEA LIVE . 956 N Liberty Street . Springfield

February 28 - March 8, 2014



A group of artists and friends came together with a common goal: to make a change in the Jacksonville cultural arts community. From this, THE 5 & DIME, a theatre company, was born. Founded with the hope of facilitating diverse opportunities and a supportive environment for collaboration, THE 5 & DIME is a group of

passionate theatre artists who've come together in the urban core to develop a place where all kinds of art happens. The founding members and board of directors offer an invitation to all Jacksonville artists to join in the mission to stimulate this city's potential for the rich culture local audiences and art lovers have been craving and deserve. It started with a simple question, "Why not us?" And so we offer this: "Why not YOU?"

www.The5andDime.org

"Adaptation is the highest form of flattery!"

— MATT & BEN

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

UrbanDictionary.com defines "Bromance" as "the complicated love and affection shared by two straight males." And yes, I used Urban Dictionary. It's 2014, it's late, and Google is my friend. Anyway it is precisely this love and affection, sometimes hilarious and sometimes biting harsh, that Matt & Ben explores so brilliantly! These two characters go through it - the ups and downs and in betweens, and that's real life.

As I read through and studied the play, I could see bits of myself in their strengths, foibles, successes, and failures. I hope that as you watch their story unfold, you can do the same. So whether you and your bestie are like Felix & Oscar, Joey & Chandler, Stewie & Brian, Cory & Shawn, George & Jerry, Kirk & Spock, Bert & Ernie, Shawn & Gus, Sherlock & John, Andy & Barney, Kevin & Paul, Preppy & Slater, Ritchie & The Fonz, Cheech & Chong, Simon & Seacrest, Jon & Ponch, or Beavis & Buttthead we've all got at least one "Matt" to our "Ben."

They are that person around which we can be our true selves knowing that if we get too out of hand, our counterpart will reign us back in. Who's yours? Oh and thanks BuzzFeed.com for half of that TV Bromance list. Yeah...I use BuzzFeed too. Get over it. ENJOY!

— JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA

THE 5 & DIME

presents

MATT & BEN

by

MINDY KALING and BRENDA WITHERS

directed by JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA

TIME

Saturday Afternoon, 1995

PLACE

Apartment of Ben Affleck - Somerville, Massachusetts

CHARACTERS

MATT..... Kat McLeod
BEN.....Abigail Saenz

THIS PRODUCTION IS PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION

Director.....Juan Carlos Unzueta
Stage Manager..... Meredith Key
Production Manager.....Evan Gould
Set Design..... Brian Grant
Lighting Design Carl Vorwerk
Sound Design..... Juan Carlos Unzueta & Meredith Key
Master Carpenters Brian Grant & James Gandy
Set Dressing..... Lee Hamby
Properties..... Meredith Key & Evan Gould
Production Assistance Noah Davis, Judy Gould, Staci Grant
Lee Hamby, Joshua Taylor

The world premiere of Matt & Ben was presented at the New York International Fringe Festival', at The Mazer Theater in New York City, on August 21, 2002, directed by Brenda Withers and Mindy Kaling and produced by Chase Murray Brawl, Iason Hsiao', and Leavitt.

The off-Broadway premiere of Matt & Ben was presented at RS. 122 in New York City on July 28, 2003, directed by David Warren and produced by Victoria Lang and Pier Paolo Piccoli, Stephen Pevner, and Jason Hsian.

MATT & BEN is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

THE CAST



KAT MCLEOD (Matt) is a Jacksonville native who graduated from Florida State University's theatre program in 2012. She now works at Merrill Lynch but spends her nights stage managing shows around town. She was seen last year in The 5 & Dime's production of *All New People*. She would like to thank her family for their continued support of her love of the arts.



ABIGAIL SAENZ (Ben) can't express how excited she is to be in Matt & Ben! Her passion for all things production related have led her to study Media/Communications at FSU, work on a couple of PBS documentaries in New York, and, now, work as the Development Producer at WJCT. She is a proud member of The 5 & Dime's Artistic Team and is currently getting her Master's degree in Media Management from The New School. Even though she can usually be found working backstage, Abigail was last seen in The 5 & Dime's *Elegies for Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens*, and *Players by the Sea's Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson*. Special thanks to Kat McLeod for being such a great bro.

"If I ever woke up with a dead hooker in my hotel room, Matt would be the first person I'd call." - Ben Affleck.

PRODUCTION TEAM

JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA (Director) is thrilled to again be collaborating with The 5 & Dime, having recently been a vocalist in *Elegies for Angels, Punks, & Raging Queens*. He is a local award winning actor and the Educational Outreach Director at Theatre Jacksonville. Year-round he has the privilege to work with young people ages 7-17, invigorating their passion for the theatrical arts. Whether through creating curriculum, teaching, directing, or audition coaching, he values his position as mentor to his students. That being said, it's with great excitement that Juan breaks out of the realm of educational theatre and takes on the role of DIRECTOR. Thankfully, being able to direct two of his close friends has eased the transition immensely. Originally from Lake Wales, FL, Juan has been in Jacksonville for 14 years and holds a BFA and BA from the University of North Florida. He's had the great pleasure of performing on numerous stages in the north and central Florida, in both the nonprofessional and professional arenas. Locally he's been seen in plays and musicals at *Players By The Sea*, Theatre Jacksonville, The Limelight Theatre, The First Coast Opera, Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre, The Alhambra Theatre, and performed with The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

MEREDITH KEY (Stage Manager) is a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, and very excited to be a part of her first show with the The 5 & Dime. She has been a part of several shows in the community and at Douglas Anderson, stage managing such shows as Theatre Jacksonville's *Lombardi* and *Common Grounds*; and Douglas Anderson's *Ragtime*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Extravaganza*, and *Musical Theatre Showcase*.

EVAN GOULD (Production Manager) is a founding member of The 5 & Dime and serves on their Artistic Team. He is excited to help bring this quirky comedy to Jacksonville's urban core. He teaches drama and chorus at Lake Asbury Jr. High in Clay County and performs in local theatre. His last acting gig was in The 5 & Dime's production of *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens*.

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www.facebook.com/JenHoldmanPhotography

THE 5 & DIME

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THANK YOU

The 5 & Dime would first and foremost like to thank KEN & ARYAA GARRETSON, at THE PANGAEA LIVE, for once again inviting us in to play 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.

Matthew Calise, Jason Collins, Jonny Kling, Ellen Easter Powell, Logan Raspa, and...

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and a very special thank you to
JOE SCHWARZ and PLAYERS BY THE SEA
— www.PlayersByTheSea.org —
for their donation of lighting equipment

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.



SWAMP RADIO SPRING SHOW

Sunday, April 6 at 3:00pm - Terry Theater, Times Union Center



Swamp Radio provides the Greater Northeast Florida area with a live radio experience and streaming podcast celebrating the culture, art, and history of Jacksonville and its surrounding areas. During its inaugural season, Swamp Radio is presenting a quarterly, scripted variety series drawing from the songwriters, poets, playwrights and storytellers of the area to create an audio tapestry of the place many call home.

Visit website for more information and to listen to previous shows

www.SwampRadioJax.com

