



**Birmingham
Festival
Theatre**

presents

Quills

by Doug Wright

directed by
Dane Peterson

Performances are 8:00 p.m.
Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
October 25 - November 10, 2007

Sunday matinee is November 4 at 2:30 p.m.

for reservations, call **933-2383**
or go online at **[www. BFTonline.org](http://www.BFTonline.org)**

Founded in 1972, Birmingham Festival Theatre is the city's oldest theatre producing contemporary and classic fare for adults. It is managed by an all-volunteer, working board of directors. BFT has staged more than 200 productions — involving more than 50 directors, 1000 actors, and 500 crew people — attended by almost 10,000 audience members.

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And, most importantly, we appreciate
all the wonderful actors and volunteers who, over the years, have
donated time and talent to create this magical place called BFT!

2007-2008 BFT Board of Directors

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Quills

written by Doug Wright
directed by Dane Peterson

Time and Place

Here and there, perhaps now

Doctor Royer-Collard - James Lee Griner

Monsieur Prouix - David Roberts

Renée Pélagie - Karla Stamps

Abbé de Coulmier - Elmo Ranelli

The Marquis - Stephen French

Madeleine Leclerc - Jessica Tyner Rushing

Madame Royer-Collard - Sara Carroll

there will be one 12 minute intermission

Scenic Design - Dane Peterson

Lighting Design - Jennifer Luck

Sound design & Original Music - Marc LeMay

Production Coordinator - Donna Thornton

Costumes - Marquis' costume by

Mary Gurney/Playhouse

Abbé's costume by

Rachael Smith

Set Construction - Dane Peterson, Sparky

Pugh, John Falkenberry

Stage Manager - Sparky Pugh

Light Operator - Sparky Pugh

Sound Operator - Marc LeMay

Warning ! You will see nudity on our stage.
Strobe lighting effects will be used.

Special thanks to

Patti Manning and Matt Mielke of BSC Theatre

Rebecca Jennings

Jason Clark

PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

James Lee Griner (Doctor Royer-Collard) studied theatre at the University of Montevallo, and English at UAB. During the day, he works as a technical writer at UAB, and he's all but beside himself with excitement to be spending his nights at BFT again. Lee portrayed Horace Giddens in the 2004 BFT production of *The Little Foxes*. His off-stage projects include working in the garden and fiddling with web pages like the ones at www.urbangnome.net.

David Roberts (Jean Prioux) is thrilled to be a part of this production with the Festival Theater. He was previously in *Six Degrees of Separation*, *The Ladies of Tennessee*, and *Travels With My Aunt*. He would like to thank his friends and family for all their loving support.

Karla Stamps (Renée Pélagie) has performed with other local theatres such as South City, UAB, Park Players and ACTA but says this experience at BFT has been one of the most fun. Special thanks to Dane for his patience and guidance and to Sparky for being one great stage manager.

Elmo Ranelli (Abbe de Coulmier) is thrilled to be taking the BFT stage for the first time and to have the opportunity to work once again under the direction of Dane Peterson. Elmo, a Birmingham native, an existentialist, and a perpetual nuisance to both friend and stranger alike, has studied psychology and philosophy at both The University of Montevallo and UAB with hopes of remaining in perpetual poverty for the remainder of his days. When he is not too overcome with glee at the thought of global warming's potential to destroy society as we know it, he can most often be seen performing as vocalist with his ambulant musical catastrophes *The Homos* and *Glitter Engine*.

Stephen French (Marquis) is thrilled to return to BFT after playing the tortured Ralph in last season's *Frozen* and was most recently seen as Billy Flynn in Red Mountain Theatre Company's hit production of *Chicago*. A graduate of Auburn University, he has just recently returned to Alabama after spending over 10 years in Central Florida where he worked as an actor, director, improv performer, and producer almost everywhere that had a stage including playing Beetlejuice at Universal Orlando. Blessed (or cursed) with a wide variety of interests, Stephen also works as a certified personal trainer and graphic artist. Love and thanks to my wife Kristen and our sons, Bennett and Peyton for their support and for putting up with my insane schedule.

Jessica Tyner Rushing (Madeleine) is ecstatic to be a part of this project with Dane. Being her first show at the Birmingham Festival Theatre, she has absolutely loved working with everyone. Tyner is a Music major at Birmingham-Southern College and takes part in Concert Choir, Hilltop

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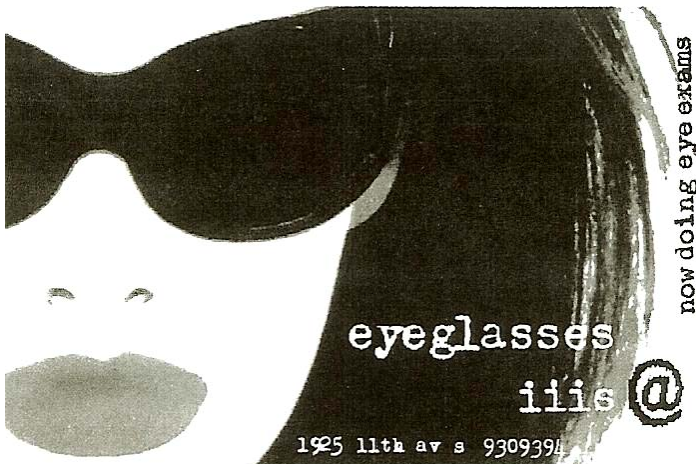
PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Singers, and BSC productions, such as *Urinetown* and *Young Zombies In Love*. She played "Hansel" in the school's opera, *Hansel and Gretel*, and will be the "Secretary" (*The Consul*) this upcoming spring.

Sara Carroll (Madame Royer-Collard) is so happy to be making her BFT debut with such a fun cast and great show! Favorite roles include *Chicago* (Liz), *Amadeus* (Constanze), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Yitzhak), *Miss Vulcan 1939* (Pearl Price), *3 Penny Opera* (Betty), and *Sideshow* (6th Exhibit). Much love and thanks to her friends and family for their constant encouragement, support, and love. Peace and Birthday Cake to all!

Dane Peterson (Director/Scenic Designer) - Founding Vice President of the Birmingham Area Theatre Alliance; Theatre Director for John Carroll Catholic High School (1997 to 2007); Directing credits: *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*, *The Vast Difference*, *Acrobats*, *LINE* (Birmingham Festival Theatre); *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Bully Brigade of Belvedere Blvd.*, *tick, tick... BOOM!*, *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, *Godspell*, *A Chorus Line*, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (1999 Revival), *Tommy*, *Guys and Dolls*, *West Side Story*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (DPTS); *Fiddler on the Roof*, *South Pacific* (Virginia Samford Theatre Productions); *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Dog-brain*, *Harvey*, *Snoopy*, *Bat Boy: The Musical*, *Pippin*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Four Farces by Anton Chekhov*, *Into the Woods*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Husbands*, *Two Rooms*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Torch-Bearers* (John Carroll Theatre); *Christmas Cabaret* (2000, 2001, 2002) (Summerfest Musical Theatre). Recent Acting Credits: *I Am My Own Wife* (Birmingham Festival Theatre); Amos in *Chicago* (Red Mountain Theatre Co.). www.dptheatreseries.org

Jennifer Luck (Lighting Designer) is a Birmingham native who has worked in community, academic, regional and Off-Broadway theatres across the US. Credits include: *JourneyPath: An Experiment in Rightness at the Ontological Hysteric Theatre* in New York City, *Wizard of Oz* produced by the Red Mountain Theatre Company in Birmingham, and *Wedekind's Lulu* at the University of Kansas. She's pleased to be returning to Birmingham Festival Theatre for *Quills*.



PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Sparky Pugh (Stage Manager/Light Board Operator) joyfully returns to the BFT backstage to work with Dane and this wonderfully talented cast and crew.

Marc LeMay (Original Music, Sound Design, Sound Operator) is a composer, performer, and educator whose music has been heard throughout Birmingham and other parts of the country. He recently provided original music and/or sound design for BFT productions of *Fuddy Meers*, *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, *Woman in Black*, and *Hazard County*, among others, as well as the feature-length film *Lounge Act*. In 2007, he earned a B.A. with numerous honors in Music Technology from UAB, and continues to work and teach in Birmingham. You can find out more at his website: marclemaymusic.com.



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COMING ATTRACTIONS

November 29 - December 15, 2007

The Santaland & Seasons Greetings to Our Diaries Friends and Family!!!

by David Sedaris

For some spice to mix with all that Christmas sugar, *Diaries* dishes up the hilarious misadventures of a man working as an elf for Macy's Santaland in Manhattan and the frustrations of a matriarch who is writing her holiday letter to send to family and friends. Writer David Sedaris is an unpredictable, unique American voice who cuts through the Christmas spirit to remind us of the crazy things we do during the holidays!

January 31 - February 16, 2008

Hiding behind Comets

by Brian Dykstra

The twins who run the bar are hoping to close early to go to a party. But a sinister stranger arrives asking questions. Slowly, a shocking mystery is uncovered that presents the twins with a terrifying possibility and an ethical dilemma.

February 21 - 24, 2008

Elegies for Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens

[fundraiser for local AIDS organizations - purchase separate tickets]

by Janet Hood and Bill Russell

This collection of poems and songs reflects the lives of people who have died of AIDS. It was inspired by the Names Project Quilt and *Spoon River Anthology*. This piece will make you laugh and cry as you remember those you know who are affected by this scourge.

March 20 - April 5, 2008

The Tale of the Allergist's Wife

by Charles Busch

The playwright makes mirth out of misery in this comedic story of a New York culture vulture on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Marjorie Taub, a doctor's wife, is a devoted consumer of high culture: mornings at the Whitney, afternoons at Zabar's, evenings with Kafka. Plunged into a mid-life crisis of Medea-like proportions, Marjorie is shaken out of her lethargy by the reappearance of a fascinating and somewhat mysterious childhood friend, Lee. What exactly is Lee up to?

May 1 - 17, 2008

The White Rose

by Lillian Groag

In 1943, five students at the University of Munich and their philosophy professor were tried and convicted for their anonymous leafletting campaign calling for opposition to the Nazi regime. They called themselves "The White Rose." Each year in April, 10,000 white roses are distributed on the University of Texas campus in remembrance of the approximately 10,000 people killed each day at Auschwitz.

June 12 - 28, 2008

The Underpants

by Steve Martin

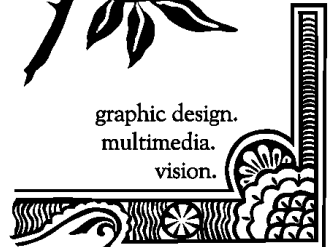
Steve Martin's adaptation of the original "wardrobe malfunction"! Humor and intrigue result from the failure of a fastener on a woman's undergarment. No, this isn't the Superbowl, but the instant fame and unusual consequences have Janet Jackson written all over it!



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