

46th Season • 439th Production JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE / October 23 - November 22, 2009

South Coast Repertory

David Emmes

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Martin Benson

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

SATURN RETURNS

BY Noah Haidle

Ralph Funicello SCENIC DESIGN

Nephelie Andonyadis COSTUME DESIGN

Lonnie Rafael Alcaraz LIGHTING DESIGN

Kimberly Egan SOUND DESIGN

Nelson T. Eusebio III ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Kelly L. Miller DRAMATURG

Joshua Marchesi PRODUCTION MANAGER

Chrissy Church* STAGE MANAGER

DIRECTED BY

David Emmes

Bette and Wylie Aitken

HONORARY PRODUCERS

Originally produced by Lincoln Center Theater in 2008, New York City. SATURN RETURNS is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. New York.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance)

Gustin, 88	Nick Ullett*
Suzanne/Zephyr/Loretta	Kristen Bush*
Gustin, 58	Conor O'Farrell*
Gustin, 28	Graham Michael Hamilton*

SETTING

Grand Rapids, Michigan.

LENGTH

Approximately 80 minutes with no intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Casting	Joanne DeNaut, CSA
Assistant Stage Manager	Jamie A. Tucker*
Assistant to the Set Designer	Bryan Redfern
Assistant to the Lighting Designer	Karyn Lawrence
Production Assistant	Wendy Leef
Stage Management Intern	Jessica Kilzer
Light Board Operator	Aaron Shetland
Dresser	Heather Bassett
Wigs	Gieselle Blair
Additional Costume Staff	Cecelia Parker, Katie Schmidt

Please refrain from unwrapping candy or making other noises that may disturb surrounding patrons. The use of cameras and recorders in the theatre is prohibited. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the theatre. Cellular phones, beepers and watch alarms should be turned off or set to non-audible mode during the performance.

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.



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Saturn Returns refers to an astrological phenomenon that occurs nearly every

thirty years, when the planet Saturn returns to the position it occupied at the time of a person's birth, ushering in crucial turning points in that person's life. Each Return of Saturn marks a momentous life change.

"How cruelly sweet are the echoes that start, When memory plays an old tune on the heart."

Eliza Cook

Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter. - Mark Twain The events in our lives happen in a sequence in time but in their significance to ourselves they find their own order. . . the continuous thread of revelation. - Eudora Welty • • • • • • Each year brings new problems of Form and Content. new foes to tug with: at Twenty I tried vex mv elders, past Sixty it's the young whom I hope to bother. – W. H. Auden What is love? 'tis not hereafter; Present mirth hath present laughter; What's to come is still unsure: In delay there lies no plenty; Then come kiss me, sweet and twenty, Youth's a stuff will not endure. - Feste, Twelfth Night, Act II, Scene 3

When You are Old

When you are old and grey and full of sleep, And nodding by the fire, take down this book, And slowly read, and dream of the soft look Your eyes had once, and of their shadows deep;

How many loved your moments of glad grace, And loved your beauty with love false or true, But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you, And loved the sorrows of your changing face;

And bending down beside the glowing bars, Murmur, a little sadly, how Love fled And paced upon the mountains overhead And hid his face amid a crowd of stars.

– William Butler Yeats, *The Rose* (1893)

Sonnet XV

When I consider everything that grows Holds in perfection but a little moment, That this huge stage presenteth nought but shows Whereon the stars in secret influence comment; When I perceive that men as plants increase, Cheered and check'd even by the self-same sky, Vaunt in their youthful sap, at height decrease, And wear their brave state out of memory; Then the conceit of this inconstant stay Sets you most rich in youth before my sight, Where wasteful Time debateth with Decay, To change your day of youth to sullied night.

- William Shakespeare

Costume rendering for Loretta by designer Nephelie Andonyadis.

Artist Biographies



KRISTEN BUSH* Suzanne/Zepbyr/Loretta

is making her SCR debut. She made her Broadway debut in A Touch of the Poet at the Roundabout Theatre Co. Off-Broadway credits include King Lear and As You Like It for The Pub-

lic Theater and Great Expectations at Lucille Lortel Theatre. Regional credits include The Goodman Theatre's production of Passion Play and The Old Globe's production of The Violet Hour. Television appearances include "Law & Order: SVU," "Numb3rs," "Knightrider," "Medium" and "NCIS." Film appearances include Calling It Quits and Charlie Kaufman's Synecdoche, New York. Ms. Bush is a graduate of The Guildhall School of Music & Drama.



GRAHAM MICHAEL HAMILTON* Gustin. 28

appeared at SCR previously in *Hamlet*. He appeared Off-Broadway in Hamlet (TFANA) and The Two Noble Kinsmen (The Public Theater). Regional productions include All's Well That Ends Well,

Romeo & Juliet, Titus Andronicus, Othello, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Vincent in Brixton, Antony & Cleopatra (The Old Globe); Romeo & Juliet (Folger Shakespeare Library); Third (Huntington Theatre Company); Two Gentlemen of Verona (Shakespeare Festival/LA) and *Mozart* (Walt Disney Concert Hall). Film and television credits include How I Got Lost, "Lincoln Heights," "Cold Case" and "Guiding Light." Mr. Hamilton received his BFA from The Juilliard School and is a proud member of AEA. www.grahamilton.com



CONOR O'FARRELL*

Gustin, 58

made his SCR debut last season in Goldfish. Theatre credits include the original play PJ, for which he won a Denver Drama Critics Circle Award; Death of a Salesman at Germinal Stage;

True West; Strange Snow; the European tour of Zoo Story; Alexander; and Same Time Next Year. Film and television credits include three years as the Undersheriff on "CSI," "Medium," "The Unit," "Prison Break," "Without a Trace," "Eli Stone," "NCIS," "Desperate Housewives," "Nip/Tuck," "ER," "NYPD Blue," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "CSI: Miami," Flash of Genius, Stir of Echoes, The Trigger Effect, 61, From the Earth to the Moon, and many others. Mr. O'Farrell recently completed four months in Australia filming HBO's mini-series "The Pacific," Steven Spielberg's sequel to "Band of Brothers," which is due out in 2010. He is a proud member of Actors Equity.



NICK ULLETT* Gustin, 88

made his SCR debut last season in Noises Off. Broadway credits include Me and My Girl, Loot and Cole Porter's Gay Divorce. Additional theatre credits include The Tempest and End-

game at Shakespeare Santa Cruz; Zbivago and Loot at La Jolla Playhouse; Pygmalion, Man for All Seasons, Woman in Black and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum at Bristol Riverside Theatre; Tooth and Claw at Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York; Major Barbara and The School for Scandal at Mark Taper Forum; Many Happy Returns at Laguna Playhouse; and Fields of Ambrosia at George Street Playhouse. Film and television credits include *Hook*, Down and Out in Beverly Hills, "Yes, Dear," "The Practice," "Home Improvement," "Golden Girls" and "As the World Turns." He is a proud member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre and Actors' Equity. Find out more than you ever needed to know at: www. nickullett.com.

PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR AND DESIGNERS

NOAH HAIDLE (*Playwright*). His most recent play What is the Cause of Thunder? opened at The Williamstown Theatre Festival in July. His plays have been seen at Lincoln Center Theater, Roundabout Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, Long Wharf Theatre, Woolly

Mammoth Theatre Company, Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, and others around the country and abroad. He has taught playwriting at Princeton University, The Kennedy Center and in Kenya and Uganda as part of The Sundance Theatre Institute. He is a graduate of Princeton University and The Juilliard School, where he was a Lila Acheson Wallace playwright-in-residence. He is the recipient of three Lincoln Center Le Compte Du Nuoy Awards, the 2005 Helen Merrill Award for emerging playwrights, the 2007 Claire Tow Award, and an NEA/TCG theatre residency grant. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

DAVID EMMES (Director/Producing Artistic Director) is co-founder of SCR. In May 2008, he and Martin Benson received the Margo Jones Award for their lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and to fostering the art and craft of American playwriting. In addition, he has received numerous awards for productions he has directed during his SCR career, including a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for the direction of George Bernard Shaw's The Philanderer. He directed the world premieres of Amy Freed's Safe in Hell, The Beard of Avon and Freedomland, Thomas Babe's Great Day in the Morning, Keith Reddin's Rum and Coke and But Not for Me and Neal Bell's Cold Sweat; the American premieres of Terry Johnson's Unsuitable for Adults and Joe Penhall's Dumb Show; the West Coast premieres of C.P. Taylor's Good and Harry Kondoleon's Christmas on Mars; and the Southland premiere of Top Girls (at SCR and the Westwood Playhouse). Other productions include the West Coast premieres of Three Viewings by Jeffrey Hatcher, *The Secret Rapture* by David Hare and New England by Richard Nelson; and Arcadia by Tom Stoppard, The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde, Ayckbourn's Woman in Mind and You Never Can Tell by George Bernard Shaw, which he restaged for the Singapore Festival of Arts. He has served as a theatre panelist and onsite evaluator

for the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as a panelist for the California Arts Council. After attending Orange Coast College, he received his BA and MA from San Francisco State University, and his PhD in theatre and film from USC.

RALPH FUNICELLO (Scenic Design) returns for his 25th season at SCR. Among his SCR credits are the designs for Taking Steps, Hamlet, The Real Thing, A View from the Bridge, Brooklyn Boy, Safe in Hell, Major Barbara, The Circle, The Education of Randy Newman, The Piano Lesson, Tartuffe, Private Lives, Old Times, Death of a Salesman, Six Degrees of Separation, She Stoops to Folly, The Misanthrope, Dancing at Lughnasa, Hedda Gabler, The Miser, Twelfth Night, Happy End, Kiss of the Spider Woman, Speed-The-Plow, Going for Gold, Misalliance, Highest Standard of Living, Buried Child, Good and Da. His work has been seen on and Off-Broadway, and at many resident theatres including Lincoln Center Theater, Mark Taper Forum, Huntington Theatre Company, Intiman Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Denver Center Theatre Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Guthrie Theater, McCarter Theatre Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford Shakespearean Festival of Canada, Royal Shakespeare Company and The Old Globe Theatre, where he is an Associate Artist. He has worked for 37 years with San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater, where he was Director of Design. He has been nominated for New York Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Lucille Lortel and Tony awards. He has received the Merritt Award for Excellence In Design and Collaboration, and his designs have been recognized by the Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle, the LADCC, Drama-Logue Magazine, Back Stage West and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. He is currently the Powell Chair in Set Design at San Diego State University.



NEPHELIE ANDONYADIS (Costume Design). Past designs at SCR include costume design for Emilie, The Importance of Being Earnest, Man From Nebraska, Safe in Hell and The Dazzle, among others; scenic and costume design for Relatively Speaking and The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly Stupid Tales; and scenic design for *The Summer Moon* and *The* BFG (Big Friendly Giant). Recent projects at other theatres include scenic design for Jason in Eureka and Los Illegals with Cornerstone Theater Company, and costume design for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. She is an Associate Artist with Cornerstone Theater Company where she has been fortunate to work with a range of California's diverse communities. Her designs have been seen regionally at theatres including Center Theatre Group, Portland Center Stage, Guthrie Lab, Court Theatre, Chicago Children's Theatre, Great Lakes Theater Festival, The Acting Company, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Berkshire Theatre Festival and Yale Repertory Theatre. Ms. Andonyadis is on the faculty of the Theatre Arts Department at the University of Redlands. She is a graduate the Yale University School of Drama and Cornell University School of Architecture, and the recipient of an NEA/TCG design fellowship.

LONNIE RAFAEL ALCARAZ (Lighting Design) is an Associate Professor at UC Irvine and a professional lighting designer. He has designed at various regional theatres, such as the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage, Laguna Playhouse, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Great River Shakespeare Festival and the Utah Shakespearean Festival. In addition to fourteen seasons with La Posada Mágica, productions at SCR include Goldfish, An Italian Straw Hat: A Vaudeville, Culture Clash in AmeriCCa, Doubt, a parable, My Wandering Boy, The Prince and the Pauper, Blue Door, Man from Nebraska, Bunnicula, The Hoboken Chicken Emergency, Play Strindberg, Dimly Perceived Threats to the System, Sidney Bechet Killed a *Man* (for which he received a *Drama-Logue* Award), BAFO, Later Life and Three Viewings. He designed Culture Clash's The Birds at both SCR and Berkeley Repertory Theatre, along with their national touring show, Radio Mambo. Recent design experience includes Flow on the LA River for Cornerstone Theater Company, Dead Man's Cell Phone at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Of Mice and Men at Pasadena Playhouse, Richard Montoya's Water & Power at San Diego Repertory Theatre, The Tempest and Loves Labours Lost at the Great River Shakespeare Festival and multiple productions with Cornerstone Theater Company, where he is an associate artist. He was also a designer for Universal Studios, Japan. He is a member of the United Scenic Artist/IATSE - Local 829. His complete design portfolio can be found at www.lradesigns.com.

KIMBERLY EAGAN (Sound Design) received a BFA in Theatre Sound Design from Boston University. Recent design credits include The Tempest with Rifco Arts at Leicester Square Arts Theatre; Fat Pig at Trafalgar Studios; Dealers Choice with the Menier Chocolate Factory at Trafalgar Studios; Lone Star and Private Wars at the King's Head; Meri Christmas with Rifco Arts, UK tour; and Breakfast with Johnny Wilkinson at Menier Chocolate Factory. Recent associate design credits include A Little Night Music at the Garrick Theatre and Little Shop of Horrors, UK tour with Menier Chocolate Factory; Saturday Night Fever, Asia tour; Fame, UK tour and at Shaftesbury Theatre; The Wedding Singer, UK tour; Footloose, UK tour and at Novello Theatre; and La Cage Aux Folles at the Playhouse Theatre as well as the April 2010 Broadway transfer.

NELSON T. EUSEBIO III (Assistant Director) is the artistic director and co-founder of Creative Destruction. He has developed and directed work for companies including Pan-Asian Rep, Ma-Yi Theatre Company, Laguna Playhouse and the Mark Taper Forum. Re-



Oct 23 - Nov 22, 2009 Segerstrom Stage

Endearingly grumpy, 88-year-old Gustin steps backinto the echoes of his life—and takes the audience with him, bending time and surprising at every turn.

Honorary Producers: WYLIE & BETTE AITKEN Media Partners: KOCE-TV • OC BUSINESS JOURNAL

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cent directing credits include God, Sex and Blue Water (Living Image Arts); Obama Drama: A Political Theatrical Spectacular! (Creative Destruction); 365/365 (Ma-Yi/Public Theatre); and Marat/Sade and A Midsummer Night's Dream (Yale). He was a resident director for Ensemble Studio Theatre and is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab and the Rhodopi International Theatre Collective. He has a BA in Drama from UC Irvine and an MFA in Directing from the Yale School of Drama. Mr. Eusebio is a recipient of the 2009-11 NEA/TCG Career Development Grant for Directors.

Kelly L. Miller (*Dramaturg*) is the literary manager of SCR and the co-director of the Pacific Playwrights Festival. Regionally, she has worked at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and as the Literary Manager of Long Wharf Theatre and Playscripts, Inc. In 2008, she co-founded Creative Destruction, a company dedicated to producing politically immediate, culturally diverse theatre. Favorite dramaturgy includes: Emilie, Doctor Cerberus and Collected Stories (SCR); Obama Drama (Creative Destruction); Big Love, War of the Worlds, Hair and *Creditors* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Arms* and the Man, Hearts and Wintertime (Long Wharf Theatre). Ms. Miller has worked as a freelance writer and script consultant for the Public Theater, Huntington Theatre Company, New Dramatists, NEA/ Arena Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays.

CHRISSY CHURCH* (*Stage Manager*) is in the midst of an adventurous 9th season here at SCR. A proud member of Actors' Equity, previous credits include Putting It Together, last season's Collected Stories, Our Mother's Brief Affair, Noises Off, A Christmas Carol and The Heiress; the world premieres of Mr. Marmalade, Getting Frankie Married — and Afterwards, Making It and Nostalgia; productions of Taking Steps, What They Have, Charlotte's Web, Doubt,

BETTE AND WYLIE AITKEN (Honorary Producers) are among South Coast Repertory's most devoted and generous supporters. Wylie is currently serving his second year as president of the Board of Trustees, which he joined in 2000. Bette chaired the highly successful 2009 Gala Ball, "Nothing But Blue Skies," her second time as Gala chair, having also chaired the 2006 Gala, "All Aboard the Orient Express." Together, the Aitkens have been First Nights subscribers, Gala underwriters, and Platinum Circle members since 1998. They are also major contributors to SCR's Next Stage Campaign and Legacy Campaign. Last season, the Aitkens made a leadership gift to support the Act Now for SCR Challenge. The Aitkens' past Honorary Producer support includes the world premieres of Nostalgia, My Wandering Boy (as members of The Playwrights Circle), the Pacific Playwrights Festival, and last season's *Emilie*.

a parable, My Wandering Boy, The Real Thing, Hitchcock Blonde, Born Yesterday, Pinocchio, The Little Prince, Intimate Exchanges, La Posada Mágica, Anna in the Tropics, Proof and the Pacific Playwrights Festival workshop of Tough Titty.

JAMIE A. TUCKER* (Assistant Stage Manager) completed his MFA in Dance, specializing in Stage Management, at UC Irvine in 1994. Since coming to SCR, Mr. Tucker has stage managed or assisted on more than 38 shows in addition to seven seasons of La Posada Mágica. Some of his favorites have been the world premieres of Richard Greenberg's *Three* Days of Rain, The Violet Hour and The Dazzle; Rolin Jones' The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow; and Noah Haidle's Mr. Marmalade. Other favorites include Anna in the Tropics, A View from the Bridge and *Hamlet*. If you can't find him in the theatre, he is likely to be riding his bike down PCH. Mr. Tucker is a proud member of Actors' Equity.

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MARTIN BENSON (Director/Artistic Director), cofounder of SCR, has directed nearly one fourth of the plays produced here. In May 2008, he and David Emmes received the Margo Jones Award for their lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and to fostering the art and craft of American playwriting. He has distinguished himself in the staging of contemporary work, including William Nicholson's *The Retreat from Moscow*, the world premiere of Horton Foote's Getting Frankie Married — and Afterwards and the critically acclaimed California premiere of Nicholson's Shadowlands. He has won accolades for his direction of five major works by George Bernard Shaw, including the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle (LADCC) Award-winners Major Barbara, Misalliance and Heartbreak House. Among his numerous world premieres is Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize-winning Wit, which he also directed at Seattle Repertory Theatre and the Alley Theatre in Houston. He has directed American classics including Ab, Wilderness!, A Streetcar Named Desire, A Delicate Balance and A View from the Bridge. Mr. Benson has received the LADCC Distinguished Achievement in Directing awards an unparalleled seven times for the three Shaw productions, John Millington Synge's Playboy of the Western World, Arthur Miller's The Crucible, Sally Nemeth's Holy Days and Wit. He also directed the film version of Holy Days using the original SCR cast. Along with Emmes, he accepted SCR's 1988 Tony Award for Outstanding Resident Professional Theatre and won the 1995 Theatre LA Ovation Award for Lifetime Achievement. Mr. Benson received his BA in Theatre from San Francisco State University.

Paula Tomei (*Managing Director*) is responsible for the overall administration of South Coast Repertory and has been Managing Director since 1994. A member of the SCR staff since 1979, she has served in a number of administrative capacities including Subscriptions Manager, Business Manager and General Manager. She served on the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for theatre, from 1998-2006, and was its President for four years. She has also served as Treasurer of TCG, Vice President of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and has been a member of the LORT Negotiating Committee for

industry-wide union agreements. In addition, she represents SCR at national conferences of TCG and LORT, is a theatre panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the California Arts Council, and site visitor for the NEA; served on the Advisory Committee for the Arts Administration Certificate Program at UC Irvine; and has been a guest lecturer in the graduate school of business at Stanford and UC Irvine. She is on the board of Arts Orange County, the county wide arts council, and she recently joined the board of the Nicholas Endowment. Ms. Tomei graduated from UC Irvine with a degree in Economics and pursued an additional course of study in theatre and dance. She also teaches a graduate class in nonprofit management at UC Irvine.

South Coast Repertory, founded in 1964 and continuing today under the leadership of Artistic Directors David Emmes and Martin Benson, is widely regarded as one of America's foremost producers of new plays. In its three-stage Folino Theatre Center in Costa Mesa, California, SCR produces a five-play season on its Segerstrom Stage, a four-play season on its Argyros Stage, plus an annual holiday production. SCR also offers a three-play Theatre for Young Audiences series, and year-round programs in education and outreach. SCR's extensive new play development program consists of commissions, residencies, readings, and workshops, from which up to five world premieres are produced each season. Among the plays commissioned and introduced at SCR are Donald Margulies' Sight Unseen and Brooklyn Boy; Richard Greenberg's Three Days of Rain, Everett Beekin and The Violet Hour; David Henry Hwang's Golden Child, Jose Rivera's References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot, Lynn Nottage's Intimate Apparel, Craig Lucas' Prelude to a Kiss, Amy Freed's The Beard of Avon, Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize-winning Wit and David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning Rabbit Hole. Most of these plays were developed through its Pacific Playwrights Festival, an annual workshop and reading showcase for up to eight new plays. Over forty percent of the plays SCR has produced have been world, American or West Coast premieres. In 1988, SCR received the Regional Theatre Tony Award for Distinguished Achievement, particularly in the area of new play development.



The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States



The Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Designers in LORT theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829, IATSE.



The Director is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.