



45th Season • 436th Production  
SEGERSTROM STAGE / MAY 15 - JUNE 14, 2009

# South Coast Repertory

David Emmes  
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Martin Benson  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

## COLLECTED STORIES

BY Donald Margulies

Thomas Buderwitz  
SCENIC DESIGN

Angela Balogh Calin  
COSTUME DESIGN

Tom and Donna Ruzika  
LIGHTING DESIGN

Mark Johnson  
SOUND DESIGN

Joshua Marchesi  
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Jamie A. Tucker\*  
STAGE MANAGER

DIRECTED BY

Martin Benson

Valerie and Geoffrey Fearn

HONORARY PRODUCERS

**Commissioned and first produced by South Coast Repertory**

Originally produced in New York by the Manhattan Theatre Club with funds provided by the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust on April 30, 1997.

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*Collected Stories* is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., in New York.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ruth ..... *Kandis Chappell\**  
Lisa ..... *Melanie Lora\**

## SETTING

*Ruth's apartment in Greenwich Village. 1990 to 1996.*

## SCENES

### ACT ONE

*Scene 1: September 1990*

*Scene 2: May 1991*

*Scene 3: August 1992*

### ACT TWO

*Scene 1: December 1994*

*Scene 2: October 1996*

*Scene 3: Later that Night*

## LENGTH

*Approximately two hours with one intermission.*

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Dramaturg ..... *Kelly L. Miller*  
Casting ..... *Joanne DeNaut*  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... *Chrissy Church\**  
Music Consultant ..... *Joshua Marchesi*  
Stage Management Intern ..... *Kaitlin Carroll*  
Dresser ..... *Maya Niwa*  
Light Board Operator ..... *Lois Bryan*  
Additional Costume Staff ..... *Catherine Esera*

*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.



*Segerstrom Stage Season Media Partner*

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# On Writing and Writers

“A well-written life is almost as rare as a well-spent one.”

– Thomas Carlyle

“Writing is the only thing that, when I do it, I don’t feel I should be doing something else.”

– Gloria Steinem

“No tears in the writer, no tears in the reader. No surprise for the writer, no surprise for the reader.”

– Robert Frost

“Everywhere I go, I’m asked if I think the universities stifle writers. My opinion is that they don’t stifle enough of them. There’s many a best seller that could have been prevented by a good teacher.”

– Flannery O’Connor

“Nine-tenths of the best poetry of the world has been written by poets less than thirty years old; a great deal more than half of it has been written by poets under twenty-five.”

– H.L. Mencken

“If a writer has to rob his mother he will not hesitate; the ‘Ode On a Grecian Urn’ is worth any number of old ladies.”

– William Faulkner

“Influence is simply a transference of personality, a mode of giving away what is most precious to one’s self, and its exercise produces a sense and, it may be, a reality of loss. Every disciple takes away something from his master.”

– Oscar Wilde

*The years pass and the years pass  
& still I see only as in a glass  
Darkly and vaguely –  
Waiting, in “grinding misery”  
For the fountain of poetry  
To flow and overflow once again.*

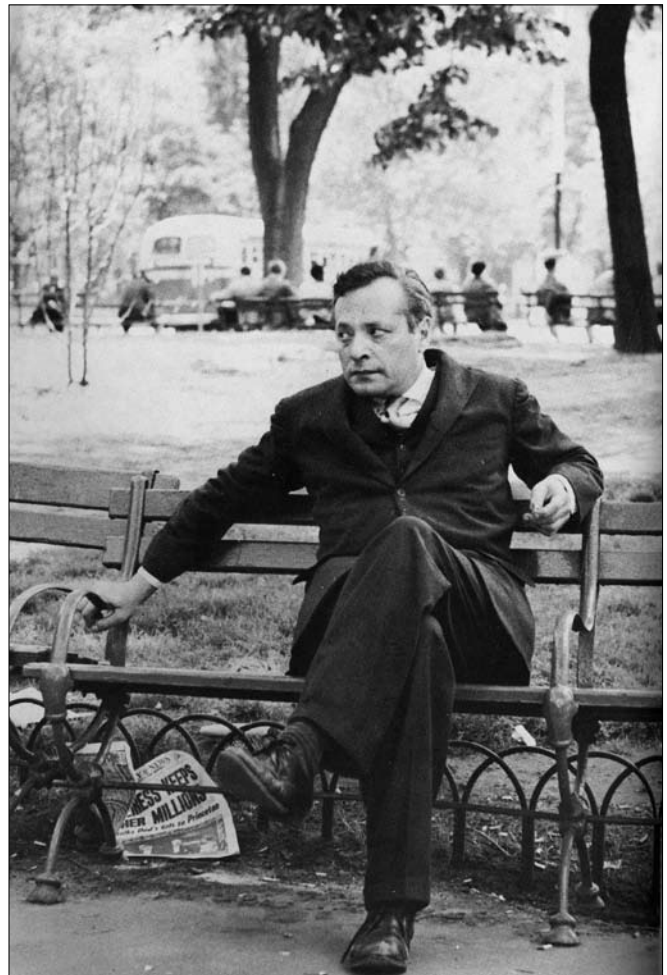
– Delmore Schwartz

**Delmore Schwartz** (1913-1966), the celebrated poet, editor and critic, was a significant presence in New York’s literary world — and, in *Collected Stories*, a profound influence on the life of Ruth Steiner.

The son of Eastern European immigrants, Schwartz wrote his first book, *In Dreams Begin Responsibilities*, over a summer weekend when he was 21 years old. His reputation as a major poet was established immediately.

Over the next two decades, Schwartz complemented his writing with a variety of prestigious positions in the arts and letters: he taught composition at Harvard, lectured on poetry at Princeton and other universities, edited the *Partisan Review* and served as poetry editor and film critic for *The New Republic*. He received numerous awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship and the 1959 Bollingen Prize in Poetry, becoming the youngest person (at age 46) ever to do so. By the time Schwartz was given this honor, however, he was rapidly deteriorating. Years of heavy drinking, together with barbiturate and amphetamine abuse and a history of severe depression and paranoia, had taken their toll.

On July 11, 1966, Schwartz died of a heart attack at age 52; on July 14, *The New York Times* ran a long obituary, reporting that the poet’s body still lay unclaimed at the Bellevue Morgue.



The last photo taken of Delmore Schwartz.

# Artist Biographies



**KANDIS CHAPPELL\***

*Ruth*

created the role of Ruth in the World Premiere production of *Collected Stories* at SCR. She has appeared in many productions here, most recently *Noises Off* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She received Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards for her work in *The Crucible*, *Woman in Mind*, *Shadowlands* and *Collected Stories*. Ms. Chappell is an Associate Artist of The Old Globe in San Diego where her credits include more than 25 productions. She has appeared on Broadway in Neil Simon's *Rumors* and *Getting Away With Murder* by Stephen Sondheim and George Furth, at Lincoln Center Theater in Tina Howe's *Pride's Crossing* and at theatres across the country.



**MELANIE LORA\***

*Lisa*

returns to SCR after appearing in the Theatre for Young Audience's production of *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*. Theatre credits include *Taking Steps* at Odyssey Theatre Ensemble; *American Tales*, *The Rover* and *Zastrozzi* with The Antaeus Company; *The Count of Monte Cristo* at Edgemar Theatre; *Many Happy Returns* at Laguna Playhouse; *Dead End* at the Ahmanson Theatre; *Arms and the Man* at Avo Playhouse; *Embedded*, *Orlando*, *Moscow* and *The Seagull* at The Actors' Gang; *Freshwater* at the Getty Villa; *Red Light*, *Green Light* at the Evidence Room; and *Dreamplay* with BoTh theatre Company. Film and television credits include "Threshold," *The Appearance of Things*, *Noise*, *The United States of Leland*, "The Eleventh Hour," "The Money \$hot," *Self Storage*, *Call Me: The Rise and Fall of Heidi Fleiss*, *The Westmores*, "Castle", "Bionic Woman," "Numb3rs" and "Gilmore Girls." She is a member of Pacific Stages and The Antaeus Academy Company.

## PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR AND DESIGNERS

**DONALD MARGULIES** (*Playwright*) is the author of three previous plays that, like *Collected Stories* (Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award winner, 1996), were commissioned and premiered by SCR: the OBIE Award-winning *Sight Unseen* (1991), *Brooklyn Boy* (2004) and *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment* (2007). Both *Collected Stories* and *Sight Unseen* were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. *Dinner with Friends*, which originated at Actors Theatre of Louisville, went on after its West Coast premiere at SCR to win numerous awards, including the 2000 Pulitzer Prize, long runs Off-Broadway and in Paris, and productions all over the United States and around the world. *God of Vengeance*, adapted from the classic Yiddish drama by Sholem Asch, was presented at PPF in 1999 and produced at ACT Theatre in Seattle and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. His other plays include *The Model Apartment* (OBIE Award), *The Loman Family Picnic*, *Found a Peanut* and *Luna Park*. *What's Wrong With This Picture?* was produced on Broadway in 1994; *Sight Unseen* and *Brooklyn Boy* received their Broadway premieres in 2004 and 2005, respectively, at Manhattan Theatre Club's Biltmore Theatre. His latest play, *Time Stands Still*, which just had its world premiere at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles, will have its New York premiere this fall at Manhattan Theatre Club's Stage I. The recipient of the 2000 Sidney Kingsley Award for outstanding achievement in the theatre by a playwright, Margulies was honored in 2005 by the American Academy of Arts and Letters with an Award in Literature. He is a member of the council of the Dramatists Guild of America and teaches playwriting at Yale University.

**MARTIN BENSON** (*Director/Artistic Director*), co-founder 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.

**THOMAS BUDERWITZ** (*Scenic Design*) previously designed *The Heiress*, *Doubt, a parable*, *Pig Farm*, *Bach at Leipzig*, *Proof*, *A Delicate Balance*, *A Christmas Carol, But Not for Me*, the 2007 Gala "Affair in Shanghai" and the 2008 Gala "A Midsummer Night's Dream" for SCR. Regional design credits include *Joan Rivers: A Work In Progress By A Life In Progress* and *Under The Blue Sky* at Geffen Playhouse; *Mauritius*, *The Last Five Years*, *I Do, I Do!* and *Private Lives* at Pasadena Playhouse; *The Spin Cycle* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* at Rubicon Theatre Company; *Red Dog Howls* at El Portal Theater; *The Ice Breaker* and *Pursuit of Happiness* at Laguna Playhouse; *The Miracle Worker* and *Arms and the Man* at Denver Center Theatre Company; *Man of La Mancha* at Reprise Theatre Company; *Great Expectations* and *A Delicate Balance* at Arizona Theatre Company; *Titanic* at Civic Light Opera of South Bay; *Paradise Lost*, *Pera Palas*, *Light*, *Summertime* and *Romeo & Juliet* at Theatre @ Boston Court; *Measure For Measure*, *Hayfever*, *Bus Stop*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Tartuffe*, *The Triumph of Love*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *The Taming of the Shrew* at A Noise Within. Additional Theatres include: Riverside Theater (FL), PCPA Theaterfest, San Diego Repertory, Portland Repertory, The Colony Theatre Company, International City Theatre, Court Theatre, Coast Playhouse, InterAct Theatre Company, Pacific Resident Theatre, West Coast Ensemble, McCoy-Rigby/La Mirada Theater, Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, Havok Theatre Company, Falcon Theatre, Apollo Theater (Chicago),

Queens Playhouse and the Helen Hayes Center in New York. Mr. Buderwitz has received three Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Awards (12 nominations) and three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards. His Television designs include FoxSports' "Sport Science" (2009 & 2008 Emmy nominations); AMC's "Sunday Morning Shootout"; National Geographic's "Fight Science"; "Mr. Show," "Def Comedy Jam," "HBO Comedy Hour" and "Sketch Pad" all for HBO; "Battlebots" for Comedy Central; and specials and series for ABC, NBC, CBS, PBS, MTV, ESPN, Fox, Disney, USA, UPN, VH1, PAX, A&E and Discovery. [www.tombuderwitz.com](http://www.tombuderwitz.com)

**ANGELA BALOGH CALIN** (*Costume Design*) designed this season's *Noises Off*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. Additional SCR credits include *Taking Steps*, *Culture Clash in America*, *Doubt, a parable*, *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, *Nothing Sacred*, *A View from the Bridge*, *The Real Thing*, *The Studio*, *Princess Marjorie* and *Mr. Marmalade*; set and costume design for *Dumb Show*, *The Retreat from Moscow*, *Terra Nova*, *The Carpetbagger's Children*, *Making It* and *The Lonesome West*; set design for *Play Strindberg*; and sets and costumes for SCR's Educational Touring Productions from 1998 to present. She is a resident designer at A Noise Within, where her costume designs include *Another Part of the Forest* (Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award and Garland Award), *Little Foxes* (Garland Award), *The Threepenny Opera* (Drama-Logue Award) and *Twelfth Night* (Drama-Logue Award). Ms. Calin has designed over 50 productions for local theatres and in her native Romania. Some of those productions are *The Miracle Worker* at Denver Center Theatre, *The Constant Wife* at Pasadena Playhouse, *The Ice-Breaker* at Laguna Playhouse, *The Cherry Orchard* at Georgia Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Hollywood Bowl, *Christmas on Mars* and *The Winter's Tale* at The Old Globe, *The Last of Mr. Lincoln* at El Portal Theatre, *Dialogues* at Tiffany Theatre, *Blood Poetry (Drama-Logue Award)* for Theatre 40 and *Ancestral Voices* for the Falcon Theatre. She has worked extensively in film and television in the U.S. and Romania, having 16 design credits with I.R.S. Media, Cannon Films, PBS, Full Moon Entertainment and Romanian Films. She graduated with an MFA in set and costume design from the Academy of Arts in Bucharest.

**TOM AND DONNA RUZIKA** (*Lighting Design*) celebrate their 34th year of designing at SCR and 37 years of marriage. They have enjoyed collaborating on productions at the Hollywood Bowl and other regional theatres. Ms. Ruzika has designed at Utah Shakespearean Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Laguna

Playhouse, Fullerton Civic Light Opera, The Colony Theatre and Long Beach's International City Theatre. Her award-winning work has also been seen in Bogotá, Colombia; Barcelona, Spain; and most recently Cairo, Egypt. Mr. Ruzika has had the honor of lighting over 85 productions at SCR. His designs have been seen on Broadway, in national tours, at major regional theatres, and for many national and international dance and opera companies. His entertainment lighting can be seen at theme parks in six different countries and his architectural lighting can be seen in prestigious hotels, casinos, restaurants, retail centers and performing arts centers across the nation and in Europe and Asia. Mr. Ruzika has received numerous awards for his contributions to the art and craft of lighting design.

**MARK JOHNSON** (*Sound Design*) is in his third season with SCR and his first as Audio Engineer. He designed the Theatre for Young Audience's production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Gold in the Bones* for the Theatre Conservatory's Junior Players and *Peter Pan* for the Summer Players. He was Assistant Sound Designer for *You, Nero*. Other recent work includes *The Taming of the Shrew* at Shakespeare Festival LA (Sound Design); *Fences* at Pasadena Playhouse (Assistant Sound Design); *The Last 5 Years* at Pasadena Playhouse (A2); *Rock of Ages* at Vanguard/Ren Mar Studios (Assistant Sound Design/A2) now on Broadway; and *Souvenir* at Berkshire Theatre Company (A1), now on Broadway. Mr. Johnson also works regularly with the OC Pavilion and Diablo Sound including working at Universal Studios Halloween Horror Nights, Beverly Hills Holiday Install and more. He holds a BFA in Sound Design from California Institute of the Arts.

**JAMIE A. TUCKER\*** (*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 over 36 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.

**CHRISSEY CHURCH\*** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a proud member of Actors' Equity. Previous credits at SCR include this season's *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, 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*.

**DAVID EMMES** (*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, on the Executive Committee of the League of Resident Theatres, and 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.

**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 Di-

**VALERIE AND GEOFFREY FEARNs** (*Honorary Producers*) are underwriting their second production at South Coast Repertory. In 2006, they first were Honorary Producers with the American Premiere of Terry Johnson's *Hitchcock Blonde*. The Fearn's began their involvement at SCR as Silver Circle members in 1990, and since 2000 they have been Platinum Circle members. Valerie was elected to the SCR Board of Trustees in 2005 and is involved with various committees including Platinum Circle, Education and Outreach, and Gala. Together, Valerie and Geoff are First Nights subscribers to both the Segerstrom and Argyros Stages and Gala Ball underwriters. SCR is very grateful for their dedication and support of the theatre.

rectors 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 two annual holiday productions. 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.

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