

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE

2013-2014 SEASON



HISTORIC ARCADE THEATRE • FORT MYERS RIVER DISTRICT
ROBERT CACIOPPO, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

Heart Song

BY **STEPHEN SACHS**

SPONSORED BY
BERNESE DAVIS and GE FOUNDATION

STARRING
MICHELLE DAMATO*† • PATRICIA IDLETTE*† • CARRIE LUND*† • JO YANG*
WITH
STEPHANIE DAVIS • BETH HAELY • JONITA MARTIN • KATHLEEN MOYE
AND FEATURING
CAROLINA ESPARZA

DIRECTED BY
ROBERT CACIOPPO†**

CHOREOGRAPHER
CAROLINA ESPARZA

CO-CHOREOGRAPHER
CINDY-LEE OVERTON

SET DESIGNER
ROBERT F. WOLIN****

LIGHTING DESIGNER
MATTHEW MCCARTHY****

COSTUME DESIGNER
ROBERTA MALCOLM†

SOUND DESIGNER
TIM COBB

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
AUDREY M. BROWN*

ASST. STAGE MANAGERS
**JESSICA A. SHORT
NICK TO**

*The World Premiere of HEART SONG was produced at The Fountain Theatre, Los Angeles
Deborah Lawlor and Stephen Sachs, Artistic Directors*

2013-14 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS



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CAST

Rochelle.....	CARRIE LUND**
Tina.....	JO YANG*
Daloris.....	PATRICIA IDLETTE**
Katarina de la Fuente.....	MICHELLE DAMATO**
Women of the Circle.....	STEPHANIE DAVIS CAROLINA ESPARZA BETH HAELY JONITA MARTIN KATHLEEN MOYE
Swing.....	CINDY-LEE OVERTON

TIME & PLACE

Various Locations in New York City; Rochelle's Apartment, Katarina's Dance Studio, a Bus Stop, and Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing, Queens.
September. The Present.

Heart Song will be performed with one 15-minute intermission.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



STEPHEN SACHS is the Co-Artistic Director of The Fountain Theatre in Los Angeles, which he co-founded in 1990. Sachs is a multiple award-winning director and playwright. The author of eleven produced plays, recent hits include *Heart Song* (Fountain Theatre and Florida Rep), *Cyrano* (LADCC Award, Best Play) and *Bakersfield Mist*, winner of the 2012 Elliot Norton Award for Best New Play, published by Smith & Kraus in "Best Plays of 2012," and now opening on the West End in London starring Kathleen Turner and Ian McDiarmid. His other plays are *Miss Julie: Freedom Summer* (LADCC and LA Weekly Award nominations), *Gilgamesh* (Theatre@Boston Court), *Open Window* (Pasadena Playhouse, Media Access Award), *Central Avenue* (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist), *Sweet Nothing*

in my Ear (PEN USA Literary Award Finalist, Media Access Award), *Mother's Day*, *The Golden Gate* (Best Play Award, Dramalogue), and *The Baron in the Trees*. He wrote the teleplay for *Sweet Nothing in My Ear* for Hallmark Hall of Fame which aired on CBS starring Marlee Matlin and Jeff Daniels. Sachs has been honored with numerous awards as director. He recently directed the hit Los Angeles Premiere of *My Name Is Asher Lev* (Critic's Choice, LA Times). For LA Theatre Works, Sachs directed *Completeness* by Itamar Moses, starring Jason Ritter; Warren Leight's *Side Man* starring Christine Lahti and Tony-winner Frank Wood; and a 3-city tour in China directing *Top Secret*. At the Fountain: *Bakersfield Mist* (World Premiere), US Premiere of *The Blue Iris* by Athol Fugard, US Premiere of Fugard's *The Train Driver* (Best Director, LA Weekly Award nomination), the LA Premiere of Conor McPherson's *Shining City* ("Best of 2009," LA Times; Best Production, LA Weekly Award) and the West Coast Premiere of Athol Fugard's *Coming Home* (Best Director, LA Weekly Award), the U.S. Premiere of Athol Fugard's *Victory* ("Best of 2008" LA Times, NAACP Award for Best Director); the world premiere of *Miss Julie: Freedom Summer* at the Fountain and Canadian Stage Company in Toronto and the Vancouver Playhouse; the world premiere of Fugard's *Exits and Entrances* at the Fountain (3 Ovation Awards including Best Director, 5 LA Drama Critics Circle Awards including Best Director) and Off-Broadway at Primary Stages in New York (NY Outer Critics Circle nomination Best New Play), and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland, the LA premiere of Fugard's *The Road to Mecca*, Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* (4 Ovation Awards including Best Director), *Sweet Nothing in my Ear* (Fountain Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre in Chicago, Mixed Blood Theatre in Minneapolis), the LA premiere of Steven Dietz's *Lonely Planet*, *The Seagull*, *The Boys in the Band*, Euripides' *Hippolytos* at the Getty Villa in Malibu, and many others. Sachs has twice been nominated for the SDC Zelda Fichandler Award, recognizing an outstanding director who is making a unique and exceptional contribution to theatre in their region.

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MICHELLE DAMATO**
(*Katarina de la Fuente*)

is returning for her ninth show with Florida Rep. Audiences will remember her from her roles in *Miracle on South Division Street*, which she won Best Featured Actress in a Play from BroadwayWorld.com Fort Myers/Naples, as well as *Bedroom Farce*, *Rumors*, *Sylvia*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Almost, Maine*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She is a graduate of Circle in the Square Theatre School in NYC and came to Florida by way of Louisville, KY, where she was a company member with Stage One for four years. Some of her favorite roles include *Oliver Twist* off-Broadway at the Promenade Theatre and the voice of Shawna in MTV's *Daria: Is It College Yet?* As a voice-over artist, Michelle has done over fifty commercials and audio books. She was a founding member of the Circle Players and the Daughters of Monty, both New York City based improv companies. Michelle is a proud member of Actors' Equity.



PATRICIA IDLETTE**
(*Daloris*)

is proud to be a member of Florida Rep's Ensemble of Theatre Artists. Ms. Idlette appeared in last season's *The Little Foxes* and made her Florida Rep debut in *Doubt*. Patricia began her career at the prestigious Stratford Festival Canada (Phoebe in *As You Like It* with Dame Maggie Smith; *Medea* in *Medea*) and has performed in regional theatres throughout the United States and Canada. Patricia was recently seen on stage playing ten different characters in Theatre Conspiracy's production of *Shipwrecked!*. Another favorite role is Texas politician Barbara Jordan in *Voice of Good Hope* at the acclaimed BoarsHead Theatre. Patricia performed for two seasons with Vancouver's Bard on the Beach (Paulina in *The Winter's Tale*; Queen Margaret in *Richard the III*) and played Clemma in *Proposals* at the Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto. Patricia has also been active in film (*Scary Movie 3*, *Man in the Mirror*, *Air Bud: World Pup*, *She's the Man*) and television including two seasons of *Dead Like Me* and recurring roles in *Battlestar Galactica* and *Psych*. She's also an experienced voice-over artist in radio and animation (Yvon of the Yukon). Ms.

Idlette is currently a passionate member of the Theatre Conspiracy Playwright's group.



CARRIE LUND**
(*Rochelle*)

has been a company member and the Associate Producer of Florida Rep since its inception in 1998 and has acted in over 90 productions in Southwest Florida. In 2012, she was named Best Actress of the Year and named one of the "Power Women of the Year" by *Florida Weekly*. She produced and acted on Sanibel Island from 1984-1998 at the Pirate Playhouse and on Captiva Island with Carrie Lund Presents. She taught theatre at Florida Gulf Coast University in its early years, produced theatre companies in her hometown of Erie, PA and New York City and performed in regional theatres in NY, VT and NC, as well as the Three River Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh Playhouse and American Ibsen Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA. In 1987, the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce awarded her the Distinguished Citizen Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997. Carrie has been in all six Florida Rep shows reviewed by the *Wall Street Journal*; *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *The Little Foxes*, *God of Carnage*, *Sylvia*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. Other selected credits include Florida Rep's *Rumors* (2002, 2011), *August: Osage County*, *Noises Off* (1998, 2010), *Boeing-Boeing*, *The Last Romance*, *Enchanted April*, *Rabbit Hole*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *All My Sons*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and *Private Lives*. Her work as a voiceover artist can be heard on NPR and industrial DVDs. Married to Robert Cacioppo, they both enjoy the accomplishments of their best productions: Matt, graduate of UCF and Julia, graduate of FSU.



JO YANG* (Tina)

Heart Song marks Jo's first appearance with Florida Rep, and she is delighted to be sharing the stage with the all-women cast. She hails from New York City where she has been seen in *Comfort Women* (Urban Stages), *Joy Luck Club* (Pan Asian Repertory Theatre), and in *Hunger* as part of the Emerging Writers' Group at The Public Theater, amongst other productions.

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Selected regional work includes *M. Butterfly* (Seattle Repertory Theatre), *Love Suicide* at Schofield Barracks (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), *Foreign Exchange* (Playwrights Theatre of NJ), *Orestes* (The Mark Taper Forum Lab), and *The Boys Next Door* (Seattle Group Theatre). Jo's film credits include *Alfie*, *Virginia*, *The Namesake*, and *Brooklyn Lobster*. She has appeared on television in *Girls*, *Law & Order*, *Are We There Yet*, *NYC 22*, and the PBS Stage to Screen teleplay of *Far East*. She thanks the playwright and Florida Rep for introducing her to the world of Flamenco. Jo will forever have a heart song of this wonderful experience.



STEPHANIE DAVIS
(Woman of the Circle) is delighted to be returning, for the second time this season, to Florida Repertory Theatre where she performed in 25 productions from 1999 to

2006 and also served as Associate Director when the company was founded. Some of her favorite roles at Florida Rep include the Woman in *Veronica's Room*, Christine in *The Bad Seed*, Bella in *Lost in Yonkers*, Beth in *Dinner with Friends*, Reba in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, Faye in *The Sugar Bean Sisters*, and Patsy in *Side Man*. Stephanie has also performed with Theatre Conspiracy, The Broadway Palm and Laboratory Theater. Other roles performed locally include Maggie in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Li'l Bit in *How I Learned to Drive*, and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. Stephanie lives in downtown Fort Myers where she has been happily married to her husband, Todd, for seven years. Known to many as The Downtown Diva, she pens a column for Florida Weekly called "The Diva Diaries." Stephanie thanks producers Bob and Carrie Cacioppo for the opportunity to get back on her favorite stage.



CAROLINA ESPARZA
(Woman of the Circle/Choreographer) is a known Flamenco and Classical Spanish Performer/Choreographer/Instructor/Director in the State of Florida.

Her professional career started at the age of 15 with intense studies and performances at the Tampa Theatre, Performing Arts Center, and the Columbia Restaurant under Gisela Sotomayor

and Oscar Trevino while she also studied abroad in her mother's hometown in Seville, Spain. In 2005, Carolina began performing with several companies throughout Florida where her performances gained a reputation by Flamenco aficionados and artists as having "ethereal dancing" with "percussion-like footwork" and "intense presence and duende." During these years, she was featured in a Tampa Rays vs. NY Yankees Baseball opening show at Tropicana Fields, the UT Food and Wine Festival, the Governor's event in Tallahassee, the International show at Epcot Orlando, an ABC News feature of her Flamenco career from childhood to present, Tampa Bay Food & Wine Festival, the Help a Child Gala 2008, Make a Wish Foundation Gala, and was cast in a 20th Century Fox production pilot. In 2006, she joined Duende Ballet Espanol, a Flamenco company founded and directed by Rosa Mercedes based out of Miami. Carolina was selected to join for the participation of a few projects including the Flamenco number at *Premio Lo Nuestro* in 2005, alongside David Bisbal, which aired internationally around the world at the Univision Award stage and the special Fusion Flamenco/Japanese show *Kaminarimon* with eight musicians, which was a collaboration with composer Fredrick Kaufman at the FIU theatre. In 2008 Carolina founded Candela Flamenco Dance Company with professionally trained dancers in the hopes that people would appreciate the beauty, variety, and traditional art form of Flamenco through booked shows, workshops, and choreographies. Acclaimed choreographies include Sarasota Opera's *Carmen* (2012), freeFall's musical *Bernarda Alba* (2013), Stageworks' play *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* (2013), and in 2013, Theatre Tampa nominated Carolina twice for best choreography in a play or musical and received the award for Outstanding Choreography. www.carolinalacandela.com.



BETH HAELY*(Woman of the Circle)* is ecstatic to be making her ecstatic to be making her debut on the Florida Repertory stage. Beth is originally from Cleveland, OH and attended Kent State

University, then moved to Captiva in 1987. That year she saw Carrie Cacioppo perform in *The Nerd* on Sanibel and has been a big fan of the Cacioppo's work and Florida Rep ever since. Beth has spent the majority of her time in the theatre

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backstage and chaperoning young Thespians. Her son, Tommy is a Corporal in the Marine Corps and her daughter graduated from The American University in Washington, DC with her Theatre Degree. Learning Flamenco has been an amazing experience for Beth. Beth danced ballet and jazz growing up and was on the All American Drill Team/Dance Line performing in Disney World and the Hula Bowl in Hawaii. She was also one of Reno Sweeney's Dancers in Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*. While Beth will keep her day job in Community Relations at Emeritus at The Lakes Senior Living, she also helps her partner in life, Brian Johnson, with the family business, Fort Myers Scene Visitor's Guide.



JONITA MARTIN *(Woman of the Circle)*

has had an interest in both music and dance since her youth, from first chair viola in high school to modern dance at Randolph Macon Woman's

College. As part of a dance group called 'Brownie Delight with Whipped Cream on Top,' she performed for many children's programs. While living in Maryland, Jonita's dancing shifted to Ballroom, Lindy Hop and West Coast Swing. She is now an avid dancer in the Southwest Florida area. Jonita is a competitive dancer, competing in both Ballroom and West Coast Swing as well as performing in several showcases and dance teams at National conventions. Currently, Jonita is a student and teacher in training at 1st Danz Studio in Fort Myers. Jonita would like to thank Cindy-Lee Overton for the weeks of training in Flamenco dance and, especially, to Robert Cacioppo and Florida Rep for the opportunity to be a part of *Heart Song*.



KATHLEEN MOYE *(Woman of the Circle)*

holds a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre from Florida Gulf Coast University and hails as a former acting intern with Florida Rep. She is thrilled

by the opportunity to continue pursuing her artistic passions in the Fort Myers community. Audiences may remember her from previous local productions, including the Murder Mystery Dinner Train, the cast of *Miss Witherspoon* and Jackie O in *The House of Yes*. Special thanks to

her theatre family for their tremendous support and for providing such an amazing cast

AUDREY M. BROWN* (*Production Stage Manager*) happily returns to Florida Rep. She works extensively with People's Light & Theatre, Riverside Theatre, NC Shakespeare Festival, Festival Stage, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Charlotte Repertory Theatre and Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. She was the American Equity SM for the Royal Shakespeare Company for Davidson College residencies. She has also worked with The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC and Dallas Theatre Center. A member of AEA since 1991, Audrey lives in Charlotte with her golden retriever, Henry, and husband, Graham Smith.

TIM COBB (*Sound Designer*) is excited to return for his fifth season at Florida Repertory Theatre. His usual job at Florida Rep is Assistant Technical Director. Tim is always excited to branch out and work in different aspects of theatre production, having also worked in electrics and, once, in costume construction. He, hopefully, will never be allowed to do that again.

ROBERTA MALCOLM† (*Costume Designer*) is entering her tenth season in residence at Florida Rep and 36th year as a costumer. Roberta has had her hands on the costumes of over 250 productions across the U.S. as a designer, stitcher, crafts person, milliner, or dresser during her career. Thanks to her family (Sean, Ali, Becca, Jon, Bob, and Fawn) for the constant love and support and sincere gratitude to Robert Cacioppo, John Martin, and the Florida Rep board for their continuing commitment to quality in the SWFL arts community. It is an honor and privilege to "play in your closet."

MATTHEW MCCARTHY**** (*Lighting Designer*) Previous productions at Florida Rep include *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, *Social Security*, *The Fantasticks*, *Talley's Folly*, *Sylvia*, *Born Yesterday*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, and *Opus*. Other design credits include Blue Man Group in New York, Boston and Chicago; *Lost in Yonkers*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *Broadway Bound* at The Old Globe; *Engaging Shaw*, *Rum & Coke*, *Texas Homos*, and many other plays for Abingdon Theatre Co.; over 60 musicals for Stages St. Louis; New Harmony Theatre Co.; and *Collected Stories* starring Lynn Redgrave for Contemporary Stage Co. Opera credits include Arizona Opera, Connecticut

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Opera, Curtis Institute of Music, Juilliard Opera Co., Houston Grand Opera, and Tanglewood Opera. Member United Scenic Artists Local 829. www.mccarthylighting.com



CINDY-LEE OVERTON

(Co-Choreographer/Swing) is the owner and senior teacher of 1st Danz - a dance studio/club located in Fort Myers. 1st Danz offers classes in Ballroom, Swing and all the Latin

dances. The studio specializes in West Coast Swing, Hustle and Argentine Tango. She is a National Dance competitor and judge in the West Coast Swing, Hustle and Salsa. Please visit the 1st Danz web site for class details: www.1stdanz.com. In addition to her dance background, Cindy-Lee has an extensive theatrical and cabaret performance history. She spent twenty years in NYC as a Singer/Dancer/Actor. She has two CDs, has been nominated for the NYC MAC awards for vocal performance and Cabaret star for Swinging on a Star. Cindy-Lee was a resident member of the Light Opera of Manhattan, created the role of Mama in the Vivian Beamont Lincoln Center production of Friends and Relations, and studied voice at the prestigious Juilliard School of Music with Claire Alexander. Locally, Cindy-Lee has performed at many clubs in SWFL such as Ellington's Jazz Club & Dolce Vita along with theatrical performances with the J Howard Wood Theatre. She is thrilled to be involved with Heart Song and thanks Robert Cacioppo and Florida Rep for this opportunity.

JESSICA A. SHORT (Assistant Stage Manager)

is thrilled to be spending her first season at Florida Rep. Jessica lives in Richmond, VA, and she graduated in May from James Madison University with a B.A. in Theatre. Some of her favorite JMU stage management credits include *subUrbia*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Sylvia*. Jessica recently spent the summer working for Weston Playhouse Theatre Company in Vermont where she served as an intern and assistant stage manager for world premiere workshop productions of *Loving Leo* and *This Blessed Plot* among other productions while stage managing the Act IV Cabaret.

NICK TO (Assistant Stage Manager)

is delighted to be making his backstage debut this season at Florida Rep. Originally from Hong Kong, he graduated last June from Kalamazoo College in Michigan with a B.A. in Theatre. Nick was drawn to stage management when he realized it could bring him the closest to achieving his childhood dream of obtaining the superpower of invisibility.

What keeps him in thespianism is the promise of working with the passionate and dynamic company that is Florida Rep. Nick sincerely hopes you thoroughly enjoy the performance and never notice stage management.

ROBERT F. WOLIN** (Set Designer)**

Regional: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Educating Rita*, *God of Carnage*, *King o' the Moon*, *Dial M for Murder*, *Middle Ages*, *Sugar Bean Sisters*, *Boys Next Door*, *Absurd Person Singular* (Florida Rep); *Master Class*, *Importance of Being Earnest*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Handle with Care*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Honour*, *A Doll's House* (Gulfshore Playhouse); *Comedy of Errors*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cymbeline* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Anything Goes*, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Dames at Sea*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Amadeus*, and several others (Porthouse Theatre); *A Number*, *Art*, *Three Days of Rain*, and several others (Northern Stage). Off Broadway: *An Evening with Quentin Crisp*, *Fraulein Else*, *Queen of Hearts*, *Shivaree*, and several productions for *The Glines*. Assistant Designer on Broadway: *Young Frankenstein*, *The Producers*, *Flower Drum Song*, *Never Gonna Dance with Robin Wagner*, *Liza's at the Palace* with Ray Klausen. Other design work: Six productions for the Florida State University School of Theatre which included *The Drowsy Chaperone*, ... *Spelling Bee*, *Bus Stop*, *The Miser*, *Fat Pig*, and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*...; live-action shows for Hershey Park 2006 and many events as a freelance art director for MTV Networks Special Events. www.RFWolin.com



Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

was founded in 1913 as the first of the American Actor unions. Equity's mission is to advance, promote and foster the art of theatre as an essential component of our society. Today, Equity represents more than 40,000 actors, singers, dancers and stage managers working in hundreds of theatres across the United States. Equity members are dedicated to working in the theatre as a profession, upholding the highest artistic standards. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits including health and pension plans for its members. Through its agreement with Equity, this theatre has committed to the fair treatment of the actors and stage managers employed in this production. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. For more information, visit www.actorsequity.org.



The director is a member of the **Stage Directors and Choreographers Society**, a national theatrical labor union.