

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE

2014-2015 SEASON



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

PRESENTS

MURDER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON'S

BY **RON CLARK & SAM BOBRICK**

SPONSORED BY
ED & ELLIE FOX

STARRING
KIM OSTRENKO* • BRENDAN POWERS† • GRAHAM SMITH***

DIRECTED BY
ROBERT CACIOPPO***

SET DESIGNER
JIM HUNTER****

LIGHTING DESIGNER
KATE SMITH

COSTUME DESIGNER
ROBERTA MALCOLM†

SOUND DESIGNER
JOHN KISELICA

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
AUDREY M. BROWN*†

ASST. STAGE MANAGER
JOSHUA BROWN

MURDER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON'S is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

2014-15 GRAND SEASON SPONSORS



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This entire season sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Florida Repertory Theatre is a fully professional non-profit LOA/LORT Theatre company on contract with the Actors' Equity Association that proudly employs members of the national theatrical labor unions. *Member of Actors' Equity Association. **Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. ***Member of United Scenic Artists. †Member of Florida Repertory Theatre's Ensemble of Theatre Artists

CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Arlene Miller.....	KIM OSTRENKO*
Mitchell Lovell.....	BRENDAN POWERS*†
Paul Miller.....	GRAHAM SMITH*

TIME & PLACE

1979. A Howard Johnson's Motel.

ACT I, Scene 1: Christmas • ACT I, Scene 2: July 4th • ACT II: New Year's Eve

MURDER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON'S 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 PLAYWRIGHTS

RON CLARK has been writing comedy for over 60 years. Born in Montreal, Canada, he started writing songs and sketches while at McGill University. He then headed for New York City where he spent several years writing monologues for the likes of Jack Carter, Alan King, Henny Youngman as well as dozens of other stand-ups of the period. Television credits include *The Jackie Gleason Show*, *The Danny Kaye Show*, *The Steve Allen Show*, *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour*, *Kraft Music Hall*, *The Tim Conway Comedy Hour*, *The Van Dyke Show*, *Moonlighting*, *E/R*, and *Hot L Baltimore*. He also created *The Paul Lynde Show*, *Ace Crawford*, *Private Eye*, and *Diana for Diana Rigg*. Broadway play credits include *Norman Is That You?*, *Murder At The Howard Johnson's*, *No Hard Feelings*, and *Wally's Cafe*. Ron conceived and staged the very first Jackie Mason one-man show, *The World According to Me*. Other plays, all of which are published by Samuel French, include *A Bench in the Sun*, *The Incomparable Lulu*, *Pierre and Marie*, and *4 Beekman*. He has recently adapted a French play, *Two Women, Two Roads*. Film credits include *High Anxiety* and *Silent Movie* for Mel Brooks, *Revenge of the Pink Panther* for Peter Sellers, *The Funny Farm*, which he also directed, *Norman, Is That You?*, *The Visitors*, and *Bloomies*. The Clark family consists of two daughters who are novelists and two grandsons who are just plain fun.

SAM BOBRICK has written and co-written over forty plays, most of them performed throughout the world, which include: *Norman, Is That You?*, *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*, *Weekend Comedy*, *Remember Me?*, *Death in England*, *Passengers*, *Are You Sure?*, *Baggage*, *Getting Sara Married*, *The Spider or the Fly*, and—without William Shakespeare's blessing—*Hamlet II (Better Than The Original)*. Twenty-one of his plays have been published by Samuel French. In 2011, Mr. Bobrick won the Mystery Writers of America "Edgar" Award for his play, *The Psychic*. Some of his television credits include *The Andy Griffith Show*, *Get Smart*, *The Smothers Brothers Show*, *Bewitched*, and numerous musical variety shows. Mr. Bobrick also created the teenage hit series *Saved by The Bell*. Also a songwriter, his work has been recorded by Elvis Presley, Brian Ferry, and Los Lobos. Mr. Bobrick is a member of the Dramatists Guild, as well as the Writers Guild of America. A native of Chicago, he graduated from the University of Illinois. He is married to writer Julie Stein, with whom he has co-written several plays. They live in Southern California where Mr. Bobrick continues to write. For more information go to www.sambobrick.com.

†Member of Florida Repertory Theatre's *Ensemble of Theatre Artists*.
See page 21 for the entire ensemble.



The Designers at this Theatre
are Represented by
United Scenic Artists • Local USA 829
of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees



**
The Director is a member of the
STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS
SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.



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

**MURDER AT THE
HOWARD
JOHNSON'S**

CREATIVE TEAM



KIM OSTRENKO*

(Arlene Miller) is a native Miamian and has been a proud member of Actor's Equity and Screen Actors Guild for several decades. She is thrilled to be back at Florida Rep, where she

was last seen in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* and *You Can't Take it with You*. Kim's credits include *August: Osage County* and *Bonnie & Clyde*, both at FAU Summer Rep, *The Last Schwartz* (Parade Productions), *Becky's New Car*, *The Boy From Russia*, *Picasso At The Lapin Agile*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Actor's Playhouse), *God of Carnage*, *Distracted*, *Lying in State*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, and *Don't Dress for Dinner* (Caldwell Theatre), *Gulf of Westchester* and *Fish or Cut Bait*. (Florida Stage), *A Round Heeled Woman* (Gablestage, starring Sharon Gless), *Sylvia* (Florida Studio Theatre), *Well* (PlayMakers Rep in Chapel Hill, NC), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (NCSF), and five seasons of Summer Shorts Festival (City Theatre). Film: *Dolphin Tale* and *Dolphin Tale 2*, *A Change of Heart*, *Boynton Beach Club*, *Sex Drive*, *Bachelor Party 2*, *Loving The Bad Man*. TV: "Real Rob", "Graceland", "Magic City", "Burn Notice", "From The Earth To The Moon". Kim would like to thank her family and friends for their humor, love, and support.

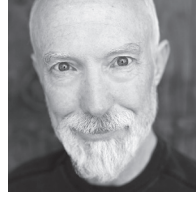


BRENDAN POWERS*

(Mitchell Lovell) is a proud Florida Rep ensemble member. His Florida Rep credits include *The Fantasticks*, *Doubt*, *Opus*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Dial M for*

Murder, and *Born Yesterday*. Other stage credits include the Tony Award-winning play, *Art*, and *The Big Knife*, both with Alec Baldwin, the Noel Coward revue, *Oh, Coward!* at Off-Broadway's Irish Repertory Theatre, *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Our Town*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and numerous others. TV work includes FBI Agent Rick Cranston on *Graceland* (USA Network), and David Weller in the upcoming Netflix original series, *Bloodline*, starring Sissy Spacek and Sam Shepard. He can also be seen driving the big blue Cadillac in a series of national commercials for Alabama Road Trips. His cartoon captions have been winners for various contests including *The New Yorker*, *Hartford Courant*, *Denver Post*,

Moment Magazine, and the *Greensboro News-Record*. He is married to actress Rachel Burttram. www.BrendanPowers.com



GRAHAM SMITH*

(Paul Miller) grew up jumping out of empty boxes in his father's family-vaudeilemagic show, which toured the US and Europe from

1961-1973. BA: Davidson College, MFA: The Hilberry Classic Theatre. He has appeared in nearly two hundred plays and eleven films. He worked for Charlotte Repertory from 1981-2002, spent fifteen seasons with the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, and is presently a company member with People's Light and Theatre in Philadelphia (since 1998). He also works regularly at other theatres, including Riverside Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, North Carolina Stage Company, Festival Stage, Cape Fear Regional Theatre, and Children's Theatre of Charlotte. Notable roles include three Lears, three Cascas, two Jacques, Malvolio, Toby and Aguecheek, Master Ford, Autolyucus, Stephano, Gonzalo, Puck, Oberon (2), and Peter Quince (2) in forty-two productions of Shakespeare. Other favorites include Harpagon (2), Argan, Alceste, Roy Cohn in *Angels in America*, Thomas More in *A Man for All Seasons*, Tobias in *A Delicate Balance*, Don Quixote in *The Return of Don Quixote*, Salter in *A Number*, Rance in *What the Butler Saw*, Rothko in *Red*, Louis in *Shipwrecked* (2), Author/Buks in *Valley Song* (2), Owen in *The Foreigner* (6), and *Bob Cratchit* (15). He spent the past year working on a collaboration between National Theatre of Scotland and People's Light. At Florida Rep, he played Henry Ford in *Camping With Henry and Tom*, Joseph in *My Three Angels*, and Vanya in *Vanya and Masha and Sonia and Spike*. Happy to be back at Florida Rep, he lives in Charlotte, NC with his wife, Audrey Brown, and Golden, Henry.

AUDREY M. BROWN*† (Production Stage Manager)

is happily returning to Florida Rep as an ensemble member. 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

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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

JOSHUA BROWN (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Stage Management Intern at Florida Rep this season. He has recently graduated from Kent State University with a Bachelor's Degree of Fine Arts in Theatre Technology and Design. While there, he worked on shows such as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Plain and Fancy*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Over the summer, he worked at Porthouse Theatre, a professional, Equity summer stock company in Ohio, where he helped with shows such as *My Fair Lady*, *Starmites*, and *Oliver!* He is originally from Ohio and is having a wonderful time working for Florida Rep!

JIM HUNTER** (Set Designer)** is designing his 14th show with Florida Rep since 2000, including *August: Osage County*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Amy's View*, and *Noises Off*. Folger Theatre: *Julius Caesar*, *Richard III*. Phoenix Theatre: *Man of La Mancha*, *The Full Monty*, *Applause*, *Tintypes*; Charlotte Repertory Theatre: *Jar the Floor*, *Other People's Money*; Theatre Virginia: *Lost in Yonkers*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *The Sunshine Boys*; Arizona Broadway Theatre: *The King and I*. Florida Stage: *Goldie, Max, and Milk*, *Some Kind of Wonderful*; Arkansas Repertory Theatre: *Talley's Folly*, *Foxfire*; Orlando Shakespeare: *The 39 Steps*; Florida Studio Theatre: *Spamalot*; The Lost Colony: *The Lost Colony*; Drury Lane (Chicago): *La Cage Aux Folles*; Tours: Clear Channel: *Veggie Tales Live* (National) and Wall Street Danceworks. AriZoni Awards in Scene Design for *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Picnic*. Jim is a Professor of Theatre Design at the University of South Carolina and serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Schools of Theatre and Chairs the NAST Commission on Accreditation. www.jimhunterdesigns.com.

JOHN KISELICA (Sound Designer) is a graduate of West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Lighting and Sound Design. He recently worked on the national tour, *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Musical*, as the Master Electrician after a contract with Royal Caribbean International as a Stage Technician. Commercial theatrical work includes installing Prodigy Hoists, an automated rigging system from Electronic Theatre Controls. John spends his summers in Lynchburg, VA as the resident Sound & Lighting Designer with Endstation Theatre Company. He is

extremely excited to be here at Florida Rep for his first season.

ROBERTA MALCOLM (Costume Designer) is entering her 11th season in residence at Florida Rep and 38th year as a costumer. Some past favorite assignments: *Curly McDimple* with Margaret O'Brien, *Florida Follies* personal dresser for Florence Henderson, *The Lennon Play* with John Ritter, *Showboat* national tour with Dean Jones and Cloris Leachman, *Annie* national tour dresser for Conrad John Schuck. Thanks to her family (Sean, Ali, Becca, Jon, Bob, and Fawn) for the constant love and support. Sincere appreciation to Robert Cacioppo, John Martin, the Florida Rep board, staff, and audiences for their continuing commitment to quality in the SWFL arts community.

KATE SMITH (Lighting Designer) is excited to be designing lights at Florida Rep again this season. She is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). Kate has worked in many aspects of theatre. She most recently served as the Art Director and Lighting Designer for Florida Rep's summer camp program. Lighting design credits include *Tribes*, *Collected Stories*, *Educating Rita*, *Time Stands Still*, *Black Tie*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *King o' the Moon*, *The Santaland Diaries* (2009-2011), and *The Year of Magical Thinking*. Sound design credits include *Clybourne Park*, *Social Security*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Miracle on South Division Street*, *The Little Foxes*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Talley's Folly*, *Tru*, *Sylvia*, *August: Osage County*, *Trying*, and *You Can't Take It with You*. Kate has also worked for Brevard Music Center, Flat Rock Playhouse, IUP's Keystone Rep, and Footlight Players.



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

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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.



Florida Professional Theatres Association (FPTA) is a statewide organization of professional theatre companies and theatre professionals interested in the development and promotion of professional theatre throughout Florida. Florida Repertory Theatre is a proud FPTA member theatre.



National New Play Network

The National New Play Network is the country's alliance of nonprofit theaters that champions the development, production, and continued life of new plays. The NNPN strives to pioneer, implement, and disseminate ideas and programs that revolutionize the way theaters collaborate to support new plays and playwrights. Florida Repertory Theatre is proud to be an Associate Member of the National New Play Network.



Florida Repertory Theatre is a member of **Theatre Communications Group (TCG)**, the national organization for the American Theatre.



SPECIAL THANKS

Black Tie Tuxedo

NEW BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Florida Rep is pleased to welcome two new members to its Board of Directors, a group of business leaders who are committed to excellence in the arts.



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Century 21 Selling Paradise
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To see the full listing of the Board of Directors, please visit page 33.