

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE

2013-2014 SEASON

HISTORIC ARCADE THEATRE • FORT MYERS RIVER DISTRICT

ROBERT CACIOPPO, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

David Sedaris' The Santaland Diaries

ADAPTED BY JOE MANTELLO

SPONSORED BY LCEC and NU IMAGE CLEANERS

STARRING

ENSEMBLE MEMBER **JASON PARRISH***

DIRECTED BY

ENSEMBLE MEMBER **CHRIS CLAVELLI****

SET DESIGNER
CHRISTOPHER T. SIMPSON

LIGHTING DESIGNER
TIM COBB

COSTUME DESIGNER
ROBERTA MALCOLM†

SOUND DESIGNER
KATE SMITH

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
JANINE WOCHNA*

ASST. STAGE MANAGER
NICK TO

THE SANTALAND DIARIES is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced in New York by David Stone and Amy Nederlander-Case on
November 7, 1996.

2013-14 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 Florida Repertory Theatre's Ensemble of Theatre Artists

CAST

David/Crumpet.....**JASON PARRISH***

Voice-Over Artists
CHRIS CLAVELLI and ADAM JONES***

Music by JUSTIN P. COWAN

TIME & PLACE

David's Manhattan apartment. Around the holidays. Present.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES will be performed WITHOUT an intermission.

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

ABOUT THE WRITERS

DAVID SEDARIS (Playwright) made his comic debut recounting his strange-but-true experiences of being a Macy's elf clad in green tights, reading his *Santaland Diaries* on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition." Sedaris' sardonic humor and incisive social critique have since made him one of NPR's most popular and humorous commentators and a best-selling author in the United States and abroad. The great skill with which Sedaris slices through euphemisms and political correctness proves that he is a master of satire. Everywhere he goes David Sedaris delights his audience with his irreverent style and great humor. In addition to his commentaries on NPR, David Sedaris is the author of the best-sellers *Barrel Fever*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *Naked*, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*, and his most recent book, *Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls*. Sedaris' collection of Christmas related stories is entitled *Holiday on Ice*. David and his sister, Amy Sedaris, have collaborated under the name The Talent Family and written several plays which have been produced at La Mama and at Lincoln Center in New York City. These plays include *Stump the Host*, *Stitches*, *One Woman Shoe*, which received an Obie award, *Incident at Cobbler's Knob* and *The Book of Liz*. David is a regular contributor to *Esquire* magazine, and his essays have also appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Allure* and *Travel and Leisure*. Sedaris' original radio pieces can often be heard on public radio's "This American Life," distributed nationally by WBEZ in Chicago, as well as BBC radio in London. He has been nominated for three Grammy Awards for Best Spoken Word and Best Comedy Album. His most recent live album is *David Sedaris: Live for Your Listening Pleasure* (November 2009). A feature film adaptation of his story "C.O.G." was released after a premier at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival.

JOE MANTELLO (Adapter) has capitalized in multiple areas outside of script adaptation. Some directing credits include *The Other Place*, *I'll Eat You Last: A Chat with Sue Mengers*, *Other Desert Cities*, 9 to 5 (Drama Desk Award), *Pal Joey*, *November*, *Assassins* (Tony Award), *Wicked*, *Take Me Out* (Tony Award), *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Design for Living*, Terrence McNally and Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* for the San Francisco Opera, and *Casa Valentina*, written by Harvey Fierstein and set to open On Broadway in April of 2014. Mantello also directed the film *Love! Valour! Compassion!*. As an actor he appeared in *The Normal Heart* (Tony Nomination), *Angels in America* (Tony nomination) and *The Baltimore Waltz*. He is the recipient of the Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Helen Hayes, Clarence Derwent, Obie and Joe A. Callaway awards. He is a member of Naked Angels and an associate artist at the Roundabout Theatre.

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CREATIVE TEAM



JASON PARRISH** (*David/Crumpet*) is now in his ninth season as an ensemble member with Florida Rep and serves as the company's Associate Director. Jason has appeared in over 20 Florida Rep productions

including *Miracle on South Division Street*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *The Big Bang*, *Noises Off*, *Greetings!*, *The Last Romance*, *King o' the Moon*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Alone Together*, and now in the fifth Anniversary production of David Sedaris' *The Santaland Diaries*. His directing credits with Florida Rep include *The Fantasticks*, *Tru*, [title of show], and *The Shape of Things*, as well as a number of productions for Florida Rep's Children's Theatre Series: *Schoolhouse Rock Live*, *How I Became a Pirate*, *The New Kid*, and *The Mischief Makers*. His work with other theatres as both an actor and a director includes Sanibel's Strauss Theatre, The Off Broadway Palm, Actors' Playhouse (Miami), Riverside Theatre (Vero Beach), extensive work with Theatre by the Sea/Ocean State Theatre Company (Rhode Island), and guest appearances with the New York Philharmonic's Young People's Concert Series at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall. In addition to his work on stage, Jason spent the past three summers (and then some) moonlighting at St. Isabel Catholic Church on Sanibel as a cantor. Jason is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

CHRIS CLAVELLI*** (*Director*) is the Associate Artistic Director of Florida Repertory Theatre and is a faculty member in the Summer Conservatory at the New York Academy of Dramatic Arts. He was honored with an Alan Schneider Directing Award nomination through Theatre Communications Group. He was a founding member and co-artistic director of the Neighborhood Theatre for Kids in Brooklyn. Directing credits: At Florida Rep: *My Three Angels*, *Collected Stories*, *Educating Rita*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Black Tie*, *Sideman*, *Trying*, *Rounding Third*, *Alone Together*, *The Foreigner*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Santaland Diaries* and *The Lady with All the Answers*; The Virginia Stage Company: *Irma Vep*, *Vaudeville* and *Rough Crossing*; Off Square Theatre: *All in the Timing* and *Stones in His Pockets*; Two River Theatre Company: *House of Blue Leaves* and

16 productions for the Depot Theatre, most recently starring John Christopher Jones. Other theatres: Theatre South Carolina, the New York Fringe Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, (Solo Mio), the Southwest Florida Symphony, Symphony Space, York Theatre, 78th Street Theatre, Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Chenango River Theatre, Riverside Theatre, Neighborhood Theatre for Kids and the famed Actors Studio. As an actor he has worked here at Florida Rep in 15 productions and all over the country. In 2012 he was named Florida Weekly's Best Actor of the Year and has been the recipient of both the Barrymore Award (Philadelphia) and the South Florida Carbonell for best actor. His one-man play, *A Little More Than You Wanted to Spend*, opened on June 10th and had a successful month-long run in New York at the Drilling Company. For J, L and R.

TIM COBB (*Lighting 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*) 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."

CHRISTOPHER T. SIMPSON (*Set Designer*) is returning for a sixth season as Technical Director with Florida Repertory Theatre. His scenic designs in Florida Rep's ArtStage Studio Theatre include *Tru*, *The Lady with All the Answers*, *The Santaland Diaries* (2010-2013) and *The Year of Magical Thinking*. Other designs include *The Odyssey Experience*, *The Imaginators*, *Thomas Edison: Fire of Genius*, *How I Became a Pirate* and *Amelia Earhart* for Florida Rep's Children's Theatre Series. He has also designed the last two summers for Florida Rep's Summer Camps in the Arcade Theatre. Chris' theatrical

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career began with the Gainesville Theatre Alliance in Gainesville, Georgia and includes work across the state of Georgia with Georgia Shakespeare, Atlanta Puppetry Center for the Arts, Georgia Ensemble Theatre and Atlanta Classical Theatre. Before coming to Florida Rep, Chris spent six years as Assistant Technical Director at the State Theatre of North Carolina, Flat Rock Playhouse, under the guidance of Technical Director, Bruce R. Bailey. Much love to his family, his friends and to the production team for their love and dedication to live theatre. Chris would like to thank his lovely wife, Claire, for her love and understanding of his late nights at the shop and long weekends in the office. "And especially to my Heavenly Father for the talents he has given me and the chance to meet so many wonderful people in this business. Enjoy the Show."

KATE SMITH (Sound Designer) is happy to return for her fifth season at Florida Rep. 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 *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 *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.

NICK TO (Assistant Stage Manager) is delighted to be in his first season here 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.

JANINE WOCHNA* (Production Stage Manager) is delighted to return to Florida Rep having previously stage managed *Collected Stories*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Time Stands Still*, *Talley's Folly* and many others over 8 seasons. Regional theatre credits include four seasons as Resident Stage Manager at the Geva Theatre and 14 seasons at the Cleveland Playhouse. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.



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.



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.



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

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