PROGRAM



A WORD FROM OUR SEASON SPONSOR



Seattle Children's Theatre and Microsoft share a passion for creativity, learning and excellence. Year after year, Seattle Children's Theatre delivers high quality entertainment that captivates the imaginations of young people and their families, throughout the Pacific Northwest. That's why Microsoft Philanthropies is proud to sponsor the 2021-2022 Season.

Community involvement is an integral part of our culture at Microsoft. We support the work of local nonprofits and encourage employee investment and volunteerism. Our employees respond in an incredible way, volunteering thousands of hours and contributing each year to local nonprofits, including Seattle Children's Theatre.

A thriving arts and cultural scene, a network of human services providers, and a world class education system are critical to the continued vitality and attractiveness of the Puget Sound region. Through partnerships with organizations such as Seattle Children's Theatre, we aim to create an environment where the arts will thrive for generations to come. On behalf of Microsoft and our employees in the Puget Sound area, we thank Seattle Children's Theatre for enriching our community. Enjoy the show!

Kate Behncken

Vice President
Microsoft Philanthropies



A WORD FROM KEVIN MALGESINI

Dear Friends.

Some productions need the right time and moment to have their biggest impact, and it feels that way with *The Watsons Go To Birmingham–1963*. This play's arc starts back in 2017, when then Artistic Director, Courtney Sale, and Risa Brainin, Director of LAUNCH PAD at UC Santa Barbara, decided to collaborate. Their conversations would lead to their shared reverie for the incomparable local playwright Cheryl L. West, who wove in Jacqui Russell, Artistic Director of Chicago Children's Theatre. Risa talks a bit more about what happened in the days and weeks to follow, in her interview on page four of our Active Audience Guide, though COVID would make it some years before the production came back to its expected landing in Seattle.

We are so excited to finally see this production on our stage. In *The Watsons Go to Birmingham–1963* Kenny departs for what he knows will be an adventure, with excitement and innocence. The world around him is not as innocent, nor as kind, and a violent reality is thrust upon Kenny. At its core this show is about how Kenny makes sense of this real trauma, how it shapes his experience and understanding of the world. It seems poignant and timely in its own way that this play is being realized on our stage as all young people have been through a trauma of sorts. COVID has disrupted their understanding of the world–what is known and certain has been called into question, relationships have been altered, and as we emerge from COVID young people are looking to adults to help them make sense of it all.

More directly, the themes and experiences captured in this play are historic, very real events in America's past, but they are not history. In a half decade, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham–1963*'s relevancy has only increased. Kenny is tasked with understanding a hate and racism that are overt, and while some contemporary experiences are more subtle, we know both continue to persist.

And woven throughout all of this is an incredible family, that we get to journey with. We invite you to lose yourself with the Watsons on that their adventure.

One of SCT's values is to Clap Hard, Cry Hard. We ask our audiences to laugh big, cry big, ask big questions and feel big feelings. Kenny's experience also asks us to face big realities, challenge big problems, and grow in big ways. I hope you'll take that same journey not only in the theatre tonight, but with SCT in our community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Malgesini, Managing Director

ACTIVE AUDIENCE GUIDE

Want to explore articles, activities, interviews, and behind-the-scenes photos from *Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963*?

Check out the Active Audience Guide by scanning the code below!



SYNOPSIS

The Watsons Go To Birmingham–1963 is a theatrical adaptation of the children's novel by Christopher Paul Curtis. The play begins as we hear the sound of an old Plymouth ignition starting, and the lights come up to reveal Kenny, the play's main character, hiding behind their family couch. Characters appear on stage in tableau, all members of Kenny's family, frozen from moments in his memory. The lights shift again to reveal a projected map of Birmingham, Alabama, then Kenny's family begins speaking to one another in a distorted echo; lights shift and everyone disappears except for Kenny's brother, Byron.

Byron is eating from a box of cereal, and chastises his brother for hiding behind the couch, while "Rocky and Bullwinkle" plays on TV. Byron exits and Kenny crawls out from behind the couch, addressing the audience for the first time. Kenny explains that though his family has always been called the "Weird Watsons," their recent trip to Alabama has caused everything to feel more than strange. Kenny begins to recount how the family came to take the trip from Michigan to Alabama that summer. We learn of an earlier day that winter, when Byron's lips were frozen to the mirror of the family Plymouth. It's amusing and a little scary all at once, and when Byron is freed from the situation his parents are frustrated, and he is less than grateful.

Kenny recounts another day when Byron and a friend, Buphead, decided to skip class. The Watson parents discuss Byron's cutting class earlier that day, and how a summer in Birmingham, Alabama, where their Grandma Sands lives, might be just the course correction Byron needs. Dad is concerned given the civil unrest occurring there, and just before they their conversation ends Byron returns home to reveal he spent an evening processing his hair that he should have been studying; it is quickly determined that Byron will, indeed, be spending the summer in Alabama.

Lights shift and we are moved forward in time, the beginning of summer. We see the Watsons preparing for their journey, loading the car, and departing. Dad reveals a very exciting drive around record player the family will be able to enjoy on their trip, and Kenny asks to hear his favorite song, "Okedoke." Mama reminds Dad of the schedule and import that they stick to the motels and rest stops identified as safe in *The Negro Traveler's Green Book*. The tenure in the car changes with each passing mile and moment; Dad presses forward in their drive despite Mama wanting to stop at Green Book listed locations. The parents are tense when a cop car blazes by them, or a bathroom break has to occur on the side of the road, but we are most conscious of the change in tenure when two white men stop the Watsons car and inquire about their travels, home town, and relationship to the protests, leaving the family alone, but not without a threat.

We learn that Dad opted to drive straight through to Alabama and make no motel stops when the family arrives at Grandma Sands early the next morning, days before planned. Though Kenny and his sister Joey have never met Grandma Sands before, Byron has, and his respect shows, surprising Kenny. As days pass, we get glimpses of the family's time in Alabama. Kenny ignores his grandma's recommendation to avoid a particular swimming hole, and almost finds himself swallowed up by a whirlpool, until Byron manages to save him. That experience has a hold on Kenny, and as he has mistaken the word "whirlpool" for "Wool Pooh," he now imagines a creature was dragging him into the murk. Days later, though Kenny is still somewhat shook, he offers to walk Joey to Sunday School. Just as we see Joey say goodbye to Kenny, there is a sonic BOOM, an explosion: the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing. Kenny hears screams, cannot find his sister, and in the confusion believes he also sees the Wool Pooh, swirling up and around the debris, himself, and his sister's shoe.

Kenny runs all the way back to Grandma Sands' and discovers his sister is there, the Wool Pooh has not taken her. He describes the other young women he saw after the bombing, stomping his glasses to bits as he tries to un-see the aftermath in his memory. The family hurriedly packs to return to Michigan, saying goodbye to Grandma Sands a week before their scheduled departure.

The scene transitions again, and we are back in Flint, where we started with Kenny behind the couch. Kenny is narrating their departing journey as he remembers it, when Byron enters. Byron encourages Kenny to stop hiding when Kenny reveals that he is hiding from the Wool Pooh; Kenny believes it is still coming for him and Joey. It is in this moment that Byron reminds Kenny he saved Joey, that Kenny was incredibly brave back in Alabama and could be that brave again.

As Kenny and Byron work out their new brave warrior call, the rest of the family appears, preparing to celebrate Kenny's birthday in the family car. They assert that Kenny can play his favorite song, "Okedoke," and Dad gives Kenny his new glasses, repaired since being destroyed in Alabama. Kenny finally feels safe to give Joey back the shoe he'd been keeping safe from Wool Pooh, and makes a birthday wish as the lights dim.



CHIP SHERMAN

KENNY WATSON - Chip Sherman is a Core Company member at ACT Theatre and is in the Acting Ensemble of The Seagull Project. They are also known around town as Isis in and out of the Drag Duo *LüChi* and as one of the founding parents of the kiki ballroom house, *The Royal House of Noir*. Beloved roles include Corduroy in *Corduroy*, Benvolio in *Romeo + Juliet*, Dorian Gray in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Bailey Jr. in *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*, Rudy Clay in *And In This Corner; Cassius Clay*, and Alexander the Great in *Alex and Aris*. Thanks for supporting diverse theatre, the world needs it now more than ever!



ROWIN M. BREAUX

BYRON WATSON - Rowin M. Breaux is a newcomer to the stage of SCT, but has gained his appreciation for the magic of Children's Theater from his time as Performing Apprentice with the Minneapolis Children's Theatre Company, where he performed and understudied in productions of Cinderella, The Hobbit, Last Stop on Market Street, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, & Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical. Since moving to the Pacific Northwest in 2020 he has been seen and heard doing various projects including Glory, Glory, Vanish (VRT), The Hotel Olympian 100th Anniversary Gala Extravaganza (Olympia Arts Commission), Boy (VRT), & The Exonerated.



NICHOLAS JAPAUL BERNARD

DADDY (DANIEL WATSON) - Nicholas Japaul Bernard is a native of Rochester, New York and a Seattleite of four years now. He has had the opportunity to work with many theatres around town including The 5th Avenue, Seattle Rep, Sound Theatre, ArtsWest, Strawberry Workshop, and Book-It Repertory Theatre. As a disabled, queer, and black artist Bernard is interested in fostering an artistic world in which marginalized people have the space to both give breath to their own stories as well as not being regulated to that alone. We are more than our pain and more versatile than you've ever imagined.



KAILA TOWERS

MAMA (WILONA WATSON) - Kaila Towers is a born and raised Seattle actor and writer. This is her first time on the SCT stage! She has a BFA in acting from Cornish College of the Arts. Her most recent credits include Nkiruka in Little Bee (Book-It) and Kate in Good People (The Modern Theatre).



ANJELICA MCMILLAN

JOEY WATSON - Anjelica McMillan is honored to join the cast of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham–1963*! This is her SCT debut. You might have seen her recently in ArtsWest's *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing* (Narrator/Mother). Before the pandemic, she got to play with Theatre22 in *The Revolutionists* (Marianne) and Book-It Repertory Theatre in *Behold the Dreamers* (Neni). Some of her TV credits include *Three Busy Debras* (Season 1), *Portlandia* (Season 8), and *Wonderland Murders* (Season 2). When she's not playing pretend professionally, she's doing it at home with her rambunctious toddler. She'd like to thank her wonderful husband, Spencer, and her amazing extended family for their love and support. It takes a village!



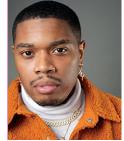
SHAUNYCE OMAR

GRANDMA SANDS - Shaunyce Omar is thrilled to make her SCT debut. Previous credits include Four Women, Fannie, Shout Sister Shout, Wedding Band, Hairspray, Chicago, Pajama Game, & Rejoice! TV/Film credits include The Librarians, Last Seen In Idaho, and Portal Runner. Her voice can also be heard as the character Madison Grant in the State of Decay: LIFELINE video game. Shaunyce is the recipient of 2 Gregory, Footlight, Broadway World, and The 5th Ave Theatre's Subscriber's Choice Awards. In addition to stage and screen work, Omar is a teaching artist and has taught in both public and private schools, arts organizations, and overseas as a Master Sensei of Gospel Music in Japan. She holds a B.A degree in Theatre from Southern University and A&M College. I dedicate my performance to Ayanna, Isyss & Nate.



JAMES SCHILLING

BUPHEAD/SOUTHERNER/WOOL POOH - James Schilling (he/him) is thrilled and honored to be back at SCT! James is a local actor, playwright, and educator. His other credits include Clive in See How They Run (Taproot Theatre), Hugo in Feathers & Teeth (Washington Ensemble Theatre), Prentiss in Peter and the Starcatcher (ArtsWest), Touchstone in As You Like It (Freehold Engaged Theatre Tour), and The Spirit in This Show is About Progress by Carol Louise Thompson. Gratitude to his family, friends, and Lola.



JOHNNY DAVIDSON

US - KENNY - Johnny, is making his debut not only with SCT but in Seattle all together. Johnny trained at PCPA and graduated in 2017. He's worked on the Central coast as well as the Bay Area. He's been in *Ragtime*, *Dreamgirls* as "CC", *In The Heights* as "Benny" and "Graffiti Pete", *The Curious Case of Watson Intelligence* as "Merrick" just to name a few. He is so excited to be joining this wonderful show! IG: kiingj_creole #YHT5Ever



LAMAR LEGEND

US - DAD/BYRON - Lamar Legend (they/them) is a non-binary actor/writer/director from New York City. They've worked with The Steppenwolf Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Seattle Opera, Seattle Rep, Teatro Franco Parenti in Milan, and have been honored with The Rising Star Award by The Broadway League in New York (producers of The Tonys). Recent SCT credits include And in This Corner: Cassius Clay and The Little Prince. Recent local credits include Monsters of the American Cinema (ArtsWest), The Rivals, (Seattle Shakespeare Co.), and Necessary Sacrifices (Taproot).



ROZ CORNEJO

US - MAMA & GRANDMA AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - Roz Cornejo is a local actor/writer/director based in Seattle. She is a University of California, Santa Barbara graduate with a BFA in Acting and a BA in History. Her recent works include her play Echo premiered by Red Bull Theater, her original solo In the Crosshairs with Macha Theatre Works, performances with Living Voices, UCSB's production of Fires in the Mirror, The Cake with As If Theatre, and 407C's Puppet Theatre with Radial Theater Project.



SHANA EDOUARD

US - JOEY - Shana Edouard is a local Seattle actor, writer, and comedian. She graduated from the University of Washington in 2020 studying Geosciences and Dance. After college, Shana attended the Acting for Film program at the Seattle Film Institute and has been studying with Angela and David at Mighty Tripod. Film credits include Feels Like Flying, The Subject, and Sad Clown. She has appeared in TV series Three Busy Debras (Adult Swim), Grey's Anatomy (ABC), and Station 19 (ABC). Her favorite role was playing a Neanderthal on Three Busy Debras. Shana is excited to be dipping her toes into the world of theatre.



ANDY WALKER

US - BUPHEAD/SOUTHERNER/WOOL POOH - Andy Walker is a Seattle based actor originally from Whidbey Island. Previous Seattle credits include As You Like It (Seattle Rep), Twelfth Night (Seattle Shakespeare), a Zoom production of Troilus and Cressida (Seattle Shakespeare), and other theatres including Colorado Shakespeare Festival and The Little Theatre of the Rockies. Andy is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

RISA BRAININ

DIRECTOR - Risa Brainin is delighted to be making her SCT debut. She began her directing career at the Guthrie Theater serving as Resident Director and Associate Company Director. Other artistic appointments include Associate Artistic Director at Indiana Repertory Theatre and Kansas City Repertory Theater and Artistic Director of Shakespeare Santa Cruz. Directorial credits include plays at Actors' Theatre of Louisville, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, American Players Theatre, Clarence Brown Theatre, Denver Center Theatre, Great Lakes Theatre, History Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Playmakers Repertory Company, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Syracuse Stage, and others. Brainin is Founder/Artistic Director of LAUNCH PAD, a residency and performance program for new plays at UC Santa Barbara, where she has developed dozens of new works including this wonderful play by Cheryl L. West! Special thanks to my co-commissioning partners Courtney Sale, Kevin Malgesini, and Jacqui Russell.

CHERYL L. WEST

PLAYWRIGHT - Cheryl L. West's plays include, FANNIE: The Music and Life of Fannie Lou Hamer, Last Stop on Market Street, Shout Sister Shout, Akeelah and the Bee, Pullman Porter Blues, and Jar the Floor (optioned for Broadway). Her plays have been produced in England, off-Broadway, on Broadway (Play On!) and in numerous regional theaters around the country, including Arena Stage, Old Globe, The Goodman, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Minneapolis Children's Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Chicago Children's Theatre, Seattle Rep, Indiana Rep, Merrimack, Arkansas Rep, St. Louis Black Rep, Bay Street Theatre Festival, Syracuse Stage, Cleveland Play House, South Coast Rep, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Manhattan Theatre Club, and Off Broadway's Second Stage. She has written TV and film projects at Disney, Paramount, MTV Films, Showtime, TNT, HBO, CBS, BET and is the Webby-nominated writer for the original web series Diary of a Single Mom. Ms. West is currently working on commissions for Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Minneapolis Children's Theater, LaJolla Playhouse, Goodman Theatre, and Seattle Rep.

DANIELLE ZANDRI

STAGE MANAGER - Danielle is a New York based stage manager with credits at The New School and 59E59 Theaters. She has worked many summer seasons at Weston Theatre Company, doing such highlights as Million Dollar Quartet and Once. Other credits include stage managing at Baltimore Center Stage, Northern Stage, Merrimack Rep, Walnut Street Theatre, and Trinity Rep. She sends endless thanks to her loved ones who have supported her work in the arts.

OMAR FAUST

SM FELLOW/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT - Omar is a mixed-race theater artist who was born in Seattle and went to school for theater at Bard College. Upon returning from walking across Spain after college, he stage managed for Theater Schmeater, Annex Theatre, Silver Kite, and Pork Filled Productions. For the past three years he has lived in a co-op focusing on diversity and accessibility. While he loves board games, card games, D&D, and hiking, bringing folx together to tell their stories is his true passion.

CYRUS KHAMBATTA

CHOREOGRAPHER - Cyrus Khambatta studied dance and theater at New York University. He is the Artistic Director/Choreographer for the internationally acclaimed Khambatta Dance Company and founded the Seattle International Dance Festival. His choreography has been presented throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and Russia, and commissioned by Ririe Woodbury Dance, Spectrum Dance Theatre, and many others. He received an Herb Alpert Award in the Arts nomination and California's Damen New Choreography Award, was Artist in Residence at Seattle University, and has received support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Paul Allen Foundation, the French government, and the U.S. State department, among others.

NOELLE DIANE JOHNSON

EDI CONSULTANT - Noelle Diane Johnson (she/her/hers) is a multidisciplinary Artist and Artist Advocate based in Philadelphia, PA. She is thrilled to be joining Seattle Children's Theatre for the first time as the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Consultant. Wilma Theatre: Fat Ham, Minor Character, The Cherry Orchard, Fairview (EDI); Philadelphia Theatre Company: The Garbologist, Choir Boy (EDI, Intimacy) Theatre Horizon: TJ Loves Sally 4Every (Pam) A New Brain (ASM), Grand Concourse (ASM), The Agitators (SM), Art Houses (PSM and Director). Simpatico Theatre Company: Cry It Out (SM). Theatre in the X: The Beast of Nubia (SM); The Bearded Ladies Cabaret: Late Night Snacks (SM), You Really are a Heel (SM), Lightning Rod Special: The Underground Railroad Game (SM). Playbill: one in two (SM). Long Wharf Theatre: Passing Strange (SM). FringeArts: DAUGHTERS (Choreography). Ninth Planet: High Noon (Performer/Collaborator). Black Femme Magic Showcase (Performer/ Collaborator). Noelle is also the Founder & Owner of ARTISTS HEAL™, a company designed to create healing and care spaces for collaborative art-making while centering and providing resources for marginalized artists and vulnerable communities. ARTISTS HEAL™ offers arts and education programming as well as Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion services for arts organizations and institutions. Learn more about Noelle and ARTISTS HEAL™ at noelledianejohnson.com and artistsheal.org. IG: @noelledianejohnson / @artistsheal

ALYSSA FRANKS

DIALECT COACH - Alyssa Franks is an actor and coach with over a decade of experience. Her MFA in Acting is from the University of Washington and her BFA is from Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts in the UK. She has performed with and coached for companies in the US and the UK including Seattle Shakespeare Company, Island Stage Left, Wasatch Theatre Company, Pinnacle Acting Company, New World Shakespeare Company, and Lodestar Theatre Company. Alyssa is the proud creator of Pro-Life, a one-woman show celebrating the pioneering efforts of women fighting for their reproductive rights. Alyssa is a certified Yoga and Integrative Alexander Technique teacher and co-founder of the Meditations for Actors mobile app.

www.alyssakfranks.com / www.movewhole.com.

BURTON K. YUEN

SCENIC DESIGNER - Burton K. Yuen is excited to be working with Seattle Children's Theatre. Most recently his work was seen at Village Theatre's post-quarantine season opener, Songs for a New World. He has worked professionally in theater and film in various technical and design positions. When not designing scenery, he can be found at Weber Thompson Architects in the landscape studio. Selected scenic design credits: Cabaret, Gypsy, Carnival, The Joy Luck Club, My Manana Comes, The Mountaintop, ...and Jesus Moonwalks The Mississippi, Skeleton Crew, King Lear, Distracted, What We Talk About When We talk About Love, and 4000 Miles.

TREVOR BOWEN

COSTUME DESIGNER - Trevor is excited to be back at SCT. Previous SCT credits include Black Beauty, Corduroy, and Edward Tulane. Regional credits include: The Jungle Theater, Contemporary American Theater Festival, Children's Theatre Company, Penumbra, The Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Glimmerglass Opera Festival, Pillsbury House, Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Opera, Arena Dances, Walker Art Center, 5th Ave, Cowles Center, Boston Lyric Opera, The Kennedy Center, Steppenwolf. Upcoming productions include Champion at Boston Lyric Opera and Ride the Cyclone at McCarter Theater. Trevor Bowen is a 2021-22 McKnight Theater Artist Fellow at The Playwrights' Center.

www.trevorbowendesign.com

THE CREATIVE TEAM

SARAH BURCH GORDON

ASSOCIATE COSTUME DESIGNER - Sarah Burch Gordon has been designing costumes in Seattle since 2005. Local favorite designs include: Red Riding Hood and Balloonacy at SCT; Dracula, The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge, Jane Eyre, and Persuasion at Taproot Theatre Company; and A Midsummer Night's Dream at Edmonds Community College. Other than the pandemic induced sabbatical, she has been the Costume Shop Head here at SCT since 2017. Prior to that, she worked at Taproot Theatre Company as their Resident Costume Designer and Costume Shop Manager. Before moving to Seattle, she taught Costume Design at Mars Hill University in North Carolina. Other regional credits include working at Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, StageWest Theatre, and Venture Theatre Company. She is a two-time Gregory Award nominee and received her MFA in Costume Design from Temple University. In addition to being a costume designer, Sarah is an artist, writer, editor, and fairy godmother extraordinaire. Roses and parsnips to CLM.

JENN HILL

WIG DESIGNER - Jenn Hill is a Seattle based wig maker excited to be back at SCT! Recent designs include Romeo et Juliette at San Diego Opera, and Cassius Clay & Eduard Tulane at SCT. She loves working backstage building wigs and on wig crews for Seattle Opera, Seattle Rep, and Village Theatre.

MIKO SIMMONS

PROJECTIONS DESIGNER - Miko Simmons is an international, award-winning Multimedia Artist & Projection Designer who has been innovating in the convergence of Film/Animation and Theatrical Production for more than 20 years. Theater Productions include: Guthrie Theater; Fast Company, Macondo, Caviar on Credit, Postcards from Earth, Confluence, Bring Love to my Doorstep. Old Log Theatre; Ghost Musical, Jack & Beanstalk, Park Square Theater, Snow Queen; Mixed Blood Theater, House of the Spirits. At Mn Opera: Salome, TU Dance; Earth, Wind, and Fire, International tour. Rock Opera Musicals: Disney's Beauty and the Beast in Korea; Count of Monte Cristo, Wizard of Oz, Elisabeth Musical, Rudolf Musical.

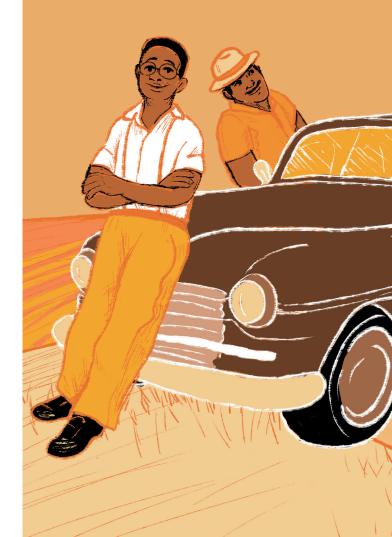
MICHAEL KLAERS

LIGHTING DESIGNER - Michael Klaers is thrilled to make his first visit to Seattle Children's Theatre. Regional theater credits include: Indiana Repertory Theatre, Syracuse Stage, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts, and Ensemble Theater Company.

MICHAEL KECK

ORIGINAL SCORING & SOUNDSCAPE DESIGNER - Michael Keck Composer: Cassius - SCT - The Children, Seattle Rep, Rabbit Hole, Gem of the Ocean, Searching for Eden, As You Like It, and Looking over the President's Shoulder. Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Arena Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse, His international credits include the Market Theatre Johannesburg South Africa, National Theater of Croatia–Zagreb, the Barbican Theatre Center, and Bristol Old Vic.McCarter Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Portland Ce. He is a member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, ASCAP, PEN and the Dramatists Guild.

SCENIC DESIGN INSPIRED BY THE ORIGINAL DESIGNS BY CAREY
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY PARIS RAY DOZIER



AUDIENCE MEMEBER GUIDE

Experiencing the theatre is a group activity shared not only with the actors, but also with the people sitting around you. Your attention and participation help the actors perform better, and allows the rest of the audience to enjoy the show. We invite you to laugh when it is funny, cry when it is sad, gasp when it is shocking, but refrain from talking during the show, as it disturbs audience members and performers alike.



Leave cell phones, tablets, hand held games, and other distracting and noise-making electronic devices at home or turn them completely off.



Don't talk with your neighbors during the play. It distracts people around you and the actors on stage.



The lights dimming and going out signal the audience to quiet down and settle in your seats: the play is about to begin.



During the curtain call remain in your seat and applaud because this is part of the performance too. The actors will come out on stage one more time to say thank you for your participation as an audience member.



Remain in your seat during the play. Please use the restroom before or after the show, as well as during intermission.

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AN SCT PIONEER

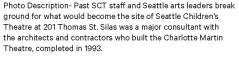


Silas Livingstone Morse IV was hired by SCT in 1985 during our days in the Poncho Theatre at the Woodland Park Zoo. At that point in our history, SCT had a full-time staff of 11 employees, a 280-seat venue and an annual audience of 36,000 people. Si served as a Technical Director where he worked closely with Production Stage Manager, Linda-Jo Greenberg, and Artistic Director Emerita, Linda Hartzell, to create stunning and imaginative sets throughout his tenure.

Silas is remembered as a skilled designer, collaborator, and as a dedicated figure that launched SCT to a new professional level. He believed that young audiences deserved the most sophisticated work and cared deeply about SCT's mission of providing *professional* theatre to children of all ages. He helped to set the standard for the great work that is still displayed on our stages today.

When Silas departed in 1998, Seattle Children's Theatre staff had grown to over 200 employees, more than doubled the seating capacity, and the annual audience size had grown to more than 286,000 people. On behalf of all of us at Seattle Children's Theatre, we thank Silas Morse for his many great accomplishments and for being a pivotal force that helped shape SCT into the national leader it is today.





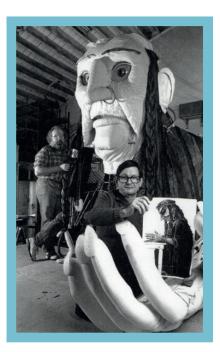


Photo Description- Silas Morse holding an original 20ft puppet design used in SCT's 93-94 season production of Jack and the Beanstalk.

This giant puppet required 5 actors to operate and even had an entire choreographed fight scene!

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The Road We Travel: Celebrating Intergenerational Activists

May 21, 2022 after the 4:30 PM performance of The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963

Join Northwest African American Museum and Seattle Children's Theatre for an intergenerational panel of elders in the Civil Rights movement and young leaders today for a conversation about the lived experiences of being young in a period of national conversation around anti-racism.

Moderated by Ms. Michelle Merriwether, President & CEO of the Urban League.



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