



The Main Street Players Present

A TUNA CHRISTMAS

by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard





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A Message From The Artistic Director

Happy Holidays.

Welcome to Main Street Players. If this is your first time to our theatre we are delighted that you are here and if you are a returning patron.... thank you so much for being such a loyal supporter.

Main Street Players is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. As such, we rely on the overwhelming generosity of our supporters to operate. While our ticket sales provide part of the financial support for our productions additional dollars and services are needed. We are certainly aware of the current tough economic climate that affects everyone, however, there are many other ways you can help support our theatre. The following is a wish list of goods and services that would be a tremendous help to Main Street Players:

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If you or your company would like to provide any of these goods and services please contact Donnie Beall or Norma Richardson at 770-229-9916. All donations of goods and services are tax deductible.

Thank you.

Enjoy the show.

Norma Richardson



The Show

A Tuna Christmas

by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard

A TUNA CHRISTMAS

is the second in a series of comedic plays
(preceded by Greater Tuna and followed by
Red, White and Tuna and Tuna Does Vegas),

each set in the fictional town of Tuna, Texas, the "third-smallest" town in the state.

The trilogy was written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears, and Ed Howard. The plays are at once an affectionate comment on small-town, Southern life and attitudes but also a withering satire of the same. The plays are notable in that two men play the entire cast of over twenty eccentric characters of both genders and various ages. The first play, Greater Tuna, debuted in 1981 in Austin; A Tuna Christmas debuted in 1989.

Director	Marian Sorensen
Stage Manager	Stephen Sparks
Set Design	B.J. Hughes
Scenic Artist.....	Roger Ferrier
Set Construction	B.J. Hughes, Curtis Brown Marian Sorensen, Donnie Beall, Brian Love, Carlee Love, Marcia Collins, Carrie Darden, and Norma Richarson
Costume Design and Construction.....	Curtis Brown
Sound Design.....	Curtis Brown
Sound	Norma Richardson
Lighting Design.....	Spencer O'Brien
Lighting	Jonah Brooks
Props	Mettelen Moore, Marian Sorensen, and Carrie Darden
Backstage.....	Stephen Sparks, Jonathan Dorsey, Carlee Love, and Thommy Harless
Program Cover	Curtis Brown
Poster Design	Danny Woodard,Primerica

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The Players

Performed by Curtis Brown:

- Thurston Wheelis - A disc jockey at radio station OKKK
- Elmer Watkins - The victim of a tragic flameshooter incident
- Bertha Bumiller - Housewife and mother to Jody, Stanley, and Charlene
- Leonard Childers - Entrepreneur and radio personality on OKKK
- R.R. Snavely - UFOlogist and husband to Didi
- Pearl Burras - Aunt to Bertha, former riveter in Houston during World War II
- Sheriff Givens – Sheriff of Tuna, Texas
- Ike Thompson - A slow-witted highway worker
- Inita Goodwin - A waitress at the Tasty-Creme
- Phoebe Burkhalter- Presumably Farley's significant other
- Joe Bob Lipsey - the director of the Tuna Little Theater's production of A Christmas Carol

Performed by Gary Morgan:

- Arles Struvie - A disc jockey at radio station OKKK.
- Didi Snavely - Owner of Didi's Used Weapons
- Petey Fisk - Employee of the Greater Tuna Humane Society
- Jody Bumiller - Youngest child of Bertha Bumiller
- Stanley Bumiller - Aspiring taxidermist, fresh from reform school; twin to Charlene
- Charlene Bumiller - Daughter of Bertha Bumiller and sister to Stanley and Jody
- Vera Carp - Town snob and acting leader of the Smut-Snatchers of the New Order
- Dixie Deberry - Controller of the Tuna Electric Company
- Helen Bedd - A waitress at the Tasty-Creme
- Farley Burkhalter - A "little person" and a patron of the Tasty-Creme
- Garland Poteet- A soda distributor and one of Inita's many boyfriends

There will be a 15 minute intermisssion.

Special Thanks

Camelot Theatre, Griffin Ballet Theatre, Sue Savage, The Griffin Daily News, Jan's Used Furniture, Robert Chauncey, Joan Panus, Thommy Harless, Sun City Peachtree, Don Bolt- Graphic Artist, Danny Woodard, Mettelen Moore, Betsy Harris, Studio D, Brad Fowler, Henry Players, Carlee Love, Brian Love Rick Blackshear Photography, Gordon College Drama Department, Hewes Family Movers, Creative Costumes, WHIE and WKEU! So many wonderful people gave so much to make this happen. Bless you all!

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Profiles

Marian Sorensen (Director) From 1979 to 1986, Marian was working with the Alliance Theatre School in Atlanta, GA as assistant director. One of her many duties was to supervise the work-study program of the interns. It was there she met B.J. Hughes, a talented, aspiring actor from New Jersey. From the beginning there was an artistic connection. For years they worked in the youth camps, lunchtime series and summer repertory theatre for the Alliance Theatre School. They produced countless numbers of adult and youth productions during that time. Who would have ever thought their paths would cross thirty years later? Marian is grateful to be reunited with such an old friend and to have such a talented, versatile cast as Curtis Brown and Gary Morgan. She is indebted to Norma Richardson for providing this opportunity and thankful that her husband, Neil, is so supportive. Other directing credits at MSP include: "Driving Miss Daisy," "Grace and Glorie", and "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever". May the spirit of the season remain with us throughout the coming year.

Gary Morgan (Arles) Gary is a 30+ year theatre and film veteran and is known to audiences around the Southern Crescent for his work at some of the south side's most prominent theatres. Some of his roles include Dracula in "Dracula," John Barrymore in "I Hate Hamlet," and John Baker in "Whose Wives Are They Anyway?" at South Side Theatre Guild. His other roles include John Utterson in "Jekyll and Hyde," Jim in "Pumpboys and Dinettes," George Banks in "Father of the Bride," and Captain John Smith in "Titanic" at the Henry Players. Gary also played the Confederate Captain in "The Civil War," Bill Sykes in "Oliver," and Reverend Shaw Moore in "Footloose" for Twilight Theatre. Main Street audiences will remember Gary for his roles as Reverend Mervin Oglethorpe in "Sanders Family Reunion" and Peter Fleming in "Moonlight and Magnolias." Gary is a two time Metro Atlanta Theatre Award Best Actor winner. He was recognized this past September for his portrayal of Morrie Swartz in "Tuesday's with Morrie," which he will be reprising at Main Street in February. Gary would like to thank Norma Richardson, Marian Sorensen, and the Main Street family for welcoming me back. Thanks to my wife Cathy and my sons Matt and Connor for their unconditional love and support. Last, but not least, I thank God for his blessings.

BJ Hughes (Scenic Designer) has produced and designed over 100 adult productions for Alliance Theatre Education, directing over 80, where he has been a teaching artist for 23 years. He is currently resident designer for Chattahoochee High School and is delighted that working with Main Street Players has helped him reconnect with his dear friend Marian Sorensen. As an actor BJ toured America for three years in classical productions of Shakespeare and Moliere before settling in Atlanta where he has performed at Theatrical Outfit, Horizon Theatre, theatre in the Square, and at the Alliance Theatre. He performed as an Equity guest artist for Classic Theatre Works at Kennesaw State University in the role of the Stage manager in "Our Town." His on-camera appearances include "In the Heat of the Night," the PBS mini-series "Avenue of Our Years," "A Son's Promise" with Rick Schroeder, "Driving Miss Daisy," and numerous commercials.

Roger Ferrier (Mural Artist) has a BFA in Media Arts and Animation from the Art Institute of Atlanta and is a cartoonist, illustrator, screenwriter and filmmaker. His previous collaborations with designer BJ Hughes include a mural for the play "Picnic" and a coloring book based on the actors and characters in the "Fabulous Fable Factory." In 2009 Roger sought to further his knowledge of the arts by taking acting classes at the Alliance Theatre. Since then he has been seen in Alliance Education productions of "Once in a Lifetime", "Our Town", "The Royal Family", and "Picnic." Roger has also played Reverend Sykes in "To Kill a Mocking Bird," Leland Cunningham in Pearl Cleage's "Blues for an Alabama Sky," and Queen in Tennessee Williams' "Not About Nightingales."

Curtis Brown (Thurston) is proud to be back performing with Main Street Players as an actor and costumer. He was the stage manager and sound technician for "Driving Miss Daisy" earlier this year. He also assisted on costumes for that show. Last season at MSP he performed the role of an immigrant in "Tintypes"; he also designed costumes for the show and served as Stage Manager for "Grace and Glorie". In addition, he was Amos "Hart in Chicago" with Henry Players. Mr. Brown has been performing with numerous theatre groups across the southeast for the last 10 years. He has also worked professionally at Snow Camp Outdoor Theatre in North Carolina for three seasons. He toured with the Springer Opera House touring company with "A Tuna Christmas" and "Greater Tuna" with Ed Howard (the original director and writer of the Tuna series). He would like to dedicate tonight's performance to Christine Boyd, his grandmother who was always there to inspire and be a strong, loving role model for him. She is Curtis' real life inspiration for the character of Pearl Burras in the show. This is for you, Grandma!

Jonathan Dorsey (Understudy) has a performance record that dates back to the years of Camelot @ Dove-down in the late 90s, where he was seen in "GREASE" and "ANNIE!" Since then he has sung and danced all over the southeast. More recently, he has been seen in Gordon College Theatre productions such as "Sylvia", "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee", "Hamlet", "Urinetown", and "The Rocky Horror Show" just to name a few. He is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of one of his favorite Christmas shows: "Tuna Christmas". He quips, "Performing this show is like having multiple personality disorder and paranoid schizophrenia. You don't know who you are or which character may follow you home."

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