

**RICHMOND
TRIANGLE PLAYERS**
PRESENTS

SO_QUEER

SOUTHERN QUEER PLAYWRITING FESTIVAL

ACUTE EXPOSURE

by Alice Hakvaag

RED WAVE

by Ty Autry

STONEWALLIN'

by Kari Barclay

TALMADGE & RAY

by Andy Nagraj
& Jonathan Spivey

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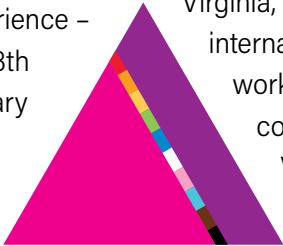
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RICHMOND TRIANGLE PLAYERS

We are proud to be the longest-operating professional theatre in the entire mid- Atlantic community that has continuously produced works relevant to the LGBTQ experience – in fact, we are now in our 28th season, despite the temporary closure caused by an unparalleled pandemic!

We are proud that the works we have produced have made a positive impact on our community, and have helped shape Richmond's conversations about diversity, equity and inclusion. And we are especially proud that in this time of need, RTP's patrons made it clear through their extraordinary support how much they



RICHMOND TRIANGLE PLAYERS

love the theatre we create. We are now regarded as one of the major cultural entities in Central Virginia, and have received international recognition for our work, in addition to commendations from the Virginia Legislature, recognition as a 2019 Richmond History Maker by the Valentine Museum and Capital Region Collaborative, and as an OUTstanding Virginian at the 2018 statewide Equality Virginia dinner.

Whether it's your first or fiftieth time at Richmond Triangle Players, thank you for joining us! We hope you will be with us for many years to come.

CONTACT US

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Philip Crosby, Executive Director; **Lucian Restivo**, Artistic Director;
presents

The So.Queer Playwriting Festival

The So.Queer Playwriting Festival is a competitive, biennial festival of LGBTQ+ works which will lead to the selection of one work by a playwright — a work that RTP will develop further in close collaboration with the chosen playwright.

“The So.Queer Playwriting Festival brings RTP to the forefront in the region to inspire and develop new southern LGBTQ+ musical and non-musical works,” says RTP artistic director Lucian Restivo, “using a unique process of radical collaboration and supportive engagement with playwrights, actors, and audiences.”

The idea for the Festival sprung from an endowed fund created by former RTP artistic director John Knapp and his husband Tom Gillham, dedicated to the creation and development of new musical and non-musical work. RTP convened a committee that spent more than a year researching other competitions and festivals across the country, and defining how RTP's could distinguish itself.

Each of the four finalists will present an excerpt of their work, introduced by them personally, in a collaborative online presentation, available via Video-On-Demand beginning January 15, 2020 and ending January 29, 2020. The works can be viewed for free by anyone across the country. Those viewing the works will be sent a survey to determine the winner; those votes, in conjunction with an adjudication committee selected by RTP, will determine the final winner of the Festival.

Over the course of the following year, RTP will develop further that winning work, in close collaboration with the chosen playwright, through a series of private workshop readings and public staged readings, as well as consultations with local artists, mentorship from theatre experts, and the provision of other creative supports. The goal is to give the play a full mainstage production in a future RTP season, possibly as early 2021.

This inaugural Festival is supported by the John Knapp and Tim Gilham Fund for New Work, along with special gifts from Barbara McCarthy, and David Peake.

Richmond Triangle Players' 2020-21 Season is made possible in part through extraordinary support from: The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, The Roy Cockrum Foundation, CultureWorks Grant Program, the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation Resilience Fund, and the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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THE FESTIVAL FINALISTS

ACUTE EXPOSURE

by **Alice Hakvaag**

Production Stage Manager
Abby Kastenber

Director
Hannah Postlewait

The Cast

Dell.....	Danni Coates
Mrs. Gastrock	Emily Parker
Mara	Isabel Robin

About the Play

Both Dell and Mara have goals for the end of senior year. Mara wants to graduate as Valedictorian. Dell wants to figure out a way to tell humans ten thousand years in the future about the tons of radioactive waste buried deep in the desert outside of Loving, New Mexico. Dell is the opposite of Mara; loud, opinionated, and... different, but Mara can't help but be curious about her neighbor.

After they are partnered on a school project about *Beowulf*, they grow closer, until their newfound intimacy threatens their status quo, and their dreams. In the end, they must examine what it means to be toxic, and how internalized toxicity can affect the people they love.

THE COMPANY



Danni Coates (Dell) is a junior theater major in the acting concentration at Temple University. She is so excited part of this festival! Audiences recently saw her as Rose Felix in *Candles with Philadelphia Young Playwrights* at the Arden. Her favorite previous roles include: Anna in *plants and other growing things*, Kara in *A Childish Plea*, and Coco in *Fame*.



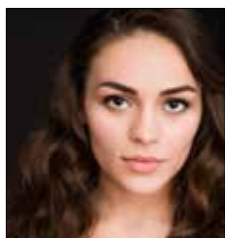
Isabel Robin (Mara) is currently getting her BFA in Musical Theater at Temple University. Most recently, she appeared as a featured soloist with The Philly POPS at the Kimmel Center and as the Princess in *Love's Labour's Lost: The Musical* at Temple Theaters. She is also a graduate of the Drama Studio at LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts in NYC.



Emily Parker (Mrs. Gastrock) is thrilled to be a part of *Acute Exposure*! Emily is an actor, director, and artist teacher. She is artistic director of Indecorous Theatre Productions, a small local Philly theatre company, specializing in bringing classical works to modern audiences. Her previous credits include Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Rosalind in *As You Like It*, Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Indecorous Theatre), and Cynthia Murdoch in *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* (Hedgerow Theatre). Emily wants to thank the entire cast and crew of *Acute Exposure* with a special shoutout to the incredibly talented writer, Alice Hakvaag!



Abigail Kastenber (Production Stage Manager) is a Philadelphia based Stage Manager. She graduated from Kenyon College with a BA in English Literature, where she was lucky enough to discover the world of stage managing and technical theatre. Previous credits include *As You Like It*, *Little Women*, *Bad Jews*, *Once on This Island*, *Our Town*, *Fairy Tale Fight Club: Cinderella* and, *Romeo and Juliet*. She also comes off of a three show internship at the Arden Theatre Company in Philadelphia, where she worked as a part of the Stage Management team on *Ragtime*, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, and *The Snow Queen*.



Hannah Postlewait (Director) is a NYC-Based Theatre Artist and a proud graduate of Temple University's BA Theatre Program in Philadelphia. Apart from being a Director and an Actor, Hannah has spent a significant amount of time in New York's Casting Industry, working on auditions for Broadway Shows, National Commercials and for Regional Theatres across the country. Most recent Directing Credits include *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl (TTSS/Pig Iron Theatre Company) & *Blithe Spirit* by Noël Coward (Assistant to the Director, The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey) among others. Since March, she has organized & cast over 35 Play Readings through her Online Theatre Group: The Anton Chekhov Theatre Collective. hannahpostlewait.com

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Alice Hakvaag is a queer theatre artist from rural Pennsylvania. She holds a BA in Theater from Temple University, was a recipient of the Kunal Nayyar Scholarship Award in 2018, and is a proud Ring of Keys member. Her work has been seen at Elephant Room Productions, Maladjusted Theatre Company, Mad Cow Theatre, Wings of Paper Theatre Company, 24 Hour Plays, as well as the End of Play initiative through Dramatists Guild. She has also worked internationally as a director, actor, and sound designer. When she isn't writing, she's probably doing something else in theatre, and when she isn't doing that, she's playing Dungeons and Dragons. Check out all her work at alicehakvaag.com.

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THE FESTIVAL FINALISTS

RED WAVE

By **Ty Autry**

Production Stage Manager

Lauren Langston

Director

Melissa Foulger

The Cast

Lily	Abby Holland
Mama	Dorothy "Dee-D." Miller
Mom	Daryl Lisa Fazio
Sue	Thalia Gonzalez Kane
Jack	Sam Gonzalez
Natasha	Amanda Barlow
Benji	Evan Vihlen
Stage Directions	Carmen Wiley

About the Play

In a world where 90% of the population is queer, it is a very different society than we live in today. Most of the queer population are religious in some aspect and it is the hetero-agenda to move the political climate of the United States forward to finally accept heterosexuals as real people and not wayward, sinful breeders.

Meet Lily, a straight soon-to-be freshman in college who was raised in the conservative religious south by her two lesbian moms. It's the summer of 2015, and Lily is not only excited to start her journey at college soon, but she is over the moon because the Supreme Court has struck down all bans on opposite-sex marriages. She might not have a boyfriend yet, but she finally has more freedom like the rest of her queer family.

As the show progresses away from 2015 and into the 2016 election, issues of social justice, equality, gun rights, abortion, and individual freedoms are questioned as a family is faced with a difficult, almost impossible choice in their eyes. How should they vote? Liberal? Conservative? Is voting for the Democrat candidate really a smart choice? After all, they want to take your guns away.

In a heated play, we are forced to look at issues of equality and

freedom in a new light. When we flip the entire world on its head, do we see issues of equality within our own queer population from a brand-new angle? How does it feel to be on the other side and not support defending someone's human rights over issues of education, guns, or simply because you didn't like them?

THE COMPANY



Amanda Barlow (Natasha) is a Boston born actor with experience in film, TV and theater performing in both New York and London. She's worked on shows such as the *Carrie Diaries* and *Orange is the New Black* and can be seen as Nadine in the new feature film *Now Hear This*, coming soon.



Daryl Lisa Fazio (Mom) is a playwright, actor and graphic designer for theatre based in Atlanta, Georgia. As an actor she has appeared with a number of Atlanta theatres, most recently as real-life lesbian and pioneering educator Mary Woolley in *Bull in a China Shop* at OutFront Theatre. Other acting work includes *Safety Net* (Theatrical Outfit world premiere of her own play; the play has also since been produced at Penobscot Theatre and was set for a production at Alabama Shakespeare Festival when Covid struck), *Boy* (Theatrical Outfit), *Split in Three* (Aurora Theatre), *Beulah Creek* (Found Stages), and *In the Next Room, or The Vibrator Play* (Synchronicity Theatre). As playwright, she's been produced by theatres from Atlanta (Actor's Express, Aurora Theatre, Horizon Theatre) to the larger southeast to off-Broadway. BA Theatre: Northwestern University. www.darylplays.com / www.darylfazio.com



Sam Gonzalez (Jack) is an actor, dancer, and producer based in New York City. He is an alum of the Atlantic Theater Company Acting School through NYU Tisch, where he now is a member of the faculty. He is the artistic director of The Joust Theatre Company. Recent acting credits include *Twenty-Six Seconds* (Columbia)

Big Green Theater (The Bushwick Starr) *Salt Kid Watches Brooklyn Burn* (Joe's Pub), *Little Match Girl Passion* (Met Breuer), *Sammy Spider's First Mitzvah* (92Y), *Lulu is Hungry*, *Blue Plate Special* (Ars Nova), and *The Velveteen Rabbit* (Atlantic Theater Company). thesamgonzalez.com



Abby Holland (Lily) is thrilled to be a part of the So. Queer Play Festival with the incredible *Red Wave* team. Recent credits: *Ride The Cyclone*, *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dress: The Rock Experience* (Alliance Theatre), *Macbeth* (Synchronicity Theatre), *Head Over Heels*, *The Crucible*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Company*, *Appropriate* (Actor's Express), *Freaky Friday*, *Mother's Day Special* (Horizon Theatre), *Fun Home* (Out of Box), *What's Past* (Weird Sisters Theatre Project), *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays*, *Sordid Lives*, *Christmas With The Crawfords* (Out Front Theatre), *Red: A Crayon's Musical* (Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival), *Love/Sick* (Aurora Theatre, Appco Alumni Series). BA Theatre/Women's Studies from UGA. IG: @abbyholland



Thalia Gonzalez Kane (Sue) is an Ecuadorian-Canadian multidisciplinary artist. She has worked as a performer in theatre and film, a voiceover artist, playwright, director, designer, choreographer, and producer in Canada, New York, the UK, Ireland and Sweden. She is a co-founder of Got Your Back Canada, a national advocacy and support network connecting artists, an adviser to [de]centre—the queer creative network for Atlantic Canadians, and the Artistic Director of Crave Productions. In June 2020, Thalia was named an LGBTQ+ artist to watch by *Playbill.com* for her solo show, *A Drunk Lesbian Love Affair*. She has been published by Intermission Magazine, University of Toronto Press Blog and Canadian Theatre Review. Thalia is currently the Online Features Editor for the Canadian Theatre Review. She can be found on Instagram at @teakane / @craveprod and Twitter @thalia_kane.



Dorothy "Dee-D." Miller (Mama), Associate Producing Director for Richmond's Heritage Ensemble Theatre Company, is thrilled to be a part of the dynamic cast of *Red Wave*. Dee- D's most recent works include a multitude of film/TV and voiceover projects including The United States Army Women's Museum representing Ms. Dovey Roundtree. Four full musicals including *Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad* with The Virginia Repertory Theater, *Jerry's Girls* and *All Shook Up* at the Ft Lee Playhouse, *A Christmas Memory* with the Illuminated Stage Theatre Company, and Heritage Ensemble Theatre's productions of *Wine in the Wilderness*, *The Dream Seller*, *Steal Away* and several others, along with a host of other projects in stage and film and television. She began performing personal pieces at local poetry clubs

around the RVA scene in 2010. In her spare time, she dabbles in painting and sculpting abstract art and commissioned works.



Evan Vihlen (Benji) earned a B.A. in Acting from Emerson College in Boston, MA, before moving down to Atlanta in 2018. Pre-Pandemic, he was most recently seen in the world premiere of *Wayfinding* at Synchronicity Theatre. Other previous regional credits include *We Are a Masterpiece* (Out of Box Theatre), *Speech and Debate* and *Curtains Up!* (Bad Habit Productions), and *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Canterville Ghost* (Williamstown Theatre Festival). Evan would like to give a big thank you to Ty and the Team for the opportunity to tell this story, and he would also like to thank his family and friends for their constant love and support.



Carmen Wiley (Stage Directions) is excited to be working with this amazing crew. Recent credits include *Head and Heart* with New York Musical Festival, *Aussie Song* at NYTF Summerfest, and Veronica Sawyer in *Heathers: The Musical*. While earning her BFA in Theatre from Virginia Commonwealth University, she appeared as The Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot* and Penelope Pennywise in *Urinetown*. She currently lives in New Jersey and is working on honing her video editing skills. She would like to thank her family, Alex, and squad for being the best support system.



Lauren Langston (Production Stage Manager) is delighted to be back at RTP after stage managing *The Santa Closet* this Winter as well as *The Cake* and *The Rocky Horror Show* last season. She believes in vintage aesthetics not values, love is love, gender is a construct, black lives matter, and continues to pursue BIPOC allyship. Thank you to Deven and dogs Millie and Roddy for making quarantine so full of love.



Melissa Foulger (Director) is the Artistic Director for DramaTech Theatre and an Instructor at the Georgia Institute of Technology. In Atlanta, she had directed at Actor's Express, Aurora Theatre, Dad's Garage, Theatrical Outfit, Theatre in the Square, and 7 Stages. She is a multiple Suzi Bass Award Nominee. More at

www.melissafoulger.com

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Ty Autry is an award-winning playwright and actor best known for his play *A Southern Fairytale*, the story of a gay Christian growing up in the Deep South. His work focuses on modern Christianity, the complexity of Queer identity, and Southern charm — where “yes ma’am” and “please” reign supreme. He draws upon

his own personal experiences of growing up in the heart of the Deep South as a gay Christian to help cultivate these stories. Ty is a graduate of Georgia Tech with a degree in electrical engineering, a former apprentice at Georgia Ensemble Theatre, and alumni and faculty member at Atlantic Acting School in New York City. He currently resides in Atlanta, GA with his loving partner Cameron. You can learn more about his work by visiting tyautry.com. | @JTyaAutry

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THE FESTIVAL FINALISTS

STONEWALLIN'

by **Kari Barclay**

Production Stage Manager
Claire Breger-Belsky

Director
Raja Benz

The Cast

Tommy Jackson	Drewe Goldstein
Marsha Lyons	Lucretia Marie Anderson
Mamaw Jackson	Lillian Bornstein
Elijah Lyons	Alvan Bolling II
Stonewall Jackson	TC Fair

About the Play

"Stonewall Jackson coughs, and out comes glitter." *Stonewallin'* is a queer coming-of-age story in the American South full of witchcraft, war re-enactors, and ghosts. Developed over two years under the guidance of Young Jean Lee, *Stonewallin'* explores the role of historical memory in racial justice and offers an account of attraction rarely seen on stage.

The witches are up to something in the small-town South. When Marsha moves from Berkeley to Virginia to reconnect with her family's roots, she finds a barista with an astrology obsession, a Confederate monument gone missing, and the makings of a bisexual love story — if she wants it. With humanity, humor, and as many layers as a biscuit, this new play explores the families we choose, the families we don't, and the folks making magic in a changing South.

THE COMPANY



Lucretia Marie Anderson (Marsha Lyons) is thrilled to be part of this inaugural So.Queer Playwrights Festival and the reading of this play that roosts so close to home. Lucretia is a theatre artist/activist and current co-director of Richmond's Spectrum Queer Youth Theatre program. Their recent acting credits in the Richmond area include: Richmond Triangle Players: Ramona in *Molly House*, Richmond Shakespeare Festival/Quill Theatre: Vincentio/Tailor in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Firehouse Theatre: Patty Smith in *Animal Control*, Quill Theatre: Mustapha Mond in *Brave New World*, RTP/TheatreLab: Riot in *Nerve: Stories of Queer Resistance*, Dogwood Dell: Ensemble in *Hamilton Live*. They are excited to appear in their first film in the role of Jackie in Remember Tommy Production's *Shanidar* later this year.



Alvan Bolling II (Elijah Lyons) is a Theatre Performance Major, expected to graduate Spring 2021 from Virginia Commonwealth University. He has gotten more into voice acting while in quarantine, but his interest in it began in October 2019, when he began producing, editing, and, regularly, performing in his own podcast:

"The Ghost Light Theater" (anchor.fm/ghostlight) – an Anthological Horror Fiction Podcast. He's appeared on stages all around Virginia, and most recently can be heard on episodes 2 & 4 of the podcast, "Margaret's Garden". He loves Marvel/Disney, all genres of music, *The Twilight Zone*, musicals (especially being in them), old time radio, pro wrestling, Halloween and Christmas. He wants to give a big shout out to his incredible parents, his wonderful girlfriend, great friends, and needy dog, Kofi, for all their love & support in pursuing his acting dreams! For more on Alvan, visit: <http://www.allmylinks.com/alvanwithana>



Lillian Bornstein (Mamaw Jackson) is a Brooklyn-based actor and writer. Lillian was born in Louisiana and raised in Nebraska, and she studied at Stanford University and The Royal Central School of Speech & Drama. They love their two cats, the cemetery near their apartment, and collaborating on brilliant work like *Stonewallin'!* (lillianbornstein.com)



TC Fair (Stonewall Jackson) graduated with his BFA in Acting from Northern Illinois University. During his time there, he had the privilege of studying at the world-renowned Moscow Art Theatre in Moscow, Russia. TC is very excited to join this cast from Chicago and get back into the theatre world during these times. He'd also like to thank the wonderful Raja for including him in this project. Previous shows include: *The Normal Heart* (Ned); *Ivanov* (Ivanov); *Young Frankenstein* (Monster); and *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (Barrymore).



Drewe Goldstein (Tommy Jackson) As an artist, Drewe demands the production of diverse, politically relevant, and challenging theatre. The theatre of tomorrow will not only be for all, but will spark productive conversation. There is no other option. New York Theatre: *Most Happy* [Dir. Daniel Fish]. VCUarts

Theatre: *Sense and Sensibility* (John Dashwood), *Three Musketeers* (King Louis), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ensemble, U/S Orin), S.A.L.T: *Orlando* and *4.48 Psychosis*. Directing credits include; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Director) at Dogtown Dance, *God of Carnage* (Director), *I and You* (Assistant Director) at the Weston Playhouse, *Sense and Sensibility* (Movement Director), *Enough* (Choreographer), *Venus in Fur* (Assistant Director), and *A Doll's House* (Assistant Director) at TheatreLab. Upcoming; *People Who Called* Audio Play (Director) www.drewegoldstein.com



Claire Breger-Belsky (Production Stage Manager) graduated from Stanford University this past June with a BA in theater and performance studies. Recent shows include *Beyond the Wound Is a Portal* (Associate SM), *Everybody* (SM), *REVIVAL: Millennial reMembering in the Afro NOW* (PSM), and *Cabaret* (SM) at Stanford

and *Greater Good* (SM Intern) at Company One Theatre. They are thrilled to have this opportunity help bring *Stonewallin'* to life.

Raja Benz (Director) is a transgender actor, director, and educator from Chicago currently living in RVA. Raja is a graduate student pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance Pedagogy with a post-baccalaureate certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University. Additionally, Raja holds a BFA from the Professional Actor Training Program from Northern Illinois University, where she was granted the opportunity to study at the Moscow Art

Theatre. Raja's work centers on historically excluded narratives of queer of intimacy and pleasure. Raja has worked on a number of community works such as 'The Consent Project,' which formed a collaboration with comprehensive sexual health educators and artists to offer low or no cost community workshops based on the methodologies popularized by Augusto Boal.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Kari Barclay (he/him or they/them) is a queer playwright who tells big stories of intimacy and freedom. A Bay Area Playwrights Festival Finalist and winner of the Sudler Award in the Arts, he is the author of six plays. His comedy *Can I Hold You* was one of the first plays in the U.S. to explore asexual identities. It enjoyed a sold-out run in San Francisco and workshop in New York. Raised in Lexington, VA and educated in Durham, NC, Kari champions Southern voices in theater. He currently lives in Berkeley, CA and is completing his PhD in Theater and Performance Studies at Stanford University.

kari-barclay.com



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THE FESTIVAL FINALISTS

TALMADGE & RAY

by **Andy Nagraj** and **Jonathan Spivey**

Production Stage Manager
Veronica Aglow

Director
Lavina Jadhvani

The Cast

Talmadge Fox Jonathan Spivey
Ray Patel Andy Nagraj

About the Play

At the First Baptist Church in the small fictional Southern town of Stillwater, flamboyant and closeted musical director Talmadge Fox anxiously prepares for his annual Chancel Choir concert but faces a crisis. With his choir rehearsal minutes away, his toilet is in desperate need of repairs. Talmadge calls a plumber but when Indian-American plumber Ray Patel arrives, Talmadge assumes he is a terrorist and panics. Tension is palpable: Talmadge distrusts Ray because of his ethnicity and Ray is uncomfortable around Talmadge because of his sexuality. Ray inspects the toilet and reveals he'll need to order parts which will take a week to arrive. Despite their differences, the two men will have to spend more time together than either expected.

Ray begrudgingly returns the following week to finish his repairs and both he and Talmadge begin to see past their initial judgments. Each gains a shaky understanding of the other's religious upbringing, family life, and hopes for the future, and they discover a shared love of church music. With the toilet repaired, Talmadge is ready to resume rehearsals for a successful concert when more bad news arrives: the local celebrity he hired to headline the concert has jumped ship to sing at a rival church's concert. Facing the prospect of public humiliation, Talmadge spirals into panic. Just when he needs a miracle most, it arrives from where it's least expected. Ray reveals his long hidden talent as a truly gifted singer. Though uncertain of how the rural community of Stillwater will receive Ray, the two men decide that Ray must headline the concert.

Over the course of the following weeks, the two men attempt to set aside their differences of race and sexuality with the common goal of

ensuring the concert's success. Though they try their best to get along, the ensuing rehearsal process strains Talmadge and Ray's burgeoning friendship. They struggle to agree on song selection, musical styles, and marketing strategies until they hit upon a mutual admiration for *The Andy Griffith Show* and all of the musical acts that made their way through Mayberry. They begin to appreciate and relish one another's personal differences and join forces to put together a concert that they are both excited about, inspired by the music from the television show they both loved as children.

The day before the concert, as they are wrapping up their final rehearsal, Talmadge receives a phone call from the church's pastor. Several parishioners, dismayed at the prospect of Ray's performance and subject to their own racial prejudices, have convinced the pastor to offer Talmadge an ultimatum: either Ray does not participate in the concert or Talmadge loses his job. Talmadge reveals his employment at the church is further complicated by rumors of his sexuality, but Ray feels betrayed at Talmadge's seeming acquiescence. Tensions flare and Ray storms out of the church, furious and hurt.

The next evening, Ray returns to the church and finds Talmadge warming up for the concert. They talk things over with cooler heads, and Talmadge reveals that he is going to resign from his position at the end of the concert. They decide to go out and perform their closing number for the congregation, together.

THE COMPANY



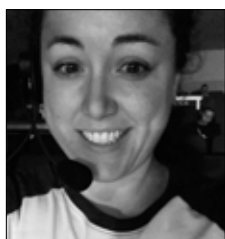
Andy Nagraj (Ray/ Playwright) is a Chicago-based actor, writer, and musician. Originally from Yorktown, Virginia, he's performed for theatres across the country including Steppenwolf, Goodman, Milwaukee Rep, Denver Center, and the Utah, Idaho, Ohio, and Virginia Shakespeare Festivals. TV credits include *Chicago Fire* (NBC), *Proven Innocent* (FOX), and *The Late Show with*

Stephen Colbert (CBS), and he currently provides the voice and motion-capture for Tony the Tiger. With Jonathan Spivey, he co-authored the musical *Murphy's Law*, which enjoyed a reading at RTP in 2016. Andy also plays guitar and sings for The Winchesters, who released their debut album, *Train & Taxi*, in 2019. www.andynagraj.com



Jonathan Spivey (Talmadge/ Playwright) is a New York City based actor, playwright, and musician, originally from Windsor, Virginia. As an actor, Jonathan appeared on Broadway in the 2016 revival of *The Front Page* and in Lincoln Center's *Act One*, later televised for PBS. Off-Broadway: *Summer and Smoke* (Classic

Stage Company/Transport Group), *Smart Blonde* (59E59), and '68 (NYMF). Regional favorites: Yale Repertory Theatre, Long Wharf, Denver Center, Milwaukee Rep, Maltz Jupiter, Barrington Stage, Syracuse Stage, Geva Theatre, Virginia Rep, Quill Theatre, and extensively at The Old Globe in San Diego where he earned his MFA in acting. With Andy Nagraj, he is the co-author of the musical comedy *Murphy's Law* which received its professional premiere in Pittsburgh in 2016. He is the playwright and performer of *Rodgersandhart*, a one-man-and-a-piano evening with queer lyricist Lorenz Hart, presented at Radford University in 2018. Jonathan provided voice and motion capture for Sonny in Rockstar Games' *Red Dead Redemption 2*. www.jspivey.com



Veronica Aglow (Stage Manager) is a NYC based Equity stage manager who is thankful to be working on some great theatre, even if it's from behind a computer screen. Broadway: *The Lightning Thief*, *The Last Ship*. Off-Broadway: *Avenue Q*, *Fiddler on the Roof* in Yiddish, *On the Grounds of Belonging* (Public Theater), *The Mad Ones* (Prospect Theatre Company), *A Taste of Things to Come* (York Theatre), and *Brits* Off-Broadway (59E59 Theaters). National Tour: *The*

Lightning Thief, Summer: the Donna Summer musical. Regional: Cape Playhouse, Geva Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, and Arkansas Repertory Theatre. Virtual: *Eschaton*.



Lavina Jadhvani (Director) is a theatre director, adaptor, and activist. Recent directing credits include *As You Like It* at the Guthrie Theatre, *Peter and the Starcatcher* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, *Roe* and *The Cake* at Asolo Repertory Theatre. Directing fellowships include the Phil Killian Directing Fellowship at OSF, the Drama League's Classical Directing Fellowship at Shakespeare & Company, and the National Directors Fellowship (O'Neill/NNPN/SDC/Kennedy Center). Lavina lives in Chicago, where she was recently named "One of the Top Fifty People Who Really Perform for Chicago" by NewCity; in 2013 she was TimeOut Chicago's "Best Next Generation Stage Director." BFA/MA, Carnegie Mellon University; MFA, The Theatre School at DePaul University.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

Please see Andy and Jonathan's bios listed under "The Company."

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Philip Crosby (Executive Director) is entering his second decade leading Richmond Triangle Players. He has over thirty-five years of experience leading nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, including as a professional marketer, publicist, fundraiser and strategist for Cleveland's Great Lakes Theater Festival, Boston Shakespeare Festival, TheatreVirginia, and Richmond Ballet. During his career, he has had the great good fortune to work with some of the most celebrated names in theatre, film and dance, including Tom Hanks, Olympia Dukakis, Hal Holbrook, Alfred Drake, George Abbott, Ruby Dee, Graciela Daniele, Gerald Freedman, Bart Cook and Maria Calegari. He joined the Board of RTP in 2001, and became the company's first full-time Managing Director in 2009. In concert with RTP's Board, artists, staff, patrons and volunteers, he has helped transform this company from a small fringe theater into one of Richmond's most vital arts institutions and the cultural anchor of the revitalized Scott's Addition neighborhood. He holds a BS in Speech from Northwestern University. He was appointed by former Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe to serve on the Commonwealth's first LGBT Tourism Task Force, has served on several advisory panels for the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and has been a member of Richmond Region Tourism's OutRVA Campaign since its inception. He is the current president of the RVA Theatre Alliance and serves on the board of the Scott's Addition Business Association. None of this would be possible without the love and support of his husband, David Ballas.

Lucian Restivo (Artistic Director) is a theatre professional in the Richmond area. Most recent directing credits include *Seven Homeless Mammoths...* (2019 RTCC nomination for Best Play), *The Laramie Project* (2019 RTCC winner for Best Director - Play and Best Play), and *The View UpStairs* with RTP; *Murder Ballad* with 5th Wall Theatre. He has also assisted Justin Amellio in directing *bare: a pop opera* (2013 RTCC winner for Best Musical), and *The Boy from Oz* with RTP. Favorite sound design credits include *Act of God*, *Buyer and Cellar*, and *Corpus Christi* with RTP; *Dry Land* (2017 RTCC nomination for Achievement in Sound Design) and *Grand Concourse* (2017 RTCC winner for Best Play) with TheatreLAB. Favorite acting credits include *Almost, Maine* and *The Little Lion* (Joel) with Swift Creek Mill Theatre; *The Lyons* (Curtis) with 5th Wall Theatre; *Dog Sees God* (Beethoven) at the Firehouse Theatre Project; *bare: a pop opera* (Lucas), *Psycho Beach Party* (Yo-Yo), *Corpus Christi* (2017 RTCC nomination for Best Play and Best Ensemble Acting), *The Normal Heart*

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(2017 RTCC nomination for Best Play) with RTP. He was a part of the Top 40 Under 40 Class of 2017. He has toured internationally with Missoula Children's Theatre and nationally with VA Rep. He has also worked with Ford's Theatre and The Studio Theatre in Washington, DC. He is a proud dog dad to Leo and drag husband to Wette Midler. VCU '11.

Breezy Potter (Company Manager) is a 2017 graduate of TheatreVCU with a BFA in Theatre and a concentration in Stage Management and she is now the Company Manager at Richmond Triangle Players. She spends a lot of her theatre time stage managing, with recent credits including *Molly House* (Richmond Triangle Players), *The Revolutionists*, *Urinetown*, *Dance Nation*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Significant Other*, *A Doll's House*, *I'm Gonna Pray for You So Hard*, *Moth*, and *The Last Five Years* (TheatreLAB), and *Heathers: The Musical* (TheatreLAB and Firehouse Theatre). You also may have seen her play a cute lil glitch of a human in the world premiere of *Level 4* at TheatreLAB. She is very small, please do not step on her.

RICHMOND TRIANGLE PLAYERS **MANAGEMENT AND STAFF**

Executive Director	Philip Crosby
Artistic Director	Lucian Restivo
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WHO WE ARE

For almost 30 years, Richmond Triangle Players has been transforming our community's conversations about diversity, equity and inclusion through the production of LGBTQ-themed works.

A nonprofit, professional theatre company organized in 1993, RTP is the only professional theatre company in the Richmond area – and the longest continually operating one in the entire Mid-Atlantic region – which expressly and regularly serves the LGBTQ community. While other local theatres occasionally produce plays with LGBTQ content, only Triangle Players has made an ongoing commitment to LGBTQ artists, issues, audiences and community support.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

In 2009, RTP vacated the crumbling building in which its theater had been housed and transformed an old radiator shop in a then-unknown neighborhood, into the warm, welcoming and exciting performance venue you are sitting in today.

Since then, RTP has won acclaim from its growing and diverse audiences, as well as from the Richmond Theatre Critics Circle, with over 100 "Best" nominations, and awards for Best Play and Best Musical multiple times each. The readers of *STYLE Weekly* have twice voted Richmond Triangle Players as Richmond's Best Local Theatre Company, in addition to naming RTP in its "Top Three" every year.

In 2018, Richmond Triangle Players was honored at the statewide Equality Virginia dinner as one of that year's "OUTstanding Virginians," and in 2019 was privileged to be named a "Richmond History Maker," by the Valentine Museum and Capital Region Collaborative.

Continued on page 39



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Additional plaudits have come from the national publication *Playbill.com*, which named RTP as one of the 15 most important theaters of its kind in the nation, as well as in an editorial from the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* which said, in part: "RTP has been consistently willing to explore tough issues involving people who are gay in America and the challenges — and triumphs — they experience ... Their dramatic success here has opened doors and opened minds the old-fashioned way — through laughter, tears, and telling truth."

RTP is also the cultural anchor of Scott's Addition, one of the most vibrant new neighborhoods in Richmond to live, play or work, hosting over 160 events to the delight of over 10,000 enthusiastic patrons annually.

Most important, in June 2018, Triangle Players was proud to announce the completion of its 25th Anniversary Campaign, which enabled the company to purchase its building free and clear, complete exterior renovations including a signature marquee canopy, refresh its lobby and

Continued on page 41



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bar area, add a staff position, upgrade its lighting and sound equipment, undergird its Annual Fund, and establish both an Operating Reserve Fund and an endowed fund for the development of New Works.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

The world is certainly a different place since the days of our humble beginnings – performing for small audiences on a makeshift stage in the attic of a now-defunct afterhours club. Yet while RTP – and our community – has made so many strides in today's America, there still are many challenges ahead.

Our equality teeters on the vital intersection of the LGBTQ+ community and the RVA community in a time in our nation's history where much progress has been made – yet so many obstacles remain. In our community – now coping with the effects of a global pandemic, and with no further patience to idly accept systemic racism built into its very fabric – RTP's singular voice in the community is needed now more than ever.



GET CLOSER TO US

Your gift to our Annual Fund not only guarantees we can keep our unique voice strong, but will enable you to get closer to the artists and pull back the curtain on our process through a series of exclusive events, so that you feel a closer part of the RTP family.



Please pledge your support for RTP today. Simply go to www.rtriangle.org to make a secure donation with your credit or debit card... you can even set up recurring payments! It couldn't be faster, easier – or more important.

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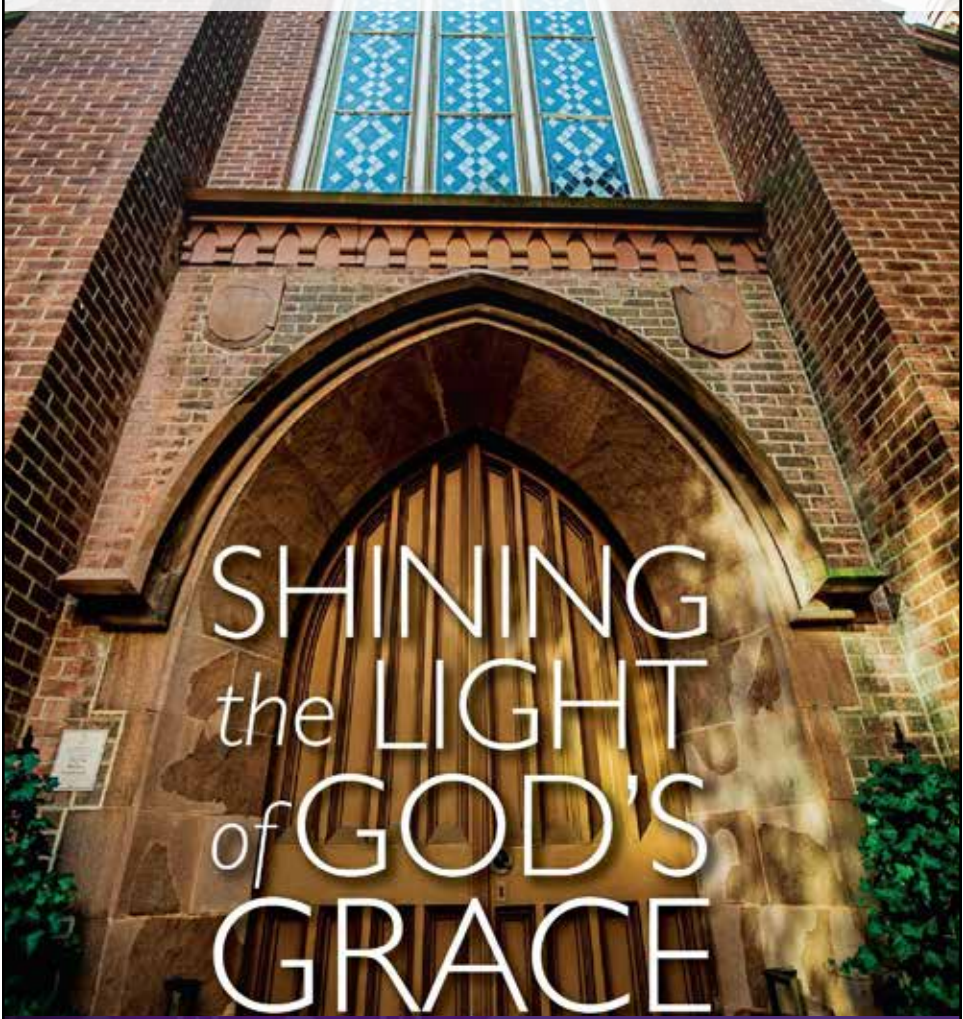
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SUPPORT THE CREATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WORK

As a part of our landmark 25th Anniversary Campaign, RTP founder John Knapp and his husband Tim Gillham graciously endowed a new fund to support the creation and development of original LGBTQ work, especially musical theater work. RTP audiences will start seeing the fruits of that investment this season, as we kick off the inaugural So.Queer Playwrights Festival (see our web site for more information).

Additional gifts to support *The John Knapp and Tim Gillham Fund* are welcomed and encouraged. For more information, contact RTP Executive Director Philip Crosby at crosby@rtriangle.org

LEAVE A LEGACY FOR RTP

Did you know it is possible to support Richmond Triangle Players through your will or IRA?

Please help us sustain the work that we do by including Richmond Triangle Players in your estate planning. Your generosity will enable theatergoers to enjoy shows at RTP well into the future and will help us continue to offer in-depth education programs that directly benefit area youth. If you choose to include RTP in your estate plans, please let us know so we can thank you personally for making such a vital and important commitment.

Making RTP a beneficiary of your retirement plan is both tax efficient and as easy as changing the beneficiary form with your IRA administrator and designating RTP as a primary, contingent or partial beneficiary. Alternatively you can make a bequest through your will, codicil or trust. Here is an example:

I, [insert your name], bequeath the sum of [insert monetary sum or percentage of my residuary estate] to Richmond Triangle Players, 1300 Altamont Ave, Richmond, VA 23230 Tax ID # 62-1513800

Richmond Triangle Players' Legacy Society honors individuals that have chosen to arrange a planned gift with a value of \$5,000 or above. Benefits are life-long and begin as soon as you notify us of your gift and send a copy of the documentation that mentions RTP.

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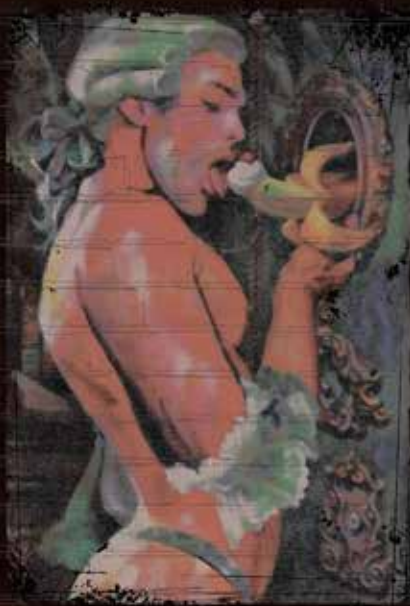
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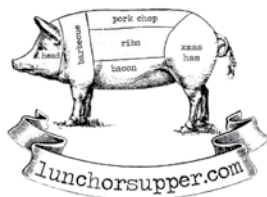
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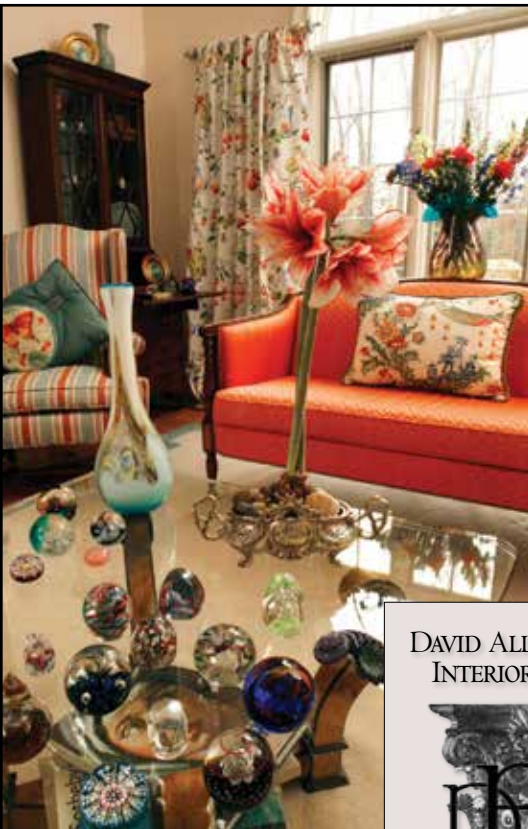


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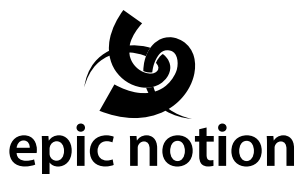
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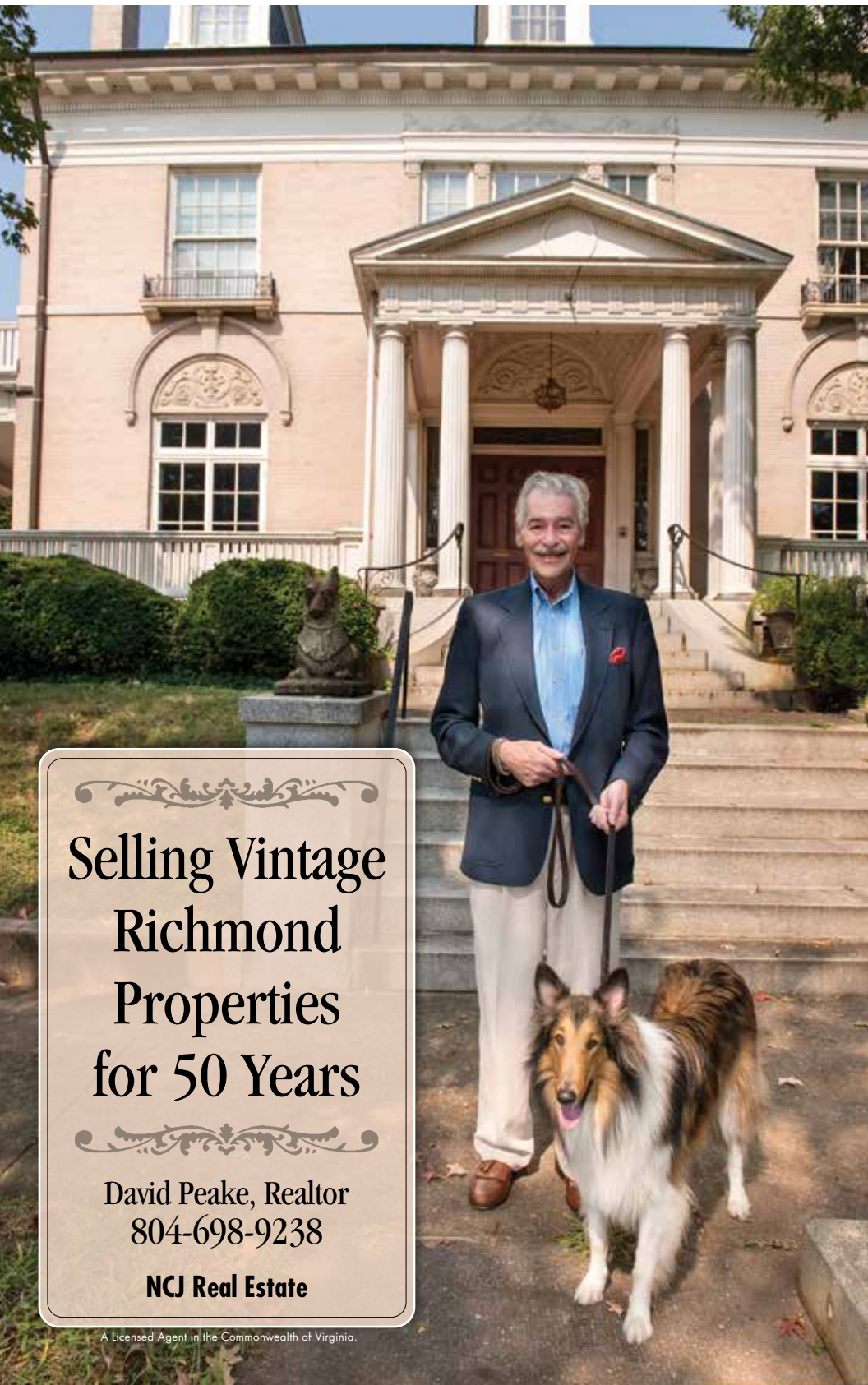


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