

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

December 2021

Dear theater family & friends,

Thank you so much for sharing the holidays with us and the Shealy family. I am so grateful for all the wonderfully creative work involved in this show. Many thanks to Beth and her team for bringing us this funny and moving production of "Dot" by Colman Domingo—please help spread the word!

Next year marks Brookfield Theatre's 65th Anniversary and we have a great season of shows to celebrate. Please support our work with your purchase of a subscription and don't miss a show—or join us as a volunteer and help make wonderful theatre happen!

Happy Holidays,

Lou Okell, President



Celebrating 65 Years of Theatre!

Subscriptions on sale soon—visit BrookfieldTheatre.org for more information.

Brookfield Theatre's 2022 Season of Shows

Night of the Assassins
by José Triana
translated by Kevin Dreyer
directed by Tony Bosco-Schmidt

Shirley Valentine
by Willy Russell

DISASTER!

65th
Anniversary
Cabaret
1937-2022

sweat
by Lynn Nottage

tick,
tick...
BOOM!

BERNHARDT
HAMLET

Spotlight Program
Seussical JR.

Spotlight Program
PETER PAN JR.

Dot

by **COLMAN DOMINGO**

directed by **BETH YOUNG**

produced by **LOU OKELL**

STARRING

Dot **Loretta Fedrick**
Shelly **Kendall Driffin**
Donnie **Jeramie Gladman**
Averie **Dania Fedrick**
Fidel **Rick Calvo**
Jackie **Lucy Manos**
Adam **Joseph DeVellis**

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

*You are welcome to decorate the tree or join us in a singalong with
Vitabella Mellaci*

DOT—World premiere in the 2015 Humana Festival of New American Plays at
ACTORS THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE.

DOT was produced by the VINEYARD THEATRE,
Douglas Aibel, Artistic Director, Sarah Stern, Co-Artistic Director,
Jennifer Garvey-Blackwell, Executive Director, New York City, Winter, 2016.

**DOT is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com**

**THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL
RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS
IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION
OF THE AUTHOR(S)'S RIGHTS AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT
LAW. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:**

<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>

For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with copyright laws, the taking photos or recordings of any kind is strictly prohibited. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL** non-essential electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons are welcome to text or tweet in the lobby.**

BIOGRAPHIES



Colman Domingo (AUTHOR) A 2021 Gotham Award Nominee for Outstanding Supporting Performance for his work in ZOLA, Hollywood Critics Association Award winner for Best Actor in a Limited Series/Anthology and Imagen Award winner for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama for his work in EUPHORIA, and a Film Independent Spirit, NAACP, SAG and Critics Choice Award nominee for his work in MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM, Colman Domingo is a Tony, Olivier, Drama Desk, and Drama League Award nominated actor, director, writer and producer. Colman

has recently received his Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Ursinus College. He just joined the faculty of University of Southern California, School of Dramatic Arts as a Professor of acting, after having served as a Juilliard School Creative Associate and a faculty member of the Yale School of Drama. Colman has starred in some of the most profound films in recent years such as Barry Jenkins' IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK, Steven Spielbergs' LINCOLN, Lee Daniel's THE BUTLER, Ava DuVernay's SELMA and Nate Parker's BIRTH OF A NATION. He stars in this summer's films, Jordan Peele's CANDYMAN and Janicza Bravo's ZOLA. He stars on AMC's FEAR THE WALKING DEAD for seven seasons and guest stars on HBO's EUPHORIA as Ali. He recurred on Steven Soderbergh's series THE KNICK. As a writer, his plays and musicals include DOT (Samuel French), WILD WITH HAPPY (Dramatist Play Service) and A BOY AND HIS SOUL (Oberon Books), the Tony Award nominated Broadway musical SUMMER: THE DONNA SUMMER MUSICAL and Geffen Playhouse's groundbreaking musical LIGHT'S OUT: NAT KING COLE. His plays have been produced by The Public Theater, Vineyard, La Jolla Playhouse, Humana Festival of New American Plays, New York Stage and Film, A.C.T, The Tricycle Theater in London, Brisbane Powerhouse in Australia, among others. He is the recipient of a Lucille Lortel, Obie, Audelco and GLAAD Award for his work. Colman is currently writing a new musical for The Young Vic in London/ Concord Music. His production company, Edith Productions, has a first look deal with AMC Studios for which he is developing television, film, theater and animation projects. He is currently shooting Season 4 of his series, BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH AT COLMAN'S across all AMC platforms and readying his scripted series WEST PHILLY, BABY, for which he will write, direct and executive produce for ALLBLK/AMC+.



Elizabeth Young (DIRECTOR) is an actor, playwright and director. She also is the theatre critic for the *Newtown Bee*. She has performed in numerous local theaters. Favorite roles include M'Lynn in STEEL MAGNOLIAS at Castlecraig Players, Blanche in BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS at Newtown, three small roles in SYLVIA, as well as Barbara in PERFECT ARRANGEMENT and Annette in GOD OF CARNAGE, all here at Brookfield. Elizabeth has written and directed a number of plays during her time as a volunteer theater teacher at Garner Correctional. She has also

written several plays which have been produced locally, including EVERLASTING LIGHT and CAUSATION. She is eternally grateful for the opportunity to direct DOT. The entire process has been a pleasure due in large part to the manifold blessings of an amazing cast, a fabulous stage manager, a host of very helpful and expert crew members and, of course, Lou and Andy. This is for you Mom. I understand.

Christopher Bird (STAGE MANAGER) majored in theatre at Dickinson College. He studied at HB studios in New York and attended the graduate training program in acting at the American Conservatory Theatre. In Los Angeles he worked in film and television both in front of and behind the camera and became a member of SAG. He has appeared in numerous productions in the region including here at Brookfield in MACBETH, GOD OF CARNAGE and THE NORMAL HEART.

Dot

by **COLMAN DOMINGO**

directed by **BETH YOUNG**

produced by **LOU OKELL**

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR	Beth Young
PRODUCER	Lou Okell
STAGE MANAGER	Christopher Bird
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Kaitlyn Salvatore
LIGHTING & SOUND DESIGN	Lou Okell
LIGHTING TECHNICIAN	Tim Heydenburg
SOUND TECHNICIAN	Tom Heydenburg
SET BUILD	Andrew Okell, Don Lombardo, Vincent Young
COSTUMES	Beth Young
PROPS & SET DECORATION	Terry Sagedy
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER	Stephen Cihanek
POSTER DESIGN	Nathaly Abreu
GALLERY CURATOR	Jeanne Steers
VOLUNTEER MANAGER	Joy Tagliavento
BOX OFFICE MANAGER	Danette Bottelsen

Special Thanks

Liz Milazzo and Savers of Brookfield, Arkettype Graphics

For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with CDC recommendations, please follow current mask & social distance guidelines. Remain seated throughout the performance and mingle with cast and friends outdoors after the show. Please use all exits.

EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

BIOGRAPHIES – CREATIVE



Rick Calvo (FIDEL) is a New York based actor and is thrilled to play Fidel in this production of DOT at Brookfield Theatre in his home state. Rick most recently played Emory this past Summer in THE BOYS IN THE BAND at the Madison Lyric Stage, Pat in AS IS with the Regeneration Theatre, Ralphie in IN THE BOOM BOOM ROOM at The Players Theatre and McDonald Trump in UBU REX at the Theater for the New City. Rick also appeared in Discovery ID's 3-part series DARK PLACES, FAMOUSLY AFRAID on the Travel channel and in the upcoming tv show THE KLEIN SYNDICATE as well as the film THE LONELY PLANET. Thank you Beth Young and Lou Okell for all your work on this production. www.rickcalvo.com



Joseph "Jojo" DeVellis (ADAM) is grateful to be back on stage for the first time since quarantine! An alumni of WCSU, their major credits include Agatha Trunchbull in MATILDA and Pharaoh in JOSEPH... through the 1214 Foundation's NewArts program. Community theatre credits include Frederick Frankenstein in YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN at TheatreWorks New Milford, Eddie in THE WILD PARTY at Brookfield Theatre, and Claude in HAIR at the Sherman Playhouse. They write and produce the art education podcast DADA OR NOTHING! | THE MECHANICS OF ART through their studio, Hippie Pink Ferret. Links to the show and social media can be found at: linktr.ee/hippiepinkferret



Kendall Driffin (SHELLY) is proud to make her debut performance at Brookfield Theatre. She was born and raised in New Haven, CT. Kendall, a graduate of American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, is a Connecticut and New York City based actor. Her performances include ALTHEA at Playhouse on Park, HER TIME at the Klein Theatre, and THE BOY AT THE EDGE OF EVERYTHING on Long Wharf Theatre. She is grateful for her friends and family for their unwavering love and support. She would like to thank all the cast and crew of DOT for making this a memorable and fun experience. *I dedicate this show to my mother, Ressinia Driffin. I love you.*



Dania Fedrick (AVERIE) has recently launched her film career with several projects currently in the works. Stage credits include HENRY V, FENCES, CROSSED SWORDS, DREAMGIRLS, NO STRINGS ATTACHED, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, GODSPELL, MIRROR FACE, MEMPHIS, JOSEPH... and numerous youth productions. Dania is a graduate of the Waterbury Arts Magnet School. She thanks her parents for their love and support.



Loretta Jones Fedrick (Dor) is excited to be on stage at Brookfield Theatre with these wonderfully talented individuals. She was most recently seen at the Warner Theater in DOG FIGHT (Librarian, Ruth Two Bears, and Chippy). Favorite shows include GODSPELL (Jesus/Pit Ensemble), DREAM GIRLS (Joan), HAIRSPRAY (Lauren), and SISTER ACT at Thomaston Opera House. She also appeared in DOUBT (Mrs. Mueller) in Goshen, PROPERTY (Mahalia) at the Warner, and BARE (Sister Chantelle) and CROSSED SWORDS (Rosa Parks—virtual) here at Brookfield.

BIOGRAPHIES – CREATIVE



Jeramie Gladman (DONNIE) is happy to return to Brookfield after last appearing as Burrs in *THE WILD PARTY*. Other credits include Paula in *STRAIGHT MEN CAN'T DANCE* (Brookfield Theatre virtual reading), Marty in *DREAMGIRLS* (Fairfield Center Stage), Annas in *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* (Downtown Cabaret) L.A. Theatre: *GAINING GROUND* (Ark Theatre Company), *INSURRECTION: HOLDING HISTORY* (Celebration Theatre). Thanks to Lou, Beth and the rest of the cast for this incredible experience and especially to Jojo for going on this journey with me. This and every performance is dedicated to David who's watching from the best seats!

Tim Heydenburg (LIGHTING TECHNICIAN) is happy to return again to the tech booth after having run sound for *RED* and *BLOOD AT THE ROOT* here at Brookfield. He has previously run tech at Sherman Playhouse and assisted at *Shakespeare In Sharon's* premiere production this past summer. He thanks his family for their love and support.

Tom Heydenburg (SOUND TECHNICIAN) has appeared on stage at Brookfield although he cannot say the name of the show out loud—it's a theatre superstition. Other credits include shows at Sherman and in *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* with *Shakespeare In Sharon*. He is happy to lend his talents to the tech booth again after having run lights for *RED* and *BLOOD AT THE ROOT*. Enjoy the show!



Lucy Manos (JACKIE) is making her theatrical debut in *DOT* and feels incredibly lucky to share this alongside such a talented group of actors and a supportive production team. Lucy started working in the creative field about 8 years ago at the former Blue Sky Studios where she made amazing friends and learned to stretch her imagination and original thinking. Today, she is proud to work for an Academy Award Winning Director where she has the opportunity to stretch her imagination and, whom she thanks for all his support. Lucy dedicates this play to her wonderful husband, Dan and her family. She would also like to give a very special thanks to our Director Beth, for such a memorable experience!

Andrew Okell (SET BUILDER-2011 Volunteer of the Year) first started in theatre at the tender age of 8 in *THE TIME MACHINE*. He has been building and designing sets at Brookfield since 2008. Favorites include *LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS*, *MOONLIGHT & MAGNOLIAS* (Rose Brand Best Amateur Set Design 2012), *STEEL MAGNOLIAS*, *LION IN WINTER*, *MOON OVER BUFFALO*, and personal favorite *NOISES OFF*. Thank you to building cohorts Bob Lane, Don Lombardo, Vinnie Young, and Larry Coleman for enabling me.



Lou Okell (PRODUCER / LIGHTING & SOUND DESIGN-2009 Volunteer of the Year) currently serves as theatre president. She is a graphic arts professional by day and is happy to volunteer her talents to her community through theatre. Lou is thrilled to celebrate the holidays with the fantastic cast & crew of *DOT*. Many thanks to Beth for taking on this beautiful script. Special thanks to Dania for stepping in so beautifully! Love always to Andy and Emma. *Please help us spread the word about Brookfield Theatre!*

Terry Sagedy (PROPS & DECORATIONS) is a rare combination of marketer and arts enthusiast rolled up into one. An actor, playwright and lifelong aficionado of the theatre who has served as the Marketing Director of the Alliance Theatre,

the southeast's largest and most acclaimed Tony Award-winning equity theatre where he marketed three world premiere musicals including GHOST BROTHERS OF DARKLAND COUNTY, TWIST and BRING IT ON: THE MUSICAL. He has over 35 years' combined experience on the boards of directors of non-profit arts organizations throughout the southeastern US and has appeared in over 40 productions. He has directed several shows including two live and two virtual shows with Brookfield. Terry also served as the Chairman of the Newtown Arts Festival for four years. He thanks Beth and the Brookfield Board for this opportunity, and the wonderful cast and crew for making this show a success. Love and thanks for the support to Paul and Ollie Good Boy.

Kaitlyn Salvatore (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER) is happy to share her experience as an elf with the Shealy family—enjoy the show!

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Directing *Dot* has been an extraordinary experience. When I first read this play, I recognized the themes of home and family, diversity, loss and love. Each character struggles to come home in a meaningful way as they negotiate the shifting sands beneath their feet. The amazing cast brought not only their talent for the stage, but their creativity, insight, and humanity. They devoted themselves to their characters and each other, creating a palpable sense of community on stage and amongst themselves. Their energy and enthusiasm made this play come to life.

Dot tells the story of a woman who is suffering from dementia. Her family gathers around her, sharing in her suffering and validating her worth, even as she loses sight of them.

Our story is simple, sad, funny and full of love. My wish is that by spending Christmas with the Shealy family, we will turn our attention to those in our own lives who need us to be there for them, to help them find their way home.

Beth Young
Director

IN THE GALLERY

NOW SHOWING in our lobby gallery: Paintings by Jojo DeVellis

We are happy to feature the paintings of Jojo DeVellis in the Brookfield Theatre Gallery throughout December. Gallery hours are before and after all performances and by appointment.

The Gallery is curated by artist Jeanne Steers. Artists interested in showing are encouraged to contact the theater email: BrookfieldTheatreCT@gmail.com.