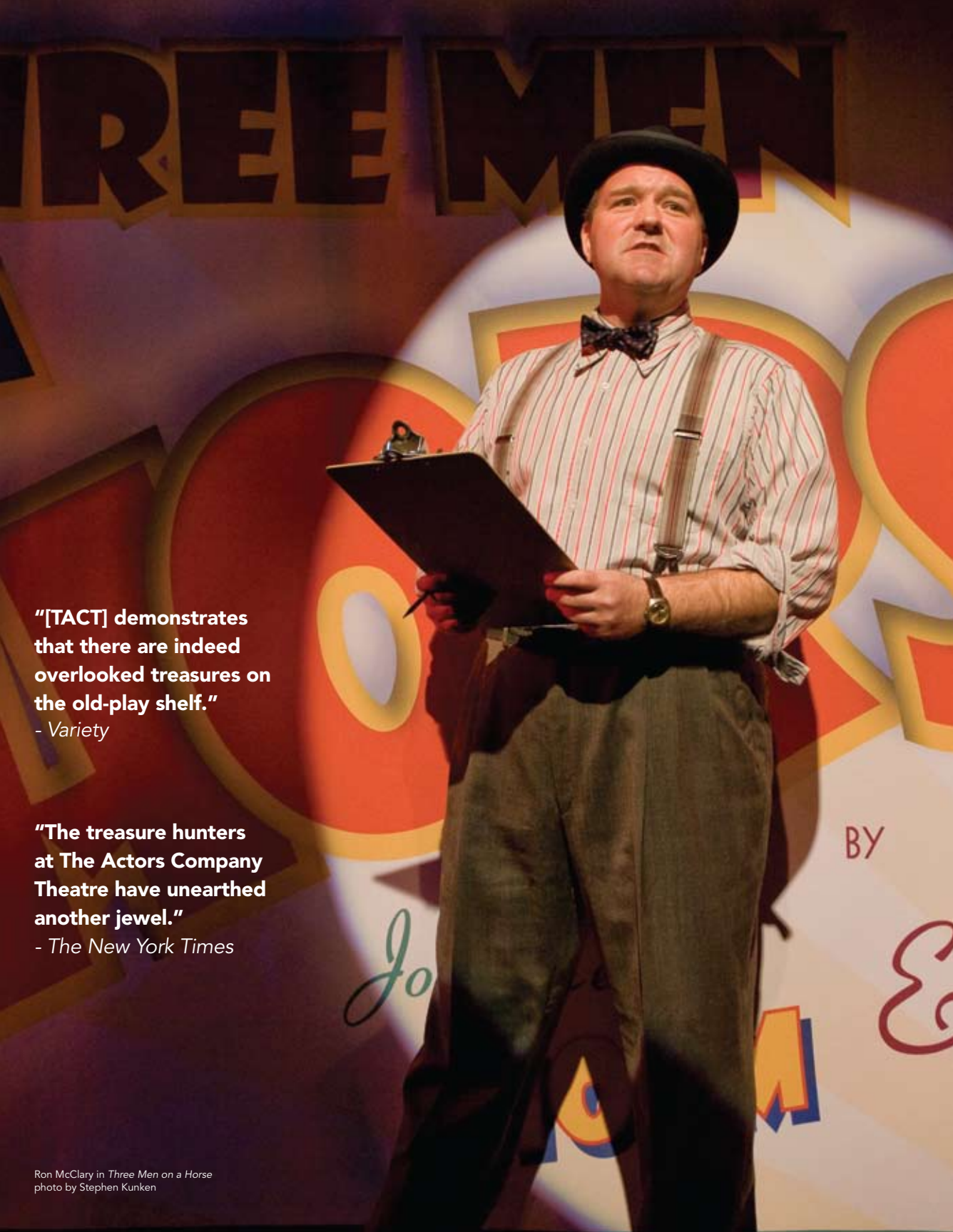




TACT

The Actors Company Theatre

2011/2012 SEASON



"[TACT] demonstrates that there are indeed overlooked treasures on the old-play shelf."

- Variety

"The treasure hunters at The Actors Company Theatre have unearthed another jewel."

- The New York Times

Ron McClary in *Three Men on a Horse*
photo by Stephen Kunken



tact

THE ACTORS
COMPANY
THEATRE

Scott Alan Evans, Cynthia Harris & Jenn Thompson
Co-Artistic Directors

What do a Jewish working class family and a wealthy brood of Mayflower descendants have in common? One would think very little, yet in the hands of two iconic American masters the answer appears to be ... **EVERYTHING.**

This season, TACT is delighted to present its own literary version of the "odd couple" – pairing up two seemingly disparate writers to make up one wonderfully connected season. In October we open with A.R. Gurney's brilliant, yet often overlooked 1970's dramatic comedy, *CHILDREN* and follow that up with Neil Simon's 1991 Pulitzer Prize winning *LOST IN YONKERS* in the spring. Focusing on the struggles which define familial discontent, both playwrights take us deep inside the workings of two seemingly different clans, whose poignant, often darkly funny fights for survival are at the heart of the action. For both Simon and Gurney, family togetherness means a precarious balancing act between filial loyalty, identity, and commitment, coupled with repression, jealousy, family skeletons, and all of those delicious dysfunctional dynamics that create compelling storytelling – and great theatre.

The theme for this season's Salon Series is "Secrets and Lies," which is fitting as some of the plays we're presenting are so rare and so secret, they haven't been seen in many decades - we're even presenting an American debut! Our Salon productions are the exclusive purview of our subscribers, so be sure to sign up so you don't miss a single one.

Our 2011/12 season: theatre that enlivens, enriches, and entertains. Isn't that just about **EVERYTHING?**



Our 2011/12 season is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, celebrating 50 years of building strong, creative communities in New York State's 62 counties.

www.tactnyc.org

CHILDREN

*"While Gurney is one of our best-known and most eminent playwrights, he should also be known as our boldest and most adventurous."
- Romulus Linney*



CHILDREN BY A.R. GURNEY

In the summer of 1970, a wealthy family celebrates the Fourth of July in their ancestral summer home on an island off the coast of New England. When an estranged son unexpectedly arrives, traditions are questioned, secrets revealed and the course of the future changes for them all. Loosely based on a short story by John Cheever, this early work crackles with witty repartee, repressed feelings, and everything we've come to expect from this preeminent chronicler of the American WASP.

Join us for a special evening with **A.R. GURNEY**, **Friday, November 11th** immediately following the 8:00pm performance.

MAINSTAGE 2011

A.R. GURNEY (known to his friends as Pete) was born on November 1, 1930 in Buffalo, New York. He graduated Williams College in 1952, and later attended The Yale School of Drama, receiving a Master of Arts in playwriting. His stellar career spans over four decades and boasts numerous productions including *The Dining Room*, *Another Antigone*, *Love Letters*, *Labor Day*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Ancestral Voices*, and *Sylvia* - to name a few.

Mr. Gurney is the recipient of the Drama Desk Award and The Lucille Lortel Award, and has received grants from The Rockefeller Foundation and The National Endowment for the Arts. He has also been nominated for The Pulitzer Prize.

PREVIEWS OCTOBER 18 TO 26, 2011
OPENS OCTOBER 27
PERFORMANCES THROUGH NOVEMBER 20



The Beckett Theatre - Theatre Row
410 West 42nd Street NYC

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays at 7:30pm; Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm; and Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm.

**No performance Sunday, October 30th
Talk-Backs with the Cast after every Sunday matinee.*

Season Subscription information is enclosed.
For single tickets go to Telecharge.com, call (212) 239-6200, or visit the Theatre Row Box Office.

A.R. GURNEY

MAINSTAGE 2012

NEIL SIMON was born in 1927 in the Bronx and grew up in New York City. He briefly attended NYU and the University of Denver prior to joining the army. After being discharged, Simon found a job at Warner Brothers and got his first taste of writing for show business. Despite Emmy nominations for his writing on both Sid Caesar's *The Show of Shows* and *The Phil Silvers Show*, Simon soon switched to writing for the stage.

His first Broadway show, *Come Blow Your Horn*, opened in February 1961 and played for 677 performances. This was to set the precedent for what was to follow. With such iconic hits as *Barefoot in the Park*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, and *The Odd Couple*, Simon's stellar theatrical career includes thirty-four Broadway premieres, ten revivals, and numerous award nominations and wins, and is unrivaled in modern theatre.



PREVIEWS MARCH 13 TO 21, 2012
OPENS MARCH 22
PERFORMANCES THROUGH APRIL 14

The Beckett Theatre - Theatre Row
410 West 42nd Street NYC

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays at 7:30pm; Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm;
and Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm.

**Talk-Backs with the Cast after every Sunday matinee.*

Season Subscription information is enclosed.
For single tickets go to Telecharge.com, call (212) 239-6200,
or visit the **Theatre Row Box Office**.

"In his 27th play, laughter and tears have come together in a new emotional truth... you experience a new kind of laughter for Simon, a silent laughter that doesn't explode into a yuk but implodes straight into your heart." - Newsweek

Lost in YONKERS

BY NEIL SIMON



After the death of their mother, two young boys find themselves dropped off on the doorstep of their stern grandmother, whom they hardly know. This Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning comedy by America's most prolific playwright won over critics and audiences alike when it debuted on Broadway in 1991 and marked Simon's entrée into the elite ranks of serious dramatists. We are thrilled to be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of this esteemed and beloved play, as we present its Off-Broadway debut.

NEIL SIMON

Secrets & Lies

CANARIES SOMETIMES SING, 1929

by **Frederick Lonsdale**

SEPTEMBER 16 - 19

Directed by **Stuart Ross**

This sparkling comedy by English dramatist Frederick Lonsdale gives a bird's eye view of married life and the fine line between the comforts of the cage versus its confines. Although Lonsdale may not have all the answers, this jovial and effervescent play will get you thinking about everyone's happily ever after in a whole new way.

KIBITZER, 1929

by **Edward G. Robinson & Jo Swerling**

DECEMBER 2 - 5

Directed by **Henry Wishcamper**

Who knew that aside from being a film star Edward G. Robinson was also a playwright? Lazarus runs a modest cigar store with his daughter Josie. Josie is being courted by a sweet soda jerk and the son of a stock market mogul. Can Lazarus resist meddling? This good natured, and yes, sentimental story will have you rooting for a tickertape parade.

THE SACRED FLAME, 1929

by **W. Somerset Maugham**

JANUARY 20 - 23

Directed by **Rebecca Patterson**

What happened the night the invalid war hero died at home in his bed? His doctor is certain it was natural causes, but his private nurse suspects otherwise. Part mystery, part love story, Maugham's taut and elegant play is a fascinating exploration of the boundaries of honor, forgiveness, and "the Sacred Flame" of love.

ROLY POLY, 1942 *AMERICAN PREMIERE!*

by **Lennox Robinson**

MAY 18 - 21

Directed by **Drew Barr**

Funny! Biting! Banned! Based on a short story by de Maupassant, *Roly Poly* played only three performances in Dublin before the German and French authorities shut it down. Seventy years later, **TACT** is dusting the cobwebs off this irreverent and long forgotten gem.

This year's **SALON SERIES** explores how hidden truths, prevarications, cloaked identities, and misrepresentations lead to nothing less than great drama. With humor, pathos, or passion, each play in this year's series follows its own distinct path to eventually uncovering the truth; and you won't want to miss a single one! We are thrilled to be presenting some truly rare gems in this group, including an American Premiere!

The **SALON SERIES** is the backbone, heart, and soul of **TACT** and the embodiment of our mission. Here **TACT** is free to bring you exciting, challenging and edgy works from the past - works that you won't see anywhere else in the city - in our own distinct theatrical style that honors the text and the actor.

And remember, our **SALON SERIES** is the exclusive domain of our subscribers. To become a subscriber for the entire season, or for just a sampling of our work, see the information on the next page.





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Call the **TACT SUBSCRIBER HOTLINE!**
212-560-2184
 Mon. - Fri. 8am - 12mid
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► **TO ORDER OVER THE INTERNET:**

Go to **www.tactnyc.org**

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Fill out this form and send to:
TACT 900 Broadway,
 Suite 905
 New York, NY 10003

TACT SUBSCRIBER PRIVILEGES:

- * Exclusive access to Salon Series for you *AND* your guests
- * Guest Ticket discounts (save up to 25%)
- * Priority Seating/Booking - early access to the best seats in the house
- * Best prices - up to a 35% discount
- * Unlimited Ticket Exchange - with 24 hours notice
- * Post Performance Discussions & Receptions
- * Email Updates, Reminders and Special Discounts
- * Invitation to **newTACTics** New Play readings
- * Mailed copy of the TACT Newsletter
- * Invitation to the TACT Gala
- * Contact the **TACT SUBSCRIBER HOTLINE** for all services including:
 - purchasing your subscription
 - scheduling your performance dates
 - changing dates
 - purchasing discounted guest tickets

\$140 + \$9 x _____ = \$ _____

FULL Subscription \$140*

- 1 ticket to each Mainstage production (OVER 35% discount!)
- ALL 4 Salon productions (members only)
- All Member Privileges

*Plus \$9 Service Fee per subscription

\$94 + \$9 x _____ = \$ _____

MAINSTAGE PLUS Subscription \$94*

- 1 ticket to each Mainstage production (OVER 35% discount!)
- Your choice of 1 Salon production (members only)
- All Member Privileges

*Plus \$9 Service Fee per subscription

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION (optional) = \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL = \$ _____

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Zip

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PAYMENT METHOD

Check enclosed, payable to **TACT** MasterCard Visa AmEX

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Billing Zip Code (required)

My employer: _____

Will match my gift.
 My Matching Form is enclosed
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For more information call **212/645-TACT** (8228) or visit **www.tactnyc.org**
 900 Broadway, Suite 905 NYC 10003

TACT
 Scott Alan Evans, Cynthia Harris & Jenn Thompson,
Co-Artistic Directors
 Simon Jones
Artistic Director Emeritus

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McClary, Greg McFadden, MacKenzie Meehan, James Murtaugh, Margaret Nichols, John Plumpis, James Prendergast, Gregory Salata, Scott Schafer, David Staller, Jenn Thompson, Lynn Wright

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TACT is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and a member of the Alliance of Resident Theatre/NY

Todd Gearhart & Mary Bacon in *The Eccentricities of a Nightingale*

Gregory Salata & Jeffrey C. Hawkins in *Three Men on a Horse*

Cynthia Darlow in *Home*

James Prendergast in *The Memorandum*

photos by Stephen Kunken, Jen Maufrais Kelly & Carol Rosegg

Simon Jones in *The Cocktail Party*

Delphi Harrington in *The Sea*



Cynthia Harris, Eve Blanco & Larry Keith in *Bedroom Farce*

"TACT is easily among the
city's most valuable troupes."

TheatreMania

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The Actors Company Theatre

900 Broadway, Suite 905

New York, NY 10003

2011/2012 SEASON