

THEATRE JACKSONVILLE'S
Classic in San Marco

SEASON 106

A *Doll's House*

By **Henrik Ibsen**

A New Version by
Amy Herzog

Directed by
Gloria Ware



Sponsor



*"It is a thing of beauty, this play... the story is clear,
unmuddled by all the usual strutting and fretting...
it's thrilling."* —Variety

September 12-28, 2025



A Doll's House tells the story of Nora Helmer, a woman who realizes she has lived her whole life as someone else's "doll"—first her father's, then her husband's. She marries young, never experiences independence, and ultimately leaves her marriage to discover who she really is.

My experience stands in sharp contrast. I married at forty-four, after many years of living independently and building my own life. Unlike Nora, I had the chance to form my identity before marriage. By the time I chose to marry, it was not because society demanded it, but because it was right for me. My decision came from freedom, not expectation.

At the time of the original play, marriage was almost inevitable, and it often defined a woman entirely. That lack of choice for women has played throughout many generations

that followed. My later marriage reflects a different reality: I had the ability to wait, and to enter marriage only when it matched my own desires. In a sense, I began my marriage with the independence Nora leaves hers to find.

In a way, my story reverses Nora's. She left marriage to grow into herself, while I entered marriage already knowing who I was. Both journeys highlight the same truth: every woman deserves the freedom to define herself.

And a special thank you to our choreographer Theresa Pazanowski, and to Sarah, Michelle and all the Theatre Jacksonville staff for helping me get this timely story up on the boards.

~Gloria

An Interview With Amy Herzog by Joe Dziemianowicz

Tony nominee Amy Herzog flips the script on *'A Doll's House'*

The Pulitzer finalist adapted Ibsen's classic for a Jessica Chastain-led Broadway revival. In a rare ruling, she was nominated for Best Play Revival as a writer.

Playwright Amy Herzog's adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, starring Jessica Chastain and directed by Jamie Lloyd, marked her Broadway debut. In a dramatic twist, the show also put her in the running for a Tony Award for Best Play Revival.

That prize typically only goes to producers; a playwright is only eligible for Best Play upon a show's Broadway debut. But since Herzog did more than simply translate Ibsen's work — she adapted it, reworking some of the language with a modern edge — it counts as a new, and therefore newly eligible, piece of writing.

Herzog, whose plays include *Mary Jane*, *Belleville*, and the Pulitzer-nominated *4000 Miles*, marveled at her unique situation. "I didn't understand how unusual and special it was," she said. "But apparently the producing team petitioned ahead of time for me to be named as a nominee."

"I was really honored and surprised," she added. "Being a translator is usually a pretty silent, thankless job, and they've been just so good to me, everyone, including Jamie and Jessica."

Between her Tony nomination — the production's five other nods include Best Actress, Best Director, and Best Featured Actor (Arian Moayed) — and the success of the show at the Hudson Theatre (NYTG's critic gave it a five-star review), Herzog feels heard and seen. She's the one who brought "these words into the present day" while maintaining the time-honored story of 19th-century housewife Nora Helmer (Chastain), who seeks independence from her controlling husband (Moayed).

In advance of the Tony Awards, Herzog talked with New York Theatre Guide about choosing the words and "chasing a holy grail" of capturing Ibsen's original intention while also giving herself leeway to find what felt immediate to her.

What drew you to Ibsen's 1879 play?

It's a great play. It's extraordinary to spend this much time with it. Ibsen has had a really big influence on my work. My play *Belleville* is actually kind of a riff on *A Doll's House*. It felt like a very natural pairing to me.

Ibsen wrote a lot of plays, and some of them are in a much kind of bigger, more civic mode. But this one, even though it has this reputation as this really political play, is rooted in the intimacy between these different characters. And that's what really excited me about returning to it.

Your version runs around 2 hours, compared to a typical 3 hours. Was that intentional?

I was conscious of wanting to lose some time off the original just because we aren't as patient as we used to be. When I sat and looked at the play, there were a lot of redundancies. In a lovely way, that kind of imitates life and the way people repeat themselves. But I just don't think it registers the same way to contemporary audiences.

Your script hews close to the original translation in some places and leaps to 2023 in others — like when Torvald calls Nora a "stupid bitch."

That was a really difficult decision. In the original he says something like "You miserable, wretched —" and cuts himself off. "Stupid bitch" is not a [far] cry from things that men call women these days. It just felt like we should just give the audience the experience of the real nastiness.

Originally published May 17, 2023 in *New York Theatre Guide*.



A Doll's House



A Doll's House

By **Henrik Ibsen** • A New Version by **Amy Herzog**

Supported by



Directed by **Gloria Ware**

Cast

NORA HELMER.....	Emily Johns	DR. RANK.....	Durrell Bennet
TORVOLD HELMER.....	Joshua Sewell	ANNE-MARIE	Amanda Kelly
KRISTINE LINDE	Lily Zawatsky	IVAR HELMER.....	Bennet Locke
NILS KROGSTAD	Zachary Jones	EMMY HELMER.....	Maggie Duane

Time & Place: 20th century, around 1962. A small northern American town.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

A DOLL'S HOUSE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
(www.concordtheatricals.com).

Original Broadway Production Produced by Ambassador Theatre Group Productions Gavin Kalin Productions Wessex Grove Julie Boardman Kate Cannova Bob Boyett Hunter Arnold Creative Partners Productions Eilene Davidson Productions GGRS Kater Gordon Louise L. Gund Los Angeles Media Fund Stephanie P. McClelland Tilted Jessica Chastain Caitlin Clements/Francesca Moody Productions Caiola Productions/Amanda Lee Ted & Richard Liebowitz/Joeye-Waldorf Squeri Richard & Cecilia Attias/Thomas S. Barnes OHenry Theatre Nerd Productions/Runyonland MMP.

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Technical Production Team

Director..... Gloria Ware
Production Manager..... Michelle Kindy
Lighting Design..... Johnny Pettegrew
Sound Design..... Brent Mulberry
Costume Design..... Classic Costumes
Graphic Design..... Green Onion Creative LLC

Production Stage Manager.....Katie Cress
Stage Manager..... Maya Williams
Light Board Operator.....Mark Rubens
Sound Board Operator..... Squirrel Pitts
Running Crew.....Lourdes Acosta, Daniel Locke

SPECIAL THANKS:

Peterbrooke-San Marco, Endless Summer Roofing and Minuteman Press Team and our generous donors.
See the full donor list at <https://www.theatrejax.com/support>

4 The World of the Play

'Our home has never been anything other than a play-house. I've been your doll-wife here, just as at home I was Daddy's doll-child'

A Doll's House traces the awakening of Nora Helmer from her previously unexamined life of domestic, wifely comfort. Having been ruled her whole life by either her father or her husband Torvald, Nora finally comes to question the foundation of everything she has believed in once her marriage is put to the test.

Having borrowed money from a man of ill-repute named Krogstad by forging her father's signature, she was able to pay for a trip to Italy to save her sick husband's life (he was unaware of the loan, believing that the money came from Nora's father.) Since then, she has had to contrive ways to pay back her loan, growing particularly concerned with money and the ways of a complex world.

What is *A Doll's House* about?

A Doll's House is set in 19th-century Norway and follows Nora Helmer, the wife of a bank manager and mother of three children. Her life seems perfect, but there's trouble hiding behind the facade. For one, she is keeping a financial secret from her husband that threatens to ruin their marriage and her standing if it gets out. For another, she realizes she's not truly happy in her marriage and wants to forge her own independent life. The play explores the themes of gender roles, marriage, and the struggle for freedom in a restrictive society.

Where did the revival of *A Doll's House* play?

A Doll's House played at the Hudson Theatre, located at 141 W 44th St. between Sixth and Seventh Avenues. It is both Broadway's oldest and newest theatre: The building first opened in 1903, but it only reopened in 2017 as a Broadway theatre after being shut down and fully renovated.

When did *A Doll's House* premiere?

A Doll's House was written by Henrik Ibsen in 1879, and it premiered in Denmark in December of that year. The show did not premiere on Broadway, however, until 10 years later, in December of 1889. The show has since had countless productions all over the world. Here is a short history of *A Doll's House's* early development and key milestones in the years since.

- 1879: Ibsen wrote and premiered *A Doll's House*. The premiere run sold out and received critical acclaim. There was also plenty of backlash about Ibsen's questioning of standard gender roles and the ideal of marriage and motherhood.
- 1880: Ibsen had to rewrite his play with a less controversial ending in order to get it produced in Germany. Multiple subsequent productions would also only produce the show with the alternate ending, but it is rarely used today.
- 1889: *A Doll's House* premieres on Broadway, starring

Beatrice Cameron as Nora.

- 2006: This year is the 100th anniversary of Ibsen's death. *A Doll's House* was the most frequently performed play in the world that year.
- 2023: *A Doll's House* has its latest Broadway revival, starring Jessica Chastain.

Who wrote *A Doll's House*?

A Doll's House is by Henrik Ibsen, a Norwegian playwright and poet who is widely considered one of the fathers of modern theatre. *A Doll's House* is arguably his best-known play, but his other famous works include *Hedda Gabler*, *Ghosts*, *An Enemy of the People*, and *The Wild Duck*. Ibsen is the most frequently performed playwright in the world after Shakespeare.

For the 2023 revival of *A Doll's House*, Amy Herzog has adapted Ibsen's script. Herzog is a Pulitzer Prize finalist for her play *4000 Miles*, and her other plays include *Belleville*, *The Great God Pan*, and *After the Revolution*.

A Doll's House features the Helmers along with some of their close friends and acquaintances. Every character knows things others don't, and tensions rise as their various secrets get revealed. Here are the main characters in *A Doll's House*.

- Nora Helmer: The main character of the play, a wife and mother who is struggling to break out of the housewife mold and find her own identity. Jessica Chastain plays her in the 2023 revival.
- Torvald Helmer: Nora's husband and a bank manager. He claims to love her deeply, but he often tries to exhibit control over her.
- Dr. Rank: A close friend of the Helmers who has a fatal illness. He is secretly in love with Nora.
- Kristine Linde: Nora's old friend who has recently been widowed.
- Krogstad: An employee of Torvald's bank. He previously lived a scoundrel's life and has since turned it around, but he blackmails Nora out of desperation when he loses his job.

What awards has *A Doll's House* won?

The 2023 *A Doll's House* production was nominated/won the following awards in 2023:

2023 Tony Awards:

Best Revival of a Play: (Nominee)

Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Play: Jessica Chastain (Nominee)

Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a



A Doll's House



Play: Arian Moayed (Nominee)

Best Direction of a Play: Jamie Lloyd (Nominee)

Best Lighting Design of a Play: Jon Clark (Nominee)

Best Sound Design of a Play: Ben & Max Ringham (Nominee)

Drama Desk Awards 2023:

Outstanding Lead Performance in a Play: Jessica Chastain (Winner)

Outstanding Sound Design of a Play: Ben & Max Ringham (Winner)

Outstanding Adaptation: Amy Herzog (Winner)

Outstanding Featured Performance in a Play: Arian Moayed (Nominee). Here are the major awards the show has won.

- 1975 Broadway revival: Liv Ullmann earned Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations for her performance as Nora Helmer.
- 1997 Broadway revival: This production won all four Tony Awards it was nominated for: Best Revival of a Play, Best Direction Of A Play (for Anthony Page), Best Actress In A Play (for Janet McTeer as Nora), and Best Featured Actor In A Play (for Owen Teale as Torvald). It also won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revival Of A Play. McTeer won the Drama Desk for Outstanding Actress In A Play and was a Theatre World Award recipient.

Major productions of *A Doll's House*

In the nearly 150 years since *A Doll's House* premiered, the show has received countless productions across the globe. Here is a selection of notable performances of this renowned play.

- 1879 Denmark premiere: The original production of *A Doll's House* premiered in Copenhagen. Betty Hennings originated the role.
- 1880 German premiere: A production in Flensburg was the first to feature an alternate ending, as the lead actress did not want to portray Nora leaving her children. Though he did not want to rewrite the play, Ibsen did it anyway to avoid having another playwright do it for him.
- 1884 London premiere: *A Doll's House* premiered in London under the title *Breaking a Butterfly*. Henry Arthur Jones and Henry Herman adapted Ibsen's script to make it more of a traditional morality play.
- 1889 Broadway premiere: Beatrice Coleman originated the role of Nora on Broadway at the Palmer's Theatre. Previously, *A Doll's House's* American premiere took place in Louisville, Kentucky in 1883.

- 1997 Broadway revival: Janet McTeer starred in the show's most recent Broadway revival. It won all four Tony Awards it was nominated for, including Best Revival of a Play.

- 2023 Broadway revival: Jessica Chastain led the current Broadway revival of *A Doll's House*. The show was initially planned to go up in London and mark her West End debut. Instead, she returned to Broadway for the first time in 10 years.

Celebrities who've performed in *A Doll's House*

Such a storied play is bound to attract many celebrated actors, and it has. Lots of celebrities have taken on the iconic roles of Nora, Torvald, and more. Discover the celebrities who have starred in *A Doll's House* and which productions they led.

- Jessica Chastain: Chastain is known for her performances in films such as *The Help*, *Zero Dark Thirty*, *Interstellar*, and *Molly's Game*. She won an Oscar in 2022 for *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*. *A Doll's House* marks her second Broadway outing after 2012's *The Heiress*. Learn more about Chastain's past theatre credits.
- Beatrice Cameron: Cameron originated the role of Nora on Broadway in 1889. She performed in six Broadway plays in 10 years, from 1887-97, before retiring from acting in 1898.
- Liv Ullmann: Ullman is often regarded as one of the greatest European actresses of all time. She received a Tony Award nomination for her portrayal of Nora in the 1975 *A Doll's House* Broadway revival.
- Jane Fonda and David Warner: Oscar winner Fonda and Emmy winner Warner played the Helmer spouses in a *Doll's House* movie in 1973. It was one of two film adaptations of the play released that year.
- Claire Bloom and Anthony Hopkins: Golden Age Hollywood actress Bloom and Academy Award winner Hopkins played Nora and Torvald, respectively, in the other 1973 film adaptation of *A Doll's House*.
- Julie Harris and Christopher Plummer: This famous pair played the Helmer spouses in a 1959 TV movie of *A Doll's House*.
- Janet McTeer: McTeer won a Tony Award for her performance as Nora in the 1997 *A Doll's House* Broadway revival.
- Gillian Anderson: Emmy Award winner Anderson starred as Nora in a 2009 London production of *A Doll's House*, newly translated by Zinnie Harris.
- George Bernard Shaw: At the end of the 19th century, the renowned playwright played Krogstad in a private *A Doll's House* production in London.

6 The World of the Play, cont.

- Jan Maxwell: Five-time Tony nominee Jan Maxwell played Kristine Linde in the Tony-winning 1997 Broadway revival.
- Judith Light: Before Light became a multi-award-winning stage and screen actress, Light made her Broadway debut as Helene, the Helmers' maid, in 1975.
- Laurie Metcalf: Laurie Metcalf never starred in a major production of *A Doll's House*, but she starred in Lucas Hnath's sequel play *A Doll's House, Part 2*, which sees Nora return to the Helmers 15 years after leaving. Metcalf won her first Tony Award for her performance as Nora.
- 2012: Nora, a short film released by London's Young Vic theatre, imagined Nora as a modern-day woman. Hattie Morahan played the title character.

Fun facts about *A Doll's House*

- *A Doll's House* is sometimes translated to English as *A Doll House* because "dollhouse" is a common English word. Some scholars argue, though, that the different translation slightly changes the title's meaning.
- *A Doll's House* has gotten multiple sequels. Betty Comden, Adolph Green, and Larry Grossman wrote a musical sequel called *A Doll's Life*, and Lucas Hnath wrote a play called *A Doll's House, Part 2*. Both imagine what Nora did after leaving her family.
- *A Doll's House* has been translated into more than 50 languages.
- The characters of Nora and Torvald are loosely based on Ibsen's friend and her husband, Laura and Victor Kieler.
- Ibsen is quoted as saying that *A Doll's House* is a "modern tragedy" of how women could not be [themselves] in society, "with laws made by men and with prosecutors and judges who assess feminine conduct from a masculine standpoint!"

Onscreen adaptations of *A Doll's House*

A Doll's House hasn't received quite as many film adaptations as stage productions, but there's still a great many movie versions. Here are some of the major film adaptations.

- 1959: Julie Harris and Christopher Plummer starred in a TV film adaptation. The movie was actually a live performance of the play that was filmed and broadcast.
- 1973: *A Doll's House* was adapted twice for film in 1973. One film starred Claire Bloom and Anthony Hopkins; the other, Jane Fonda and David Warner. The Fonda adaptation is particularly notable for its casting of Fonda, a feminist who was actively speaking out for women's rights at the time.

Company Bios

D. DURRELL BENNETT (Dr. Rank) is a Hospital Corpsman First Class in the United States Navy and has been serving honorably for nearly 15 years. His stage credits include *Short Attention Span Theatre*, *Dracula: A Real Pain in the Neck*, and *Miracle on 34th Street* at Pensacola Little Theatre, as well as *Every Brilliant Thing* with PenArts Theatre. His filmography includes *Zombeez*, *6ft from the Gun*, *Horseshoe Bend*, and *13th & Hope*. *A Doll's House* marks his first production with Theatre Jacksonville. Durrell would like to thank his girlfriend, Kindal, along with his friends and family, for their continued support.

MAGGIE DUANE (Emmy) is thrilled to make her stage debut in *A Doll's House*. As a student, Maggie has consistently enjoyed coloring, softball, and reading. She wishes to extend her gratitude to her family and friends for their unwavering encouragement and support. Additionally, she thanks Gloria and the entire cast for their inspiration.

EMILY JOHNS (Nora Helmer) is back on stage after her appearance in *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* and

The Women of Lockerbie. She has been involved in this world for her entire life, from participating in musicals and choir in high school, to Shakespeare plays and Acapella groups in college. She is a Jacksonville native, and in real life she is a small animal veterinarian. Outside the animal hospital, she enjoys participating in the performing arts, going to the gym, watching Netflix, and spending time with her dog Penny and her cats Dewey and Sandy Cheeks.

ZACHARY JONES (Nils Krogstad) made his first ever appearance at Theatre Jacksonville playing the beloved Charles Schmendiman and just keeps coming back for more! You may have seen him playing Christopher Wren in *The Mousetrap*, Barry in *The Boys Next Door*, or more recently as Bellomy in *The Fantasticks*. He is thrilled to be playing Nils Krogstad in this production of *A Doll's House* as this particular play has a very special place in his heart. Zach would like to thank everyone for coming to see the show, but special love to his family and to his fiancé, Tyler, for always being there for support.

SPONSORED IN PART BY THE CULTURAL COUNCIL OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE, INC., THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, AND FLORIDA ARTS & CULTURE.



A Doll's House



AMANDA KELLY (Anne-Marie) is thrilled to be performing with Theatre Jacksonville for the second time, following her debut in *The Boys Next Door* this past March. A transplant to the Jacksonville area in 2018, she balances running a marketing agency with chasing around two children. She feels incredibly fortunate to be working alongside such a talented cast and welcoming theatre community under the direction of this fabulous director - truly a dream come true. Special thanks to her wonderful husband Chris, who graciously took on extra chores so she could sneak away to rehearsals.

BENNET LOCKE (Ivar) is excited to make his Theatre Jacksonville debut! A second grader, Bennet recently appeared as Horton in *Seussical the Musical* and Bruce in *Finding Nemo Jr.* at the Jacksonville Jewish Community Alliance Summer Theatre Camp. When he's not on stage, Bennet enjoys sports, swimming, junk journaling, and playing with his younger sister. He sends special thanks to his parents, Daniel and Sarah, for always encouraging him to do what brings him joy.

THERESA PAZANOWSKI (Choreographer) You may recognize her and her work from various productions around Jacksonville, including *Pippin*, *Beehive*, *Funny Girl*, *Mary Poppins*, *Parade* and most recently at The Florida Theatre: *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Lots of love to her favorite Matt - thank you for the constant love and support and being a part of this journey with me!

JOSHUA SEWELL (Torvald Helmer) This is Joshua's first show with Theatre Jacksonville, and he is beyond thrilled to be a part of this production. He hails from Birmingham, AL and has a BA in classical voice from The University of Southern Mississippi. Recent roles include Paul in *Barefoot in the Park* and Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* with Apex Theatre Studio. He is also passionate about direction, having just directed *The Fantasticks* at All Beaches Experimental Theatre. He would like to thank all his friends and family that support him, especially his wife Izzy and his best friends Franklin and Joe.

LILY ZAWATSKY (Kristine Linde) is thrilled to be back on stage at Theatre Jacksonville! Audiences may remember her as Catherine Simms from Season 105's *The Foreigner*. Previous credits include *Harvey* (Myrtle Mae), *Impossible Marriage* (Floral), and *Alice in Wonderland* (Narrator). Lily would like to thank Gloria and the entire Theatre Jacksonville team for this opportunity, the cast and crew for making this production a great experience, and her family and friends for their love and support!

GLORIA WARE (Director) received her BFA in theatre and headed to New York City where she worked on stage at the Hudson Theatre, Belfry Theatre, Oasis Theatre Company, Belfry Theatre Company, The Heights Players, East Manhattan Theatre Company, Lakota Theatre Company and Broadway Tomorrow. She studied with Clyde Vinson,

the coach for The Royal Shakespeare Company while performing in NYC. Between shows, she worked at The Actors' Fund of America. She co-created Glamo Production Company that produced local television in NYC. The first show she produced, *Something to Offer*, won the 2017 NYC Local Access Award for longevity and is still in production. Gloria has worked in Texas, California, Kansas, Indiana, Arizona, Missouri and Florida. Recent roles in Jacksonville include Hilda in *Hilda's Yard*, Clairee' in *Steel Magnolias*, Lillian in *I Hate Hamlet*, Sandy in *Four Weddings and an Elvis*, Emily Reed in *Alabama Story*, Mama in *Memphis*, Lady Bird Johnson in *All The Way*, Judy Boone in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Helen in *Absence*, Narrator for *Bent and Lane in The Clean House*. Gloria has directed *10 Angry Men* at Theatre Jacksonville and *Dashing Through the Snow* at ABET, along with a few others. Gloria serves as a member of the education staff at Theatre Jacksonville, where she provides coaching to adults seeking to advance their stage performance skills and at PossAbilities Plus, where she teaches theatre to individuals for special needs. The cast and crew of *A Doll's House* are committed to telling this story and have been motivating collaborators. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this production. Hugs and kisses to Honey and Barney.

MAYA WILLIAMS (Stage Manager) is a versatile theatre artist currently based in Jax. She is in college for technical theatre, where she is a member of her school's chapter of Alpha Psi Omega. She is also a cardholding member of IATSE Local 115. Just a few of her credits include *Jekyll and Hyde* (Players By The Sea, Scenic Charge), *She Kills Monsters* (Drama Works, ASM + Fight Captain), and *Julius Caesar* (Scranton Shakespeare Festival, Production Stage Manager). You can see her on stage in the upcoming production of *Puffs* at The 5 & Dime! She is very excited to work on this production of *A Doll's House* at Theatre Jacksonville. This show holds a special place in her heart, and she is grateful for the chance to be a part of it. She wants to thank her mom for supporting her pursuit of theatre. She also wants to thank Gloria Ware and Katie Cress for all of their work. "There's NO jazz hands in *A Doll's House*!" - Gloria Ware

Auditions for
**PACKING UP
 POLLY** by
 Leslie Kimbell
 are October 6!
 For more information, visit
TheatreJax.com/Auditions

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SEASON 106

2025-2026

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The Classic in San Marco: (included for All-Access Members)

A Doll's House

by Henrik Ibsen | A New Version by Amy Herzog

September 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21*, 25, 26, 27*, 28*, 2025

Nominee: Six 2023 Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Play Winner!

Three 2023 Drama Desk Awards, including Outstanding Adaptation

Young housewife Nora Helmer comes to the disturbing realization that she has spent her entire marriage, and indeed most of her life, pretending to be the person that her husband, her father, and society expect her to be. Ibsen's celebrated play explores the ways that societal expectations restrict individuals, especially women. Its success when it premiered in 1879 thrust drama firmly into the modern age. Amy Herzog's thrilling, compact and devastatingly contemporary adaptation makes freshly relevant a story that shocked audiences and brought forth a new era of theatre.

"It is a thing of beauty, this play... the story is clear, unclouded by all the usual strutting and fretting... it's thrilling." – Variety

The Mainstage Season: (included for All-Access Members & Subscribers)

Barefoot in the Park

By Neil Simon

November 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16*, 20, 21, 22*, 23*, 2025

Paul and Corie are newlyweds in every sense of the word. He's a straight-as-an-arrow lawyer and she's a free spirit always looking for the latest kick. Their new apartment is her most recent find – too expensive with bad plumbing and in need of a paint job. After a quick honeymoon, they get a surprise visit from Corie's loopy mother and decide to play matchmaker with their neighbor-in-the-attic, Velasco, at a dinner where everything that can go wrong does. Paul just doesn't understand Corie, as she sees it. He's too staid, too boring, and she just wants him to be a little more spontaneous. Running "barefoot in the park" would be a start...

"A bubbling, rib-tickling comedy." – The New York Times

Packing Up Polly

By Leslie Kimbell

January 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25*, 29, 30, 31*, February 1*, 2026

Polly Porter, famous 1970s gospel singer, has gone on up to heaven. Her daughter, Caroline, has come home to Savannah to pack up Miss Polly's house, but there is just one little problem (or two or three): Miss Polly was an extreme hoarder of epic proportions. Caroline's three best friends from high school, former co-cheerleaders, have all shown up... unannounced! The gospel music plays and the margaritas pour as the four ladies laugh, cry, scream and come together with humor, wit and vulnerability to pack up Miss Polly's house.

"Reminds you to go home and straighten things up a bit!" – Atlanta Arts Scene

Ken Ludwig's Dear Jack, Dear Louise

By Ken Ludwig

February 27, 28, March 5, 6, 7, 8*, 12, 13, 14*, 15*, 2026

When two strangers meet by letter during World War II, a love story begins. U.S. Army Captain Jack Ludwig, a military doctor stationed in Oregon, begins writing to Louise Rabiner, an aspiring actress and dancer in New York City, hoping to meet her someday if the war will allow. The war, however, threatens to end their relationship before it even starts. Tony Award-winning playwright Ken Ludwig tells the joyous, heartwarming story of his parents' courtship during World War II and the results are anything but expected.

"An affecting love letter to unlikely romance... a poignant, funny tribute to the enduring power of human connection." – The Washington Post

Play On!

By Rick Abbot

April 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26*, 30, May 1, 2*, 3*, 2026

In this hilarious comedy of a play within a play, a theatre group is trying and failing in different ways to put on a play despite the haughty author who keeps revising the script. Act I is a rehearsal of the dreadful show, Act II is the near disastrous dress rehearsal, and the final act is the actual performance, in which everything goes wrong. When the author decides to give a speech on the state of modern theatre during the curtain call, the audience is treated to a madcap climax and a thoroughly hysterical romp.

A "zany love letter to community theatre..." – The Show Report

Sondheim on Sondheim

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Conceived and directed on Broadway by James Lapine

June 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14*, 18, 19, 20*, 21*, 2026

An intimate portrait of famed songwriter Stephen Sondheim in his own words...and music. His story. His inspiration. His genius. Ranging from the beloved to the obscure, the carefully selected songs hang from a framework of exclusive and in-depth video interviews with Sondheim that provide an inside look into his personal life and his artistic process.

"An enchanting, warm and provocative opportunity to hear not only Sondheim's songs but, literally, the master's voice." – Variety

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