



the
PurpleRose
theatre company

NORMA & **WANDA**

BY **JEFF DANIELS**

DIRECTED BY **RHIANNON RAGLAND**





After our successful remount of my 2018 comedy *Diva Royale*, I wanted to write a sequel. The beauty of having your own theatre company, a hit play, and a cast that's as fearless as any playwright would ever want to have, made this decision a no-brainer.

In *Diva Royale*, our three Midwestern homemakers fly to New York City to see Celine Dion Live In Concert. Everything that could possibly go wrong does. Instead of seeing Celine, they saw a drag queen by the name of Henrik Van Schnausenhagen singing all of Celine's hits in a red evening gown and a thick German accent. "Not to worry," I said, "this time our three women will venture to an even more dangerous metropolis: Las Vegas." The cast was assembled, story ideas were kicked around, and a tentative title of "*Diva Las Vegas*" became my guiding light into hilarity. Only it wasn't. Turns out, a German drag queen singing the LOVE THEME FROM TITANIC is tough to top.

Unbeknownst to me, the cast assembled for a reading of my 2005 comedy *Norma & Wanda*. Word soon came back that, much like *Diva Royale*, they wanted to bring it back. That this production would be its 20th Anniversary didn't hurt. Outside of a few minor tweaks, I said okay, and soon what once was would be again.

This production also shines a light on something we're also committed to doing: giving actors you've seen before the chance to play a range of characters, challenge themselves, risk failure. As an actor, I know a little something about that.

So here we go again. Only different. What remains the same, at least to this playwright, is that what was funny twenty years ago, still is.

Buckle up.

JEFF DANIELS
Purple Rose Founder & Artistic Director

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KATIE HUBBARD
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**NORMA &
WANDA**

by Jeff Daniels

Set Design
SAM TRANSLEAU

Costume Design
MARLEY BOONE

Lighting Design
MARIO RAYMOND

Properties Design
DANNA SEGREST

Associate Lighting Design
HEATHER DEFAUW

Sound Design
MATT TIBBS

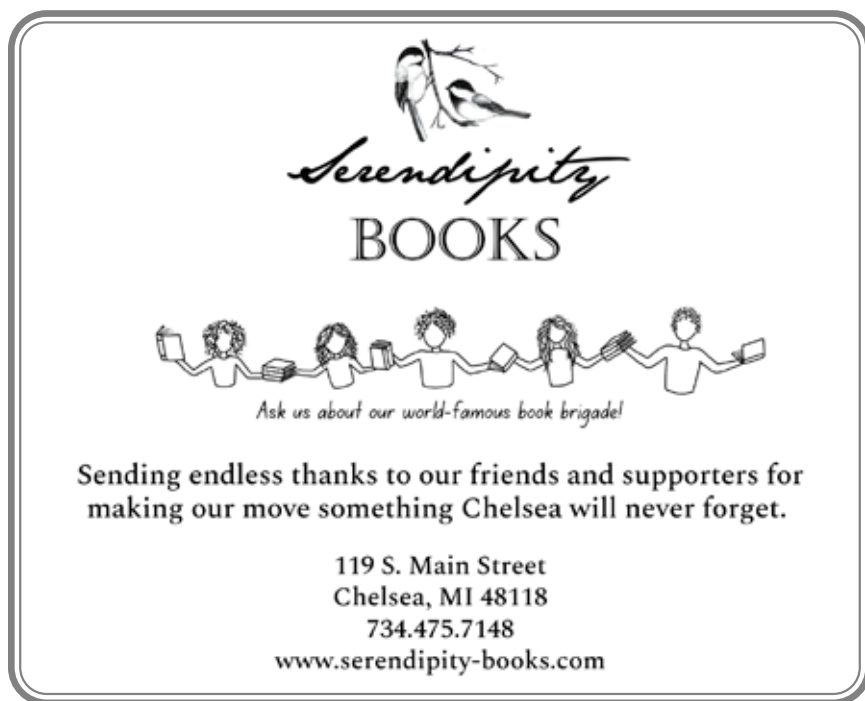
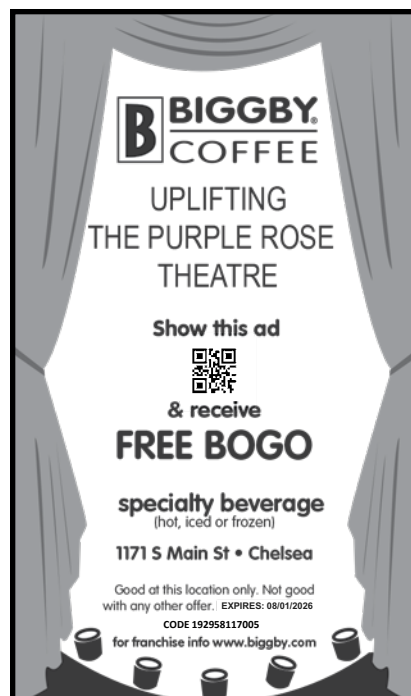
Fight Director
CHRISTINA TRAISTER

Stage Manager
MARY TOTH*

Director
RHIANNON RAGLAND

*member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of
Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Originally produced by The Purple Rose Theatre Company (2005). Jeff Daniels, Executive
Director, Guy Sanville, Artistic Director, Alan Ribant, Managing Director. The production
was directed by Guy Sanville.



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Norma Randolph Kristin Shields*
Wanda Dembrowski Jamie Elvey*
Mary Sue Thornberry Kate Thomsen*
Paulie Perkins Henrí Franklin
Mel Randolph Matt Bogart*
A Local Man Jon Bennett*

*member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of
Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

PLACE: The living room of Norma and Mel Randolph's
home in a small town deep in the Midwest.

TIME: A recent December.

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no intermission during the performance.

Please keep the aisles clear for the actors' entrances and exits.

The making of photographs and/or recordings inside the
theatre is strictly prohibited.

Food or drink inside the theatre is prohibited.

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MEET THE CAST



JON BENNETT*
A Local Man



MATT BOGART*
Mel Randolph



JAMIE ELVEY*
Wanda Dembrowski



HENRÍ FRANKLIN
Paulie Perkins



KRISTIN SHIELDS*
Norma Randolph



KATE THOMSEN*
Mary Sue Thornberry

*member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



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Main Stage



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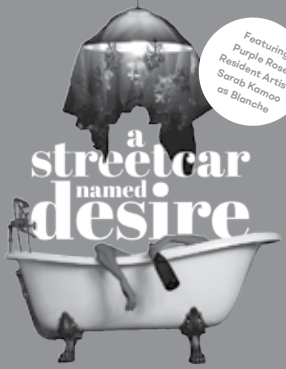
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CAST OF CHARACTERS

JON BENNETT (*A Local Man*) is very happy to be a part of the 20th Anniversary Production of *Norma & Wanda*, by Jeff Daniels. Jon has appeared in several Ann Arbor area plays over the years including, Performance Network's productions of *The Clean House*, as Charles; in *Doubt a Parable*, winning a Wilde Award for Best Actor for Father Flynn; in *Sonya Flew*, as Daniel; and in *Burn This*, as Burton. Jon has also appeared as a guest star in several television shows including, *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago Med*, *In An Instant*, *Detroiters*, and *Outsiders*, and he can be seen presently in the award-winning film, *Thorns*. Jon would like to thank Rhiannon Ragland, Lucas Daniels, and Jeff Daniels for this opportunity.

MATT BOGART (*Mel Randolph*) is honored to make his Purple Rose debut in Jeff Daniels' *Norma & Wanda*. Broadway: *Jersey Boys* (also filmed starring Nick Jonas), *Paradise Square*, *Aida*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Civil War*, *Smokey Joe's Café*. He has worked with Stephen Sondheim at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and The Kennedy Center. Theatre: *The Goat*, *Orpheus Descending*, *Jane Eyre*. TV & Film: HBO's *Vinyl* (Dir., Martin Scorsese), *The Good Fight*, *Smash*, *L&O* and *L&O: SVU*, *Mistake* (feature), *Stargazer* (feature, Producer & Best Actor laurels) and solo recordings on iTunes. Locally, Matt has performed and directed at the Encore Theatre, is a Lecturer at U. of Michigan, sang with the Ann Arbor Symphony and lives in Dexter with his wife Jessica and their boys. Heartfelt thanks to Jeff, Rhiannon, Lucas, and the entire family at the Purple Rose. Visit MattBogart.com.


JAMIE ELVEY (*Wanda Dembrowski*) is thrilled to be back at the Purple Rose Theatre Company! Jamie earned her BFA in Acting from the University at Buffalo and her MFA in Acting from UC Irvine. Her previous credits include *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet* (Purple Rose), *Rabbit Hole* (dir Robert Cohen), *Learn to be Latina* (Mixed Blood Theatre), *Reasons to be Pretty* (Nixon Theatre, OC), and *The Wolves* (dir Kate Thomsen). You'll be able to catch her in the upcoming film, *Last of the Wild Buffalo*. Next up, Jamie will be performing as Margot in Williamston Theater's *Dial M for Murder*, as well as Marie Antoinette in Tipping Point Theatre's *The Revolutionists*. She would like to thank Rhiannon, Lucas, the Stage Management team, the talented cast, and the entire PRTC community! Jamie lives in Okemos, with her loving and supportive family! A special thank you to her husband, Ryan, her mom, and her wonderful son, Grayson!



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

HENRÍ FRANKLIN (*Paulie Perkins*) is an award winning SAG-AFTRA actor based out of Detroit, MI. After obtaining his Bachelors Degree from Wayne State University's Theater Program, he went on to work professionally in the fields of stage, film, television, commercials and voice over. Some of his notable career accomplishments include *Days of Our Lives* and *Chicago P.D.* on NBC, *Detroiters* on Comedy Central, *Low Winter Sun* on AMC, *Batman Vs Superman* for Warner Bros., commercial and voice work for Ford, Chevrolet, G.U.M., T. Rowe Price and many others plus productions of Dominique Morisseau's *Pipeline*, *Detroit' 67* and *Office Christmas Party*, *Grinch in Fight with Rudolph*, *Police Called* by Jeff Daniels. Henri is honored to be back at The Purple Rose and looks forward to continuing to do work that continues to change people's lives for the better! Follow his journey through @henrifranklin on social media platforms.

KRISTIN SHIELDS (*Norma Randolph*) first performed on this stage as an understudy in Jeff Daniels' *Flint* during opening weekend, without any rehearsal and secretly pregnant. Serendipitously, Jeff was in the audience and offered her a role in his next show, *Diva Royale*. Now a Resident Artist, working on her fifth Jeff Daniels play, and raising a family in Michigan, she is deeply grateful. Special thanks to Jeff, Rhiannon, Lucas, Katie, Amy, Mary, and the entire PRTC team. Heartfelt appreciation to the audience and donors who support Michigan theatre. To Scottie, Team Mevai and the Shields crew—my heart is yours. Proud Michigan grad. Next up: Gilda Radner in *Gene and Gilda* at The Tipping Point Theatre. www.KristinShields.com

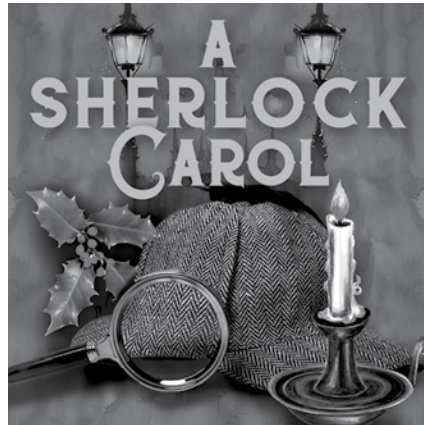
KATE THOMSEN (*Mary Sue Thornberry*) joyfully returns to the Purple Rose Theatre Company for another wild comedy. Prior PRTC credits include *Diva Royale* (x2!), *Pickleball*, *God of Carnage* and *Vino Veritas*. She holds a BA from Western Michigan University and an MFA from University of California, Irvine. She is a Resident Artist at the PRTC, an Associate Professor for WMU's Theatre Department, and proudly associated with Shakespeare Behind Bars. Deepest of thanks to the PRTC community – Jeff, Rhiannon, Lucas, Amy, and Katie – for creating a place of magic, to the patrons for sharing time with us, and to the most supportive and silliest family she could imagine.

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PLAYWRIGHT

JEFF DANIELS (*Playwright*) has premiered twenty two full-length plays at The Purple Rose: *Shoe Man*, *The Tropical Pickle*, *The Vast Difference*, *Thy Kingdom's Coming*, *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *Apartment 3A*, *Boom Town*, *Across the Way*, *Norma & Wanda*, *Guest Artist*, *Escanaba In Love*, *Panhandle Slim & The Oklahoma Kid*, *Escanaba*, *Best of Friends*, *The Meaning of Almost Everything*, *Casting Session*, *Flint*, *Diva Royale*, *Roadsigns*, *Pickleball*, and last season's *Office Christmas Party*, *Grinch in Fight with Rudolph*, *Police Called*. Jeff has written pieces for the *New York Times' Sunday Arts & Leisure Section*, *American Theatre Magazine*, *McSweeney's*, Nora Guthrie's *Woody Guthrie: Songs And Art, Words And Wisdom* and the forewords to Dave Hoekstra's *The Camper Book: A Celebration of a Moveable American Dream* and *How To Quit Golf* by Craig Brass. Jeff has written three screenplays: *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *Super Sucker*, and *Guest Artist*. As a songwriter, his *Unplugged* performances at the Purple Rose have sold out for twenty five years. Early next year, his live music venue, *JD's Stage Bistro* will open in downtown Chelsea.

DIRECTOR

RHIANNON RAGLAND (*Director*) is honored to direct another PRTC Revival! She hopes you enjoy this cast and designers' absurdly hilarious work as much as she did! Rhiannon has worked as an AEA Actor, Choreographer and Director helping stage over 20 professional productions. PRTC directing credits include, *A Stone Carver* (Wilde Award winner Best Play), *Vino Veritas* (revival 2017), *Pickleball* by Jeff Daniels (Wilde Award; Best Play/Director), *In Common*, *The Antichrist Cometh*, *Fourteen Funerals* and *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*. As an actor, some personal PRTC favorites include: *Consider The Oyster*, *Best of Friends*, *Some Couples May...*, and *Flint*. She was last seen in *Diva Royale*. A huge thanks to our patrons, Jeff, and the entire PRTC community for doing the unsung work of keeping storytelling alive.

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*Purple Rose Board Member for 23 years and former Board Chair.

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DESIGNERS

MARLEY BOONE (*Costume Designer*) Previous Purple Rose: *Fourteen Funerals* and *The Antichrist Cometh*. Marley is an award winning costume designer and actor based in metro Detroit. She has designed for companies such as The Flint Rep, Tipping Point, Meadow Brook, the Saugatuck Center for the Arts, and many more! BFA from Michigan State University. Her next show is costume designing *Catch Me If You Can* at the Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester, MI. She is thrilled and honored to costume such an incredibly funny play, and on its 20 year anniversary. Very special thanks to Rhi, Amy, Lucas, Mary, Sydney, and the whole squad for this collaboration. Follow all of Marley's projects at www.marleyboone.com. IG: @costumesbymarley - Endless love to LJK.

HEATHER DEFAUW (*Associate Lighting Designer*) has most recently designed lights for Detroit Opera's Youth Chorus. Memorable works include designing *Bliss* with Detroit Opera and assisting on a production of *The Legend of Georgia McBride*. She has an MFA from Wayne State University. Now a production manager and mother by day, Heather would like to thank Mario for bringing her out of her "retirement" to do what she loves.

MARIO RAYMOND (*Lighting Designer*), a USA829 lighting designer from Kansas City, is thrilled to return to the Purple Rose Theatre. Previously, Mario designed lighting for *Fourteen Funerals* at PRTC. Mario recently brought his lighting expertise to the following productions: *Rappaccini's Daughter* with Opera Columbus, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with American Gothic Performing Arts Festival, and *Million Dollar Quartet* with Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre. Mario graduated with an MFA from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

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DESIGNERS

DANNA SEGREST (*Properties Designer*) is grateful for this opportunity to design the props for our 20th anniversary encore production of *Norma & Wanda* by Jeff Daniels. She had the privilege of designing the original production and is so happy to get a stab at doing all things props with a modern twist. Danna has enjoyed being part of the Purple Rose Theatre Company since volunteering as backstage dresser for our very first production and became an Equity Stage Manager for *Shoe Man*, Jeff Daniels' first PRTC production as a playwright, back in 1991. Danna is so happy to wear many hats at the Purple Rose Theatre including Resident Properties Designer, a Resident Artist, Archival Photographer and Box Office Assistant. She is so honored to collaborate once again with our team, this new cast and Artistic Associate Rhiannon Ragland directing. Thanks to Wade & Reeve for all the years between this production! Having a sister is such a joy and a pain... though we have never been through what *Norma & Wanda* endure. Thank God!

MATTHEW TIBBS (*Sound Designer*) is a sound designer and professor of sound design at University of Cincinnati CCM. He is pleased to return to PRTC for his fourth production. Previous work includes sound designs of *No. 6* and *The Cay* at Indiana Repertory Theatre, *Shakespeare in Love*, *As You Like It*, and *Romeo and Juliet* at Utah Shakespeare Festival, *Three Sisters*, *Violet*, and *Of Mice and Men* at the Clarence Brown Theatre, as well as seven summers and 18 productions with Great River Shakespeare Festival. Matthew is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and the Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association (TSDCA). Work can be seen at www.matthewtibbs.com. MFA: University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, 2007. BA: George Fox University, 2004.

SAM TRANSLEAU (*Scenic Designer*) is a scenic designer/teaching artist from Delray Beach, FL, and is beyond thrilled to be back designing at The Purple Rose. Theaters she has worked for include: Contemporary American Theater Festival, Theatre Workshop of Nantucket, Tipping Point Theatre, Williamston Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Adjusted Realist, Texas Shakespeare Festival, The 6th Street Playhouse, Cinnabar Theater, Orchestra Miami. Sam is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Design and Production at Oakland University. She would like to thank the team at the Purple Rose, her students, and her little Michigan family - Caitlin, James, and David.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Stage Manager	Caridad Guy*
Fight Director	Christina Traister
Head of Production Technical Consultant.	Brian Dambacher
Artistic Associate	Lucas Daniels
Artistic Associate	Rhiannon Ragland
Resident Properties Designer	Danna Segrest
Head Stage Technician	Caleb Wimbrow
Production Associate	Sydney Dillen
Production Associate	Eric Hohnke
Production Associate	Robert W. Hubbard
Safety Liaison.	Sydney Dillen
Patron Services Manager.	Kate Voigt
Assistant Patron Services Manager.	Kelly Fielder
House Manager	Josh Lapping
Box Office Associate	Deb Bullerman
Box Office Associate	Katrin Murdock
Production Photographer.	Sean Carter
Rehearsal Photographer	Michael Bessom Wecht
Archival Photographer	Danna Segrest
Production Graphic Design	Daryl L. Fazio
Program Coordinator	Lexi Teuscher
Program Printer	Foresight Group

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Please see program insert for additional acknowledgments.

STAGE MANAGEMENT


CARIDAD GUY (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a professional freelance stage manager currently based around Ann Arbor, MI. She graduated from the University of Alabama in 2021 with a BA in Theatre and a minor in Business Management. This is her second production with the Purple Rose Theatre Company! Some of her most recent credits include *Shakespeare in Love* (SM), *My Mother and the Michigan/Ohio War* (ASM/Deck Lead), and *The Angel Next Door* (ASM). She would like to thank her family, friends, and fiancé for their continuous love and support. Please enjoy the show!

MARY TOTH (*Stage Manager*) (she/they) is a Michigan-based stage manager who is excited to be joining the Purple Rose for her second season! She was previously the PSM for *Fourteen Funerals*, ASM for *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*, and a Production ASM for *Office Christmas Party*, *Grinch in Fight with Rudolph*, *Police Called*. Some of Mary's other favorite stage managerial credits include: *Six Men Dressed Like Joseph Stalin* (staged reading), and *The Greenshows* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival; and *Kinky Boots*, *A Little Night Music*, and *La Traviata* at Quisisana. After spending most of her childhood in Brighton, Mary is honored to return to Southeast Michigan to work with the Purple Rose Theatre Company this season.

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE

LUCAS DANIELS celebrated four years this September as an Artistic Associate here at The Purple Rose! As part of the Artistic Directing team alongside Rhiannon and Jeff, he is thrilled for the exciting season ahead. The upcoming 2025/2026 season marks our 35th, opening with a remount of *Norma & Wanda* by Jeff Daniels, which had its world premiere here 20 years ago, in 2005! Lucas is a graduate of Michigan State University, 2011. Go Green! He is a part of Actors' Equity Association and received his card in 2012, here at The Purple Rose. Lucas couldn't do this job without the love and support of his family. Love you so much, Shannon, Daphne, and Delaney.






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ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE

RHIANNON RAGLAND has worn many hats at the Purple Rose over the years and is honored to be entering her 5th season as part of the Artistic Directing Team (Artistic Associate). A Flint, MI, native and member of Actors' Equity Association, she made her professional acting debut at 8 years old at the New Vic Theatre, continued her artistic education by working as a professional actor and teaching artist for various theatre's, schools, and producing organizations throughout Michigan before becoming a Resident Artist here at PRTC in 2007. Special thanks to her amazing family, "Thank you for continually building a life full of creativity and love. And to our audiences, "we hope you enjoy our story!"

FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JEFF DANIELS has been a professional actor for forty nine years. After founding the Purple Rose in 1991, the third act of his life began when, in 2021, he stepped into the role of Artistic Director sharing his decades worth of experience with the talented artists who call the Purple Rose their creative home. Aside from writing twenty two plays, all of which premiered here, Jeff directed the PRTC productions of Lanford Wilson's *The Hot L Baltimore* (1997) and three of his plays; *Boom Town* (1998), *Diva Royale* (2023), *Office Christmas Party*, *Grinch in Fight with Rudolph*, *Police Called* (2024), and the upcoming production of Richard Johnson's *The Classic King*. On film, he wrote, directed, and starred in two independent features: *Escanaba in da Moonlight* (2001) and *Super Sucker* (2002), both shot in Michigan. In 1976, Jeff became a member of New York's Circle Repertory Company and has appeared on Broadway in *Fifth Of July* (1980), *The Golden Age* (1984), *Redwood Curtain* (1993), *God Of Carnage* (2009), *Blackbird* (2016), and *To Kill A Mockingbird* (2018). He has been nominated for five Golden Globes, five Emmys (winning for *Newsroom* and *Godless*) and three Tonys.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

KATIE HUBBARD is so pleased to be managing the business of the Purple Rose for the last 12 years. She was previously the General Manager of First Stage Milwaukee, a professional children's theater that also houses the largest theater training program of its kind in the nation, as well as being Wisconsin's leader in arts-in-education programming. Katie hails from Rochester, Michigan and received her Bachelor of Arts in Theater from Albion College in 2002. She is also a graduate of the Purple Rose Apprentice Program and former AEA Stage Manager. Katie could not do what she does without the love and support of her husband Rob and two amazing children. She is proud to be PURPLE.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF & ARTISTS

Founder and Artistic Director	Jeff Daniels
Managing Director	Katie Hubbard
Company Manager	Amy Klain
Head of Production Technical Consultant	Brian Dambacher
Director of Donor Engagement	Robert Caplis
Artistic Associate	Lucas Daniels
Artistic Associate	Rhiannon Ragland
Marketing Director	Caitlin Cavanaugh
Diversity Enrichment Consultant	Lynch R. Travis
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Production Associate	Eric Hohnke
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	David MacGregor • Julie Marino • Lauren (Knox) Mounsey • Eric Pfeffinger
	Megan Pinto • Alvaro Saar Rios • Paul Stroili • Lanford Wilson
Resident Artists	Sandra Love Aldridge • Connor Allston • Bartley H. Bauer
	David Bendena • Jon Bennett • Ryan Black • Caitlin Burt • Ryan Carlson
	Caitlin Cavanaugh • Mark Colson • Susan Craves • Ruth Crawford
	Carey Crim • MaryJo Cuppone • Brian D. Dambacher • Ben Daniels • Jeff Daniels
	Lucas Daniels • Rainbow Dickerson • K. Edmonds • Henri Franklin
	Dana Gamarra • Katie Hubbard • Robert W. Hubbard • Reid G. Johnson
	Michael Joseph • Sarab Kamoo • Angie Kane • Angela G. King • Amy Klain
	Brian Letscher • Matt Letscher • Alex Leydenfrost • David MacGregor
	Hugh Maguire • Randolph Mantooth • Richard McWilliams • Rusty Mewha
	Angela Kay Miller • Lauren (Knox) Mounsey • Michelle Mountain
	Vincent Mountain • Reina Mystique • Shelby Newport • Aphrodite Nikolovski
	Scott Norman • Wayne David Parker • Sarah Pearline • Brad Phillips
	Jim Porterfield • Rhiannon Ragland • Suzi Regan • Dawn Rivard
	Maria Ru-djen • Stephen Sakowski • Danna Segrest • John Seibert
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Pictured: Sam Comen, María Leonor García and Elizabeth García, Restaurant owner and manager from the series Working America, 2020; Digital photograph, 27 x 18 inches; Courtesy of the artist.





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NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

Additional Program Information

Fight Choreographer Christina Traister
Gunsmith Scott Webster

Understudies

Understudies never substitute for listed characters unless a specific announcement for the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

Norma Randolph Hope Shangle*
Wanda Dembrowski Caitlin Cavannaugh*
Mary Sue Thornberry Krystle Dellihue*
Paulie Perkins Ryan Carlson*
Mel Randolph Jon Bennett*
A Local Man Ryan Carlson*

*Member Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

There will be no intermission during the performance.

Sensory Disclaimer: This performance of Norma & Wanda includes mature content; loud or sudden noises.

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Additional Acknowledgments

Cleary's Pub
Wild Bunch Florals

NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

At this performance, the role of
Mel Randolph
will be played by Jon Bennett*.



JON BENNETT is very happy to be a part of the 20th Anniversary Production of *Norma & Wanda*, by Jeff Daniels. Jon has appeared in several Ann Arbor area plays over the years including, Performance Network's productions of *The Clean House*, as Charles; in *Doubt a Parable*, winning a Wilde Award for Best Actor for Father Flynn; in *Sonya Flew*, as Daniel; and in *Burn This*, as Burton. Jon has also appeared as a guest star in several television shows including, *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago Med*, *In An Instant*, *Detroiters*, and *Outsiders*, and he can be seen presently in the award-winning film, *Thorns*. Jon would like to thank Rhiannon Ragland, Lucas Daniels, and Jeff Daniels for this opportunity.

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

At this performance, the role of
Paulie Perkins / A Local Man
will be played by Ryan Carlson*.



RYAN CARLSON is a Resident Artist with The Purple Rose and is grateful to be returning to his home stage. You may remember him as Wally Wilkens Jr. in *Office Christmas Party*, *Grinch In Fight with Rudolph*, *Police Called* or maybe from a few rare performances in *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*. Ryan enjoys working behind the scenes as well. Stage Management credits include *What Springs Forth*, *Diva Royale* and *My Mother and the Michigan/Ohio War*. He has performed in such shows as *The Antichrist Cometh*, *Pickleball*, *Superior Donuts*, *Hot L Baltimore* and *The Glass Menagerie* to name a few. Ryan has been an AEA union member since the age of twenty. He has worked professionally all over Michigan including at the Detroit Repertory Theatre, Tipping Point Theatre, The Gem, City Theatre and Jewish Ensemble Theatre. Having done thousands of performances, he is hard pressed to pick a favorite show, but productions like *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *A Steady Rain*, *A Lie of the Mind* and *The Tropical Pickle* will forever hold a memorable place in his heart. Upon earning his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Detroit, Ryan became Artistic Director of Planet Ant during its first two seasons as a professional theatre. Ryan would like to thank you for supporting live local union strong productions like this. Find out where and when Ryan's next show will be by following him on the socials. www.theryancarlson.com *Member, Actors' Equity Association

NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

At this performance, the role of
Wanda Dembrowski
will be played by Caitlin Cavannaugh*.



CAITLIN CAVANNAUGH is excited to be back at The Purple Rose, where she's honored to be a Resident Artist. This is her 5th production understudying and 17th production at the Purple Rose. Most recently, she was in *My Mother and the Michigan/Ohio War*. Elsewhere around Michigan, you may have seen her at Tipping Point Theatre (*Halftime with Don, Game. Set. Match!*) or Williamston Theatre (*Predictor*). She has also performed with the Texas Shakespeare Festival, Sabanci International Theatre Festival in Turkey, and numerous Chicago theatres, including Victory Gardens and Stage 773. TV: *American Rust* and *Chicago Fire*. Proud grad of Northern Illinois University (BFA Acting) with a Certificate in Acting from the Moscow Art Theatre School. You can see her next in *Murder on the Links* this spring at the Purple Rose. Huge thanks to Rhi, Team SM, Jeff, Lucas, Amy, Katie, this incredible cast, designers, and everyone behind the scenes, and to her #1 supporters - her grandparents, James, and the best mom ever. More at www.caitlincavannaugh.com or IG: @caitlincavannaugh

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

At this performance, the role of
Mary Sue Thornberry
will be played by Krystle Dellihue*.



KRYSTLE DELLIHUE is grateful to return to the Purple Rose Theatre as an understudy, learning alongside such inspiring artists. Her stage credits include *Moon Man Walk*, *Nollywood Dreams*, *Knock Knock*, *Doubt*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. On screen, she has appeared in *Swings*, *Bikes and Sidewalk Chalk*, *Fluids*, and *Mabuhay*. Krystle thanks Rhiannon for her leadership and care, the cast, crew, and PRTC staff for their warm welcome, and the audience for their continued support of live theatre.

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

NORMA & WANDA

by Jeff Daniels

At this performance, the role of
Norma Randolph
will be played by Hope Shangle*.



HOPE SHANGLE is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to return to Purple Rose Theater Company after having played Lili in *The Antichrist Cometh* and previously working with the PRTC team as an understudy (*My Mother and the Michigan/Ohio War* and *In Common*) and as an apprentice! She received her BFA in Acting from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. Post-graduation, Hope was lucky enough to work with The Know Theatre in Cincinnati on *Afghan Women's Writing Project*, The Circle Theatre on *Wait Until Dark*, and was last seen at Tipping Point Theatre in *Every Christmas Story Ever Told* and *A Comedy of Tenors*. The most massive "thank you" possible to Jeff, Rhiannon, Lucas, and the rest of PRTC for trusting me with this opportunity. To the best Mom and Dad in the world, thank you for your unwavering support. Phillips family, none of this would be possible without you. Brad, I couldn't dream of a better partner than you.

*Member, Actors' Equity Association



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*designates past Board Chairpersons; +deceased

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From the beginning, The Purple Rose Theatre Company has aspired to be the beacon of American theatre. Founded in 1991 by Jeff Daniels, our mission has been to develop opportunities for theatre professionals while entertaining, enriching and building a loyal following. Audience commitment to the company has resulted in a fiscally solvent and highly respected arts and community partnership.

The PRTC envisions an even brighter future with increased national visibility and enriched economic and artistic health. Well-established and critically acclaimed, The Purple Rose Theatre Company will continue to be the home of world-class, original American theatre.

The Purple Rose Theatre Company is a member of the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber, Arts Alliance, Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce, Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce, Culture Source, Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce, Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce, and Saline Area Chamber of Commerce.

Actors' Equity Association (AEA) was founded in 1913 as the first of the American actor unions. Equity's mission is to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Today, Equity represents more than 40,000 actors, singers, dancers and stage managers working in hundreds of theatres across the United States. Equity members are dedicated to working in the theatre as a profession, upholding the highest artistic standards. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits including health and pension plans for its members. Through its agreement with Equity, this theatre has committed to the fair treatment of the actors and stage managers employed in this production.

AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. For more information, visit www.actorssequity.org.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

The Purple Rose Theatre Company is taking actionable steps to provide and increase opportunities for marginalized artists and theatre makers. We are working with our staff, artists and patrons to create, live, and behave in ways that will respect and represent the wide diversity of souls who call the Midwest home.

The Purple Rose Theatre cares about the well-being of our artists, staff, patrons, and volunteers and is committed to diversity, inclusion, equity, and anti-racism. We can do more. And we are.

We are committed to leading with positive action and want everyone committed to our organization to join us.

Visit www.purplerosetheatre.org/dei/ for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THEATRE USHERS

As a non-profit theatre, we rely on the generosity of others to help us carry out our efforts. The Purple Rose welcomes volunteer ushers throughout the season. This is a wonderful way to help the theatre and also see a show for free!

Please call the Box Office at 734.433.7673 or email Tickets@PurpleRoseTheatre.org and we will send you our Volunteer Usher Inquiry Form.

A SPOTLIGHT ON DEVELOPMENT THE PURPLE ROSE GANG



The Purple Rose Gang is our multi-year giving club at the PRTC. This special “Gang” is comprised of donors who have made a minimum three-year pledge of \$10,000/year.

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Terry & Cindy Ahern
J. David Allan
Dave & Marilyn Allyn
Maureen Alterman
Rich & Becky Altschuler
Christine Alvarado
Anonymous
Michael Archer
Rosemary Austgen
Frank & Brenda Baker
Carly Bauer
Henry & Molly Bazydlo
Norma Beatriz
Chris Becker
Dennis Behrendsen
Gary & Sheryle Benning
Jeff & Cindy Berner
Margaret Bird
-in memory of Leeds Bird
Robert & Tana Boehm
Howard & Luanne Booth
James Brandon
Robin & Michael Brooks
Robert Brougher
Dickson & Dee Brown
Beth Bruce
Beverly Budke
Andrew Caird
Jon & Karen Call
Teri Campbell
Sandra Cardone
Jack & Susan Carlson
Wendy Carman
Janice Carr
Albert C. Cattell
Kenneth Chamberlain
Martha Child
Kaaren L. Christopherson
Gary Ciarkowski
Steward & Bonita Cline
Mike & Melonie Colaianne
John Cole
Nancy Coleman
The Common Grill
Brian Connelly
Eileen Crawford
Paul & Barbara Cumming
Marylee Dalton & Lynn Drickamer
Mark & Diane Davies
Thomas & Jean Davis
Paul & Mary Derwich
Sherry L. Dickerson
Gene & Barbara Dickirson
Deborah Dingwall
Terrence & Nancy Donnelly
Kelly & Nick Dyer
Peg Eaton
Daniel Edwards
Sue & Bob Elkins
Donald Enderby
Karen Ferguson
Louis Ferraresi
James & Kathy Fisk
Janice Fleet
Larry & Nancy Galbraith
Connie Gee
Joyce & Steve Gerber
-in honor of Kate Voigt
Pamela Gillis
Janet & James Gilsdorf
Elizabeth Glenn
Julie & Eric Gunderson
Mark Guzdial
JoAnn Haddad
Jeff Hall & Chad Losey
Frederick Ham
Gary Hambel
Bruce & Grace Harrison
Deann Hervey
Cathy Holcomb

(continued)

CAST CIRCLE

(Gifts of \$100 to \$249)

Dr. Nancy Homburg
Victoria & Brian Howard
Elizabeth Huldin
Patricia A. Huntington
Denise & Gary Iams
Ellen Ives & Colleen Johnson
-in memory of Patricia Hobar
Gregory Jablonski
Carey Jones
James Juergens
David & Marsha Keeler
The Kennard Family Charitable Fund
Dennis & Ruth Kenny
Leslie Keyes
Larry W. King
Elizabeth Kinney
Anthony Klain
Mary Knake
Zak & Stephanie Knaus
Sue & Kurt Koseck
Barbara Kruh
Robert Kuch
Amy Lamoreaux
Adelaide & Tim Lancaster
Michael & Kim Lavich
Frost Road Orchards
Deborah Lee
Jean Lyle Lepard
Mark & Sandy Luetke
Sherman & Charline MacCready
Katie & Gary MacDonald
Rochelle Martinez
Dakin & Anne Marie Matthews
Donald May
James McCluskey
Alice McCreary
Catherine McLogan
Barbara D. McMillan
Mary McNally
Margot & Tom Mehringer
Merx Communication
Vonetta Mills
Miss Maria Made
James Morrow & Karen McKinney
Allegra Marketing of Okemos
Nancy Needles
Nancy & Bryan O'Donnell
Sean O'Keefe
Christine Pasternak
Jim & Joan Penner-Hahn
Carole Perry-Burrell
Ann Marie Petach
The Pizzala Family
William & Donna Polom
John & Sue Potter
Paul & Barb Purdue
Robert Ransom
The Reap Family Fund
Rob Reed
Amy Riordan
Mary Roberts
Jessica Roberts
Ron & Victoria Robinson
Christine Rockwood
Gloria Rooke
Vicki Rothhaar
Anne & Randy Ruch
Rosalyn Sarver
Amy Sayles
Marilyn Schafer
-in memory of Carma Philip
Michael & Ilene Schechter
Thomas Schmitz
Margot Schreer
Mary Schulze
Katie See & Michael Kamrin
Robert & Patricia Shaw
Cliff & Ingrid Sheldon
Dennis & Carolyn Shephard
Martha L Smith
Ronald Smith
Karen Smithbauer

(continued)

CAST CIRCLE

(Gifts of \$100 to \$249)

Dale Sniegowski
Debi & Darrell Snygg
Jan & Mark Sockness
Don Souden
Bruce & Gabrielle Southwell
Christine Stier & Tom Fricke
Elizabeth Sweet & Scott Gerstenberger
Roy & Cathy Szyndlar
Jim & Mary Szykowski
Renee & Greg Tall
Andreas & Tracy Teich
Robert Thorsen
Scott Timms
Janette & Martin Tobin
Jeanne & Dan Trainor
Phil Tuchinsky
David Turner
Donna Ullrich
Barbara Vallieu
Jenny VanHouten
Robin Von Wald
Kathy & Jon Walgren
Mary Wallace
Michael Wecht & Aja Brandmeier
Virginia & Lorin Weddell

Tracey Wentz & Chuck Blackmer
Clint Wheeler
James F White
The Wilczynski Family Fund
Bob & Charlotte Wilks
Jim & Donna Williams
Mark Wisely
Cynthia Yingling
Rebecca & Nancy Zajdel
Kurt Zdanio
Imogene & Paul Zimmermann
Linda Zukowski

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
AMAZING SUPPORT THIS SEASON!**

ADVERTISE IN OUR PLAYBILL



To reserve program advertising space in our 2025-2026 season playbills, please email Marketing Director, Caitlin Cavannaugh at caitlin@purplerosetheatre.org.

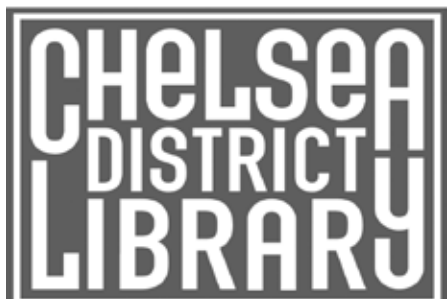
For complete season information, visit the Purple Rose website -- purplerosetheatre.org

**Program Advertising Deadline For
Winter Production -- December 22, 2025**

The Classic King
a World Premiere by Richard Johnson

Ad Size	3 Show Rate	2 Show Rate	Single Show Rate
Inside Covers (4.5" x 7.5")	\$4275 (\$1425 per ad)	\$3050 (\$1525 per ad)	\$1575
Full Page (4.5" x 7.5")	\$2025 (\$675 per ad)	\$1400 (\$700 per ad)	\$750
Half Page (4.5" x 3.625")	\$1245 (\$415 per ad)	\$900 (\$450 per ad)	\$475
Quarter Page (2.125" x 3.625")	\$750 (\$250 per ad)	\$550 (\$275 per ad)	\$300

LIBRARY READINGS



The Purple Rose has a long standing partnership with the Chelsea District Library. Together we share live play readings by established and rising playwrights, to promote and develop new work for our stage and theatre communities as far as our Zoom webinar can reach. Our play readings have connected us with people all across the United States, from Chicago and New York, to Los Angeles and the US Virgin Islands. During our September 10, 2022 play reading, we had international attendance from west Africa, more specifically, Nigeria.

Play readings are free to all and take place on Saturday mornings at 10:30am, EST. Virtual attendees are able to view a live play reading and offer feedback in a group chat with the cast, director and playwright.

To join us, visit our website at PurpleRoseTheatre.org or go to ChelseaDistrictLibrary.org for more information and how to register.

Upcoming Play Readings via Zoom:

Saturdays at 10:30am EST

November 8 | January 10

UP NEXT



The Classic King

A World Premiere by Richard Johnson

Directed by Jeff Daniels

January 29 - March 8, 2026

In paying tribute to timeless automobiles, *The Classic King* paints a comic and heartbreaking portrait of three veteran used-car salesmen at a Metro Detroit dealership, struggling to cope with a changing industry and modern customers. When a sharp Gen Z salesman joins the team, he proposes a daring scheme to save the dealership — and its “dinosaur” salesmen — from extinction.

Contains adult language and subject matter.

**Call the PRTC Box Office at 734.433.7673 or
Book your tickets at www.purplerosetheatre.org**

PATRON INFORMATION

Contact

Address: 137 Park Street
Chelsea, MI 48118

Box Office: 734.433.7673

tickets@purplerosetheatre.org

Administration: 734.433.7782

info@purplerosetheatre.org

Fax: 734.475.0802

Box Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Box Office Performance Hours:

Monday	CLOSED
Tues. & Wed.	1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Thurs. & Fri.	1:00 PM - 9:30 PM
Saturday	1:00 PM - 9:30 PM
Sunday	12 Noon - 4:00 PM

Performance Times

Wednesday at 3:00 PM
Thursday at 3:00 PM & 7:30 PM
Friday at 8:00 PM
Saturday at 3:00 PM & 8:00 PM
Sunday at 2:00 PM

Visit PurpleRoseTheatre.org for complete schedules and added performance dates.

Tickets

Please provide the name that the order was placed under when you come to pick up the tickets.

Tickets may be purchased by phone or online at PurpleRoseTheatre.org with all major credit cards, as well as Apple Pay or Google Pay.

Reservations of fewer than 12 tickets must be paid in full 24 hours prior to the performance. Refunds for the value of the tickets will not be issued after 30 days of purchase or within 24 hours of the performance. If you would like to exchange your tickets for a future performance, or convert the value to In House Credit, we ask the latest you do so is 24 hours prior to the performance date and time. Any requests made after that will be at the discretion of the Box Office. Web and phone sales fees are nonrefundable.

Group reservations for 12 or more are available at a discount of \$6 per ticket. Tickets must be pre-paid three weeks prior to performance.

Gift Cards

Gift Cards are available in any amount! See the Box Office for more details.

Accessibility

The PRTC complies with all current ADA Standards. Assisted listening devices and large print programs are available upon request at our Box Office for all performances.

Hearing Loop Technology-Switch Hearing Aid to T-Coil

Activate the telecoil (t-coil) in your hearing device to hear sound with less background noise -- directly into your device. If you do not have a t-coil enabled device, request a headset and receiver at our Box Office.

Refreshments

Please do not bring anything to eat or drink into the theatre.

No Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted inside the building.

Cameras and Recording Devices

The making of photographs and/or recordings is strictly prohibited inside the theatre.

Electronic Devices

During performances, please turn off or silence cellular phones, watch alarms and other electronic devices.

Babes-in-arms

Out of consideration for our patrons and performers, babes-in-arms are not allowed in our theatre during performances.

Complimentary Cough Tablets

These are available at the Box Office. To avoid performance distractions, please unwrap them prior to the performance, at intermission or during the break between scenes.

Please Remain Seated

Actors may be using the aisles for entrances and exits during the show.

Late Seating

Once the performance has begun, seating is at the discretion of the House Manager.

EXPERIENCE THE **RICK TAYLOR** ADVANTAGE



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*Honored to Support
the Arts in Chelsea!*

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I am deeply committed to supporting the Arts, and for the past 20 years, I have proudly championed the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea. The impact of this esteemed institution extends far beyond its stage, as it serves as a cultural cornerstone enriching our community. Each year, the Purple Rose Theatre contributes millions of dollars to the local economy, a testament to its significance in making Chelsea a vibrant and desirable place to live. I am honored to have played a small role in fostering the growth and success of this remarkable organization, and I remain dedicated to ensuring its continued prosperity for years to come.

734.223.5656

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relationships matter

We're all about wagging tails, chasing after adventures,
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