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Wedding(s)

A WORLD PREMIERE BY
CAREY CRIM

DIRECTED BY
KATE THOMSEN SAVINA



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Welcome to the world premiere of *Emma's Wedding(s)* by Carey Crim.

If this is your first experience with Carey's writing, you are in for a treat. Here, Carey has written something that her fans will recognize as so unmistakably HER: full of heart, relatable, honest, entertaining, and funny. Like so many great comic writers, Carey gets away with asking us deeply meaningful questions without our even noticing – in the world she writes for us, we're so busy laughing and escaping and connecting. And then she sneaks up. When WAS the last time we hung out with our best friends?

As I was preparing to direct this piece, I asked one of my own best friends, "If you could go back and tell your younger self anything, what would it be?"

"Absolutely nothing," she replied, "I needed the mistakes I was about to make."

There is something so positively liberating when we accept our former selves as necessary, even the really dumb former selves! I like to imagine a world in which we understand both ourselves and those around us – yes, those in the seats next to you in this very theatre – as perhaps needing the mistakes we are all about to make. May our futures be richer with the wisdom of our former (and perhaps present) follies.

I hope you enjoy these characters as they make their mistakes, learn their lessons, remind us what we need to be reminded of, and entertain us every step of the way. Thank you for joining us here at the Purple Rose to spend some of your time laughing with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Thomsen Savina". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot above the final 'a'.

KATE THOMSEN SAVINA
Emma's Wedding(s) Director

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presents

Emma's Wedding (A)

by Carey Crim

Scenic & Projections Design
SARAH PEARLINE

Costume Design
SUZANNE YOUNG

Lighting Design
NOELE STOLLMACK[^]

Sound Design
SUZI REGAN

Stage Manager
RYAN CARLSON^{*}

Assistant Stage Manager
STEFANIE DIN^{*}

Director
KATE THOMSEN SAVINA



^{*}Appearing through an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



[^]United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, IATSE is the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.

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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.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS



SARAB KAMOO*
Emma



SONJA MARQUIS*
Sallie Ben



DWANDRA NICKOLE*
Robyn



ZACH FISCHER*
Bob, Additional Roles

Understudies: Suzi Regan* (Emma),
Stephanie Nichols* (Sallie Ben), Maria Ru-djen* (Robyn),
Mark Colson* (Bob, Additional Roles)

PLACE: Multiple Locations

TIME: Present Day, Past, and in the Mind

*Appearing through an Agreement between this theatre, The Purple Rose Theatre, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, is the national labor union representing more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers in live theatre. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, administers benefits such as health and pension plans, and advocates to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the American theatre. Its mission is to ensure safe, fair, and dignified working environments for its members nationwide. Learn more at www.actorsequity.org.

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ZACH FISCHER (Bob, Additional Roles) Originally from San Diego, Zach relocated to Michigan after 14 years in New York City. He is thrilled to make his Purple Rose debut after previously understudying *Roadsigns* (2020) and *Welcome to Paradise* (2019). Theatre credits include: Flint Repertory Theatre, Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Virginia Stage Company, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Fulton Theatre, New York Musical Theatre Festival. Television credits include: *The Americans*, *30 Rock*, *Gossip Girl*, *Power*, *Law & Order*, *The Jim Gaffigan Show*, *American Odyssey*, *As the World Turns*. Zach is a graduate of Florida State University's Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. He serves as chair of the Theatre Department at Albion College. For Maggie & Ruhly.

SARAB KAMOO (Emma) is so happy to be returning as Emma. She is proud to be a Resident Artist at Purple Rose and was last seen here in *What Springs Forth*. Other PRTC favorites include *Smart Love* and Irene Adler in the Sherlock Holmes trilogy. Select theater credits: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Baba*, Heather Raffo's *9 Parts of Desire*, *English*, and *Falling*. Sarab also directed *Arabic to English*. Film/TV: *Ghostlight*, *Stone*, *Happiest Season*, *Conviction*, *Trust*, *Secrets in the Walls*, *Lovestruck the Musical*, *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, and *Detroiters*. Sarab is also a part-time school social worker in the Rochester School District. Thank you to this amazing group of actors, designers, crew, and staff at the theatre. She also sends her never-ending love to Tom, Grant, Joelle and Julia.

SONJA MARQUIS (Sallie Ben) has worked as an actor, director, and sound designer with numerous theaters throughout Michigan, including Purple Rose Theatre Company, Tipping Point Theatre, Williamston Theatre, The Dio, Flint Repertory Theatre, Encore Musical Theatre Company, and Detroit Public Theatre. Regional credits include *Always...Patsy Cline* (Louise) at the Geva Theatre in Rochester, NY. When not on stage or part of a production team, Sonja loves helping to build the next generation of creatives. She has worked with young artists of all ages as a director, choreographer, music director, playwright, instructor, and mentor, and is a Lecturer with Oakland University's Department of Theatre.

DWANDRA NICKOLE (Robyn) holds an MFA in Acting from the National Theatre Conservatory and is a Professor of Theatre at Western Michigan University. She is thrilled to be bringing Robyn back to life for this new production. Regional credits include the Tony-Award-winning Denver Center Theatre, The Huntington Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Human Race Theatre, and the National Black Theatre in NYC. Favorite roles include Mrs. Muller (*Doubt*), Matron Mama Morton (*Chicago*), Faye (*Skeleton Crew*), and Roxanne in the world premiere of *Origin Story*. TV credits: *Law & Order*, *Third Watch*, *Law & Order: SVU*, and *Wonderland*. Dwandra has also written and performed a one-woman show, *The Conviction of Lady Lorraine*. Much gratitude to the PRTC family. Dedicating this one to you Paulie C.



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PLAYWRIGHT

CAREY CRIM (Playwright) Purple Rose plays: *Growing Pretty*, *Wake, Some Couples May...*, *The Spring Comedy Festival*, *Morning After Grace*, *Never Not Once* and *What Springs Forth*. *23 ½ Hours* premiered at Bay Street Theater starring Sarah Paulson, was nominated for an Ovation award in LA for best new play, recently opened to critical acclaim in London and Warsaw and will tour in Italy in February. *The Islanders* premiered at Shakespeare and Company and is slated for more. *Wake* is now a feature film starring Jo Koy. *Morning After Grace* continues to be produced at regional theaters all over the country and is currently running in repertory in Poland. Gratitude to the entire Purple Rose family for all the opportunities and the courage and space to do new work! Love always to George and Eliana.

DIRECTING TEAM

KATE THOMSEN SAVINA (Director) joyfully returns to the Purple Rose Theatre Company for another world-premiere comedy by Carey Crim. Prior PRTC credits include *What Springs Forth*, *Norma & Wanda*, *Diva Royale*, *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 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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DESIGNERS

SARAH PEARLINE (Scenic & Projection Design) has collaborated with Circus Flora, St. Louis Symphony, Experimental Theatre Wing, Titan Theatre Company, SoHo Think Tank, Nickelodeon Networks, and New York Stage and Film. She is an Associate Professor in the Theatre and Dance Department at Wayne State University in Detroit. Regionally, she has worked with Tipping Point Theatre, Hope Rep, Detroit Public Theatre, and PuppetART Theatre. A Resident Designer with PRTC, her past designs include *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*, *Fourteen Funerals*, *What Springs Forth*, *The Antichrist Cometh*, *In Common*, *Pickleball*, *Under Ceege*, *Roadsigns*, *Never Not Once*, *Willow Run*, *Harvey*, *Vino Veritas*, *Morning's at Seven*, and *Talley's Folly*. She is grateful to return for another magical show. More at www.sarahpearline.com.

NOELE STOLLMACK (Lighting Design) Noele's lighting has appeared onstage at The Brooklyn Academy of Music, Sydney Opera House, Carnegie Hall, The Library of Congress Theatre, Verizon Hall, along with the opera companies of Santa Fe, Ontario, Houston, Portland, Vancouver, New Orleans, and Nashville. Regional design includes Baltimore Center Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse, Houston's Alley Theater, Wisconsin's Chamber Theatre, Skylight Music Theatre, American Players Theatre, Forward Theatre, Peninsula Players and Milwaukee Rep. Scenic realization and set design includes Meredith Monk's international tours of *mercy & impermanence*, *Giulio Cesare in Egitto*, *Albert Herring*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Venus and Adonis*, *Macbeth*, *Tristan und Isolde* and *Magic Flute* for the Florentine Opera, *Rape of Lucretia* at Toledo Opera, *Pagliacci* with Columbus Opera, and *Mirandolina* for the Milwaukee Rep.

SUZANNE YOUNG (Costume Design) is delighted to return to The Purple Rose for *Emma's Wedding(s)*, having just completed *Murder on the Links*. Her first show for PRTC was *Escanaba in da Moonlight* in 2011. Among her other Purple Rose designs are *What Springs Forth*, *My Mother and the Michigan Ohio War*, *Human Error*, *A Jukebox for The Algonquin*, the three Sherlock Holmes plays, *All My Sons*, *Harvey* and *Willow Run*. She has designed extensively in professional theatre and won many awards including Wilde Awards for two of the three Sherlock Holmes productions. Suzanne trained in London, England and has enjoyed a long career in costumes and costume design.

SUZI REGAN (Sound Design) became fascinated with sound design while playing Jo for a production of *A Taste of Honey* while attending Michigan State University. The music magically activated the world the ensemble had begun to discover and gave it a heartbeat. Since then, whenever making a play as an actor or director or sound designer, she reaches for a musical pulse or tone that makes sense viscerally and contextually. Suzi has designed sound for over a dozen plays at PRTC that include: *Beast on the Moon*, *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *Completing Dahlia*, *Rain Dance*, *Months On End*, and *Fourteen Funerals*. Sound design at other theatres in Michigan include The Williamston Theatre, Tipping Point Theatre and the retired Performance Network Theatre.

STAGE MANAGEMENT

RYAN CARLSON (Stage Manager) is a Resident Artist with The Purple Rose Theatre Company. He enjoys Lionel Model Trains and chilled whole bean fair trade French press coffee. At the end of a hard work week, Ryan has been known to open a bottle of low intervention natural unfiltered skin contact wine while listening to John Prine on vinyl. He has recently found interest in home pickling and fermenting. Although he is in the early stages of perfecting these techniques, he looks forward to the journey. Ryan would like to thank you for supporting live union-strong shows. His full body of work can be found at purplerosetheatre.org/ryancarlson or theyancarlson.com.

STEFANIE DIN (Assistant Stage Manager) Having Stage Managed *What Springs Forth*, Stefanie is thrilled to be working with this incredible team, again! She is also a Resident Stage Manager at the Williamston Theatre, an Artistic Associate with The Michigan Shakespeare Festival, was part of Central Michigan University's Theatre Department and The PRTC's Apprentice Program. Stefanie thanks Katie, Jeff and Rhiannon for hiring her, Kate and Carey for being genius Goddesses, and Syd, Ryan and the entire company for being amazing to work with. Special thanks to Tony for being an outstanding friend and mentor, her extraordinary family and friends for their love and support, and Brian and Keeley for being her inspiration every day. Lock in. Love hard. Be kind. Always.

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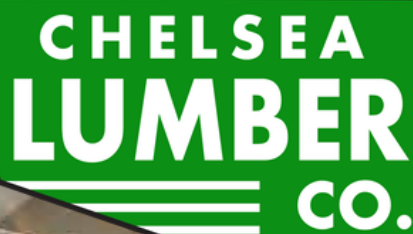
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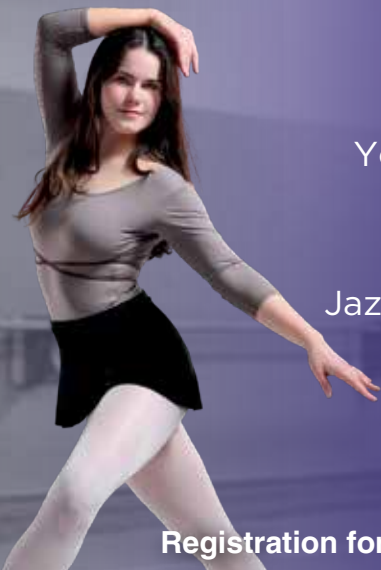


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Suzi Regan is thrilled to join the *Emma's Wedding(s)* team, having been Lou in *What Springs Forth* a couple summers ago. Suzi is a Resident Artist at The Purple Rose and has worked as an actor, director, sound designer, teacher, and writer in the Metro Detroit area and beyond for a few years. Most recently, she directed *Good Night Oscar* at Farmers Alley Theatre in Kalamazoo. Some of her favorite projects with PRTC include *A Jukebox for the Algonquin* by Paul Stroili, *Book of Days* and *Rain Dance* by Lanford Wilson, *Apartment 3A* by Jeff Daniels and *Beast on the Moon* by Richard Kalinoski. Many thanks to you for your part in keeping the arts in Michigan alive and well!

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

Emma's Wedding(s)

by Carey Crim

At this performance, the role of
Sallie Ben
will be played by Stephanie Nichols*.



Stephanie Nichols has worked in theatres around the Detroit area, as well as touring across the country and internationally. Local credits include *Noises Off*, *Blithe Spirit*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Calendar Girls* (Meadow Brook Theatre), *Grand Horizons* (Tipping Point Theatre), *Wrongful Life* (Detroit Repertory Theatre, Wilde Award), *Happy Days* (Matrix Theatre) (Nomination), *Memory House*, *Eleemosynary* (Detroit Mercy Theatre Company), as well as numerous musical and educational programs as a member of the acting company at Greenfield Village. Stephanie is happy to be taking part in an exciting new adventure with this exceptional cast and company!

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

Emma's Wedding(s)

by Carey Crim

At this performance, the role of
Robyn
will be played by Maria Ru-djen*.



Maria Ru-djen is very happy to be a part of this continuing adventure of good friends. A returning member of Team Understudy for *What Springs Forth*, this production marks her 10th time as an understudy at The Purple Rose. In addition to her work as an understudy, she played the Nurse in last season's *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*. Regional credits include the Lakeside Theatre's production of *I Remember Mama* in Toledo, and their inaugural production of *The Heiress*. She is also a proud recipient of an AudioFile Earphones Award for her narration of *After Oz* by Gordon McAlpine. Many thanks to the everyone at the Rose, and to her family for their unending support.

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

Emma's Wedding(s)

by Carey Crim

At this performance, the role of
Bob, Additional Roles
will be played by Mark Colson*.



Mark Colson was last seen at The Purple Rose in *Bert & Trixie Visit the Vet*. Previous credits include *A Jukebox for the Algonquin* and the title role in the world premieres of the Sherlock Holmes trilogy: *The Adventure of the Fallen Souffle*, *Elusive Ear*, and *Ghost Machine*. He also appeared in the world premiere of *Gaps in the Fossil Record*. TV roles include *I Am Not Okay With This*, *Outsiders*, *Banshee*, *Mad Men*, *Parks and Recreation*, *Justified*, *Gilmore Girls*, and *Low Winter Sun* (See IMDB). Mark thanks the production team and staff at The Rose for maintaining its mission of producing new work, and for providing an artistic home. A shout-out to Team Colson & Go Blue!

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

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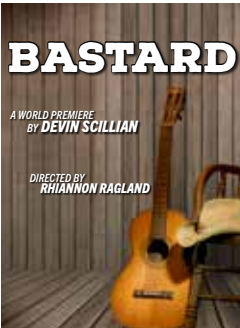
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NEXT SEASON AT THE PURPLE ROSE



***Bastard* by Devin Scillian** **SEPT 24 - DEC 20, 2026**

What do an aging country rocker and a buttoned-down financial whiz have in common? Not much — except their last name. The Lambert brothers have never agreed on much. And now with the death of their mother, old wounds resurface, and a new wound threatens to tear the family apart. From Award winning journalist, former WDIV-TV news anchor, author, and musician, Devin Scillian, comes a dramedy that'll have you on the edge of your seat from beginning to end.



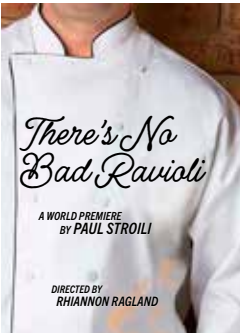
***Mildred Whiskey* by David MacGregor** **JAN 21 - FEB 28, 2027**

In a run-down Detroit bar on Thanksgiving Eve, a thick fog blankets the city, trapping together four souls who have fallen through the cracks of the world. With the help of a few drinks, a few laughs and maybe even a little bad poetry, they each reveal their deepest secrets, finding that together, they're brave enough to let their light shine through the fog.



***King of Vinyl* by Jeffrey Chastang** **MAR 25 - MAY 23, 2027**

Who - and where - is Alvin Dye?! A late '60s Detroit R&B artist is suddenly finding the recognition he never quite knew when his near-hit song is used in a TV commercial and goes viral! Now, his two sons are at odds as they try to help their aging father handle his newfound fame. But the question looms: has his stardom come too late?



***There's No Bad Ravioli* by Paul Stroili** **JUN 17 - AUG 29, 2027**

Pietro (Petey) Novara runs the best old-school Italian restaurant in Chicago, but as retirement looms, he finds himself juggling a no-nonsense ex-wife, an ambitious niece and a secret that's about to change everything. A delicious tale about savoring the flavors of life, this bittersweet comedy shows just what can happen if you don't stop and smell the ravioli.

Book your tickets at PurpleRoseTheatre.org or 734.433.7673.



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