

THE CITY THEATRE COMPANY

Paul Rudnick's

THE MOST FABULOUS STORY EVER TOLD

The Cast.

Renee Brown – Stage Manager

Austin Rausch - Adam

Marco Bazan – Steve

Katie Blacksmith - Jane

Chrissy Shackelford - Mabel

Scott Poppaw- Father Markham, Dad #2, Pharaoh, Trey

Amber Moreno- Miriam, Mom #1, Babe,

Ftataeteeta, Rabbi Sharon

David Soliz- Latecomer, Dad #1, Rhino, Brad, Kevin

Elizabeth Bigger- Cheryl, Mom #2, Fluffy, Peggy

ACT I The First 500 Years, An Old Testament

ACT II The 90's, A Manhattan Loft

There will be a fifteen minute intermission between acts.

Act I is about one hour. Act II is forty-five minutes.

Produced through Dramatists Play Service New York, N.Y.

Special thanks to.

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Robert Blanchette Aletha Huston Sue Tedford and Ted Flick
Jonathan and Lourdes Wooley Susan Fegley Mike and Sue Wood
JoAnn and Ed Farrell Milton and Barbara Carr Susan Fegley
Bert Flanagan Annie Zaffrann Stanley Seaton Alexandra R. Wood
Bill and Karen Warren Claire Brooks Sean Carr Steven Weinberg
Patricia Drew and Paul Strelzick Carol Anne Thomas Cliff Avery
Clifford and Bobbe Walker Christina Jeskey and Thom Brooks

Additional Contributors.

Mr. Rick Crowley Mrs. Christine Lemp Dr. & Mrs. Ben Berkovsky
Mrs. Carmina Eaton Ms. Mary Ann Crowley Ms. Jennifer Bednorz Ashley Jorge
Mr. Jonathan Wooley Ms. Teresa Matlock Ms. Lisa Scheps Erik Virkkala
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Cast and Crew:

Katie Blacksmith is fresh from NYC and thrilled to be making her Austin debut at City Theatre. She's a recent graduate of NYU/Tisch School of the Arts and recently worked at the Wiliamstown Theatre Festival (*Anything Goes* dir. Roger Rees), the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey (*Twelfth Night* and *Henry IV Part One*) and on the short film *Cold Sweat* where she had the privilege of acting with William Sadler. You can also catch her next month as Julia in *The Wedding Singer* at the Georgetown Palace. Thank you Elliot for your love, support, and trust as I practiced "kicking" you in the balls.

Austin Rausch is a junior at St. Edward's University and in his fourth performance with City Theatre. He is working on his BA in Theatrical Design focusing on Costume Design and Scenography and hopes to attend Yale School of Drama or Carnegie Mellon after graduation. He is so grateful for the opportunity to present this funny, yet hotly debated Rudnick play and would like to thank Daniel LeFave, Andy Berkovsky, and Fiona Rene for always being there as friend, confidant and coworker. Above all, he would like to extend his deepest gratitude to his mother and father for always supporting encouraging him in his extremely ambitious endeavors.

Chrissy Shackelford is a junior at The University of Texas pursuing a B.A. in Theatre & Dance. She is thrilled to be working with CTC and part of this wonderful production. She is currently the co-founder and associate Artistic Director of the student theatre company The Phoenix and was last seen in the production *The Difficulty of Crossing a Field*. She can be seen next in the SummerStock Austin's *Cabaret* playing in July. She would like to thank her family and friends, the Winship Women and Brockett Boys, the amazing cast, Daniel, Zach, Andy and The City Theatre Company.

Elizabeth Bigger received her bachelor's degree in Theatre from Northwestern State University in May 2009. Recent credits include originating the role of Sofia in *The Family* directed by Michael Joplin at Salvage Vanguard Theater. She will be seen next in *Guilds of Steel: The Reign of Haggioth* part of Gnap! Theater Productions July 9-July 31 show. She would like to thank Andy Berkovsky and Daniel Lefave for a great experience with *Most Fabulous*.

Marco Bazan is pleased to be back on the City Theatre Company stage for his second production. His previous performance was as Hortensio in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Marco has worked on over two hundred productions as a performer, director, producer or designer. Some of his more memorable acting roles include George in *Our Town*, the title role in *Jeffrey*, and Clifford Anderson in *Deathtrap*. Marco would like to thank City Theatre and the *Most Fabulous* company for a fantastic, hilarious time putting this together. Good show!

David Soliz is happy to be doing his first play with The City Theatre and his second by author Paul Rudnick. Going on his senior year at the University of Texas at Austin in Radio, Television & Film, his passion for acting has not left him and he is very grateful for this wonderful experience with an amazing script, director and HILARIOUS cast mates.

Scott Poppaw is thrilled to be making his debut on the City Theatre stage and feels privileged to perform with such a talented group of professionals! Scott has been actively involved in Austin's theater community for many years as an actor, singer and sign language interpreter. He has enjoyed working with many of the local theater groups here in Central Texas and has appeared in numerous commercial, television and film projects. Most recent performances include: Season 21 with The Capital City Men's Chorus, providing sign language interpretations for all of River City Pops' recent performances and for the past few years, Scott has been seen in many of the Zilker Summer Musicals out in Zilker Park. Scott is currently working toward a Surgical Technologist degree at ACC, with the eventual goal of obtaining a degree as a Registered Nurse. Scott lives in North Austin with his partner David.

Amber Lackey is a Houston native and recently spent three years in New York dabbling in theatre. She holds a BFA in Acting and French from Texas State University - San Marcos, and is currently pursuing voice and film projects in Austin and teaching Rock Climbing for the Boys Scouts of America. She was last seen at the Wimberley Playhouse in *Stop the World I Want to Get Off* and is glad to join the cast of *Most Fab* for her first appearance at City Theatre.

Renee Brown – Renee was last seen in Round Rock as Vernadette in *The Dixie Swim Club*. She has also performed with the Palace Theatre, North by Northwest, Paradox Players and The City Theatre. Some of her favorite roles on stage include M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias* and Marlene in *Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will*. She continues in the best roles she's ever had as wife to Andy and mother to Stephen, Amanda, Lulu and Annie. Thanks to Daniel and the cast and crew of *Fabulous* for a fun yet controversial ride!

Zachary Christman received his undergraduate degree in English Literature and Theatre, and enduring the economic recession of the past year, he has found his way to the City Theatre. Zach has developed his skills as an actor, writer, and director and prior to his work with *Most Fabulous*, he worked on multiple theatrical productions for the performing arts ensemble, Troupe Texas. Productions include *Baal*, *Woyzeck*, *Agonistes*, and *Macbeth*. He is very thankful for the opportunity to work on this controversial and important play and looks forward to many more at City Theatre.

Daniel LeFave is glad to be directing at City Theatre for the second time. He made his CTC directorial debut with last year's *Christmas Belles*, and designed and built sets for *Fences* and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. He has a BFA in Directing from Texas State University, and has worked professionally in several states. And, by the time you're reading this the odds are that his wife will have given birth to their first child. Hooray!

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Production Crew.

Directed by Daniel LeFave
Production Stage Manager – Zach Christman
Scenery and Sound Design – Daniel LeFave
Costume Design – Andy Berkovsky and Bert Flanagan
Light and Sound Operator – Andy Berkovsky
Stage Running Crew – Zachary Christman
House Management – Kate Crowley
Assistant Management –
Jeff Hinkle, Clay Avery and Samantha Brewer
Publicity Design – Rachel McGinnis and Joey Solis
Concessions – Kelly Engle, Katie Haber, Dawn Erin

**A very special thanks to those who made the production complete:
Katie LeFave, Dorothy Ann LeFave, Worker's Assistance Program
Arlis Hiebert and J.T. Martin**

Most Fabulous and the power of laughter:

I first read this play in the summer of 2005, and I can still honestly say it is the funniest script I've ever read. And now after all the protests and controversy, I want to make it plain that my shadowy agenda is, and always has been, the promotion of comedy. In my eyes this show has managed to bring together two hilarious bedfellows, in the form of gay culture and the old testament. And it's not about supporting one or the other, or saying one is wrong or one is right. It's about the myriad opportunities for hilarity packed into such an unexplored pairing. So, I apologize if you were expecting to hear some diatribe against organized religion, or any other politically charged set of ideals. And I apologize to the faceless crowd that roared their misinformed disapproval, for it's not about them either (as much as they seem to think everything is). This show, and this fabulous cast, are here as a testament to the enduring power of humor, above and beyond all other trappings of humanity.

Laugh, and join us in celebrating that which is truly universal.

– Daniel LeFave

