



**THE PALACE THEATRE PRESENTS
ON THE SPRINGER MEMORIAL STAGE**

Neil Simon's



Directed by Ron Watson

**June 12-14, 19-21,
26-28, July 3-5 (2009)**

The Odd Couple is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc
45 West 25th Street New York, NY 10010.

The Palace is proud to be a member of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, the
Downtown Georgetown Association, and the Austin Circle of Theaters.

Cast of Characters

(In order of appearance)

Dave Lovelace..... *Speed*
Matt Connely *Murray*
James Carneiro..... *Roy*
Dana Barnes..... *Vinnie*
Joe Penrod *Oscar Madison*
Vincent Doenges *Felix Ungar*
Virginia Keeley..... *Gwendolyn Pigeon*
Arden Baxter *Cecily Pigeon*

Scenes

An apartment on Riverside Drive. New York City.

Act I

A hot summer night..

(15 minute intermission)

Act II

Scene 1: Two weeks later. About 11 PM

Scene 2: A few days later. About 8 PM

Act III

The next evening. About 7:30 PM



PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Ron Watson
 Costumes Ramona Haas & Ronni Prior of A Cut Above
 Stage Manager Faith Castaneda
 Assistant Stage Manager Jessica Dearden
 Sound Board Operator Phil Kokajko
 Props Mistress Michele Reynolds
 Running Crew Jim & Charleen Scott
 Set Build Leader Michael Davis
 Set Construction John Argersinger, Larry Baird
 Bob Baisley, Charlie Black, Mary Ellen Butler
 John Carnes, Charlie DeVaul, Ed & Shirly Harmes,
 Ben Helfrich, Larry McCormick, Ed McCrary
 Ron Watson, Sue Williams
 Scenic Artist Barb Jernigan
 Playbill Design & Preparation Sonja Asendorf
 & Marsha Sray
 Playbill Cover Photo Courtesy of J. Griffiths Smith
 Texas Highways Magazine

Resident Artists & Palace Staff

Artistic Director Mary Ellen Butler
 Technical Director Ron Watson
 Equipment Manager Jessie Drollette
 Scenic Artist Barb Jernigan
 House Managers Monti MacMillan & Daria Burke
 Office Administrators Elizabeth Little & Marsha Sray



THE COMPANY



Arden Baxter (*Cecily*) earned her MBA from the University of St. Thomas in 1998 and moved to Georgetown. She soon joined the Palace Board of Directors for 2 years and chaired the committee that monitored the \$1.5M renovation in 2000. Arden joined the Southwestern University staff in 2002. Since 2004, Arden has served on the Palace Board in many capacities: Treasurer, Chair of Finance and currently, Grants. She has secured funding for the Tin Barn Renovation and for the Children's Workshops. She continues to write grants for the Palace and perform in shows whenever she can. You've seen her in *Nunsense*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Anything Goes*, *Rumors* and *The Music Man*. She is so very fond of her three children. They are the wonders of her life, apples of her eye, chocolate on her sundae...they're the tops, and so very supportive of their mom!



Dana S. Barnes (*Vinnie*) is thrilled to be back on stage with this talented Ensemble. With this script, the characters that Neil Simon created, and the Director's vision, he has had so much fun being a part of it. He thanks Ron, Faith, Michele, the Ensemble and the crew. He says, "I must express my gratitude to the fabulous Rebecca for her continued love and support of my hobby. To Raleigh and Brenna, you keep me grounded on what really is important in life, and you will not find a father more proud of his girls. I love you both." Finally, he sends a special note of appreciation to two people who have done more for this actor than can be expressed in typed English. William and Ginger Calem of CrossFit Georgetown.



James Carneiro (*Roy*) is happy to have the opportunity to again participate in a show at the Palace and work with such a talented team. He was last seen here as Saunders in *Lend Me a Tenor* which was a great experience and tremendous fun. James has also had roles in several Sam Bass Community Theatre productions. He played in Neil Simon's *Prisoner of Second Avenue*, and in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. When he isn't working at Dell, James spends his time with his lovely wife, Elizabeth, and his sons Nick, James, and Ben. Quote for the boys: "If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress." He asks, "Who said that?"



Matt Connely (*Murray*) This is Matt's third show at the Georgetown Palace Theatre. He has lived in Austin for five years, after moving here from a theatre tour of the Midwest and East Coast, and he absolutely loves it. Matt has performed with many local theatres and has been seen in film, commercials, and television. Some of Matt's favorite roles include Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*, Wally in 1940's *Radio Hour*, and Roy in *Lone Star*.

THE COMPANY, Cont.



Vincent Doenges (Felix Ungar) first appeared onstage 28 years ago in *Willie Stark*, directed by Hal Prince and performed for Houston Grand Opera and at the Kennedy Center. He last appeared at the Palace playing the mayor in *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*. Television work includes roles on *Matlock*, *Superior Court*, *Great Performances*, *Punky Brewster*, and *L.A. Law*. In Austin Vincent was a Best of the Fest performer in the annual Frontera Fest and has worked on the films *A Perfect World* and *Spy Kids II*. He considers the Georgetown Palace a great unheralded gem of the Central Texas performing arts scene. "If you enjoy your experience here today, please spread the word."



Virginia Keeley (Gwendolyn) is pleased to be treading the Palace boards again. She previously appeared on this stage in *Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will*, *Arcadia*, and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Virginia (an Aussie) earned her Bachelors in Theatrical Performance from the University of Western Sydney and appeared in many shows in Sydney before leaving for a holiday in 1999 and forgetting the way back home. Some of her favorite experiences have been *Lysistrata*, *Blood Wedding*, *Top Girls*, *'Night Mother*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.



Dave Lovelace (Speed) and wife, Georgia Medler have been residents of Sun City for over 3 years. Prior to moving here, Dave had no experience in theatre. In the Actors and Theatre Arts Guild of Sun City, he has played Big Ed McKeever in *The Solid Gold Cadillac* by George Kaufman, Billy Fox in Neil Simon's *London Suite*, and Henry in *Funny Money* by Ray Cooney. Dave has also played comedy skits in the annual *Sun City Follies*.



Joe Penrod (Oscar Madison) most recently appeared on the Palace stage as Dr. Philip Gottschall in *God's Man in Texas*. Over the past two seasons, he has performed in a number of *Pigea* productions, including *1776* (John Adams), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Pilate), and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Senex). In the Austin area, he was featured in North by Northwest Theatre's production of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and *Golf: The Musical* at Tex-Arts. Other roles include Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*, the title role in *Sweeney Todd*, King Arthur in *Camelot*, Serge in *Art*, Roma in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, and Salieri in *Amadeus*. Joe has appeared at the Berkshire Music Festival at Tanglewood, Aspen Music Festival, and the New England Bach Festival, and he has performed with the Boston Symphony, Sarasota Opera, and Lake George Opera Festival. In addition, Joe is an accomplished recitalist, having made his New York recital debut at Carnegie Recital Hall as a winner of the East & West Artists Competition. He was a prize winner in the International American Music Competition at Carnegie Hall.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

Mary Ellen Butler (Artistic Director) took on her role at The Palace in mid-2004, but her affiliation with the Palace began in 2002 when she directed several shows. As Artistic Director, she produces the season and directs many shows, the most recent musical being *Little Shop of Horrors* and non-musical, *God's Man In Texas*. Other musicals she has directed include the Central Texas premiers of *The Producers* and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (Fall 2005); *Guys & Dolls*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *Meet Me In St. Louis*; *Oliver!*; *A Christmas Carol*; and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Mary Ellen is also in charge of the year-round Theatrical Workshops for Children and Teens.

Ron Watson (Director) has been a frequent director for the Palace since 1999. Some of his favorite productions include *Grease*, *Nunsense*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *1776*, *A Few Good Men*, and *Noises Off*. Ron has also served as the Technical Director for the Palace since midway through the 2005-2006 season. Ron occasionally appears in some of the shows as well, most recently as the side-stepping Governor in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Ron holds a BFA in Directing from SWTSU (now Texas State). He worked for several years as a Stage Manager for the State Theater Company and was the Production Stage Manager for the Austin Shakespeare Festival for three seasons. Ron thanks his lovely and incredibly talented wife, Samantha, for her love and support while he continues to pursue his passion for theater.

Faith Castaneda (Stage Manager) is in her 2nd season at The Palace, and feels very welcomed by this talented community. Faith's BFA in Theatre from Tarleton State University has been so useful in Georgetown and she's loved every minute of it. Most recently at the Palace, she stage managed *Grease!* Palace credits include Stage Manager for *Grease*, *The Gifts of the Magi*, *Nunsense* and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. She was ASM for *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* and *The Producers!* She also managed a stage for Austin's 2008 annual South by Southwest event. Some of her favorite shows stage-managed include *The Mikado*, *The Laramie Project* and *Romeo and Juliet*. She would like to thank her husband, Christopher, for understanding her absence due to her passion for the theatre. And she'd like to thank her mother for encouraging her to never give up on her dreams.

Jessica Dearden (Assistant Stage Manager) has been doing theatre in some way since she was in high school. She worked on every production her high school produced. Most recently, she worked backstage on The Palace sensation, *Grease*, and enjoyed every minute of it. She is thrilled to return as Assistant Stage Manager of this great Neil Simon comedy. She hopes you all enjoy the show!

Barb Jernigan (Scenic Artist) thinks it's an odd coupling indeed. Every show meshes a director's vision with Barb's can-do attitude. [They say she works best for chai lattes -- nonfat, iced or hot.] If you've seen a Palace show, you've likely seen her work, since there have been, what, two? three? shows since *Music Man* (she staunchly refuses to count how many years that's been) that have NOT used her unusual skills in some fashion or other. Thanks to her hubby Russ for signing her over to the Palace during 'crunch times.' Enjoy the show!!!!

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS, Cont.

Michele Reynolds (*Properties Designer*) normally loves being onstage, but this season she has really enjoyed working behind the scenes with props. *The Odd Couple* is her third show as Props Mistress and it was great! She also gathered props for *Grease* and *Uttle Shop of Horrors*. Last season, you may have seen her in the chorus of *A Christmas Carol* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Special thanks to her parents that often help as "props assistants"! Also, big hugs to her husband, Richard, who just returned from Iraq and to their 10 month old, Cecilia, aka "Theater Baby". She says, "You guys rock!"

SPECIAL THANKS

To Down the Alley Bistro and D'Vine Wine for hosting the Palace's opening night Patron parties for the 2008-2009 Season!

To Barb Jernigan for artwork above and beyond her scenic artist duties: such as graphic art for each production and the poster art found at the entrance to Sun City.

To Michele Reynolds for working so hard gathering props for our shows, it is tedious work, but you do it so well!

Very Special Thanks to Jim Heuertz for five years of dedicated service as House Manager and Monday morning office volunteer. We wish you and Mary Margaret much fun and relaxation on your world travels. We will miss you both.

To everyone who attended the blitz build day May 30th. The renovation process was moved ahead by two or three weeks (with over 150 build hours logged) through this extraordinary volunteer effort.



Is Now



New Location:

**715 Main Street
Georgetown, TX
512.869.8600**

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Thanks so much to the volunteers listed below! They help the Palace staff keep the office open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some of the things they do: answer phones, take messages when necessary; greet walk-in guests; sell tickets, use the computer for seat reservation and payment; hand out brochures-history and season-while showing the theatre.

Sonja Asendorf, Office Manager & Operations Chair for the Palace



Dottie Turner

Coordinator, Performance Volunteers

Elizabeth Little

Coonlinator, Office Volunteers

REGULAR WEEKLY OFFICE SHIFTS ~|| AS NEEDED

Jan McCormick

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Myra Hill

Elaine Dobbs

Jane Mallon

Dolores LeGrand

Karen Turpin

Joan Bakt

Rick Rowd!

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PALACE OFFICE VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CALL OR COME IN. OFFICE HOURS ARE 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. WEEKLY SHIFTS ARE FROM 10 A.M. TO 1 P.M. AND 1 P.M. TO 4 P.M.

ASK ABOUT THE REWARDS!

CALL (512) 741-7417 or H69-S08t.

PALACE TICKET EXCHANGE POLICY

For tickets already purchased for a performance on a given date, the Palace office will make changes in the performance date with at least 24-hours notice and a \$5.00 transaction fee. No transaction fee for Season Ticket holders; comparable seating cannot be guaranteed.