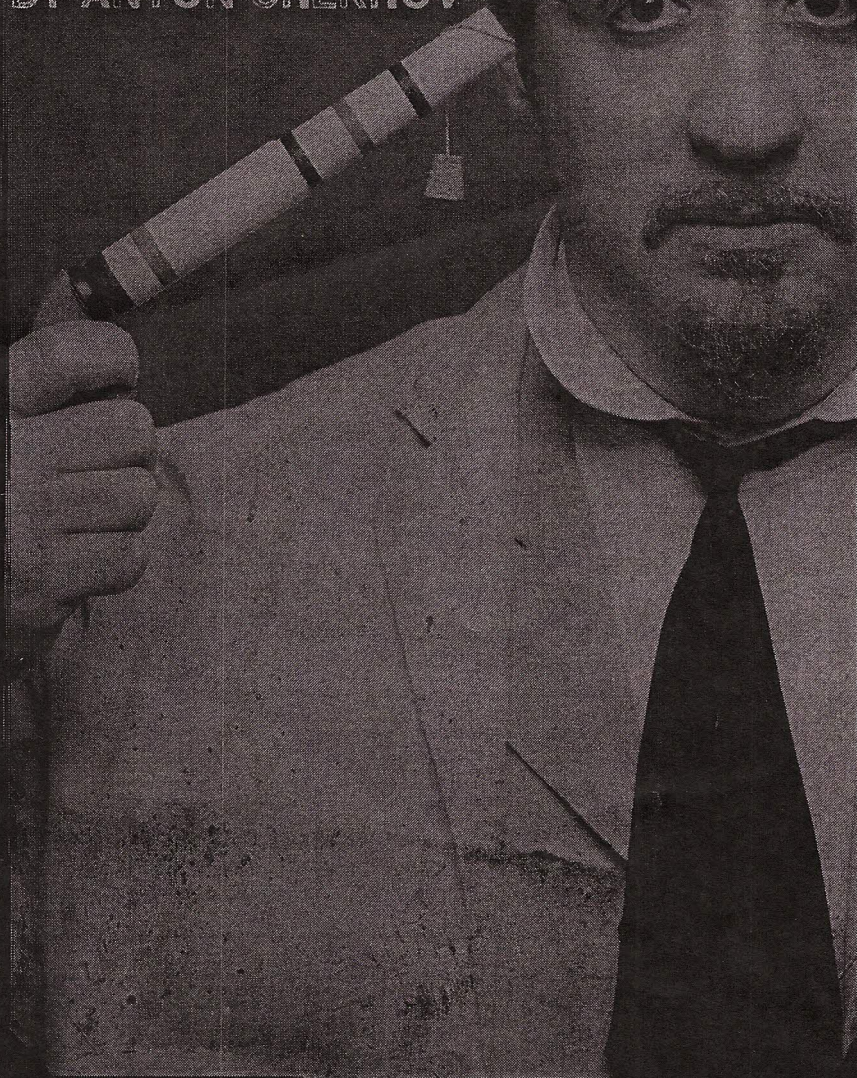


UNCLE VANYA

BY ANTON CHEKHOV



Marina Timofeevna **Anne Hulsman**

Mikhail Lvovich Astrov **Matt Radford**

Ivan Petrovitch Voynitsky ("Uncle Vanya") **Robert Matney**

Aleksandr Vladimirovich Serebryakov **Harvey Guion**

Ilya Ilych Telegin ("Waffles") **Robert Deike**

Sofia Alexandrovna Serebryakov (Sonya) **Emily Everedge**

Yelena Andreyevna Serebryakov **Liz Fisher**

Maria Vasilyevna Voynitsky **Chris Humphrey**

A Workman **Michael Johnston**

Director/Translator **Graham Schmidt**

Stage Manager **Andrew Perry**

Scenic **Ia Ensterä**

Lighting **Steven Shirey**

Costumes **Julia Chinnock Howze**

Costume Assistant **Ashley O'Brien**

Sound/Composer **Adam Hilton**

Composer **Henna Chou**

ASM/Props **Bernadette Nason**

Production Assistant **Michael Johnston**

Electrician, Carpenter, et al. **Eric Johnson**

Light Board Op **William Ott**

Production Photographer **Will Hollis Snider**

Robert Deike Ilya Ilych Telegin ("Waffles")

Robert Deike has done many things, on stage and off, but he's never been in a Breaking String production yet, so there's a first. He wishes to thank all those who made it possible, with a special shout-out to Graham Schmidt for walking into Bennu at exactly the right moment. Last thing Deike was in was THE DUDLEY'S for Tutto Theater, playing the part of Dead Tom. Going further back, seems I... I mean, HE... was Shakespeare for a time, A Player, A Gravedigger, Kristofero Sly, Mozart's Father, Dr. Ozy Mandius, and then things just start getting hazy. He probably did a bunch of stuff pre-2010, but who wants to type all that out? Not Deike. To that end... Пока!

Emily Everedge Sofia Alexandrovna Serebryakov (Sonya)

Emily Everedge is thrilled to be joining Breaking String Theater Company for the first time in their production of Uncle Vanya! A native of Dallas, TX, she moved to Austin upon graduating from Southwestern University where she majored in Theatre with equal emphasis in Acting and Costume Design. During her time at Southwestern, she was invited to participate as a collaborator in the Rhodopi International Theatre Laboratory, an international experimental theatre collective in Smolyan, Bulgaria. Additionally, Emily has worked as a Costume Design apprentice with the Chicken Shed Theater Company in London. Some of her favorite roles include Tilda (ECHOES), Magenta (THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW), Alithea (THE COUNTRY WIFE), and Gabriele Münter (THE COLOR OF DISSONANCE). Her recent credits include: OUR TOWN at Zach Theatre, THE VIRGIN W/10,000 ARROWS with Debutantes & Vagabonds, AGAMEMNON with City on a Hill, STOP THE WORLD I WANT TO GET OFF at Austin Playhouse. This summer Emily will join Papermill Theatre Company in their productions of RENT and ALMOST, MAINE.

Liz Fisher Yelena Andreyevna Serebryakov

Liz Fisher was last seen onstage as Sally in Capital T's recent production of A LIE OF THE MIND. Previously for Breaking String, Liz played Varya in THE CHERRY ORCHARD (Best Featured Actress – Austin Theatre Examiner, Outstanding Supporting Actress – B Iden Payne Nomination) and Masha in THE SEAGULL (Austin Critics' Table nomination). Liz also starred in Capital T's productions of HUNTER GATHERERS and DYING CITY (Best Actress ATL Applause Awards, Outstanding Leading Actress – B Iden Payne Nomination); Hyde Park

Theater's BOMBS IN YOUR MOUTH (BIP nomination, Austin Critics' Table nomination) FEATURING LORETTA (BIP nomination, Austin Critics' Table nomination), HUMANS, and PILLOWMAN; MINUS TIDE (BIP nomination) for the Rude Mechs and Bayou Radio; Austin Playhouse's DUG UP; Austin Shakespeare's MACBETH and DOG IN THE MANGER (BIP nomination); REEFER MADNESS, REEFER MADNESS: REHASHED, and LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST for The Bedlam Faction; HBMG Foundation's STROKE. Film credits include THE HAPPY POET (recently screened at the Venice Film Festival), HOLY HELL, THE SPECIAL, THE REMNANTS OF CIVILIZATION & THE DAWN OF ANXIETY, NIGHTLIFE, and SIX MINUTES. Liz is a co-Producing Artistic Director of Breaking String and a Core Company Member of Hyde Park Theatre.

Harvey Guion Aleksandr Vladimirovich Serebryakov

Regional Theatre: OUR TOWN, THE LARAMIE PROJECT; TEN YEARS LATER, THE GRAPES OF WRATH, and OMNIUM GATHERUM at Zach Theatre; DON JUAN IN HELL, MEASURE FOR MEASURE, MACBETH, TITUS ANDRONICUS, HAMLET, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, and LA RONDE for Austin Shakespeare; IPHIGENIA CRASH LAND FALLS ON THE NEON SHELL THAT WAS ONCE HER HEART and 16 SPELLS TO CHARM THE BEAST at Salvage Vanguard, EL PARAISO for the Rude Mechanicals, PROOF at The State Theatre, KING LEAR for Public Domain, and METAMORPHOSIS for Refraction Arts. Film/TV: HOLY HELL, SILENT FALL, UNSOLVED MYSTERIES, AMERICA'S MOST WANTED, SNOOPS, WISE GUY, numerous Industrial Films and Commercials. OTHER: Harvey, a 30+-year member of AEA, AFTRA, and SAG; holds a masters degree in Theatre from Syracuse University, has taught and/or been a guest artist at a number of colleges, and universities, has done additional study at BADA, Oxford University, Eng.; Shakespeare and Company, Lenox, Mass.; and The Shakespeare Theatre, Washington, DC.

Anne Hulsman Marina Timofeevna

Anne has been acting on the stage and on the screen since 1992. She is thrilled to be working with Breaking String Theater on this beautiful production. Currently she lives in Austin where she has received numerous Critics' Table Awards and a B. Iden Payne Award. She was last seen in MORNINGS AT SEVEN and has worked in many of Austin's talented theater companies including Shrewd Productions, OnStage, Austin ScriptWorks, Different Stages,

Refraction Arts, the State Theater Company, Iron Belly Muses, Public Domain, The Company and many more. Some of her film and television credits include SHE FOUGHT ALONE and A MOTHER'S GIFT for ABC Television. She received a Communication degree from the University of Texas and has studied Theater at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco.

Chris Humphrey Maria Vasilevna Voynitsky

Chris Humphrey has loved Chekhov since she minored in Russian at UT way back in the '60s when going to college was probably a lot more fun than it is now. Nevertheless, this is her first time to actually perform in a play by Chekhov, and she's excited to have this opportunity to bring Maria Vasilevna Voynitskaya to you. She has appeared in FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS and, most recently, as Roselyn in Rick Linklater's upcoming film BERNIE. Other acting credits include Nana in Shrewd Production's MILK MILK LEMONADE; Constance in the Weird Sisters' GOODNIGHT DESDEMONA (GOOD MORNING JULIET); Darcy in Gobotrick's ONE FLEA SPARE; and the mother of the dead gay son in Yellowtape's I LOVE MY DEAD GAY SON: THE MUSICAL! Chris is also an active musician (Annoying Instrument Orchestra; Heralds and Minstrels; Plures Via), composer (The Elementals: AIR; Lucy Dies in Fives; The Watcher), and sound designer (The Eye in the Sky Project; Far Away; Betty's Summer Vacation). You can visit her and see what else she's up to at www.chrishumphrey.org.

Michael Johnston A Workman/Production Assistant

Michael Johnston was born in Longview, Texas to David and Betty Johnston, where he attended Longview High School. He is a current senior at Southwestern University and the Box Office Manager for the theater. There he studies under Rick Roemer and was in Babs George's Poetic Language Class she taught this past semester. Theater has always been his passion, whether it is onstage or backstage. This is his first involvement with the company and hopes it won't be his last. He would like to thank his parents for their love, and professors for their support and encouragement.

Robert Matney Ivan Petrovitch Voynitsky ("Uncle Vanya")

Robert Matney is a co-Producing Artistic Director for Breaking String Theater, Technology

Director for Hidden Room Theatre, Board Trustee for Austin Shakespeare, an actor, director, and a commercial web technology consultant. Previously for Breaking String, Robert played Medvedenko in THE SEAGULL and Pishchik in THE CHERRY ORCHARD. Most recently, Robert played Wilhelm Grimm in A MOST UNSETTLING AND POSSIBLY HAUNTED EVENING IN THE PARLOUR OF THE BROTHERS GRIMM for Hidden Room and Trouble Puppet. You can battle Robert's voice in the shape of DC Universe Online's video game villain Doctor Psycho. Robert was a panelist at the 2011 South By Southwest Interactive conference and the 2011 Fusebox Festival.

Matt Radford Mikhail Lvovich Astrov

Matt Radford is a co-Producing Artistic Director of Breaking String Theater Company, and has performed in both their previous Chekhov productions (Trigorin in THE SEAGULL and Lopakhin in THE CHERRY ORCHARD). Before recently becoming Professor of Shakespeare and Performance at Mary Baldwin in association with the Blackfriar's Theater in Staunton, Virginia, Matt was a doctoral student in the English Department at UT, during which time he tackled numerous roles for Austin Shakespeare, and a few more for Winedale. Prior to that he enjoyed fifteen years as a professional actor in the UK and around the world. Matt is also Associate Director of Actors from the London Stage, a London-based classical company set up by Patrick Stewart and Ben Kingsley, that has been touring five-person Shakespeare's across American campuses for over forty years. Perambulatory by nature, Matt is never happier than hanging in his new old home surrounded by old new friends.

Graham Schmidt Director and Translator

Graham Schmidt has worked in Austin Theater for almost a decade as a performer, director, translator and producer. From 2001 to 2004 he performed with ED32 Improv Theatre Troupe. In 2003 and 2005, he studied at UT's Shakespeare at Winedale program, and later directed a production of Anton Chekhov's UNCLE VANYA as a Plan II senior. While an MA candidate in UT's Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies, Graham received a grant to research the early history of Chekhov's plays at the Moscow Art Theatre (Moscow, Russia). Also at DSES, he contributed to the Cambridge Introduction to Chekhov (Loehlin, 2009). Graham's recent stage credits for Breaking String include CINZANO by Lyudmila Petrushevskaya (director, adaptor), Chekhov's THE SEAGULL (director, translator) THE CHERRY ORCHARD (director,

translator), and the North American Premiere of FLYING, by Olga Mukhina (director). He is a founding member of Breaking String Theater. Next up for Graham is a translation of PHANTOM PAINS by Vasily Sigarev, and a production of GHOSTS by Henrik Ibsen, as Breaking String crosses the Baltic. Graham is thrilled to be working with such a committed and creative team of artists, and especially the Breaking String Co-PADs, Robert Matney, Liz Fisher, and Matt Radford.

Julia Chinnock Howze Costumes

Julia Chinnock Howze recently graduated from Texas State University with an MA in Theatre History and Criticism, specializing in Dramaturgy. She has worked in costumes and wardrobe for several years on shows including THE FANTASTICKS, WINNIE THE POOH, and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. In addition to costume design and production, Julia serves as a dramaturg, most recently on Texas State's production of AS YOU LIKE IT and as a new play dramaturg for ST DESOLATION, a work by emerging playwright Lupe Flores. Her resume also includes research and scholarship concentrating on performance studies and the intersections between theatre and popular culture. She is thrilled to be making her Austin design debut with Breaking String!

Henna Chou Composer

Henna Chou is an extreme allergy sufferer, canine enthusiast and willing participant. She has worked with local ensembles such as New Music Co-Op, Linen Closet, My Education, and Many Birthdays a cellist, keyboardist, guitarist or general sound and noise maker. Her previous theatrical collaborations include work with Rubber Repertory, Humdrum Collective, Vestige group, and a handful of Frontera Fest Short Fringe pieces. Henna is a board member of Church of the Friendly Ghost: a growing community organization dedicated to the proliferation of creative musics, future-minded expressions, experiments in sound, and cutting edge jazz. Hobbies include event planning, re-using tiny pieces of tape, parking as close to the curb as possible, spending time w/her partner and their three furry daughters: Ramona, Nerys and Margot. Thanks to everyone for the interesting and colorful experiences!

Ia Ensterä Scenic

Originally from Helsinki, Ia is an award-winning scenic and costume designer whose work in the past decade and a half have been on both the stage and the screen. She is the resident Production Designer for Pollyanna Theatre Company, with whom she has been with since its inception over some ten years ago. Some of her favorite productions with Pollyanna include TEMPEST, JUST BEE, and the series PATTERN NATION. Her work has also been seen with numerous other theatre companies, and include PSYCHO BEACH PARTY and WHEN PIGS FLY for Arts On Real, FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT at the Salvage Vanguard, THE LOVE SONATAS (a collection of five plays) for HBMG, and some 70+ other various productions. A portion of her cinematic work can be seen in such films as THE TWO BOBS (Dir: Tim McCantlies), MAN FROM ORLANDO (Dir: Craig Elrod), and Doonby (Dir: Peter Mackenzie). In January of 2011, Ia designed the set for Breaking String Theater's production of FLYING, by Olga Mukhina. Her commercial projects have included World Wildlife Fund, Maidenform, and H.E.B. She also works consistently as a storyboard artist and illustrator for films, publishing companies, clothing manufacturers, and whomever is in need of illustrations. Ia loves her work, and it shows. She has been nominated for quite a few B. Iden Payne Awards, and has been the lucky recipient of four of them..... and is always on the hunt for the next project.

Adam Hilton Sound/Composer

Adam Hilton is a musician & sound dude happy to return to the role of Sound Designer for Breaking String Theatre. He has been working as sound designer, composer, and engineer for theatrical works all over town for the past several years, and has been nominated for multiple B. Iden Payne and Austin Critics table awards. Highlights include Capital T Theatre's KILLER JOE and BUG, Sustainable Theatre Project's DEAD WHITE MALES, The Hidden Room's YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HER, SHE LIVES IN LONDON, Gnap! Theatre Productions' 69 LOVE SCENES, and of course Breaking String's THE CHERRY ORCHARD.

Bernadette Nason ASM/Props

Bernadette Nason was last seen with Breaking String as Charlotta in The Cherry Orchard and is happy to act in a different capacity in Uncle Vanya. Most recently, she performed in a one-woman version of A Christmas Carol at Austin Playhouse where she is also a company

member. Other favorite productions include: Shirley Valentine, Blithe Spirit, The Rivals, The Winter's Tale, The Underpants, The Merry Wives of Windsor, and Twelfth Night. She has received multiple nominations and awards including the 2007 Austin Critics' Table Special Citation, "The John Bustin Award for Conspicuous Versatility." She opens her one-woman show, Tea in Tripoli at the City Theatre's Summer Acts' Festival on July 7, 2011.

Andrew Perry Stage Manager

Andrew Perry holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Tech/Design specializing in Stage Management from Texas State University. Previously for Breaking String Theatre, he was the stage manager for Chekov's THE SEAGULL and THE CHERRY ORCHARD. Andrew is also the company stage manager for the Pollyanna Theatre Company, which produces a wide variety of productions for young audiences, including several that tour to elementary schools all over Texas. In July of this year, he will be very proud to stage manage a play which he has also written, entitled DUCKS VS. SQUIRRELS: BATTLE FOR THE PARK, being produced by Pollyanna.

Steven Shirey Lighting

Steven Shirey, lighting designer, has an MFA in Lighting Design from the University of South Carolina and was the Technical Director for the Stephen F. Austin State University School of Theatre from 2001 - 2007. Other Austin lighting design credits include FLYING, THE BIRD AND THE BEE, A THOUGHT IN 3 PARTS, FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT, and NO ONE ELSE IN THE WOODS TONIGHT.

About **Breaking String**

Breaking String Theater is a professional theater company in Austin, TX that presents drama important to Russian history and exposes Austin audiences to developing Russian theater. We seek to connect people across time and culture.

Our mission is to create excellent productions of Russian traditional and avant-garde plays, provide artists with a creative, respectful and professional work environment, and be a thread in the rope linking Russian and American theater communities via collaboration with Russian theater artists through our partnerships with the Center for International Theatre Development's Philip Arnoult, and Moscow-based critic/translator John Freedman.

The name of our company derives from a mysterious stage direction from Act II of Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*:

Suddenly, as if from the sky, the sound of a breaking string, dying away, forlorn.

Breaking String is proud to be a sponsored project of the Austin Creative Alliance, a 501(c)-3 non-profit organization serving Austin's arts community.

Breaking String was awarded a contract from the Austin Cultural Arts Committee in 2010, in its first year of eligibility.



Company **Members**

Liz Fisher Co-Producing Artistic Director

Robert Matney Co-Producing Artistic Director

Matt Radford Co-Producing Artistic Director

Graham Schmidt Co-Producing Artistic Director

breakingstring.com

Sponsors **Supporters**

Anonymous	The University of Texas at Austin Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies
The City of Austin Cultural Arts Committee	The University of Texas at Austin Department of English
Eponymous Garden	The University of Texas at Austin Program in Comparative Literature
Sasha's Gourmet Russian Market	Tom and Jan Schmidt
Will Hollis Photography	Dr. Paul Woodruff
nthWORD Magazine	

Special **Thanks**

Tom and Jan Schmidt, Paul Woodruff, James and Laurel Loehlin, Babs George, The State Theatre School of Acting, HOPE Warehouse, Jared Stein, Buffy Manners, Jamie Urban, Pam Friday, Michelle Heath, T'Cie Mancuso, Eric N. Johnson, Justin Scalise, Lily Wolff, Ben Wolfe, David Boss, Judd Farris, Kayla Moore, Stacy Wegner, Elias Ensterä, Connor Hopkins, Joe Carpenter, Bob Atchison and Rob Moshein

Additional **Note**

All music written, performed and produced by Henna Chou and Adam Hilton, except:

Utomlennøe Solntse by Jersi Peterburski, arr. Alexander Tsfasman

[Balalaika tune], performed by Alex Siniavski

Kamarinskaya by Mikhail Glinka, performed by Russian Army musicians