

Wake Forest University Theatre



by John Cariani

Oct. 28-29 & Nov. 2-6, 2011



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I first came across *Almost, Maine* at a High School One-Act competition and thought it was a clever little piece of theatre. As I kept stumbling across it and seeing more scenes, I began to be intrigued by its substance – underneath the deft, cute, clever surface, these characters were grappling with life and relationships in a way that was unforced, unadorned and incredibly honest and truthful.

This summer I had the chance to visit 'Almost' and see the people in the play and the world in which they live. I visited Easton, Lake Portage, stomped up Haystack Mountain, grabbed a milkshake in Caribou, got coffee and doughnuts from Tim Horton's, visited the Maine Potato Board headquarters, and stood amazed in a potato field that felt on top of the world under a sky that could have been a planetarium ceiling for all its vivid clarity. Unfortunately, I did not see the Northern Lights.

One exchange with the clerk at my hotel (The Budget Traveller Inn: "We Welcome our Canadian Neighbors") typified my experience. When I asked the young man where he'd recommend for dinner, I was met with a long pause as he stopped to think (and stared out the window at the cemetery across the road) before he looked back and , "There's not any place here I would really recommend." That's the degree of frankness I met with everywhere. That's the sort of folk who inhabit 'Almost' – people getting by, searching for truth, for honesty, and for the way ahead.

I hope you enjoy your visit to 'Almost' as much as we have enjoyed discovering this special place, and I hope you see the Northern Lights in your life.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

ALMOST, MAINE

by John Cariani

October 28-29 & November 2-6, 2011

Director

John E.R. Friedenberg

Scenic Designer

Bland Wade

Costume Designer

Mary Wayne-Thomas

Composers

Jacob Eichorn

John Kostler

Lighting Designers

Jay Lawson

J.R. Roberson

Sound Designer

Ashley Singer*

Assistant Director

Isabella Curry

Stage Manager

Paige Klasing*

SETTING

Various locales in Almost, Maine, a small town in northern Maine that doesn't quite exist. The Present. Everything takes pace at nine o'clock on a cold, clear, moonless, slightly surreal Friday night in the middle of the deepest part of a northern Maine winter.

SPECIAL NOTE

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

ALMOST, MAINE was developed by
The Cape Code Theatre Project.

Professional Premiere Production:
Portland Stage Company,
Anita Stewart, Artistic Director,
Tami Ramaker, Managing Director.

Originally produced in New York by
Jack Thomas/Bulldog Theatrical and Bruce Payne.

CAST

Prologue-Interlogue-Epilogue

PETE.....Dean D. Guerra*
GINETTE.....Elizabeth Patterson*[§]

Her Heart

EAST.....Taylor Hagely*
GLORY.....Rebecca Speas*

They Fell

CHAD.....Soloman Jordan*
RANDY.....Nick Reichert*

Sad & Glad

JIMMY.....Matt Dowell*
SANDRINE.....Anita Ostrovsky*[§]
WAITRESS.....Emily Nedvidek*[§]

Where It Went

PHIL.....Nate Brickhouse
MARCIE.....Mandy Emma*

This Hurts

STEVE.....Andy Belt*
MARVALYN.....Margaret Mulkerrin

Story of Hope

MAN.....Joseph Belangia*
HOPE.....Johanna Beach*[§]

Getting It Back

LENDALL.....Kyle Maloy
GAYLE.....Alyssa Gera[§]

Seeing the Thing

DAVE.....Zachary Pierce-Messick[§]
RHONDA.....Jessi Wagner*

*denotes a member of the Anthony Aston Players

[§]denotes a Presidential Scholar in Theatre

BIOGRAPHIES



Johanna Beach (Woman) is a freshman and is thrilled to be a part of *Almost, Maine*. She hails from Barrington, Illinois. She is considering a Theatre major but is still undecided at this point. Johanna recently played a pirate in Wake Forest's production of *The Brothers Menaechmus* and is excited to have another opportunity on the Mainstage this fall. She would like to thank Paige Klasing for all of her hard work. She is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such a great play! Much love to the fam back home and my lovely cat, Elphie. Jeezum crow, just enjoy the show!

Joseph Belangia (Man) is a sophomore from High Point, North Carolina. He is excited to perform in his second Mainstage production at Wake Forest. He would like to thank his 2A Family, his actual family, and his fellow cast and crew for their support during the rehearsal process. Most importantly, he would like to thank Johanna Beach for putting up with our sickeningly cute partner nickname: "Jo & Joe."



Andy Belt (Steve) is excited to be performing again on the Mainstage with such a great group of people. He has previously been in *Sonnets for and Old Century*, *Moonchildren*, *Smash* and most recently *The Brothers Menaechmus*.

Natalie Brashear (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working on *Almost, Maine*. By far, the most fulfilling aspect has been her marriage to her assistant to the assistant stage manager, convicted felon J.B. Robards. She looks forward to many blissful years with him. She would like to thank the cast for being so wonderful, Paige Klasing for setting her up with J.B., and Isabella Curry for making her existence a little brighter. She gives a shout-out to her hometown of Memphis, which taught her everything she will ever need to know about dealing with those troublesome bears. Break a leg everyone!



Nate Brickhouse (Phil) is a History major and French, Spanish, and Middle Eastern Studies minor from Raleigh, North Carolina. Nate would like to thank the amazing cast and crew, his family, Claire, and his friends for understanding his absences due to rehearsal. It's been such a great experience working on this show, and he hopes you enjoy it!

Isabella Curry (Assistant Director), easily recognizable by her remedial eyewear, has enjoyed working with the cast of *Almost, Maine* as Assistant Director. She has enjoyed her time with Paige, Natalie and J.B. She looks forward to J.B.'s haircut.



Matt Dowell (Jimmy) is a junior Communications major and Theatre minor. He is extremely excited for everyone to see *Almost, Maine*! The entire cast and crew have been amazing to work with and have made the process both challenging and a lot of fun. Matt has previously been seen in *Wake World*, *Passive Belligerence*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *The Naming of Things*. He wants to give a shout-out to God, his amazing family, and wonderful friends, who this would not be possible without. He also thinks that we all should take an inspiring trip to Maine, especially if you're trying to find love (apparently, Mainers are really good at it).



Mandy Emma (Marcie) is a junior with a Theatre major and English minor. Other Wake Forest shows she's been in are: the Studio Series *Identity Crisis*, *The Imaginary Cuckold*, *The V-day Monologues*, and the Studio Series *The Winged Man*. She would like to thank her family for their support! She loves them with all her heart. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Alyssa Gera (Gayle), a first-year student, is absolutely thrilled to be making her Mainstage debut in *Almost, Maine!* She is so grateful for a wonderful cast and production team. Enjoy the show!



Dean D. Guerra (Pete) is a junior Theatre major and a Women's and Gender Studies minor from Waller, Texas. He is so excited to be playing the role of Pete! He thanks Paige, J.B., and Natalie for all of their hard work as a great stage management team! He would like to thank his family; his best friends Michael, Alex, Nick, and Suz; and all of his housemates - I love you! Also, thanks to Mary for his amazing costume, and his family in the box office - I love you, Leslie! He also wishes to thank Whitney Houston. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Taylor Hagely (East) is a freshman from Franklin, Tennessee. He was last seen on the Wake stage as David in *Please Have a Seat and Someone will be with You Shortly*, and his other previous credits include Borachio and Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. He is so grateful to be in such a wonderful scene with Rebecca Speas, who is the best Maine girl a guy could ask for, and, most importantly, his friends and family, the cast and crew, for their support, laughter, and bringing honor to us all.



Solomon Jordan (Chad), a freshman here at Wake, started acting in his junior year of high school. He hopes to continue through college and beyond. Enjoy the show!

Paige Klasing (Stage Manager) is a senior Social Studies Education major and Theatre minor from Roanoke, Virginia. At Wake, Paige has stage managed and costume designed numerous productions, all of which have been incredibly enjoyable. She is also the stage manager of the *Lilting Banshees Comedy Troupe* and a member of Kappa Delta sorority. Thanks to the cast, crew (bears), and, also to M and D, and MWF and CRM. Lastly, thanks to YOU for supporting the theatre!



Kyle Maloy (Lendall) is a sophomore and in his second Mainstage production here at Wake Forest. You may have seen his creepier side in *Eurydice* and are about to see a very different role. He is terribly excited to have this opportunity. He would like to thank God for coming up with the whole idea of life, his parents Janis and Steve for always supporting him, his sister Taryn for never being the last to give him a hard time, and his Uncle Don for roughing him up as a kid. He hopes to wake up when his name is called.



Margaret Mulkerrin (Marvalyn) is a freshman from Rye, New York where she was heavily involved in theater and the arts. This is Margaret's first Mainstage production and production at Wake Forest! Margaret's past roles include Fantine in *Les Miserables*, Rizzo in *Grease!*, and Romaine Patterson in *The Laramie Project*. When she is not on stage, Margaret is a freshman legislator in Student Government and training to be a Tour Guide! She is so excited to join this fabulously talented cast and crew in *Almost, Maine*. Thank you to the members of AAP for being such a welcoming group and break a leg everyone!

Emily Nedvidek (Waitress) is a freshman from Kennesaw, Georgia, and she is so thrilled to be a part of this production! She was previously seen in Studio Series I and is a member of Living Parables, a Christian Drama Troupe. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support; and Paige and the fabulous cast and crew for making her first Mainstage experience a wonderful one! Enjoy the show!



Anita Ostrovsky (Sandrine), a junior Theater and Russian double major and Psychology minor, is thrilled to be back on the Mainstage after last fall's *Smash*. More recently, you may have seen her working props as an assistant stage manager for this season's Studio Series I and on-stage/on-screen as Miss Scarlet at last semester's *Wake & Shake*. Other credits at Wake Forest include: *Sonnets for an Old Century*, *Right to Remain* (Studio Series I '09), and numerous dance concerts as a member of the WFU Dance Company. Past credits elsewhere include: Barter Theater productions (*The Wizard of Oz*, *Beauty & the Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *A Modern Christmas Carol*), as well as summer ballet intensives in Ukraine, Philadelphia, and New York. She hopes you enjoy your journey to Maine!

Elizabeth Patterson (Ginette) is a sophomore from Lynchburg, Virginia. She appeared in *The Grapes of Wrath* last year on the Mainstage, but other past credits include: *The Music Man*, *Chicago the Musical*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Forbidden Broadway*. Besides theater, she is also involved in Living Parables, Crusades for Christ, Alpha Delta Pi, and The Company. Enjoy the show!



Zachary Pierce-Messick (Dave) is excited to be doing *Almost, Maine* with such a talented and enthusiastic cast. Zac attended UNCSA his senior year in high school and is currently a freshman at Wake Forest with an undeclared major. Zac would like to thank the wonderful cast and crew for all of their hard work.

Nick Reichert (Randy) is a junior History major and Theatre and Film Studies double minor from Knoxville, Tennessee and is overjoyed to be a part of this wonderful production. You might have caught him in such productions as *The Brothers Menaechmus*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Imaginary Cuckold*, and as a member in the wonderful Wake World troupe. He'd like to thank his friends and family for all the help and support, with special thanks to Dean, Alex, Andrew, Mandy, Chris Gonzalez, and Michael Whatley & Suzanne Spicer. He hopes you enjoy the wonderful world of *Almost, Maine*. Bundle up. . . it's gonna be a cold one.





J.B. Robards (Assistant Stage Manager) was born upon a Norwegian sailing ship, where he first learned to battle bears. He has been convicted of a felony only once. He has been tortured these past nineteen years with an unruly blonde mop that refuses to leave his head. He would like to thank Natalie Brashear for her hand in marriage, Paige Klasing for her wisdom, and the cast for offering him this wonderful opportunity to participate in the WFU Theatre community. He does not thank Isabella Curry for anything.

Rebecca Speas (Glory) is a senior Theatre and History double major from Greensboro, North Carolina, and she is thrilled to be a part of *Almost, Maine!* She is currently involved with Ghost Light Productions' Studio Series, where she directed SS1's *The Naming of Things* and costume designed SS2's *Helter Skelter*. She has worked extensively with Wake Theatre, the American Shakespeare Center's Young Company (Staunton, Virginia), and Empty Chair Theatre Company (Arlington, Virginia). Favorite roles include: Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Child 3 in *Eurydice*, St. Matthew/Caiaphas the Elder in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, and Prancer the Egotistical Reindeer in *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*. She would like to thank Paige, and the production team; Taylor for not being a real person with me; my friends and familia; the boy; and Stephanie Glagola. And no one else.



Jessi Wagner (Rhonda) is excited to perform in her first show at Wake Forest University. She enjoys "trickin' it" all day long. Jessi would like to thank everyone involved with *Almost, Maine*, because it has been such an incredible experience. She would also like to thank her family for their great support and inspiration. Enjoy the show!

INFORMATION

NO PHOTOGRAPHY, NO RECORDING, NO TEXTING. In consideration of performers and other patrons, please turn off any cell phones and electronic alarms and leave all paging devices at the Box Office. The use of laptops is prohibited in the theatre. As always, please remember that the use of cameras and all recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please refrain from eating or drinking in the theatre. Smoking is prohibited in the building. To be reached in an emergency, please leave your name and seat location at the Box Office when you arrive.

There will be one ten-minute intermission during this production.

SPECIAL THANKS

John Cariani
Stowe Nelson
Troy Baker
Lauren Whitaker
DRWB Racing
UNCSA Props Department
Twin City Stage

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....	R. Trevor Anderson
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Natalie Brashear, J.B. Robards
Pianist.....	Cheng Liu
Properties.....	Chris Garcia*
Master Electrician.....	Donald "Ducky" Davidson [§]
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Chris Garcia*, Adam Lavis, Danielle Thorsen* [§] Donald "Ducky" Davidson [§] , Alex Aceituno, Mara McCaffray* Chandalae Nyswonger*, Alex Priore* [§] , Nathan Musgrove Perry Ransbottom*, Monty King
Lightning Assistants.....	Jim French, Chris Gonzalez La Corte* [§]
Scenic Artists.....	Emma Northcott, Perry Ransbottom*
Costume Studio Supervisor.....	Lisa Weller
Props Supervisor.....	Alice Barsony
Costume Assistants.....	Sara Lindsey*, Lomar Osbourne Alyssa Gera* [§] , Chakayla Taylor
Sticher.....	Taylor Williams
Wardrobe Assistant.....	Wayne Lindwell
Hair & Makeup Assistant.....	Sarah Wheeler*
Grip/Flys.....	Keaton Lee
Light Board Operator.....	Lizzie Stothart*
Sound Board Operator.....	Mackenzie Finnegan*
Photography.....	Ken Bennett, Bill Ray III, Leslie Spencer, Dean D. Guerra*
Audience Services Coordinator.....	Leslie Spencer
Box Office Staff.....	Dean D. Guerra*, SheRea DelSol*, Brandon Ferri Jake Skillings, Hayden Newman, Emma Stockert Emma Northcott, Ben Benzing

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Director of Theatre.....	J. E. R. Friedenberg
Administrative Assistant.....	Carol Lavis
Technical Director.....	R. Trevor Anderson
Costume Studio Supervisor.....	Lisa Weller
Costume/Props Conservator.....	Alice Barsony
Audience Services Coordinator.....	Leslie Spencer
Instructional Technology Consultant.....	Jolie Tingen
Office Assistants.....	Kara Harvey*, Melina Valderrey
Department Chair/Associate Professor.....	Dr. J.K. Curry
Director of Dance/Associate Professor.....	Nina Lucas
Professors.....	Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Associate Professors.....	Sharon Andrews, Jonathan Christman Dr. Brook Davis, Dr. Woodrow Hood
Assistant Professors.....	Rob Eastman-Mullins, Christina Tsoules Soriano
Senior Lecturers.....	Lynn Book, Leah Roy
Lecturers.....	Chris Martin, Brantly Shapiro
Adjunct Instructors.....	Ray Collins, Michael Kamtman, Debbie Sayles Robert Simpson, Tina Yarborough-Liggins
Accompanists.....	Erik Eaton, Hashim Saleh, Eric Schwartz

*denotes a member of the Anthony Aston Players

[§]denotes a Presidential Scholar in Theatre

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2011-2012 Season

October 13, 2011

Benefactors

John J. Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Julius H. Corpening
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton
James & Angela McNamara
Margaret Henry Moore
Harold & Josie Tedford
Estate of Robert Parker Wilson

Estate of John Arthur Collins III
Claire & John Friedenberg[†]
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Jordan II[†]
Sioban Nicole McNamara[†]
Dr. James & Patricia Toole[†]
Mary Wayne-Thomas
Don & Nancy Wolfe

Sustainers

Jonathan Christman
Cindy Gendrich & Woody Hood

Gary A. Flower
Perry Patterson

Edwin[†] & Emily Wilson[†]

Patrons

Bobbi & Bill Caldwell
Anne E. Davenport
Paul & Linda Edwards Early[†]
Louise Y. Gossett
Sandria & William Kerr
Dr. & Mrs. Byron Moore[†]
David Singer
Gerald Thomas Taylor
George & Alice Williams[†]

Jill Carraway & Debora Horning
Brook Davis[†] & Michael Huie[†]
Nancy Fowler Evans[†]
Susan Hughes
Ellen E. Kirkman
Elizabeth Rief[†] and Shawn Hooper
Lynn Sutton & Bill Kane
Lawrence Webb
Frances Wilson

Sponsors

Alyssa Biber[†]
Victoria Friendly
Denise Koch[†]
Jeanne Newton
Howell & Jeanette Smith

Anne Boyle & Mark A. Espeland
Marcus Gulley
Albert & Martha Maddox
Meyressa Schoonmaker[†] & John Carroll
Julie Stone[†]

Henry Weaver[†]

Friends

Cmr. Michael L. and Melba Ann Graves

Catherine & William Rodgers

Mary-Hollis Williams[†]

[†] Wake Forest Theatre alumni

Producing quality theatre requires significant resources and we are fortunate to have some very faithful “friends, sponsors, and patrons” whose gifts add a critical dimension to our work. Your Wake Forest contribution can be directed in whole or in part to any of the funds below and will truly make a difference.

The Theatre Fund provides general support for students and production in Theatre;

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Jordan Scholarship Fund provides competitive scholarships;

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Babcock Theatre Fund supports guest artists and residencies;

Tedford Travel Fund supports student travel and internships;

Wolfe Conference Fund supports student participation at conferences;

McNamara Theatre Fund provides support for student productions.

FALL 2011 STUDIO SERIES

Student-produced work performed by students in the Ring Theatre. Seating is limited, and admission is \$2 at the door. Please note there will be NO late admission in the Ring Theatre.

STUDIO SERIES THREE

Nov. 7 at 7:30 PM & Nov. 8 at 4:30 PM

Dr. Fritz, or: The Force of Light by David Ives

Directed by Sarah Wheeler

Mountain Language by Harold Pinter

Directed by Cam Roberts

A Tiger in Central Park by José Rivera

Directed by Ben Hege

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book by Larry Gelbart
directed by Cindy Gendrich

music by Cy Coleman
lyrics by David Zippel

CITY OF ANGELS

February 24-25 at 7:30 PM
February 29-March 3 at 7:30 PM
March 4 at 2:00 PM

Mainstage Theatre
Scales Fine Arts Center

Fall Dance Concert



November 17-19 at 7:30 PM
November 20 at 2:00 PM

Mainstage Theatre
Scales Fine Arts Center