

# Colonial Williamsburg

Presents

## The Actors' Lament: or the Really Rotten Luck of the Fledgling Theatre Company

A comedy in two acts with a fifteen-minute intermission

Written By

**Abigail Schumann**

**Cast of characters** (*in order of appearance*):

Handsome.....Patrick Rooney  
Dandy.....Bryan Austin  
Sharps.....Jim Gandolfo  
Widow Bell.....Katharine Pittman  
Dunder.....Horace Smith  
Pure.....Claire Wittman  
Bold.....Marjie Southerland

Directed By

**Michelle Greensmith**

Fight Choreography  
Bryan Austin

Musical Arrangement  
Claire Wittman & Patrick  
Rooney

Sound and Lights  
Audiocraft, LLC

Costumes  
Brenda Rosseau

Wigs  
Edith Broward Edds & Debbie  
Turpin

Stage Manager  
Emily Doherty

Director of Entertainment  
Robert Currie

Manager of Evening Programs  
M. S. Ramona Vogel Hill

## WHO'S IN THE CAST



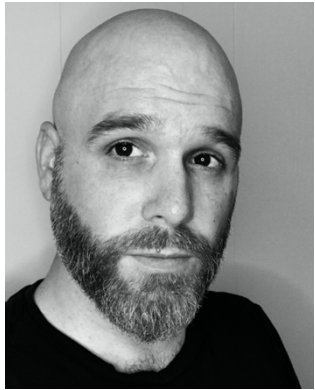
Bryan  
Austin



Jim  
Gandolfo



Katharine  
Pittman



Patrick  
Rooney



Horace  
Smith



Marjie  
Southerland



Claire  
Wittman

**BRYAN AUSTIN** (*Dandy*) Bryan Austin is an actor, director and historian with over fifteen years in the world of professional Theatre. Credits include Cassius in Julius Caesar (Virginia Shakespeare Festival), Orlando in As You Like It (Kentucky Shakespeare), and Romeo in Romeo and Juliet (Richmond Shakespeare). For the past nine years, he has portrayed James Madison for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, creating original and thought-provoking programming for audiences from all over the world.

**JIM GANDOLFO** (*Peter Sharps/Flash*) Nationally awarded actor/director with over 200 titles to his credit, Jim began his career with First Amendment Improv in NYC before establishing The Comedy Troupe, In All Seriousness, opening for the likes of Ellen DeGeneres, Lewis Black, Sinbad and others. Favorite roles include Salieri (*Amadeus*), McMurphy (*Cuckoo's Nest*), Roy (*Lone Star*), The Man (*The Turn of the Screw*), The King (*The King & I*), and Petruchio (*Kiss Me, Kate*). With over 100 representative roles, his favorite is husband to wife Tammy, dad to Christian & Stephanie, and Great Gazoo to grandson, Harvey.

**KATHARINE PITTMAN** (*Widow Bell*) Katharine Pittman is overly joyed to be a part of the Fledgling Theatre Company this season! During the day she is a Nation Builder for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation where she researches and portrays Martha Washington. In addition to her 10 years with the Foundation, Katharine has performed in musicals and operas throughout the country. Some of her favorite roles include Miss Dorothy Brown in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Carrie Pipperidge in *Carousel*, and Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance*. Her favorite role to date has been that of Mommy to her two wonderful children, Jamie and Charlotte; and Wife to her beloved husband, Stewart.

**PATRICK ROONEY** (*Handsome*) Previous credits include: Various Characters, *Almost, Maine*; Garrett Pruitt, *Far From the Trees* (reading); Rosencrantz, *Hamlet*; Curtis Lyons, *The Lyons*; Mick Polpin, *Big Maggie*; Ryan Kendall, *8: A Play* (reading); Dr. Seward, *Dracula*; Billy, *The Real Thing*; Luke, *Next Fall*; Sebastian, *Twelfth Night*; Claudio, *Much Ado About Nothing*; Hamlet, *Hamlet*; Billy Bibbit, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*; Butch, *Leading Ladies*; Macduff, *Macbeth*.

**HORACE SMITH** (*Dunder*) Horace has had the pleasure of performing in numerous shows such as Big River Ain't misbehaving, Blues in the Night, Five Guys Named Moe, Lost Highway Christmas Carol, Fences, Jitney, Paul Robeson, and The Boys Next Door. He also does a soul concert called "The Softer Side of Love", it's the music of Luther Vandross.

**MARJIE SOUTHERLAND** (*Bold*) Marjie Southerland was born and built in New Jersey but has been privileged to have performance carry her many different places across the country. Her performance chops were first sharpened in church, performing in concerts and cantatas. She continued to grow and hone her skills in high school and college, eventually pursuing a life as a professional performer and creative artist. Her recent adventures have landed her in Richmond, Virginia where her recent roles include Harriet Tubman in Virginia Repertory Theatre's production of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad, Queen Nzinga in the Heritage Ensemble Theater's production of What They Did for Us, as well as a starring role in an upcoming feature film titled Shanidar. Marjie is excited to be returning to Colonial Williamsburg to be a part of The Actor's Lament!

**CLAIRE WITTMAN** (*Pure*) Claire Wittman is an ensemble member of the Jug Broke Theatre Company at Colonial Williamsburg, where she spends her days writing and performing plays based on 18th-century history and literature. She loves reading mysteries, drinking tea, and her cat Juliet!

**MICHELLE GREENSMITH** (*Director*) With twenty years of experience working internationally in theatre and film, Michelle Greensmith is currently based out of Williamsburg, VA. In 2020/2021, she directed *The Musick that Binds* for Colonial Williamsburg, co-starred in the feature film (*Shanidar*), and performed in the Richmond Shakespeare Festival. During the day, she performs and directs museum theatre for Colonial Williamsburg, most recently working on *My Story, My Voice* (Anne Blair), *From the Ashes* (Dolley Madison), and *Same Space, Different Place* (Director). She holds her Master of Fine Arts from the University of Iowa and Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Montana. In her spare time, she knits, fixes things with bubble gum, and goes on good adventures with her husband and dog.

**ABIGAIL SCHUMANN** (*Playwright*) Specializing in works for museums and historic sites, Abigail has written numerous plays for Colonial Williamsburg, as well as for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, the American Civil War Museum, Preservation Virginia, and Jamestown Settlement.

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Steve Chabra, Kate Chapman, Stewart Pittman, Cheryl Ruschau, Amber Staker, & Julie Wells