BABY SHOWER

An Opera by
Bruce Trinkley & Jason Charnesky

April 20-21, 2013
Performance Center, Mason Hall
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The drama begins in a living room, where two sisters are decorating for a baby shower for their cousin, Rose, who is pregnant out of wedlock. Rose’s extremely conservative aunt, Agnes is a hot-tempered, high class, conservative, opera singer and piano teacher. Agnes is also the mother of the two sisters, Tracy and Vicky. Tracy and her mother have an antagonistic relationship and they both prefer to avoid the other. Tracy’s younger sister Vicky, a sorority sister, attempts unsuccessfully to give a helping hand with the shower. Her best friend Avery, though distracted by her recreational drug habit, hopes to loosen everyone up with her party games. The guests arrive. Sally Mae, very sarcastic, works at the abortion clinic. Aunt Flo, Rose’s mother is the voice of reason and optimism. Patty, Reverend Adam’s wife, is eight months pregnant. Patty brings with her a mystery guest, Nancy. Nona, a surprise guest, is Rose’s ancient, senile, great grandmother. These characters set in motion the most dysfunctional party that will eventually lead to a realization that no matter what happens, “…we have been put here to hold each other.”
Cast

Tracy McIntyre          Kaitlyn Graves
Vicky McIntyre          Hannah Brady
Agnes McIntyre          Caylen McCall
Avery Simmons          Noya Levy
Sally Mae               Meg Griffin
Nona Ianelli            Judy Shealy
Florence Cauley         Amber Quillin
Rose Cauley Cary       McKinney
Patty Adams             Ellen Abney
Nancy Lowe              Lacy Taylor

Production Staff

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Conductor               Steven Ellison
Pianist                 Kathy Gregory
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Hannah Brady (Vicky McIntire) is a freshman at JSU and is making her opera debut with JOT. She was born and raised in Gadsden, Alabama and graduated high school from Pathways Academy. She has been singing and playing the piano for a year and a half, and enjoys every single moment of it! She is a Music Education major with piano as her primary instrument, and when she graduates with a Bachelors degree she plans to start a committee to help autistic children learn to sing and play piano. Miss Brady feels very honored to be singing in this production!

Kaitlyn Graves (Tracy McIntyre) is a student at JSU and is extremely excited to be in another JOT production. She has been seen in three other JOT productions: as the Princess in The Princess and the Pea; in the chorus of Gounod’s Romeo et Juliette, and in the chorus of The Fisher, the Fish, and the Wife. Kaitlyn is currently pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Music Education and will graduate in the fall of 2013. She studies voice under Mrs. Teresa Stricklin and is involved in several university choirs. In May, she will return to JOT’s stage in The Mikado.

Meg Griffin (Stephano) is a recent JSU graduate, from Carrollton, Ga. She studied piano and voice, and she was a member of Encore!, A Cappella Choir, and Chamber Singers. She has been in several JOT productions, including Pirates of Penzance, Iolanthe, St. George and the Dragon, H.M.S. Pinafore, Daniel and the Dreamcatcher, In A Garden, and The Sorcerer. Meg has also appeared in several JSU drama musical productions, including, Seussical! the Musical, Fiddler on the Roof, Sweeney Todd, and Beauty and the Beast. Currently, Meg is a graduate assistant, and actively accompanying, in the David L. Walters Department of Music.

Noya Levy, a freshman at JSU, will be playing the role of Avery Simmons. Noya is a Music Major and loves everything about it. She has been in the musicals Grease as Rizzo, Les Miserables as Fantine, and Pippin. She loves to sing in a cappella choir and chamber singers. Her hobbies also include reading, being with friends, and getting outside as much as possible. Noya would like thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication. Toi Toi Toi!

Caylen McCall (Agnes) is a junior music education major at JSU. Although this is only her third show with the Jacksonville Opera Theater, Caylen is no stranger to the stage. She appeared in JOT’s production of The Sorcerer (Chorus) and Romeo et Juliette (Chorus). She has also participated in many plays with Playfellows Theatre such as The Little Princess (Ermengard), Snow White, and The Wizard of Oz. Caylen is a member of both A Cappella Choir and Chamber Singers at Jacksonville State University. She also plays piano, sings in the choir, and leads a contemporary praise
Amber Conaway Quillin (Florence) is a graduate of Jacksonville State University where she earned a degree in Vocal Music. A former student of Mrs. Teresa Stricklin, she has previously been seen in the JOT productions of The Sorcerer (Constance), Three Sisters Who Are Not Sisters (Helen), Daniel and the Dreamcatcher (Amanda/Ameliora), and St. George and the Dragon (Una). She will be performing in the June production of Mikado (Katisha). Amber is currently pursuing a second degree at JSU in instrumental music education. She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant support and encouragement.

Cary McKinney (Rose) is currently in her second year at Jacksonville State University. She is a music education major and participates in A Cappella choir and JSU’s Encore! show choir. This is her second performance with the Jacksonville Opera. Cary performed as the character Nancy in the local on-stage production of Oliver! when she was in seventh grade. In eighth grade, Cary got the role of Sandy in her middle school’s production of Grease. In her spare time, she likes to sing and play piano, guitar or violin. She was a chorus member in Romeo and Juliet last year.

Judy Shealy is returning to the JSU opera stage after 5 years to portray the role of Nona Ianelli. She is a 2006 graduate of the David L. Walters department of music. Her most recent JOT roles include Katisha in The Mikado (2008) and Mother in Hansel and Gretel (2007). She has also appeared on stage with the JSU drama department, most recently as Amneris in Aida (2011) and Mrs. Lovett in Sweeney Todd (2009). In 2011 she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from JSU and is currently a practicing registered nurse.

Lacy Taylor (Nancy Lowe) Lacy is a vocal music education major at JSU. She has been on stage since age 6 as numerous roles at The Rome Little Theatre in her hometown, Rome, Georgia. Some of which include The Sound of Music, CATS, and select songs from My Fair Lady. Lacy is also a member of A Cappella Choir, and plays trumpet in the Marching Southerners. She gives special thanks to all her friends, and family. And of course, she gives thanks to her wonderful parents for the support and money for her education and for where she is now.
Those without whose generous philanthropy, the mission of this organization - exploring artistic expression through operatic performance - would not be realized. Thank you.

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