



THE
**COLONIAL
PLAYERS**
OF ANNAPOLIS



2015/2016 season

“Solid acting – this cast is stellar!”

Bay Weekly



Let's hit the road...together

Each season, Colonial Players lays out a road that takes our audiences, actors and production people through the year. On that road we pause to visit not only an array of times and places, but of minds and hearts and spirits we might not otherwise know.

In our 67th Season, we will travel from the dank basement and twisting developments of *Sherlock's Last Case*, through the smoky gloom of New York's jazz musicians' haunts and hearts as portrayed in *Side Man*, and into the sunny mornings at seven in the backyards of sisters from another era. We will warm up the winter by pausing to observe a contest of wills between Aphrodite and mortal man in *Venus In Fur* and the romantic shenanigans of *Boeing Boeing's* world-traipsing stewardesses. Finally in the

spring, we will pause to rest and renew with Mary Lennox in *The Secret Garden* and finish up in the dead-end alleys of South Boston, lit by the hopes of the *Good People* who live in them.

So, like Dorothy on her yellow bricks or Frost's choosing one or the other, we hope to take you on a road trip full of wonder and thought and, along the way, laughter and pleasure in encountering the memorable people you will meet.

Here is your map. Pick out your subscription or FlexTicket and look forward, as we do, to hitting the road!

Sherlock's Last Case

SEPTEMBER 2015

Written by Charles Marowitz

Directed by Beth Terranova

"Elementary, my dear Watson."

Those are the words that broke the camel's back, leading to murder and mayhem in a plan bitterly conceived to exact revenge and punishment for years of soul-grinding abuse. Sound like a good plot launch point for Doyle or Cumberbatch? You betcha!

However, in this ruefully comic send-up of the classic sleuth's usual pursuits, his tables are turned in a most startling way and the perpetrator is so unexpected that audiences will be asked to keep the details secret so the surprise stays unspoiled for those who have yet to see it!

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
SEPT.		04	05	06	M
	10	11	12	13	M
	17	18	19	20	M
	24	25	26		

Side Man

OCTOBER 2015

Written by Warren Leight

Directed by Jim Reiter

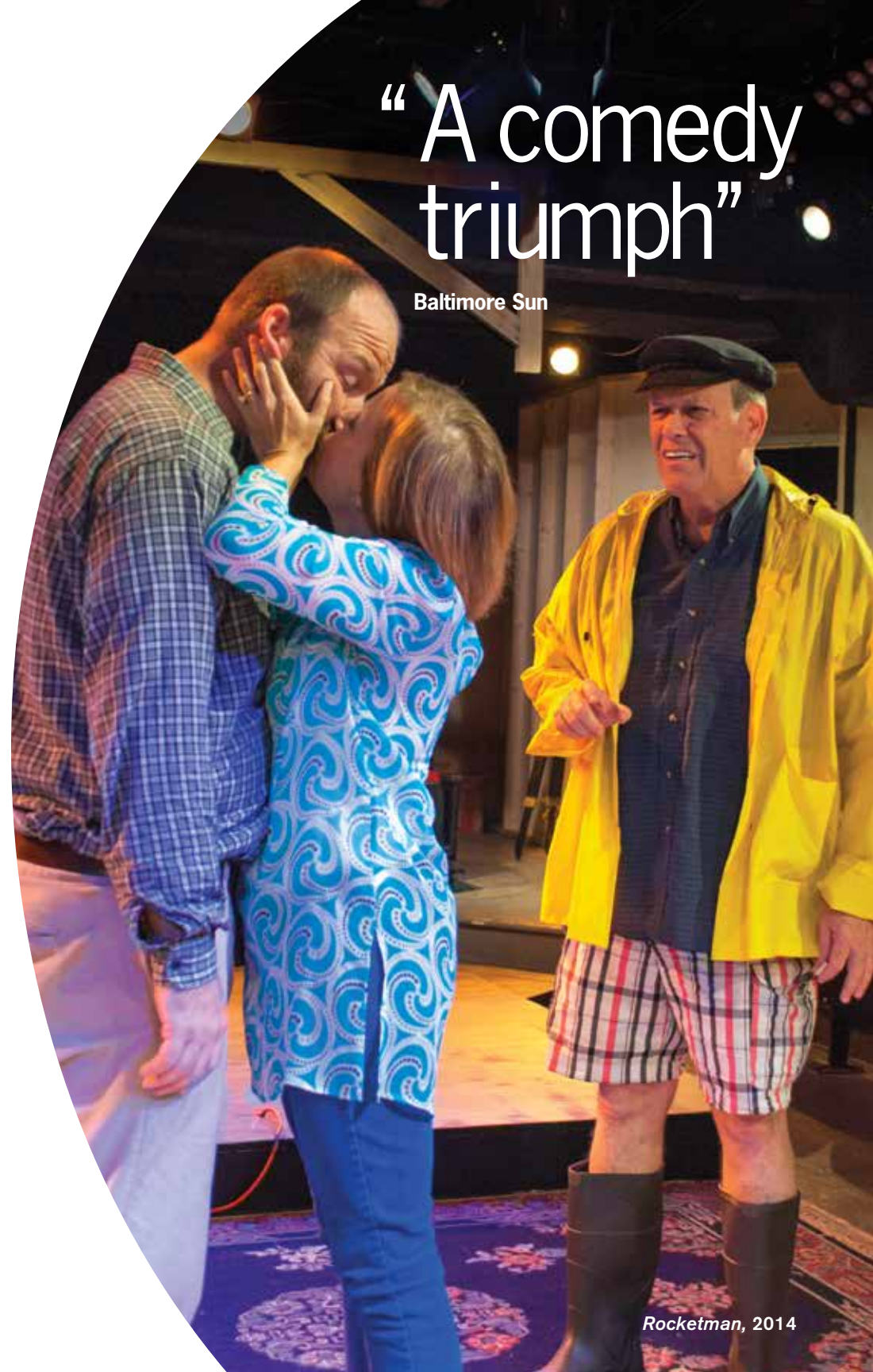
Like Ishmael and Tom of *The Glass Menagerie*, the narrator of *Side Man*, while telling the story of his parents from the time they met to the present, reveals a whole world of longing and loss during that voyage. The play moves back through the 70's to the 50's and 60's, returning at the end to 1985.

It tracks the stories of the studio and side musicians who made their living playing in touring and recording gigs with headliners at a time when rock and roll was moving into the popular music scene and edging these jazz and big band players out of work and the chance to play. Full of fascinating characters, **this Pulitzer Prize finalist and Tony® Award winner** is an elegy for a lost love and a lost world, beautifully told in a memory play.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
OCT.		16	17	18	M
	22	23	24	25	M
	29	30	31		

"A comedy triumph"

Baltimore Sun



Rocketman, 2014



“A delightful romp”

DC Metro Theater Arts

Dead Man's Cell Phone, 2014

Mornings at Seven

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2015

Written by Paul Osborn

Directed by Richard Wade

In this charming comedy, set in the early 20th century, we will meet four sisters who have lived all their lives together. The time we spend with Ida, Cora, Arry and Esther and their husbands will reveal devoted relationships complicated by unspoken longings, fears, suspicions or outright antipathies buried under veneers of proper behavior. Homer, son of Ida and Carl, is bringing home Myrtle, his fiancée of twelve years. Myrtle is meeting them for the first time. Homer's family wants him to marry and occupy the house that Carl has built for him, or at least decide *not* to marry, so Cora can move with Thor into the house. Cora wants to live alone with Thor and *without* her older sister Arry, whose mysterious hold over Thor, while noted, has never been spoken of by anyone involved. As the sisters work out these and other complications sincerely, seriously, their patient efforts provide an evening of rich comedy.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
NOV.		20	21	22	M
	DARK	27	28	29	M
DEC.	03	04	05	06	M
	10	11	12	13	M

Originally produced in 1938, *Mornings at Seven* has had two Broadway revivals. Both received critical accolades including the **1980 Tony® Award for Best Revival**.

Venus in Fur

JANUARY 2016

Written by David Ives.

Directed by James Gallagher

In David Ives' cerebral and sexy comedy, crashes of cosmic thunder announce and punctuate the encounter between a frustrated New York director and a vulgar, disorganized actress late for her appointment. After a day of fruitless auditions for the female protagonist in a play based on *Venus in Furs*, Leopold Sacher-Masoch's classic 1870 novel about domination and sex, director and adapter Thomas Novachek, is ready to give up when Vanda appears and begs him to let her read against him. In the ensuing examination of the text, the game of domination shifts from male to female repeatedly as it becomes evident that the actress is much more than qualified to explore the questions of love and power in human relationships and indeed is much more than an actress!

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
JAN.		08	09	10	M
	14	15	16	17	M
	21	22	23		

Funny and intelligent and sexy – *Venus in Fur* is all of that and more!

***Venus in Fur* was nominated for the 2010 Tony® Award for Best Play, and Nina Arianda won the Best Actress Tony® for the role of Vanda.**

Boeing Boeing

by Marc Camoletti

Translated from the French by Beverley Cross and Francis Evans

Directed by Scott Nichols

Winner of the 2008 Tony® for Best Revival, this delightful farce takes us back to 1960, when girls and men behaved differently than they have since feminism changed sexual dynamics. An American in Paris, Bernard juggles three fiancées — all beautiful airline stewardesses — one French, one German and one American, all with frequent layovers. All goes well until unexpected schedule changes bring them all to his apartment at the same time. In a hilarious climax, Bernard and his friend Robert struggle to keep the women from meeting each other while they sort out the proper and surprising ways to end the charades — for now.

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2016

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
FEB.		19	20	21	M
	25	26	27	28	M E
MAR.	03	04	05	06	M
	10	11	12		

The Secret Garden

Book and Lyrics by Marsha Norman

Music by Lucy Simon

Based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Directed by Lois Evans

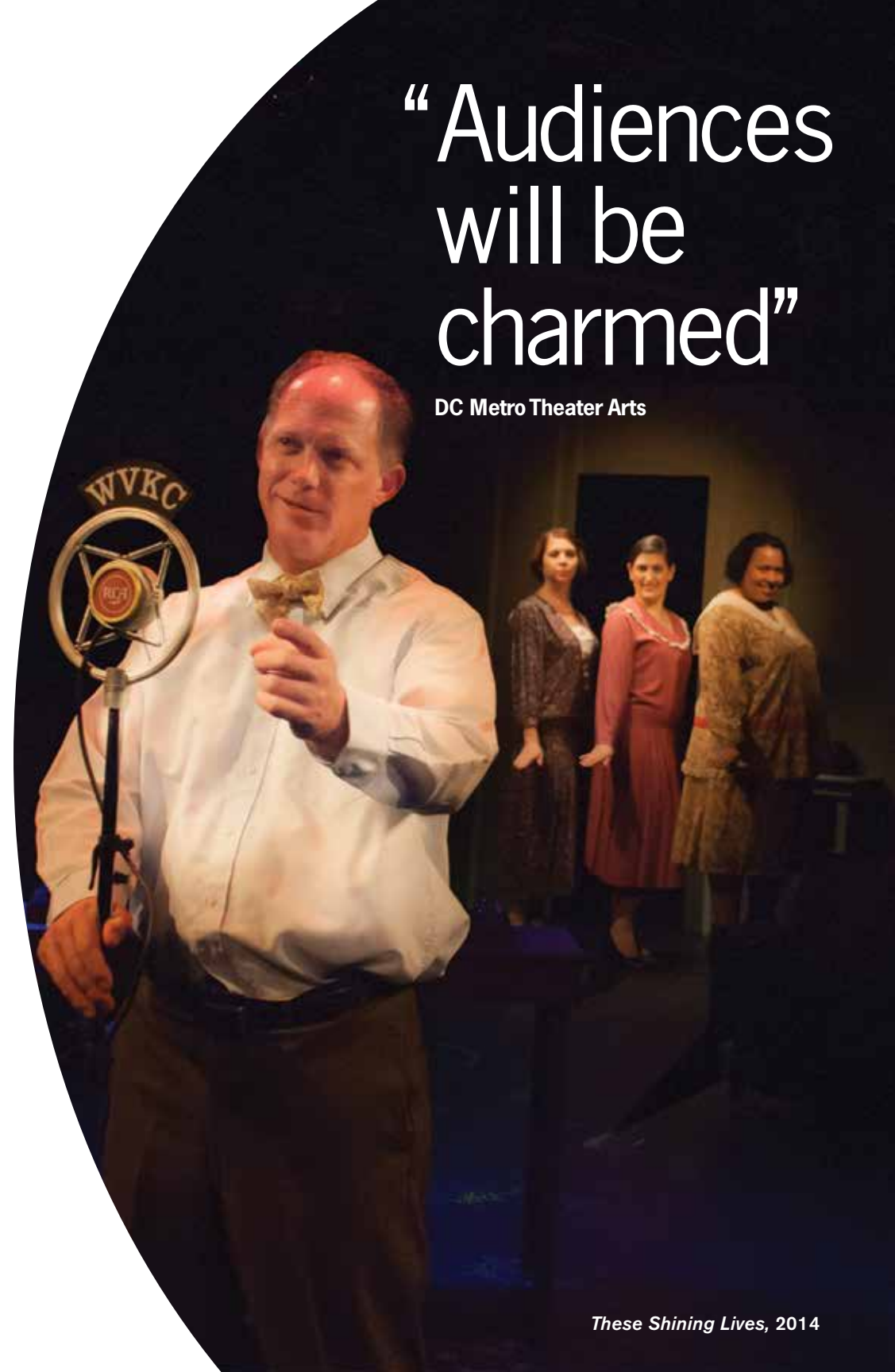
Set in 1906, this enchanting and haunting musical tells the story of how Mary Lennox, a little girl orphaned in India, comes to the profoundly sad house of her uncle, himself bereaved and in mourning for his wife, Lily, Mary's aunt. Infused with the spiritual guides of the dead and the living -- in the persons of the garden-loving Ben, Martha and Dickon, Mary's life is pushed to grow away from cold bitterness and toward the warmth of loving and caring, and of making a family of the estranged, desperate occupants of the house. With music that can only be described as glorious, *The Secret Garden* will take root in your memory as one of the most beautiful musicals you have ever heard. **Among its many honors, the show received three 1991 Tony® Awards.**

APRIL – MAY 2016

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
APR.		08	09	10	M
	14	15	16	17	M
	21	22	23	24	M
	28	29	30		
MAY				01	M
	05	06	07	08	M

“Audiences will be charmed”

DC Metro Theater Arts



“A truly stellar cast.”

Baltimore Sun



A Christmas Carol, 2014

Good People

Written by David Lindsay-Abaire

Directed by Edd Miller

Set in South Boston, this gritty drama is shot through with humor that reflects the outlooks of the people who populate it. They are struggling to make livings in dead end jobs, if they are lucky enough to have them, and doing the best they can to find solutions to the problems that face them. When Margie Walsh is let go from yet another job and desperate to change her life, she seeks the help of an old fling who made it out of the stultifying neighborhood and became a doctor. In this witty and poignant portrayal of what it really means to be down on your luck, we find characters who resonate with integrity, tenderness and humor.

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
JUNE		03	04	05	M
	09	10	11	12	M E
	16	17	18	19	M
	23	24	25		

Good People was nominated for the 2011 Tony® Award for Best Play, and Frances McDormand won the Best Actress Tony® for her role as Margie.

Colonial Players celebrates our 67th Season of Great Community Theater



Watch on the Rhine, 2015

Colonial Players has won numerous awards for the quality of our productions in competition with community theater groups in Maryland and the Washington area. **In 2014, we received 13 nominations from the WATCH (Washington Area Theater Community Honors) awards** in every area, from overall production excellence, acting and direction to many technical awards for lighting, set decorations, props, sound and costumes. Out of those nominations, **we brought home three top awards in acting and tech, judged outstanding out of 111 productions by 31 community theaters all around the beltway.** In addition, CP has been honored 18 times by the Ruby Griffith Award competitions for Washington area theaters.

For many years, CP has contributed to the community: donations, scholarships, workshops, forums, and activities designed to develop new directors, actors and playwrights.

CP is 100% volunteer and we welcome your support and participation, whether onstage, working backstage, ushering, staffing the box office or buying tickets! Our patrons' financial support pays the bills and their applause makes our hard work worthwhile. Thank You!

Have you heard about the Colonial Players FlexTicket?

For the same cost per seat as a subscription, you may now purchase CP's new **FlexTicket**, which you may use for any combination of shows and seats you choose through the end of the season. They are transferable, so that your friends and kids may use yours. FlexTicket users must order their tickets by phone or in person through the box office (410-268-7373), not online. When shows are sold out, FlexTicket holders have the added advantage of being able to order standby tickets by phone, on the same day as the show, up to an hour before curtain time. FlexTicket Standbys who have ordered by phone will be seated before regular standby ticket holders.

FlexTickets are available for Adults for \$18.00 per show and for Seniors/Students and active Military for \$14.00 per show.

TICKETING AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Show Times

8:00 pm	Thursday, Friday, Saturday
2:00 pm	Sunday
7:30 pm	Sunday evening (2nd week of run only)

Box Office number: 410-268-7373

The Box Office is open one hour before curtain time on performance nights and matinees.

The Box Office is also open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday before Opening Night from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

Tickets may be purchased online at our website thecolonialplayers.org at any time or call us at 410-268-7373 and leave a message.

Tickets will be held for patrons at the box office until show time. Patrons may also have tickets mailed to them for a fee of \$1 or provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.

FlexTickets for 10 seats may be used for any combination of shows and seats until the end of the season. The Box Office will keep track of use and punch the FlexTicket as the seats are used. Ticket orders must be placed through the box office, not on the web. FlexTickets are transferable. Senior/Student/Military FlexTickets must be used by seniors, students or Military patrons.

Subscribers may exchange their tickets in person, by phone, by mail or email at boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org. **In order to receive new tickets in exchange, the box office must be notified 48 hours before performance time.**

Colonial Players does not issue refunds.

Unused tickets may be returned to the Box Office for a tax-deductible donation receipt. FlexTickets expire at the end of the season. There will be no refunds on unused seats of the FlexTicket

Single Ticket Prices

\$20 Adults
\$15 Seniors 65+/ Fulltime Students/Military

A NOTE TO OUR AUDIENCES:

As with most contemporary plays, many of our shows this season contain contemporary language and situations, which Colonial Players believes should be viewed and heard as the playwright intended within the context of the scripted story.

The Colonial Players, Inc. reserves the right to change season offerings if necessary.

Single tickets may be purchased in person at the Box Office, by mail, phone or at our website, thecolonialplayers.org. Tickets ordered by phone or online must be purchased using MasterCard, Visa, or Discover credit cards. Checks and cash are also accepted at the Box Office by mail or in person. With the exception of Standby tickets, **all single (non-subscription) ticket purchases are final. Exchanges and refunds are not permitted on single ticket sales. FlexTicket reservations may not be changed within 48 hours of performance time.**

Seats are guaranteed only until curtain time. As we are a theater in the round, latecomers may have to wait to be seated until an appropriate break in the performance and at the discretion of the Stage Manager. A television monitor in the lobby allows late patrons to view the performance. Please allow plenty of time for parking in the crowded downtown area. It is very difficult for us to seat latecomers.

Standby tickets are sold one hour prior to performance time in person, on a first-come, first-serve basis. If standby seats are unavailable, purchasers' money will be returned immediately. FlexTicket holders may call on the same day of the show up to an hour before curtain time to reserve a priority standby seat.

Wheelchair space is available at most performances with advance notice. Order online or call the Box Office at 410-268-7373 at least one hour before curtain time.

Gift certificates for tickets are available at the Box Office.

Become a supporter!

Subscribers providing additional support to Colonial Players are listed in each show's program. Thank you for your generous support.

OUR HISTORY

Colonial Players was founded by a group of Annapolitans dedicated to bringing high quality theater to what was then a sleepy town on the Chesapeake. As Annapolis has grown, so has the theater, continuing to thrive with a dedicated corps of volunteers and a loyal subscriber base.

The history of Colonial Players is intertwined with the rhythms and pace of downtown Annapolis. From its humble beginnings in the old Annapolis Recreation Center near City Dock to its current home at the foot of State Circle, Colonial Players continues its mission to entertain and educate, bringing the dramatic arts to the heart of the city.

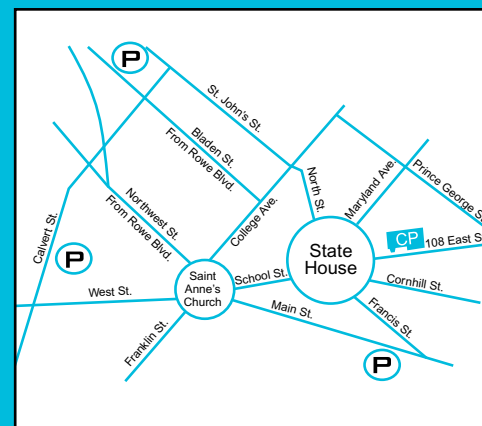
The theater's curtain first rose in 1949 with a production of James Thurber's slapstick comedy *The Male Animal*. Six years later, Colonial Players purchased an old car repair shop on East Street, and through the years this site has been

remodeled and expanded into the 180-seat arena theatre patrons and actors alike enjoy today.

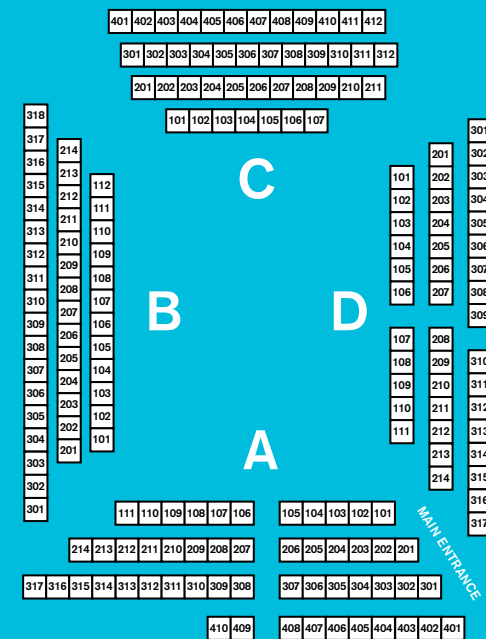
From Shakespeare to Noel Coward to Stephen Sondheim, Colonial Players audiences have enjoyed a wide range of performances. Experimental theater, theater for children, works by new playwrights, one-act play festivals, an array of workshops, and our annual Christmas production fulfill our mission to entertain, educate, and enrich our community through the dramatic arts.

Colonial Players is proud of its place in Annapolis history, and we invite you to take part. Whether as a theatergoer, subscriber, or volunteer, actor, director or playwright, join us as we continue to make theater in 360° a vibrant part of Annapolis.

WHERE WE ARE



SEATING CHART



Cover Photo: *The Liar*, 2014

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Photos courtesy of Colburn Images



THE
COLONIAL
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OF ANNAPOLIS

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