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C000005937

Laughing through 50 Shades! The Musical



50 Shades! The Musical cast photos by Michael Brosilow.

The parody *50 Shades! The Musical*, which comes to the Fisher Theatre in June, begins with a ladies book club cracking open the steamy pages of E.L. James' *Fifty Shades of Grey*. Through their interpretation of the novel, the audience is led on a hilarious musical roller coaster ride, alongside a cast of ten, performing eleven original songs and dance numbers complete with an on-stage band! It is a complete parody of *50 Shades of Grey*, as book and phenomenon, spoofing many of its conventions for a hilarious evening of entertainment.

If you haven't read the books, don't worry; director and co-writer Al Samuels explains, "Part of the framework of the show is that the books, and the phenomenon around them are explained and delivered in a fun way. Then we actually dive into the book itself and rip it apart in good fun. It's so great that we're able to take this series that people really love and put our own spin on it."

While the musical whole-heartedly lampoons the racy subject matter of the book, *50 Shades!* leaves audiences laughing at all of the raunchy ridiculousness of the story while steering clear of nudity and sex on stage. It is, however, for mature audiences.

Women have been flocking to the show across the country, prompting theatres, including the Fisher, to offer Girls' Night Out discounts and packages. (You can read all about them on our website at BroadwayInDetroit.com.) Co-writer and co-producer Emily Dorezas points out, however, that men are loving the show just as much. "The women

get the guys there because they think it's a book that women gravitate to, but I would say hands down that the guys are laughing just as hard as the women."

Detroiters will be laughing when *50 Shades! The Musical* makes its Detroit premiere at the Fisher Theatre June 14–16 for a limited four-performance engagement. Tickets (\$49) are on sale now. Group discounts for groups of 12 or more and girls' night out packages are available.

Not only have audiences in New York and across the country been loving the show, the critics are on board as well...

"Finally a play your inner goddess, your book club and your mother-in-law can all agree on!"—*Time Magazine*

"The perfect appetizer to the upcoming movie!"
—*Entertainment Weekly*

"A titillating spectacle with plenty of sensuality. As erotic and decadent as you'd expect. A collaboration of comedy writers creating an ultra-spicy script!"—*CNN*

"A very good laugh... impossible to resist the fervor!"
—*The Chicago Tribune*

"HIGHlariously Hawt! Absolutely perfect! Catch it if you can!"—Perez Hilton

"Pure, unadulterated humor—and it had the packed audience at Manhattan's Gramercy Theater guffawing and sputtering for an entire 90 minutes!"
—*The Daily Beast*

Information for this story was gathered from articles in *Cosmopolitan*, *People*, *Time*, *TheLedger.com* and the improv resource center.



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THE MUSICAL
Based on the Dreamworks Motion Picture

Book by
TERRENCE MCNALLY

Music by
MARC SHAIMAN

Lyrics by
**SCOTT WITTMAN
& MARC SHAIMAN**

with

STEPHEN ANTHONY
AMY BURGMAIER
AUBREY MAE DAVIS
MICHAEL GRACEFFA
GREG KAMP
CAITLIN MALONEY
CASEY RENEE ROGERS
NADIA VYNNYTSKY

ESTHER M. ANTOINE
ASHLEY CHASTEEN
VANESSA DUNLEAVY
COLLEEN HAYES
MARY CLAIRE KING
TRAVIS MITCHELL
DANIEL J. SELF
D. SCOTT WITHERS

AMANDA BRAUN
TAYLOR COLLINS
DOMINIC FORTUNA
MERRITT DAVID JANES
BEN LAXTON
DERRICK PARKS
ALLYSON TOLBERT
BRADLEY ALLAN ZARR

Scenic Design by
DAVID ROCKWELL

Costume Design by
WILLIAM IVEY LONG

Lighting Design by
KENNETH POSNER

Sound Design by
PETER MCBOYLE

Video System & Content Design by
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Casting by
JOY DEWING, CSA
JOY DEWING
CASTING

Executive Producer
RANDALL A. BUCK

General Manager
ROBERTA ROBERTS

Technical Supervisor
GEOFFREY QUART

Arrangements by
MARC SHAIMAN

Orchestrations by
MARC SHAIMAN & LARRY BLANK

Direction Recreated by
MATT LENZ

Recreated and Additional Choreography by
NICK KENKEL

Choreographed by
JERRY MITCHELL

Directed by
JACK O'BRIEN

Catch Me If You Can is produced by special arrangement with MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL, New York, NY. www.mtishows.com

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Frank Abagnale, Jr.....	STEPHEN ANTHONY
Agent Branton	TRAVIS MITCHELL
Agent Dollar.....	BEN LAXTON
Agent Carl Hanratty.....	MERRITT DAVID JANES
Agent Cod	DERRICK PARKS
Frank Abagnale, Sr.....	DOMINIC FORTUNA
Paula	CAITLIN MALONEY
Cheryl Ann	CASEY RENEE ROGERS
Brenda.....	AUBREY MAE DAVIS
Roger Strong	D. SCOTT WITHERS
Carol Strong.....	AMY BURGMAIER
Jack Barnes	MICHAEL GRACEFFA
Nerd	GREG KAMP
Jock	TAYLOR COLLINS
Principal Owings.....	AMY BURGMAIER
Betty.....	NADIA VYNNYTSKY
Judge	D. SCOTT WITHERS
Railroad Agent	DERRICK PARKS
Swiss Army Knife Assistant	VANESSA DUNLEAVY
India Ink Assistant.....	ALLYSON TOLBERT
Elmer's Glue Assistant	MARY CLAIRE KING
Briefcase Assistant	AMANDA BRAUN
Diane, Bank Teller.....	COLLEEN HAYES
Cindy.....	VANESSA DUNLEAVY
Pan Am Executive	D. SCOTT WITHERS
Tailor.....	TRAVIS MITCHELL
Skyway Man Stewardess	AMY BURGMAIER
Motel Manager	D. SCOTT WITHERS
Atlanta Doctor.....	DANIEL J. SELF
Ben Casey	TRAVIS MITCHELL
Ben Casey Intern	DERRICK PARKS
Dr. Wanamaker.....	D. SCOTT WITHERS
Intern #1	GREG KAMP
Intern #2	BEN LAXTON

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute a listed player unless a specific announcement for the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

*For Frank Abagnale, Jr.—TAYLOR COLLINS, BEN LAXTON
for Agent Carl Hanratty—TRAVIS MITCHELL, D. SCOTT WITHERS
for Frank Abagnale, Sr.—TRAVIS MITCHELL, D. SCOTT WITHERS
for Paula—ASHLEY CHASTEEN, VANESSA DUNLEAVY, MARY CLAIRE KING
for Brenda—COLLEEN HAYES, NADIA VYNNYTSKY
for Carol Strong—ASHLEY CHASTEEN, VANESSA DUNLEAVY
for Roger Strong—TRAVIS MITCHELL, BRADLEY ALLAN ZARR
for Agent Branton, Agent Cod, Railroad Agent,
Tailor, Ben Casey, Ben Casey Intern—DANIEL J. SELF
for Agent Branton, Agent Dollar, Tailor, Ben Casey—GREG KAMP
for Judge, Pan Am Exec, Motel Manager, Dr. Wanamaker—TRAVIS MITCHELL
for Agent Branton, Agent Dollar, Agent Cod, Tailor,
Ben Casey, Ben Casey Intern, Dr. Wanamaker, Judge, Pan Am Exec,
Motel Manager, Atlanta Doctor, Nerd, Jock—BRADLEY ALLAN ZARR
for Diane, Bank Teller, Skywayman Stewardess,
Principal Owings—VANESSA DUNLEAVY
for Diane, Bank Teller, Skywayman Stewardess, Principal Owings,
Betty, Cheryl Ann, Swiss Army Knife Assistant, India Ink Assistant,
Elmer's Glue Assistant, Briefcase Assistant, Cindy—ASHLEY CHASTEEN*

SWINGS

ASHLEY CHASTEEN, BRADLEY ALLAN ZARR

DANCE CAPTAIN ASHLEY CHASTEEN

There will be one 15-minute intermission.



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

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*Keri Gallagher,
2012 grad, native of
Brosse Pointe Woods, Mich.*

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

OVERTURE

"Live in Living Color"	Frank, Jr. and Company
"The Pinstripes Are All That They See"	Frank, Sr., Frank, Jr., Ladies
"Someone Else's Skin"	Frank, Jr. and Company
"Jet Set"	Frank, Jr. and Company
"Live in Living Color" (Reprise)	Frank, Jr.
"Don't Break the Rules"	Hanratty and Company
"The Pinstripes Are All That They See" (Reprise)	The Ladies
"Butter Outta Cream"	Frank, Sr., Frank, Jr.
"The Man Inside the Clues"	Hanratty
"Christmas Is My Favorite Time of Year"	Partygoers
"My Favorite Time of Year"	Hanratty, Frank, Jr., Frank, Sr., Paula

ACT II

ENTR'ACTE

"Doctor's Orders"	Nurses
"Live in Living Color" (Reprise)	Frank, Jr.
"Don't Be a Stranger"	Paula, Frank, Sr.
"Little Boy, Be a Man"	Frank, Sr., Hanratty
"Seven Wonders"	Frank, Jr., Brenda
"(Our) Family Tree"	Carol, Roger, Brenda, Frank, Jr. and Strong Family Singers
"Fly, Fly Away"	Brenda, Women
"Good-Bye"	Frank, Jr.
"Strange But True"	Frank, Jr., Hanratty

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN ORCHESTRA

Music Director/Piano—Matthew Smedal,
AMD/Piano—Elaine Davidson, *Keys 3*—Stephen Boudreau,
Reed 1—Paul McCaffrey, *Reed 2*—Paul Onachuk, *Reed 3*—Mark Berger,
Trumpet 1—Ric Wolkins, *Trumpet 2*—Robert Hawkins, *Trombone*—Gary Hellick,
Guitar—Chuck Newsome, *Bass*—Clifton Kellem, *Drums*—Christian Dionne,
Band Tech—Christian Dionne, *Librarian*—Clifton Kellem,
Local Contractor—Alice Sauro,
Music Coordinator—Talitha Fehr—TL Music International
For musicians bios, please visit www.inthepitontheroad.com

FRANK W. ABAGNALE... TODAY

Frank W. Abagnale is one of the world's leading authorities on secure documents, fraud and embezzlement. He has been associated with the FBI for more than 35 years. Abagnale has been married for more than 36 years, is the father of three sons and has three grandchildren. He is the author of several books on crime, including *Catch Me If You Can*, and is a world-renowned public speaker who has keynoted more than 3,000 events in more than 30 years on the lecture circuit.

Steven Spielberg said it best: "I didn't immortalize Frank Abagnale on film because of what he did 40 years ago as a teenager. I chose to immortalize him on film because of what he'd done for his country for more than 30 years."

WHO'S WHO

STEPHEN ANTHONY (*Frank Abagnale, Jr.*) is thrilled to be touring the country for the first time with this incredible story. Favorite credits include: *Lend Me a Tenor* (Max), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus), *Hairspray* (Link), *Legally Blonde* (Warner), *The 25th...Spelling Bee* (Chip), *Carousel* (Mr. Snow, concert featuring Davis Gaines). B.M. 2012 from FSU. Many thanks to family, MT '12, Troika and Joy Dewing Casting.

ESTHER M. ANTOINE (*Female Ensemble, u/s Doctor's Orders*) is excited to be in the first national tour of *Catch Me If You Can*. Regional: *The Wiz*; Off-Broadway: *La Bomba Me Llama, Yes I Yes*. To my family, friends and mentor, I love you all.

AMANDA BRAUN (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be part of the *Catch Me If You Can* tour! Off-Broadway: *The Awesome 80s Prom*. She is currently working towards her B.F.A. in Musical Theater from Pace University. Love to Mom, Dad, Nancy, Scott, Todd and Harlan!

AMY BURGMAIER (*Carol Strong, Principal Owings, Skyway Man Stewardess*). Favorite credits include: *Legally Blonde* (Paulette), *Reefer Madness* (Mary Lane), *Chicago* (Roxie), *Hairspray* (F.A.F) and *Forbidden Broadway*. She's an Iowa State University graduate in advertising and design (B.A.) and journalism (M.S.). Sincerest gratitude to Joy Dewing Casting, coaches and family!

ASHLEY CHASTEEN (*Dance Captain, Swing, u/s Paula, u/s Carol Strong, u/s Principal Owings*) is so honored to travel with CMIYC! Proud UGA alum! Recent credits: *Cats* national tour, *Damn Yankees*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *RHH* national tour. Soon releasing a new country album. Thank you Troika, Scott and family for helping me "enjoy the ride!"

TAYLOR COLLINS (*Ensemble, u/s Frank Abagnale, Jr.*) has recently returned from the International tour of *A Chorus Line* under director Baayork Lee and has appeared at the Public Theater, Maine State Music Theater, Gateway Playhouse and Cohoes Music Hall. B.F.A. from Pace University. Thanks to family.

AUBREY MAE DAVIS (*Brenda*) is beyond thrilled to be embarking on her fourth national tour with *Catch Me!* Favorite credits include: *Legally Blonde* (Margot), *Hairspray* (Amber) and *Little Shop* (Audrey). A special thanks to Matt Lenz for this wonderful opportunity. And to my family, I love you.

VANESSA DUNLEAVY (*Ensemble, u/s Paula, u/s Carol Strong, u/s Principal Owings*) is a native Vermonter and graduate of Manhattan's Circle in the Square. Favorite shows include *Legally Blonde* (NMST), *Really Bad Things* (NYMF), *Hair* and *Boeing Boeing*. Big thanks to my wonderful family and friends. LOVE.

DOMINIC FORTUNA (*Frank Abagnale, Sr.*) had been seen on Broadway and across America as Vince Fontaine in *Grease*; various TV appearances; long-time member of the Young Americans and has written/directed/performed almost 50 shows with his unique concept of dinner theater in Northern Michigan.

MICHAEL GRACEFFA (*Ensemble*) is thrilled for his national tour debut. Regional credits: Forestburgh Playhouse, North Shore Music Theatre, Reagle Music Theatre. Favorite roles: Bernardo (*West Side Story*), Rocky (*Rocky Horror...Show*), Kyle (*Legally Blonde*). Love to Vassar College and his amazing teachers, family and friends.

COLLEEN HAYES (*Ensemble, u/s Brenda*) is a recent graduate from James Madison University and is honored to be in this production! Favorite roles: Maureen (*Rent*), Lois Lane (*Kiss Me, Kate*). Thanks to God, DU, Mom, Dad, Meg, Ry. Performance dedicated to Pop-Pop and Aunt Mimi.

MERRITT DAVID JANES (*Carl Hanratty*). A UMaine and Circle in the Square graduate originally from Colchester, VT. Broadway national tours: *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney), *Shrek* (Farquaad), *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere), *The Wedding Singer* (Robbie Hart). Regional: *Little Shop...* (The Dentist), *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (The Duke), *Grease* (Danny), *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged) (Adam). Janes has also given performances at Carnegie Hall, Bway's Beacon Theatre and the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

GREG KAMP (*Ensemble, u/s Agent Dollar, u/s Agent Branton*) is making his touring debut. Regional: *Titanic* (Hangar), *Bat Boy*, *Urinetown* (Edinburgh Fringe), *A Chorus Line* (Aurora). TV: "Wronged Man" (Lifetime), "Solving Charlie" (ABC), "Past Life" (Fox). CCM Graduate. Endless gratitude to Matt, Joy, incredible family, Lookers, BDF, and teachers.

MARY CLAIRE KING (*Ensemble, u/s Paula*) is thrilled to tour with *Catch Me If You Can!* Regional: Lois/Bianca in *Kiss Me, Kate*; Penny in *Hairspray* (MGR Playhouse); Alexi Darling in *Rent* (Syracuse Stage); Showgirl in *Viva Vegas!* (Fireside). Syracuse University drama graduate, a Hoosier at heart!

BEN LAXTON (*Ensemble, Agent Dollar, u/s Frank Abagnale, Jr.*) is thrilled to be joining his first national tour! Regional: *Next to Normal* (Gabe), *Spring Awakening* (Melchior), *Avenue Q* (Princeton/Rod), *Sound of Music* (Rolf) and *Urinetown* (Bobby). Thanks Mom, Dad, Tori, Andrea, Mrs. Halbert and Sham. Proud Belmont University alum.

CAITLIN MALONEY (*Paula*). Off Broadway: *I Married Wyatt Earp* (59E59 Theatre). Tours: *Young Frankenstein*, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical!* (Pickles), Edinburg Fringe Festival, *Wizard of Oz* (Glinda/Aunt Em). Regional: *Annie Get Your Gun!* (Annie Oakley), *Pajama Game* (Babe Williams), *Eleanor: An American Love Story* (Eleanor Roosevelt).

TRAVIS MITCHELL (*Ensemble, Agent Branton, u/s Agent Carl Hanratty, u/s Frank Abagnale, Sr., u/s Roger Strong*). National tours: *Spring Awakening*. Off Broadway: *The Bus* (59E59 Theatre). Recent Regional: *Spring Awakening* (Re-Vision), *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Sound of Music* (TriArts). TV: "Law & Order." "As the World Turns." Much love and respect to Jules.

DERRICK PARKS (*Ensemble, Agent Cod*) is making his touring debut in *Catch Me If You Can*. Recently he traveled abroad as a performer with Royal Caribbean International. His parents and family are credited with exceedingly abundant love and support.

CASEY RENEE ROGERS (*Ensemble, Cheryl Ann*). National tour credits include *Grease* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Regional credits include Olney Theater Center, Belasco Theatre Company and Jenny Wiley Theater. Casey is a graduate of NYU Tisch. Much love to Mom, Dad, Claire and Eddie!

DANIEL J. SELF (*Ensemble, u/s Agent Branton, u/s Agent Cod*) returns for his second national tour following an incredible year as Munkustrap in *Cats*. Regional: Tommy Dijas, *The Music Man*; Baby John, *West Side Story*. Training: PCPA Theaterfest; the Rock School of the Philadelphia Ballet. Unending gratitude to his family!

ALLYSON TOLBERT (*Ensemble, Doctor's Orders*) is originally from St. Petersburg, FL. B.F.A. in musical theater performance from the Univer-

sity of Florida. Nat'l Tours: *The Producers* and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. Regional: *Damn Yankees* (Lola) and *Hairspray* (Dynamite). Lots of love to my family and mentors, most importantly Mom.

NADIA VYNNYTSKY (*Ensemble, u/s Brenda*) is thrilled to be touring with *Catch Me If You Can!* Tours: *Legally Blonde* (Serena), *Shrek* (Baby Bear/Blind Mouse), *Shrek Asia* (Flutterbell u/s Gfngy). Graduate of Montclair State University—B.F.A. Much love to family, friends, my Andy and the *Catch Me* team!

D. SCOTT WITHERS (*Roger Strong, Pan Am Executive, Dr. Wanamaker, u/s Agent Carl Hanratty, u/s Frank Abagnale, Sr.*). National tour debut! Regional: *Gypsy* (Phoenix Theatre); *Hairspray* (Arkansas Rep); *Baby* (AZ Broadway); *Lyle the Crocodile* (Childsplay); *Frog and Toad* (Seattle Children's Theatre); *Lost and Foundling* (Geva). B.F.A. Theatre: AZ State. Much love to Withers clan, CP family and AJP!

BRADLEY ALLAN ZARR (*Swing, u/s Roger Strong, u/s Agent Branton, u/s Agent Dollar, u/s Agent Cod*) is excited to pack up his suitcase with *Catch Me!* National tours: *Spamalot*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin). Regional: *Singin' in the Rain*, *A Chorus Line*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Choreography: *Bye Bye Birdie*, BDC, Lincoln Center, NYC. AMDA '09. "Love you Mom!"

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WHO'S WHO

TERRENCE MCNALLY (*Book*). Terrence McNally's plays include *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (Tony Award); *Master Class* (Tony Award); *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*; *Corpus Christi*; *A Perfect Ganesh*; *The Lisbon Traviata*; *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*; *Deuce*; *It's Only a Play*; *The Ritz*; *Dedication or The Stuff of Dreams*; *Some Men*; *Unusual Acts of Devotion*; *Next*; *Bad Habits*; *Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone?*; and *The Stendhal Syndrome*. For the musical theater, his librettos include *Ragtime* (Tony Award), *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (Tony Award), *The Full Monty*, *The Rink*, *The Visit*, *A Man of No Importance* and the opera *Dead Man Walking*. His most recent play, *Golden Age*, was featured in the Kennedy Center celebration of his work. Among his honors are the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dramatists Guild, a citation from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play, an Emmy Award for "Andre's Mother," four Drama Desk Awards, three Hull-Warriner Awards and two Obie Awards.

MARC SHAIMAN (*Music, Lyrics, Orchestrations*), with Scott Wittman, is currently writing original songs for the television show "Smash" and preparing their original musical of *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory*—to be directed by Sam Mendes—for The West End. Broadway credits include: *Hairspray* (Tony and Grammy Awards), *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me* and *Catch Me If You Can*. His five Oscar nominations were for *Sleepless in Seattle*, *The First Wives Club*, *The American President*, *Patch Adams* and *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*. Other film credits include *When Harry Met Sally*, *Beaches*, *Misery*, *City Slickers*, *The Addams Family*, *A Few Good Men*, *Sister Act* and *The Bucket List*. Television credits include Billy Crystal's Oscar medleys (Emmy Award) and Bette Midler's farewell to Johnny Carson. His arrangements for Harry Connick, Jr. were Grammy nominated. On the Internet, you can view Marc's Webbie Award-winning *Prop 8—The Musical*.

SCOTT WITTMAN (*Lyrics*). Scott's credits include directing and co-writing *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me* on Broadway. Scott created and directed two Broadway shows and two sold-out Carnegie Hall concerts for Patti LuPone. He co-wrote Neil Patrick Harris' musical numbers for the Oscars, the Emmys and the Emmy-winning Tonys! He has received Tony, Grammy, Drama Desk, Outer Critics, Evening Standard and London's Olivier Awards for his work as co-lyricist on *Hairspray*. He is an Executive Producer and songwriter with Marc Shaiman on NBC's hit series "Smash." Next up is a stage musical of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, directed by Sam Mendes, opening in London June of 2013.

JACK O'BRIEN (*Director*). Select credits: Broadway: *Catch Me*; *Impressionism*; *The Coast*

of *Utopia* (Tony Award); *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Tony nom.); *Henry IV* (Tony Award); *Hairspray* (Tony Award); *The Invention of Love* (Tony nom., Drama Desk Award); *Full Monty* (Tony nom.); *Hapgood* (Lucille Lortel Award, Best Director); *Damn Yankees*; *Two Shakespearean Actors* (Tony nom.); *Porgy and Bess* (Tony Award). Metropolitan Opera: *Il Trittico*. London: *Hairspray* (Olivier nom.). National Theatre: *His Girl Friday*. Artistic director: Old Globe Theatre, 1981–2007. Awards: 2008 Theatre Hall of Fame inductee; 2005 John Houseman Award; ArtServe Michigan 2008 International Achievement Award; Honorary Doctorate, University of Michigan.

MATT LENZ (*Associate Director*). Broadway: *Catch Me If You Can* (Associate Director), *Hairspray* (Associate Director, also national tours, South Africa, Las Vegas, Toronto, Germany), Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (Resident Director and tours). Off-Broadway: *The Irish Curse* (Soho Playhouse), *Idaho!* (NYMF, Best of Fest & Best Director Awards '08), *Fingers and Toes* (NYMF '10). Regional: *Hairspray* (Paper Mill); [title of show] (George Street Playhouse); *Saint Heaven*, *Scituate* (Stamford Ctr.); *Aida*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Hairspray* (MUNY, Kevin Kline Award); *The Full Monty*, *South Pacific*, *Grease* (NCT); *Confidentially*, *Cole* (L.A.); *Dirty Blond*, *Love! Valor! Compassion!* (Austin). Upcoming: *Empire* on Broadway.

JERRY MITCHELL (*Choreographer*) made his Broadway debut as Director of *Legally Blonde*, which he also choreographed. He received the Tony Award for choreographing *La Cage aux Folles*, having also been nominated for the Tony as choreographer of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*,

Hairspray and *The Full Monty*. For Broadway, Jerry also choreographed *Catch Me If You Can*, *Never Gonna Dance* and the revivals of *Gypsy*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Most recently, he choreographed *Love Never Dies*, the sequel to *Phantom of the Opera*, for the West End, *Peepshow* in Las Vegas and is presently directing and choreographing *Kinky Boots* for Broadway.

NICK KENKEL (*Associate Choreographer*) is the Associate Director and Co-Choreographer on *Peepshow* in Las Vegas at the Planet Hollywood Resort starring Holly Madison. Receiving rave reviews by the *Boston Globe*, Nick directed and choreographed his own version of *Legally Blonde* at the North Shore Music Theatre, one of New England's finest regional theaters. On Broadway, Nick served as the Assistant Choreographer on *Legally Blonde* and the Associate Choreographer on *Catch Me If You Can*. Nick can currently be seen performing on Broadway in the first-ever revival of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Evita*, starring Ricky Martin. www.nickkenkel.com.

BOB BONNIOL (*Video System and Content Designer*). Recent credits: Production Design, Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at Banff Centre/Vancouver Opera; Video & Interactive Systems Design, *Blue Man Group's* new Las Vegas production 2012; Video Design, Shania Twain's *Still The One*, Caesar's Palace Las Vegas; Video Design, Reba MacEntire's *All The Women I Am Tour*; Projection design, NBC's Education Nation broadcasts on "The Today Show," and "NBC Nightly News"; Video Design, "America's Got Talent Live" 2010 & 2011; Video Design, TED Conferences, 2011,

2012; Production Design, "Handel's Messiah Rocks" for PBS with the Boston Pops (Emmy Award Nomination); Multimedia Design, *Sinatra Live* at the London Palladium.

WILLIAM IVEY LONG (*Costume Designer*). *Chicago* (now in its 16th year); *Don't Dress For Dinner*; *Hugh Jackman: Back on Broadway*; *Catch Me If You Can*; *Grey Gardens*; *The Boy From Oz*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Hairspray*; *The Producers*; *The Music Man*; *Contact*; *Cabaret*; *Smoky Joe's Café*; *Guys and Dolls*; *Crazy for You*; *Six Degrees of Separation*; *Assassins*; *Lend Me a Tenor*; *Nine*. Mr. Long has 12 Tony Award nominations, winning 5 times. He was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in January 2006 and currently serves as Chairman of the American Theatre Wing.

PETER MCBOYLE (*Sound Design*) is the Resident Sound Designer at the renowned Stratford Shakespeare Festival where he has designed more than 45 productions. He has had the privilege of working with fantastic artists including Des McAnuff, Christopher Plummer, Gary Griffin, Twyla Tharp, John Doyle, Stafford Arima, Susan H. Schulman, Brian Bedford, Brent Carver and Brian Dennehy. Favorite productions include *Come Fly Away* (Broadway/Tour); *Caroline, Or Change* (Toronto); *West Side Story* (Stratford); *The House Of Martin Guerre* (Toronto); *Barrymore* (Tour/Broadway/Toronto). Peter has a Masters degree in Music Technology from McGill and lives in Stratford, Canada with his wife, Meghan, and their daughters, Ella and Beatrice.

KENNETH POSNER (*Lighting Designer*) has more than 45 Broadway play and musical theater credits including: *Wicked*, *Hairspray*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Best Man*, *Harvey*, *Other Dessert Cities*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Grease* 2007 revival, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Royal Family*, *The Coast of Utopia—Shipwrecked*, *Legally Blonde*, *Charlie Brown*, *Swing!*, *The Homecoming*, *The Odd Couple* and *Glengarry Glen Ross*. He designs extensively off-Broadway and in resident theaters and opera companies throughout the United States as well as internationally. He is the recipient of the TONY, Drama Desk, Outer Critics' Circle and OBIE Awards.

DAVID ROCKWELL (*Scenic Designer*) designed the sets for the new *Catch Me If You Can*, *Hairspray* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations), *Legally Blonde The Musical* (Drama Desk nomination), *Harvey*, *Free Man of Color*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (Drama Desk Nomination), *All Shook Up* (Drama Desk Nomination) and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. He is the founder of Rockwell Group, a New York-based architecture and design firm. Projects include the Kodak Theatre, sets for the Emmy-winning 2010 Academy Awards, Maialino at the Gramercy Park Hotel, Imagination Playground; and the Elinor Bunin-Munroe Film Center at Lincoln Center. Rockwell was honored with the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt's National Design Award for Interior Design in 2008. ➤ continued on page 20



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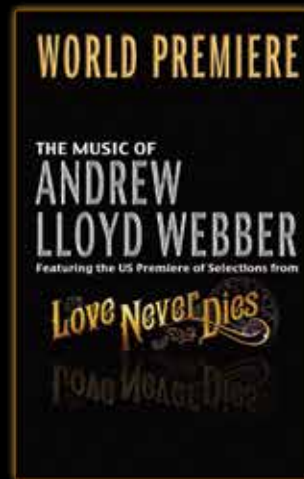
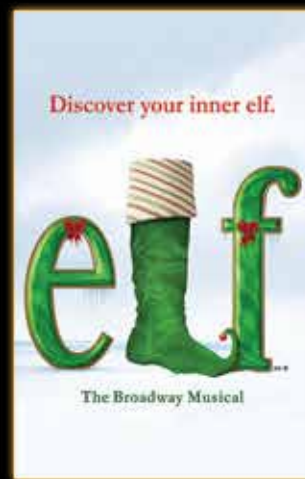
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War Horse's Spectacular Journey

Tony-Award winning stage spectacle moves families, audience members to tears.

By David Freeland



War Horse, the astounding theatrical experience coming to the Fisher Theatre December 17, 2013–January 5, 2014 exerts its pull from the moment the title character, Joey, first trots on stage as a foal, petted by his owner and best friend, 15-year-old Albert. The audience gasps, aware that Joey is a puppet, not a real horse, but captivated by the way he shudders and whinnies at Albert's loving touch. Joey's lifelike eyes, shining and reflective, draw us into the soul of his journey; as the evening progresses, and

Albert sets out to rescue Joey after he has been sold to the English cavalry, we find ourselves carried along and hoping for Joey to make it home.

It's that kind of emotional power that has made *War Horse* an international phenomenon, sweeping up audiences and awards on both sides of the Atlantic and even inspiring an Oscar-nominated film directed by Steven Spielberg. *War Horse* won five 2011 Tony Awards (including Best Play) for its New York premiere plus a Special Tony Award for Handspring Puppet Company for creating the eleven puppets at the heart of the show.

"One of the things we like to imagine," observes Basil Jones, who runs Handspring with co-founder Adrian Kohler, "is people in the audience nudging the person next to them, saying, 'did you see that?'"

Set during the First World War, *War Horse* combines a powerful story with thrilling stagecraft and music. In addition, it showcases what may be the most inventive use of puppetry ever seen on stage. Soon after meeting him as a young horse, we watch in amazement as an adult Joey, seven feet tall, materializes before our eyes. Two puppet masters working inside Joey's frame (built of light, malleable cane) raise and lower his torso, letting out



Top: John Milosich, Nick LaMedica, Laurabeth Brea, Catherine Gowl and the US National Tour of *War Horse*. Above: Albert and Joey. Andrew Veenstra (Albert) with Jon Riddleberger, Patrick Osteen, Jessica Krueger (Joey). Photos © Brinkhoff/Mögenburg.

forceful breaths, while a third manipulates his ears, lifting and pulling them back to register tender shades of emotion. Spielberg's film version of *War Horse* employed real horses, but these onstage creations fully personalize equine ideals of courage, strength and loyalty in ways that reinforce the themes of the story.

"Spielberg made a terrific film," enthuses Michael Morpurgo, upon whose beloved novel *War Horse* is based, "but cinema has its limitations. It isn't live, and that's the difference. What's amazing about the stage show is that, whether it's the music, design, or lighting, the puppets, the quality of acting or direction, it's ingenious and unique. It's a theatrical event."

During World War I, more than one million horses were conscripted by the British military alone; of these, only 62,000 returned. As Joey is forced into battle, serving in both the British and German armies, we are moved by his bravery and the trust he places in those who exploit his strength. His innocence makes him seem above the fighting: in *War Horse*, animals behave with a dignity that humans do not always achieve. Still, Joey is unprepared for the true brutality of 20th century warfare. In a brilliant scene that defines the excitement of Act Two, he faces a new kind of foe: a massive tank rolling his way, prepared to flatten everything in its path. The scenic design is so visceral that we are rushed into battle alongside Joey, enveloped in the sound and smell of combat. Joey rears on his hind legs as the tank pitches toward him and the stage goes black.

"The First World War is emblematic," suggests Mervyn Millar, *War Horse's* puppetry director, "in the way the possibilities of destruction changed. You see Joey standing, looking at the tank, which advances without logic, without thought. Joey tries to work out what it means, what it wants, and it doesn't want or mean anything. It just destroys."

Joey's plight resonates with anyone who has ever loved an animal or taken a pet into the family. As Albert continues his search, we are reminded of the ways in which animals remain with us through many stages of our lives, giving much and asking for little.

"People emotionally invest in animals," Millar believes. "I think everyone can empathize with Joey."

Determined to save his friend, Albert runs away from home with the hope of getting



Joey as a foal. Andrew Veenstra, Catherine Gowl, Nick LaMedica, Laurabeth Brea.

close to the front. But in trying to rescue one family member, he hurts another, leaving behind a mother anxious with worry. *War Horse's* relevance comes from our awareness that, nearly a century after the start of the First World War, families are still being separated by armed conflict.

"We talk a lot about the history of the war," remarks Chris Harper, producer for the National Theatre of Great Britain (which first staged *War Horse* in London), "but at the heart of the show it's just a family, struggling to deal with life. The thing that's exciting about *War Horse* is that it appeals to lots of generations. We see grandparents bringing their kids, wanting to explain the history from their own personal journeys with World War II or more recent conflicts. It's a production that brings the family together."

Will Albert find Joey in time? As *War Horse* reaches its beautiful climax, the hopes of parents, children, and beloved friends—both onstage and off—merge into a shared experience, as tissues are drawn from pockets and eyes glisten with tears.

"We get people coming back again and again," Harper explains, "and they always have the same reaction. It awakens something in you. *War Horse* makes grown people cry."

War Horse is part of the 2013–2014 Broadway In Detroit series. Subscribe now by visiting BroadwayInDetroit.com or calling (313) 872-1000. Individual tickets will go on sale later this year. Groups (10+) reserve now: call 313-871-1132 or e-mail Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com (subject line: War Horse).

WHO'S WHO

LARRY BLANK (*Music Supervisor*). Broadway: Tony-nominated orchestrations for *Catch Me If You Can*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *White Christmas*. Also *La Cage aux Folles* (1995), *Fame Becomes Me*, *The Producers*. London: *Carousel*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Beautiful and Damned*, many broadcasts for the BBC. Films: *City Slickers II*, *North*, *Forget Paris*, *The American President* (all for Marc Shaiman) and *Chicago*. Conductor: Marvin Hamlisch, Michael Crawford, Michael Feinstein, Betty Buckley, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Evita*, *Sugar Babies* and *La Cage aux Folles*.

MATTHEW SMEDAL (*Music Director*). Music Direction/Conducting: *Man of La Mancha* and *1776* (Musical Theatre West), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Cabrillo Music Theater), *The Last Five Years* (w/Shoshana Bean) (Third Street Theatre), *Singin' in the Rain* (Ogunquit Playhouse), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (North Shore Music Theatre), *Bat Boy* and *Hello Again* (Musical Theatre Guild). Assoc. Music Direction/Conducting: *Man of La Mancha* (w/ Brent Spiner & Julia Migenes) and *How To Succeed...* (Reprise Theatre Company), *The King and I* (w/Debbie Gibson) (Cabrillo Music Theatre). Music Director for the 2012 LA Alzheimer's benefit *An Evening At Sardi's* (w/ David Hyde Pierce, Kristen Bell and John Lovtitz). www.matthewsmedal.com.

TALITHA FEHR, TL MUSIC INTERNATIONAL (*Music Coordinator*) was founded by Talitha Fehr in 2010 to carry on the musical contracting traditions of her mentor Sam Luftiyya. National tours of *Sister Act*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *West Side Story*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Come Fly Away*, *Mamma Mia!*, *A Christmas Story*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Cats*, *Chicago*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Chita Rivera A Dancer's Life*, *Movin' Out* and *101 Dalmatians*. International and Asian tours of *West Side Story*, *Sound of Music*, *Swing!*, *Cinderella*, and *The King and I*. Talitha has also had the privilege of working on Broadway's *A Christmas Story*, *The Pirate Queen*, pre-production and development of Twyla Tharp's *Come Fly Away*, the 2012 Toronto launch of *Wizard of Oz*, and the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

JOY DEWING, CSA (*Casting Director*). Current/recent tours: *Catch Me if You Can*, *West Side Story*, *In the Heights*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cats*. Off-Broadway: *Voca People*, *Soul Doctor*, *Forever Dusty*. Regional: Flat Rock Playhouse, The Lost Colony. Dance: The Bad Boys of Dance, STREB. Other recent favorites: *Legally Blonde* (tour), *Dear Edwina* (off-Broadway), *Movin' Out* (tour), *101 Dalmatians* (tour/NYC). Joy travels to SETC, UPTA, and the nation's top universities and training programs every year to discover the next generation of our industry's most talented performers. Proud member of The Casting Society of America and catcher on its softball team. www.joydewingcasting.com.

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting performance rights to both professional and amateur theatres. With over 350 musicals in its catalogue, including the best of Broadway as well as a vibrant collection of great musicals adapted for performance by children, MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these shows to provide official scripts, musical materials and other resources to over 60,000 theatrical organizations throughout the world.

RANDALL A. BUCK (*Chief Executive Officer*) has produced over 50 productions across the globe for Troika Entertainment. Before joining Troika in 1999, Mr. Buck was Vice President and General Manager for Livent in Toronto. While working for Livent, he managed productions such as *Fosse*, *Ragtime*, *Show Boat*, *Music of the Night* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Mr. Buck was a stage manager for more than 20 years, surviving a year with Mary Martin and Carol Channing in Jimmy Kirkwood's *Legends!*, a year in Japan with Siegfried & Roy, opening *The Phantom of the Opera* Music Box Company and opening *Show Boat* on Broadway. Since beginning as an apprentice with The Kenley Players in the late 60s, he has had the privilege of working closely with visionaries such as Twyla Tharp, Susan Stroman, Hal Prince, Joe Layton and Josh Logan, plus hundreds of stars. Mr. Buck had the privilege of recently serving on the board for the National Alliance of Music Theater. Randy is currently living happily-ever-after in the Washington, DC area with his wife, Angela, and their daughter Sierra Ashley Buck.

DONALD KINDL (*Chief Financial Officer*) graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1982 and again in 1988 with his Masters in Business Administration. He began his career with Combustion Engineering in Windsor, CT in 1982, and moved to Maryland in 1992 to assume the position of Comptroller for various theatrical productions. In his current position he oversees the daily operations of all aspects of finance and management information systems. Mr. Kindl and his lovely wife, Cindy, are the proud parents of three wonderful children: Stephen, Stacey and Scott.

ROBERTA ROBERTS (*General Manager*) During the past ten seasons with Troika Entertainment, Ms. Roberts has managed more than 55 tours in North America, Central and South America, and Asia. She is honored to have worked with such legends as Topol, Chita Rivera, Harvey Fierstein, Twyla Tharp, Tommy Tune, Ted Neely and Rue McClanahan. Prior to her current position, Ms. Roberts was Producer for the Cruise Line Entertainment Division of Paramount Show Services International where she produced and managed entertainment programs for numerous clients including Norwegian Cruise Line, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, Renaissance Cruises, Orient Lines and Cunard Line's Queen Elizabeth II. Roberta is grateful for a career that has taken her around the world to more than 50 countries and every continent except Antarctica!

GEOFFREY QUART (*Technical Supervisor*) has worked on over 60 productions for Troika Entertainment during the last seven years. Additional current projects include *Newsies* on Broad-

way. Prior to his current position, Mr. Quart spent three years as Project Foreman for Showman Fabricators. Mr. Quart began his career in Toronto, Canada as an Assistant Production Manager and Assistant Technical Director for Livent Inc. and Parallel Productions, working on productions such as *Ragtime*, *Jane Eyre*, *The Vagina Monologues* and *The Lion King*. Mr. Quart and his wife Anne are enjoying life in blissful suburbia in New Jersey with their daughter Madelyn and their dog, Tucker.

TROIKA ENTERTAINMENT (*Producer*) has been the innovator in touring musical theater productions for over two decades, producing shows throughout North America and the world. Each season, Troika tours to hundreds of cities across the U.S. and Canada. In addition, Troika has produced in European markets including Russia, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Central/South American and Caribbean credits include touring *Cats* in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Panama, Mexico, Venezuela, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico. As the first U.S. production company to tour a musical in mainland China, Troika has toured extensively across the Pacific Rim in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Malaysia and Singapore, with productions of *The Sound of Music*, *Swing!*, *42nd Street* and *Chicago*. The company is experienced in casino and leisure markets having produced for The Wynn, Caesars, Grand Casino, Hilton, Eldorado and Harrah's (Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Biloxi, Lake Tahoe and Branson). Current and upcoming productions include *West Side Story*, *Sister Act*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Shear Madness* and *The Wizard of Oz*. With strong ties to the Broadway community, Troika prides itself on delivering top quality productions to audiences worldwide.



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PRELUDES & ENCORES from page 24

Morton's The Steakhouse • mortons.com/troy • PAGE 27
888 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084. (248) 404-9845.
Type of cuisine: Steakhouse and Seafood, Price: \$\$\$,
Amenities: RV. *Morton's The Steakhouse offers the finest quality foods, featuring USDA Prime, aged beef, fresh seafood, decadent desserts and award-winning wines.*

Ocean Prime • ocean-prime.com • PAGE 25
Coolidge & Big Beaver, 2915 Coolidge Highway, Troy, MI 48084. (248) 458-0500. Type of Cuisine: Seafood, Price \$\$\$, Amenities: FVRG. *Seafood or Steak? At Ocean Prime, you can choose the best of both. Our passion is to give you an extraordinary supper club experience.*

The Rattlesnake Club • rattlesnakedetroit.com • PAGE 24
300 River Place Drive, Detroit, MI 48207. (313) 567-4400.
Type of cuisine: American, Price \$\$\$ GRV. *The Rattlesnake celebrates 25 years in Detroit all 2013 long! Many exciting menus, celebrations, and events are planned to say THANKS to our wonderful guests!*

Star Lanes Restaurant at Emagine Royal Oak • PAGE 13
starlanes.com, 200 N. Main St., Royal Oak, MI 48067.
(248) 414-1000. Price: \$\$, Amenities: GV. *Fabulous food including savory appetizers, wonderful salads, burgers, sandwiches, hand-crafted pizza and delicious desserts! We also offer a full bar with premium beers, wines & liquors!*

Traffic Jam & Snug • traffictimetroit.com • PAGE 25
511 W. Canfield St., Detroit MI, 48201. (313) 831-9470.
Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$, Amenities: FGR. *Featuring an eclectic menu of vegetarian items, burgers, fresh fish, pastas & salads. Decadent house-made desserts. Free, guarded parking. Minutes from the Fisher Theatre.*

Union Street • unionstreetdetroit.com • PAGE 24
Midtown, 4145 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48201.
(313) 831-3965. Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$, Amenities: GR. *15% off when you bring in your ticket to this show! Serving lunch, dinner, desserts and Sunday brunch. Kitchen open late. Large group tours welcomed.*

☞ continued on page 28

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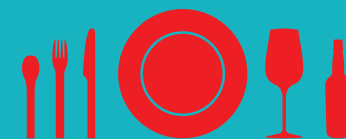
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PRELUDES & ENCORES from page 26

Joe Vicari Restaurant Group • PAGE 29

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Rojo Mexican Bistro (rojomexicanbistro.com),

southwest inspired **Mesquite Creek** in Clarkston

(mesquitecreek.com), **Brownie's on the Lake** on

Lake St. Clair (browniesonthelake.com), and Macomb

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(countryinnrestaurant.net). Whatever your dining

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the quality of food, using only the finest and freshest ingredients. Enjoy a great atmosphere and professional

service at each of our locations. Owner and CEO Joe Vicari is a proud supporter of Broadway in Detroit since 2009.

Restaurants in The Westin Book Cadillac • PAGE 28

Downtown Detroit, 1128 Washington Blvd. at Michigan Ave., Detroit MI 48226

24 Grille • spa1924grille.com, (313) 964-3821.

Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$\$, Amenities: RV.

Located on Michigan Ave. at the Westin Book Cadillac, 24grille features Executive Chef Christian Borden's interpretation of classic American dishes. Take 10% off your entire bill with your theatre ticket.

Motor Bar • bookcadillacwestin.com, (313) 442-1600.

Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$, Amenities: V. Located on the second floor of the Westin Book Cadillac, Motor Bar is a comfortable location for a classic late night cocktail, dessert or appetizer after the show.

Roast • roastdetroit.com, (313) 961-2500.

Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$\$, Amenities: RV. Iron Chef Michael Symon's Roast is located on the street level of the Westin Book Cadillac. The Detroit Free Press recently named Roast Restaurant of the Year.

The Whitney • thewhitney.com • PAGE 6

Midtown, 4421 Woodward Ave., Detroit MI 48201.

(313) 832-5700. Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$\$, Amenities: GPRV. Detroit's most romantic restaurant.

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