

*Theatre
Rocks!*

presents

W A I T
U N T I L
D A R K



By Frederick Knott

Fridays and Saturdays 7:30 p.m.
October 17, 18, 24, 25, 31 and November 1
Sunday Matinee 2:30 p.m. November 2

Adults: \$18, Seniors and Students: \$15
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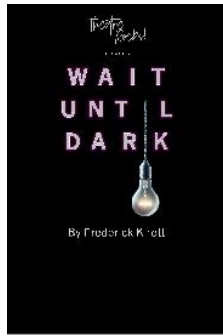
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Written by Frederick Knott
Directed by Bill Rhoten

Cast

Mike Talman Ben Rosewell
Sgt. Carlino Jon Kirk Race
Harry Roat, Jr. Olon McClendon
Susy Hendrix Samantha Green
Sam Hendrix Adrian Arteaga
Gloria Helena Binder
Police Jenna Lynn & Jude Pruitt

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

Cast Biographies



Adrian Arteaga (Sam Hendrix) — Adrian has been seen many times on the Theatre Rocks! stage since first appearing in the 2017 production of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* as “Sir Dandiprat Bombas.” He directed productions of *A Christmas Story* and *The Secret Garden*, and was most recently seen on the Theatre Rocks! stage in his award-winning performance as “Prince Harry of Monmouth” in last season’s production of *The King’s Face*. Other credits include “William Talvas” in *The Ashes of Aquitaine*, “Lieutenant Reuben Twist” in *Mojave*, twice as “Jesus” in *Hyer House*, “Lloyd Barnett” in *Crimes of the Heart*, “Mr. Carrisford” in *A Little Princess*, and twice as “Bob Cratchit” in *A Christmas Carol*. He would like to thank all his family and friends for the continued support.



Helena Binder (Gloria) — Helena is 9 years old. She enjoyed acting in *The Secret Garden* and in *A Merry Adventure of Robin Hood*. She is so excited to be back on stage at Theatre Rocks! Helena loves to read and play all kinds of creative games with her siblings and her friends. She took up fencing this fall and is doing very well with it! Helena would like to thank Jesus, her parents, and all the play directors she’s worked with for the opportunity to be on stage.

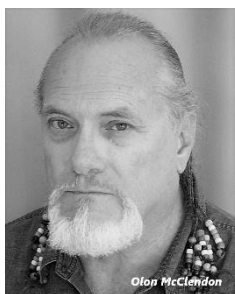


Samantha Green (Susy Hendrix) — After a five-year hiatus, Samantha has been excited to be back on stage — earlier this year in *Cabin Fever* and now in a role she has wanted to play since she was 19. Samantha has been acting since she was 13, and even though she isn’t able to perform as much as she used to before starting a family, the passion to create life on stage still burns bright. As a stay-at-home mom, Samantha has found her calling not only as a mother, but also as a podcaster and ministry leader. Samantha gives a HUGE thank you to her husband Aaron as he has selflessly supported her as she pursues her passions and calling. To God be the glory. This performance is dedicated in loving memory of her father Stephen J. Spradling.

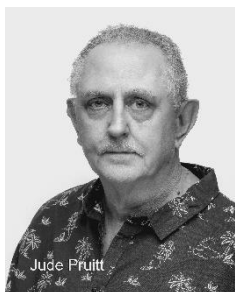
Cast Biographies



Jenna Lynn (police officer, lights & sound) — This is the first time Jenna has been on stage; however, she is no stranger to Theatre Rocks! Usually Jenna is behind the scenes working lights and handling props, so when the opportunity arose for Jenna to test out her acting skills, she took it. Jenna would like to thank her amazing husband, who is also in this show, for encouraging her in whatever she does. She would also like to thank her Theatre Rocks family for all their support. “Well, let’s see how this goes!”



Olon McClendon (Harry Roat, Jr.) — In 1996, Olon's three daughters, led by his late wife Donna, kicked him out of the family sedan to force him to audition for *A Little Shop of Horrors*. Subsequently he got cast and performed the role of "Mr. Mushnick" in the Corsicana Warehouse Living Arts Center production. Since then, he has been performing there and here in Ennis ever since. He has worked with Bill Rhoten for the last sixteen years and was last seen as Henry II of England in *The Ashes of Aquitaine*. Some of Olon's favorites under Bill Rhoten's direction include: “Big Daddy” in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, the “Messenger” in Neil Simon's *God's Favorite*, and as “Preacher Man” in *Hyer House*. Olon is grateful to Bill and Suzanne for creating and continuing to run Theatre Rocks!



Jude Pruitt (police officer) — Jude, though he has had a lengthy stage hiatus due to his work schedule, is a longtime actor. He has appeared in the following Bill Rhoten productions: *The Cemetery Club*, *Wait Until Dark*, *The Fantasticks*, and *Twelve Angry Men*. He is glad to be back, working with Bill and this talented cast.

Cast Biographies



Jon Kirk Race (Sgt. Carlino) — A graduate of the University of Mississippi with a BA in Theatre Arts, Jon Kirk is a stage veteran of over 25 years. Jon Kirk has portrayed several memorable characters over the years, with roles from “Sir Toby Belch” in *Twelfth Night*, “Henry Drummond” in *Inherit the Wind*, and “Sgt. Trotter” in *Journey's End* to “Freddy” in *Picasso at the Lapine Agile* and “Bradley” in Sam Shepard's *Buried Child*. Jon Kirk has lived in Ennis for the past six years and is a native of the Lone Star State. This is his eighth show here at Theatre Rocks!, having appeared in the world premiere of *Big Boy, Miss Alice and the Colonial Encyclopedia Man* and originating the role of “Hootie Calhoun” in the premiere of *KFLU Floydada, Country that's Contagious*. Other roles have included “Scrooge” (*A Christmas Carol*), “Hank” (*Mojave*), “Norman” (*The Boys Next Door*), and “Friar Tuck” (*A Merry Adventure of Robin Hood*). He is thrilled to be back on the Theatre Rocks! stage with another set of skilled and talented actors.

“We know what we are, but know not what we may be.”
— Shakespeare, *Hamlet*



Ben Rosewell (Mike Talman) — A longtime audience favorite at Theatre Rocks!, Ben appeared last season as “Little John” in *A Merry Adventure of Robin Hood* and “Michael Cody” in *Cabin Fever*. His nearly lifelong stage career began as a little boy involved in his church's children's programs (he once fell off the risers!) and progressed to taking the stage with his father as a supernumerary at The Dallas Opera to the privilege of embodying some interesting characters at Theatre Rocks! Roles have included “Young Opera Singer” (*The Last Romance*), “Freddy” (*Criminal Mischief*), “Richard the Lionheart” (*The Lion in Winter*), “Caleb” (Bill Rhoten's *WWII Trilogy*), and “Tom Wingfield” (*The Glass Menagerie*).

Production Staff

Theatre Rocks! Artistic Director & Co-Founder	Bill Rhoten
Theatre Rocks! Executive Director & Co-Founder	Suzanne Rhoten
Assistant Director	Jenna Lynn
Lights & Sound	Jenna Lynn
Set Design & Construction	Dirk Kovar, Kelly Kovar, Jack Kovar, and Jessica Kovar
Props	Charlene Andrews
Playbill	Rebecca Perry and Suzanne Rhoten
Box Office	Suzanne Rhoten
Headshots	Rich Raymond
Playbill Cover & Poster Design	Rebecca Perry

*I will bring the blind by a way that
they don't know. I will lead them in
paths that they don't know. I will
make darkness light before them, and
crooked places straight. I will do these
things, and I will not forsake them.*

~Isaiah 42:16



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Bill Rhoten
Theatre Rocks!
Co-Founder and Artistic Director

Bill Rhoten was born in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. He has more than 40 years of diversified acting, directing, producing, and writing experience, in over 100 stage productions in Ennis and the Dallas area. He founded Dallas Theatre on Tour, the Prairie House Dinner Theatre, Ennis Public Theatre, and — eight years ago — Theatre Rocks! Some career highlights include:

directing Pulitzer Prize and Tony winner Tracy Letts in his early career in Dallas in four productions; Bill performed in and directed William Mastrosimone's ***The Woolgatherer***, for which he received the coveted "Critics Choice" award by the Dallas Times Herald; he directed ***Electric Angel*** by Brad Bailey, which had its world premiere in Dallas and was later produced in Los Angeles; and ***The Real Queen of Hearts Ain't Even Pretty*** by Brad Bailey was produced twice by Bill, who later co-produced and directed the feature length film.

His writing credits include two screenplays, a TV pilot, ***Jessie's Diary***, a short film now available on Amazon.com, and his film entitled ***New Hope*** (writer/director) which was selected with 30 other shorts in its category (of 1,800 submitted) for competition at the Palm Springs International Film Festival. "***New Hope*** was the wisest, the smartest, and truthfully the most passionate of all the films we submitted....." (The Desert Sun, Palm Springs, California)

He has authored eight stage plays: ***My Favorite Christmas***, ***Where's Santa?***, and ***Life's Little Miracles***, as well as five award-winning plays, all of which premiered on the Theatre Rocks! stage: ***Mojave***, ***Hyer House***, ***My First Date***, ***Forever***, and ***KFLU Floydada, Country that's Contagious***.



Suzanne Rhoten
Theatre Rocks!
Co-Founder and Executive Director

Suzanne's background is in film and theatre production. She was formerly a founder and executive director of the area. Working alongside her producer, writer, director husband, Bill, she has experience in the areas of production management, script supervision, and set design. A certified non-profit manager and ordained minister, she serves as executive director of Theatre Rocks!

Bill Rhoten's students have worked for these clients:

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NECESSARY ROUGHNESS / TRUE STORIES / TEXAS
THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL / SILVERADO / HAIR
BROADWAY DANNY ROSE / PURE COUNTRY / ALIVE
YOUNG RIDERS / DECEIVED / TALK RADIO
CURSE OF THE STARVING CLASS / HEXED / NBC
FUGITIVE AMONG US / JAILBIRDS / LOVE HURTS
FIRE AND RAIN / STEALTH HUNTERS / WISHBONE
SQUARE DANCE / POSITIVE I.D. / COTTON CANDY
TRAVELIN' MAN / DEADLY BLESSING / LOGAN'S RUN
GUILTY OR INNOCENT / TOUCH AND DIE / THE APOSTLE
A SOLDIER'S STORY / NIGHT OF THE EAGLES
BLUES IN THE NIGHT / ROUGH RIDERS / THE SECRETARY
CRISIS AT CENTRAL HIGH / MIDDLE AGE CRAZY
DALLAS - THE EARLY YEARS / COURAGE UNDER FIRE
GENERAL HOSPITAL / DAYS OF OUR LIVES / LOVING
EVENING SHADE / BEVERLY HILLS 90210 / COLUMBO
WALKER TEXAS RANGER / DANGEROUS CURVES
ALL MY CHILDREN / PICKET FENCES / MY SO-CALLED LIFE
SPACE MARINES / BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY
PBS / SLING BLADE / WEST WING / THE PRACTICE
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN / PARKLAND / THE SON
TEXAS HEART / I SAW THE LIGHT
THE SECTOR / FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS / RECTIFY
BUG / FROM DUSK TO DAWN / BAGHDAD TEXAS
PRISON BREAK / SONS OF THUNDER / EYE OF GOD
CSI / GREY'S ANATOMY / THE GUIDING LIGHT
AS THE WORLD TURNS / THE LIFE OF DAVID GALE

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so PLEASE let us know if there are any errors or omissions
on these pages. We will continue to add names
as these donations and season ticket purchases come in.

Producer \$2,500+

John & Kathy Muncaster, Jerry Pritchett, Bill & Suzanne Rhoten

Playwright \$1,000 - \$2,499

Raymond & Andi Caldwell, in honor of Ronald Hudspeth,
Olon McClendon, Polyguard Products, Inc.

Director \$500 - \$999

Anonymous, Juan Flores, Rebecca Perry, Ella Taraba,
Bill & Connie Walker

Performer \$250 - \$499

Anonymous, Jude Pruitt

Costumer \$100 - \$249

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Box Office \$25 - \$99

Carol Farrar, Larry & Janet Gilbert, Debra Gorman, Lou & Arlene Hahn,
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Ethan Binder, Janice Barlow, Judith Borders, Dixie Bright,
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Anna David, Barry & Kay Davison, Sandra & Michael Embry (4),
Norma Epstein, Carol Farrar, Sharon Fisher, Vicki Fisher, Juan Flores,
Charles & Mary Fosdick, Rebecca Gentry, Larry & Janet Gilbert,
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Al & Maggie Maples, Connie Mathieson, Olon McClendon,
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Theresa Strunc, Sheryl Sullivan, Melva Sutherland, Ella Taraba (2),
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2025-2026 SEASON



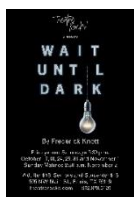
The Odd Couple (female version)

By Neil Simon, Directed by Bill Rhoten

Produced by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals

The female version of Neil Simon's hilarious contemporary comic classic.

August 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30, 31



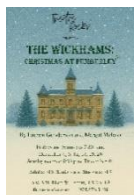
Wait Until Dark

By Frederick Knott, Directed by Bill Rhoten

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

This masterfully constructed thriller moves from one moment of suspense to another as it builds toward an electrifying, breath-stopping final scene.

October 17, 18, 24, 25, 26, 31, November 1, 2



The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley

By Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon, Directed by Rebecca Perry

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

Jane Austen's beloved characters are brought to life in a charming holiday tale that explores the confines of class and the generosity of forgiveness.

December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21



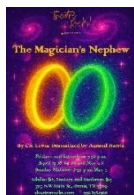
Winter

By Mark Scharf, Directed by Bill Rhoten

Winner of the 2024 Theatre Rocks! National Playwriting Competition.

An unexpected reunion explores the enduring connections between two people in the winter of their lives.

February 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22



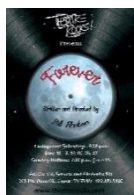
The Magician's Nephew

By C.S. Lewis, Dramatized by Aurand Harris, Directed by Rebecca Perry

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing

This highly theatrical dramatization of a C.S. Lewis classic encompasses realism and fantasy, interesting characters, humor and lyrical beauty, excitement and suspense that will engage audiences of all ages.

April 17, 18, 24, 25, May 1, 2, 3



Forever

Written and Directed by Bill Rhoten

This award-winning play is part of Bill Rhoten's Greatest Generation

Trilogy set in the early 1940s. It is the story of a family facing the shocking and life-changing news of the United States entering WWII.

June 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28

We reserve the right to change production title selections at any time.

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