

CAST



Felicia Curry* (Irene) is grateful to be playing and fighting with two of the greatest 'sistahs' a girl could have! Other MetroStage productions: *Two Queens, One Castle, Wife*. National Tours: *Roald Dahl's WILLY WONKA*, Violet; *Barbie Live!*, Topaz (Original Cast Recording). Regional credits: *The Araboolies of Liberty Street*, A-Kid; *Tintypes*, Susannah; *Aida*, Aida (2006 Helen Hayes nomination); *Godspell*, Featured Performer (2005 Helen Hayes nomination); *BSO Holiday Spectacular 2006*, Featured Soloist. Special thanks to everyone at MetroStage! All my love to God, family, friends, SPK, and bible-poo...YES, Bible-poo! For my siblings...this is for you!!



Crystal Fox* (Marsha) is a theatre 'veteran' and film/tv actress, most noted for her role as Sgt. Luann Corbin from the series *In the Heat of the Night*. She is delighted to return to MetroStage in the role she originated in 2002. Theatre productions include the Alliance Theatre's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *7 Guitars* and *From the Mississippi Delta*, True Colors Theatre production of *Flyin' West*, Portland Center Stage's *For Colored Girls* (Drammy Award winner/Best Actress), RoundHouse Theatre's *Home* (Helen Hayes nominee/Best Supporting Actress), two successful seasons with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in productions of *Antony & Cleopatra*, *Piano Lesson*, *Comedy of Errors* and *A Raisin in the Sun* and, most recently, Seattle Rep's *Gem of the Ocean* under the direction of Phylicia Rashad, to name but a few. Ms. Fox's other tv/film credits include *Third Watch*, *Law & Order*, *The Sopranos*, *Mama Flora's Family* and *Driving Miss Daisy*.



Bernardine Mitchell* (Olive) performs nationally and internationally with a variety of ensembles, in a wide range of roles, including Bessie Smith in *Bessie's Blues* with the San Diego Repertory, Addie in *Little Foxes* with the 2007 Tony-winning The Alliance Theatre, the Matron in *Chicago* and Mahalia Jackson in *Mahalia*. She was featured in concert with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, on the *Today Show* (ABC), in *Guyana Tragedy* (CBS), in *A Resting Place* (CBS) starring Morgan Freeman and in the Pulitzer Prize play, *The Gospel at Colonus* as Antigone. Bernardine received the 1993 Los Angeles Dramalogue for Best Actress, the 1990 Jennie Award for Best Supporting Actress, the 1989 Bronze Jubilee Award for Music as Entertainer of the Year and both the 2002 and 2005 Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Lead Actress (*Blues in the Night*, Studio Theatre and *Mahalia*, MetroStage). She studied Voice and Musical Theatre at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and is a proud member of Equity since 1979. Love from ATL. Thank You, Father!!!

PRODUCTION & DESIGN

Janet Pryce (Story Writer) was the associate producer of the world premiere production of *Three Sistahs* at MetroStage in 2002 before producing it at the New York Musical Theatre Festival. Ms. Pryce produced *Kid Simple* at the Clurman Theatre for the NY Summer Play Festival and has worked on the production teams of The Grammy Awards, The Kennedy Center Honors and Christmas in Washington. She received her BFA from George Mason University and resides in Manhattan.

Thomas W. Jones II (Director, Choreographer, Playwright)** has directed, written, and performed in more than 200 plays worldwide. In 1978, Tom founded Jomandi Productions, where, as Co-Artistic Director and Producing Director, Tom led Jomandi to become the third largest African-American theatre company in the United States. His work as writer, director, and actor has been acclaimed nationally and internationally. His work has received 42 Helen Hayes Award nominations winning 12 awards, including Best Director for Samm Art Williams' *Home* and his own *Bessie's Blues*. He has also received 3 New York Audelco Award nominations, the Dramalogue Award, the San Diego Critics Award, NAACP Phoenix Award, among others. In 2000, Tom and his co-founders left Jomandi to create the entertainment company VIA International Artists, Inc. and subsequently VIA Theatrical. His most recent work includes *The Bluest Eye*, *Bricktop*, *Point of Revue*, *Two Queens One Castle*, *Cool Papa's Party* and he has worked on an after hours cabaret series based on Delores Bundy's *Brown Sugar Diaries*.

William Hubbard* (Music Director, Composer, Keyboardist) is a composer, musician, vocalist and arranger who was recently seen in *Bricktop* here at MetroStage. He music directed *Three Sistahs* at Atlanta's Horizon Theatre and MetroStage's productions of *Two Queens One Castle* and *Harlem Rose* which included his compositions. William made his Equity Actor's debut in *All Night Strut* at MetroStage. He is a Helen Hayes Award winner for "Best Musical Direction" for *Crowns* at Arena Stage and received a nomination for his work in *Mahalia*. His score for *Three Sistahs* also garnered him a Helen Hayes nomination along with Tom Jones and Janet Pryce and the musical was part of the New York Festival of New Musicals. He is internationally known for his hymn "I Love You Lord Today" published in the New African American Heritage Hymnal. *Thanks to God, and I love you Bangor tribe!*

Jonathan Williamson (Set Designer) is the resident scenic designer, scenic artist, and technical director for Theatre in the Square in Atlanta. He has designed scenery for such Atlanta based theatres as Horizon Theatre, Theatre in the Square, Theatrical Outfit, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, Jack in the Black Box Theatre Company, Actor's Express, and 7 Stages. Before moving to Atlanta, Jonathan had the privilege to work as an assistant set designer and projection designer at theaters such as Portland Center Stage, North Shore Music Theatre, and Dallas Theatre Center. Love to my Lovely Rita.

Jason Arnold (Lighting Designer) has designed lights for many local theatre companies, including Arena Stage (*Emergence-See!*), Theatre J (*Family Secrets, A Bad Friend, Oh the Innocents, Talley's Folly*), Imagination Stage (*Junie B. Jones, Cinderella, Bunnica, Seussical, Charlotte's Web*), Olney Theatre Center (*Gifts of the Magi*), and Washington Shakespeare Company (*Hapgood, The Milktrain Doesn't Stop Here Anymore*). This is Mr. Arnold's first design for MetroStage.

Erin Nugent (Costume Designer) DC design credits include *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* (MetroStage), *Blues Journey* (Kennedy Center), *Monster* (Rorschach Theatre), *The Gingham Dog* (African Continuum Theatre Company), *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* (Theater Alliance). Assistant Design Credits include: *Teddy Roosevelt...* (Kennedy Center), *The Brand New Kid* (Kennedy Center), *Crave* (Signature Theatre), *Nest* (Signature Theatre), *Tommy* (Perseverance Theatre, AK). Recent projects include *The Oracle* at African Continuum Theatre Company, *Blue/Orange* and *In on It*, both at Theater Alliance. Last year, she was a part of the William R. Kenan Jr. Performing Arts Fellows Program at the Kennedy Center. Erin holds an M.F.A. in Costume Design from The North Carolina School of the Arts.

Steve Baena (Sound Designer) is the owner/head engineer of Funkymonkeyboymusic LLC, a Maryland-based sound company. After many years of doing this for fun, he finally got an education. Since graduating from Omega Studios engineering and recording school, Steve has managed to make a living out of this business. His work scopes UK nightclubs to the US capitol building and most things in between. This is his seventh production at MetroStage and is happy to be back again.

Jessica Winfield* (Stage Manager) is thrilled to have been given the opportunity to stage manage for *Three Sistahs*. She graduated from Morgan State University where she majored in Theatre. Other stage management credits include *Ragtime* and *Raisin the musical*, both at Morgan State University. Besides being a stage manager, she is also a freelance lighting designer and theater electrician. She recently finished being a spotlight op for Arena Stage's production of *Peter and Wendy*. In October she will be designing lights for Run of the Mill's production of *Blood Wedding*. Other designs include *Black Nativity*, *Miss Evers Boys* (Morgan State University) and *Man of La Mancha* (Spotlighters Theatre). She would like to thank Carolyn for giving her this opportunity, her mother and sister for always being supportive, and Shirley Basfield Dunlap and Cheryl Williams for their support and guidance.

Brandon Guilliams (Technical Director) is happy to be doing another performance here at MetroStage. You might have seen his work building sets at Washington Shakespeare Company, Journeyman Theatre, Actors Theatre of Washington, Imagination Stage, Theatre J, Kennedy Center, as well as MetroStage. He also designed MetroStage's Nat King Cole and Duke Ellington shows. He got his start at the West End Dinner Theatre where he did it all from Kitchen Manager to tech to actor. Brandon's roots are in cooking as he has an Associates degree in culinary arts from Johnson and Wales University. He also currently works at the Kennedy Center answering the information line. Enjoy!

Kevin Laughon (Production Manager) has worn many hats at MetroStage for the past two and a half years. A graduate of Syracuse University, he is also an actor/singer/dancer and an accomplished choreographer/teacher who has worked at local theatres, schools and dance studios for 15 years. Kevin works on the technical teams at many DC area theatres and he recently performed in *Kiss Me Kate* (Paul/Hortensio) at Toby's. Films he worked on include *The Invasion*, *Evan Almighty* and *National Treasure 2*.

Carolyn Griffin (Producing Artistic Director) has been with MetroStage since its founding in 1984 and has produced over sixty mainstage productions, including four plays and three musicals that were world premieres. She is committed to producing the best contemporary writing and showcasing the best regional artists for a broad-based audience from the Washington metropolitan area. She is the co-founder of the Alexandria Arts Forum, which she chaired for five years, and has served on many regional panels for area arts commissions. Awards include the Actors' Center Award of Distinction, the Cultural Affairs Award from the Alexandria Commission for Women, the Award of Harmony from the Alexandria Harmonizers and the 2005 ALEX Award. She is on the Board of The Playwrights Forum and was chosen by the Canadian Embassy and the Helen Hayes Awards to travel to Canada in 2004 as part of the Canadian/Washington Theatre Partnership. She holds a Masters degree in Psychology from Catholic University and an MBA from Georgetown University. Her four children live in Washington DC, New York City, Savannah, Georgia, and Alexandria.