

Girl in the Goldfish Bowl



by Morris Panyach



2025 - 2026 Season

The **REAL**
Inspector Hound
by TOM STOPPARD

The Real Inspector Hound by Tom Stoppard is a multi-layered spoof of typical English country house murder-mystery, where two theatre critics in the audience become incorporated into the whodunit on stage. The performance aspirations of literary critics, and the thin line between the actor and the role are all in play in this with this hilarious and illuminating meta-theatrical comedy.

SEPTEMBER 25-28, 2025

IN PIECES

a new musical by joey contreras

In Pieces is a contemporary song cycle by Joey Contreras that weaves together the lives of six individuals as they navigate love, self-discovery and pivotal moments that define them. With a vibrant and pop-driven score, the musical captures the highs and lows of relationships-past, present and future-revealing how every experience shapes who we become. Authentic, heartfelt, and deeply relatable, In Pieces is a moving exploration of identity, growth, and acceptance, resonating with anyone who has ever faced a turning point in their life.

Produced in collaboration with the Stetson School of Music

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 2

2025 - 2026 Season

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Girl in the Goldfish Bowl by Morris Panych tells the story of a young girl named Iris who believes that the whole world has been held together by her pet goldfish and that his death has led to the disintegration of her parents' marriage and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Almost immediately after her pet's death, Iris finds a man washed up on the beach and thinks that he is the reincarnation of the goldfish. She brings the stranger back to her home, pinning all her messianic hopes on his well-being.

FEBRUARY 19-22, 2026

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES: A DEVISED PRODUCTION

In collaboration with our community partners, Stetson Theatre Arts students will devise an original production highlighting some of the important issues impacting our cultural environment. The production will be toured throughout the Spring season to local area schools and will culminate in a special exhibition performance at Stetson's Second Stage Theatre.

APRIL 16-19, 2026

Director's Note

*"In approaching *The Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* by Morris Panych, I was drawn to its balance of quiet humor and underlying ache. Panych creates a slightly heightened world that is both whimsical and deeply human. At its center is Iris, a child trying to understand the fragile, complicated adults around her—each longing to be seen, chosen, or transformed.*

The image of the goldfish bowl serves as both setting and metaphor: a contained space where everyone is visible, yet no one fully escapes their own limitations. In rehearsal, we focused on honoring the play's subtlety—allowing the humor to emerge from discomfort and stillness rather than exaggeration. The work required careful listening, precision, and trust in restraint.

Ultimately, this play reminds us that beneath ordinary routines live private hopes and disappointments. Our goal has been to illuminate both the comedy and the quiet humanity within those moments."

- Rebekah Lane, Dir.

From our Alumni

"At Stetson I was able to explore all realms of theatre and find what I truly wanted to pursue in life. Costuming and set design became my focus and during my time at the school I was able to expand on my capacities in those areas. Through Stetson I was able to attend events that led to my first professional job in the industry as well as a place in the Disney College Program."

- Ashley Hew, '23
Disney College Program, Costume Shop

"Reflecting on my time at Stetson fills me with both a sense of accomplishment and nostalgia. The theater department served as my creative haven, where I found genuine acceptance and a community that loved each other but could, and often would, give out tough love when it was needed. During my four years at Stetson I got to play a wide variety of roles- more so than I'd ever had in the eight years I'd been doing theater prior. Working as an actress professionally isn't easy, but I truly believe that this department gave me the tools and the confidence in myself to do so."

- Liza Tannanbaum, '22
Actress, Boston Metro Area

"The time I spent with the Theatre Arts program at Stetson University has set me up to be more well-rounded in the theatre industry. The program's focus on exploring all aspects of theatrical practices, from it's history, to theory, and practical application, has led to a better and deeper appreciation of my fellow designers and artists, and the collaborative environments we work in. Furthermore, the passion of the faculty and of my peers within the program continues to inspire me and influence my creativity, years after graduating."

- Preston Foss, '20
Lighting Designer, Central Florida Area

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DIRECTOR

Rebekah Lane

STAGE MANAGER

Travis Romero

COSTUME DESIGNER

Cheryl Orr

SCENIC DESIGNER

Krista Franco

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Preston Foss

SOUND DESIGNER

Cody Desrosiers

Cast

Iris	Tanisha Cepeda
Owen	Nathan Pyle
Lawrence	Marcos Parra
Sylvia	Samantha Mariji
Miss Rose	Mikayla Johns
Owen/Lawrence Swing	Miles Reynolds
U/S Sylvia	Janiah Lewis
U/S Rose	Gabriela Ayala

*Miles Reynolds will perform as Lawrence 2/19-2/22**

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Production Staff

ASM	Janiah Lewis
LBO	Isiah McMillon
SBO	Cody Derosiers
Wardrobe Supervisor	Belle Lee
Wardrobe Crew	Nav Wallace
Hair & Makeup Designer	Mariah Whyms
Hair & Makeup Crew	Gabriela Ayala
Scenic Charge Artist	Krista Franco
Properties Coordinator	Erin Cassidy
Technical Director	Patrick Pieri
Publicity Manager	Joshua Dennis
Box Office Manager	Patrick Pieri
Archival Photography	And You Films
Set Crew	Students of THEA 210 & 214

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Rebekah Lane (Director) is a theatre professional and educator with two decades of work creating collaborative theatrical experiences. She loves crafting movement for the stage, which brought her to specialize in devising, puppetry, movement theatre, and intimacy direction. She believes that the practice of theatre has the power to energize any career path. Favorite projects include choreographing intimacy for *Angels in America* at Valencia College, performing the shaman in *Post-Everything* at the International Theatre Festival in Varna, Bulgaria, and directing Off-Broadway production of *Rebel Girls* for National Theatre for Student Artists. Rebekah earned her MFA at Towson University. She currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Valencia College.

Tanisha Cepeda (Iris) is a junior psychology major here at Stetson University. She has been a part of many shows here at Second Stage, working primarily as a Stage Manager and other technical positions, however, she is so excited to finally show her talents on the stage! She hopes you all enjoy the show and who knows, maybe Mr. Lawrence really is her dead fish come to life...or maybe he's just a random guy.

Nathan Pyle (Owen) is a senior English/Film major here at Stetson University. In the past, he has played Mufasa in *The Lion King* and Cole in *Keely and Du*. He is so excited to be a part of *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* and he can't wait for you all to enjoy it as well!

Marcos Parra (Lawrence) is a freshman Political Science major here at Stetson University. In the past he has performed in a number of productions including, *Singing in the Rain* (Cosmo), *Dear Evan Hansen* (Evan Hansen), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino). He is very excited for all of you to experience *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* and hopes you enjoy the production as much as he enjoyed working on it!

Samantha Mariji-Pedro (Sylvia) is a third-year student here at Stetson University, majoring in International Studies with a minor in Theatre Arts. Originally from Switzerland with a rich multicultural background, she is excited to portray Sylvia in *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*. Her previous Stetson credits include *The Real Inspector Hound* (Cynthia), *Lysistrata* (Ismenia), and *The Revolutionists* (Marie Antoinette), along with performances at the Theatre of London. Beyond the stage, Samantha is passionate about animal advocacy and is grateful to be part of such a creative and dedicated cast and crew. She extends a special thanks to Cheryl Orr, Costume Designer, for her endless support and kindness.

Mikayla Johns (Miss Rose) is a freshman Theatre Arts Major and Honor/Bonner student here at Stetson University with minors in Music and Civic and Social Responsibility. This is her third show with Second Stage. She has previously played Felicity in *The Real Inspector Hound* and Austin's love interest in Joey Conteras' *In Pieces*. Mikayla would like to give a huge thanks to her parents, little brother Andrew, Mrs. Rebecca Zauner, Mrs. Leslie Hayford, and finally her amazing friends who come to support her again and again.

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Miles Reynolds (Owen/Lawrence Swing) is a junior Theatre Arts major here at Stetson University. He is thrilled to serve as Assistant Director and Swing for the very first time. You may have seen Miles onstage in *The Real Inspector Hound* (Birdboot), *Lysistrata* (Male Chorus Member), and *Keely and Du* (Walter). He hopes to study directing further and make a career out of it. Miles would like to thank you for coming and hopes you enjoy the show!

Janiah Lewis (U/S Sylvia/ASM) is a freshman Theatre Arts major here at Stetson University. She is so excited to be a part of *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* as her first production with Second Stage and hopes you all enjoy the show!

Travis Romero (Stage Manager) is a freshman English major with a minor in Journalism and creative writing here at Stetson University. This is their second production with Second Stage as they worked on *The Real Inspector Hound* as the Assistant Stage Manager in the Fall 2025 semester.

Cheryl Orr (Costume Designer) has her B.A. in Costume Production from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and worked as the Costume Shop Manager at the University of Florida. Cheryl is enjoying the students and creative staff here at Stetson's Second Stage and looks forward to each new production.

Krista Franco (Scenic Designer/Scenic Charge Artist) is an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator of Theatre Arts here at Stetson University. Regionally, Krista has designed for the Athens Theatre, the School of Theatre at Florida State University, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Ole Miss Theatre & Film as a visiting guest artist. She is a founding member of Endstation's Theatre Company in residence at Randolph College. She served as the company's Production Manager and resident scenic designer from 2006-2022. Krista continues to serve as a guest designer for Endstation's Community-Centered New Works Program. She is a professional member of the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) where she is the Chair of the Design & Technology committee.

Preston Foss (Lighting Designer) is excited to return to his alma mater once again to work on this production of *The Real Inspector Hound*. Preston is an alumnus of Stetson University having graduated in 2020 as a Theatre Arts major. He has since been working as a freelance Lighting Designer throughout the last 5 years. A few notable designs from Preston include *A Lion in Winter* (Fall 2019), *Men on Boats* (Spring 2023), and *A Map of Virtue* (Spring 2023). Preston is always delighted by the warm returning welcome of students and faculty here at Stetson.

Patrick Pieri (Technical Director) graduated from Stetson University in 2006 with a B.A. in Theatre Arts. He has worked as a designer, stagehand, and technical director for several theater companies including Des Moines Metro Opera, Athens Theater, and the Wilde Coward Company.

Cody Desrosiers (Sound Designer & SBO) is a third-year transfer student from Daytona State College, currently pursuing a degree in Theatre Arts here at Stetson University. Originally from Tyngsborough, Massachusetts and now a resident of New Smyrna Beach, Cody has worked on every production of the 2024-2025 season at the Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach, as well as several productions with the Athens Theatre in DeLand, Second Stage Theatre at Stetson, and the News-Journal Center at Daytona State College. They are excited to serve as the sound designer and operator for *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* with Second Stage Theatre. Cody thanks Doug Bishop and Trevin Cooper for their reignited passion for theatre.

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Belle Lee (Wardrobe Supervisor) a junior Digital Arts and Theatre Arts double-major here at Stetson University. She is so excited to be the wardrobe supervisor for *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*. This is her third production with Second Stage. She was previously seen as the Assistant Director for *The Real Inspector Hound* and Wardrobe Supervisor for *In Pieces*. Belle is also active in other performing arts disciplines as a member of Stetson's Top Hats Dance Team, and she assists in productions at her former high school as well.

Mariah Whyms (Hair & Makeup Designer) is a junior Theatre Arts major here at Stetson University. She has been seen in past productions such as *Fen* (Angela), *Keely and Du* (Du), and *In Pieces: A New Musical* (Ensemble). She has also been behind the curtain for *Mind Games* (Stage Manager), *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Props Designer), and now has the pleasure of being the Hair and Makeup Designer for *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*. She hopes you all enjoy watching the show as much as she has enjoyed designing for it!

Erin Cassidy (Props Coordinator) is a freshman Theatre Arts major and Creative Writing and Religious Studies minor here at Stetson University. She has been a part of two past productions with Second Stage including *In Pieces: A New Musical* (Ensemble) and *The Real Inspector Hound* (Wardrobe Supervisor). She is thrilled to be back as a part of *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* for her third production with Stetson Theatre Arts!

Joshua Dennis (Publicity Manager) is a second-year M.B.A. student here at Stetson University. He graduated from Stetson in 2023 with his B.A., majoring in Theatre Arts and minoring in Education. Joshua was last seen on stage as Grey in *In Pieces: A New Musical* in the Fall 2025 semester. Prior to that, Joshua performed in his first professional production as Roger in *Grease* at the Athens Theatre in DeLand, FL. Some of his other past credits with Second Stage include *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged) (Himself, Fall 2024), *A Map of Virtue* (Mark, Spring 2023), *Men on Boats* (William Dunn, Spring 2023), *Murder at the Howard Johnson's* (Paul Miller, Fall 2022), and *The Laramie Project* (Various Roles, Fall 2019). Joshua is continually grateful for the support and professionalism of the Theatre Arts department and he is thrilled to be a part of yet another spectacular production.

Gabriela Ayala (U/S Miss Rose/ Hair & Makeup Crew) is sophomore Psychology major and Sociology minor here at Stetson University. Though this is her first theatrical production, she has numerous experience in makeup artistry. She is so incredibly excited to be a part of *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*!

Isaiah Mcmillon (LBO) is working on his second show here at Stetson University, *Girl in a Goldfish Bowl*, and he is so excited to be working in lighting. His hobbies include singing, writing, and spending quality time with friends. He is a graduate of Seabreeze High School's Class of 2025 and is currently part of Stetson University's Class of 2029, majoring in Theatre Arts and minoring in Music Technology. He would like to thank his family and friends, Lambda Chi Alpha at Stetson, and his cast and crew.

Community Partners



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Stetson Theatre Arts

Stetson Theatre History

Stetson University hosts the longest-running theater in the state of any kind- educational, community, and professional - with over 750 productions in its time. Stetson's chapter of the National Theater Honorary, Theta Alpha Phi, was one of the original five, founded in March of 1930 by Dr. Irving Stover. Stetson's Theater Arts program typically hosts over 20 theater majors and over 80 student participants in theater productions every academic year. Stetson theater students are regularly offered the opportunity to assume various leadership roles in theater productions and all Stetson students are eligible for casting and backstage work from the first semester of their first year.

Many Stetson theatre students go on to pursue successful careers in such areas as law, teaching, and business. Many also pursue successful careers in the entertainment industry onstage and off-stage, such as:

Delicia Bent '24, Professional Actress/Stagehand, The Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol

Joshua Dennis '23, Professional Actor, Athens Theatre, Central Florida Area

Ashley Hew '23, Disney College Program, Costume Shop Attendant

Liza Tannanbaum '22, Professional Actress, Boston Metro Area

Preston Foss, '20 Lighting Designer, Central Florida Area

Katie Pulling '19, Art Department Manager, Global Scenic Services

Junior Nyong'o '17, Professional Stage Actor, The Public Theater NYC

Luis Garcia '17, Lighting/Video Designer, honoree for Live Design's 30 Under 30 list for rising young artists

Megan Vaughn '16, Properties Artisan at the North Shore Music Theatre

Drew Neitzey '15, Assistant Production Manager, Crossroads Live

Cassie Kris '14, Company Manager, Theatre Lab at FAU, Boca Raton

Brendan Rogers '07, director of the independent films, Flashback and Bubba the Redneck Werewolf

Heidi Howard '99, Artistic director for 7 Stage Theater in Atlanta, GA

Paris Benjamin '99, professional TV/film actress with roles in Extant, Scandal, NCIS, Grey's Anatomy, and Star Trek: Into Darkness

Renee Lawless '99, professional actress playing Midwife and Madame Morrible in the national tour of Wicked (2008-2013), Kathryn Cryer in Tyler Perry's The Haves and Have Nots (2012-2021) on the Oprah Winfrey Network

Jeff Bowen '93, professional actor and Obie award-winning composer of the Broadway musical, [Title of Show]

Michael Yeargan '68, winner of two Tony awards for best scene design

Ramon Delgado '61, **Louis Phillips '60**, and **Mark Kenneally '97**, Playwrights

Ted Cassidy '55, professional actor known best for originating the role of Lurch in The Addams Family television series

Ret Turner '50, winner of 5 Emmy Awards and nominated 23 times for his costume designs from 1971-1997

WANT TO SUPPORT THE STETSON THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM?

Stover Theatre Arts Supporting Cast is a membership group of patrons comprising alumni, parents, students, and neighbors who recognize that financial support is the key to the success of Stetson's Theatre Arts Program. Financial assistance enables the faculty, students and overall program to remain competitive with theatre departments of other universities. This fund is named to honor the legacy of Irving B. Stover, a Stetson theatre arts faculty member for more than 50 years. By all accounts, Dr. Stover was a much-beloved teacher, devoted to the achievement of the theatre program and production season. For more information about making a contribution to this fund, please contact Dr. Nathan Wolek, Chair of the Department of Creative Arts.



Nathan Wolke, Ph.D.

Ken McCoy, Ph.D.

Julie Schmitt, Ph.D.

Krista Franco, M.F.A.

Patrick Pieri, B.A.

Cheryl Orr, B.A.

Laura Glander, B.A.

Creative Arts Department Chair

Professor of Theatre Arts

Professor of Theatre Arts

Associate Professor of Theatre Arts
& Program Coordinator

Technical Director

Costume Designer

Administrative Specialist

STETSON UNIVERSITY

Christopher Roellke, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Skomp, Ph.D.

Kyle Longest, Ph.D.

Washington Garcia, D.M.A.

Yiorgos Bakamitsos, Ph.D.

Katy Webb, M.L.I.S., M.A.

Benjamin Barros, J.D.

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Dean of the School of Music

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