

STAGEBILL®

Out of the Box Theatre Company, Inc.
Bernie Wohl Center at Goddard Riverside Community Center
647 Columbus Ave., New York City, NY



2023-2024
Our 17th Season!

Goddard Riverside
BERNIE WOHL CENTER

Community Arts Program

Nov. 1-5, 2023



THE CONSTANT WIFE

BY W. SOMERSET
MAUGHAM

DIRECTED BY
JEFFERY V. THOMPSON

ABOUT OUT OF THE BOX THEATRE CO.

Out of the Box Theatre Company (OotB) was founded in 2006 by artistic director Scott Robinson. Scott's goal for the group's Equity Showcase productions was to feature working professionals at their peak and in their prime: seasoned actors, directors, and designers primarily past 50 years of age, to provide opportunity and freedom for artists to work outside the restrictions of age, race, sex, and disability and inside the sphere of passion. He also conceived of scoring the plays with live musical performances to enhance the mood and as between-scenes entertainment. Our mission also includes donating a portion of our tickets to local senior centers.

Scott Robinson was diagnosed with cancer in December 2010 and died April 24, 2011. We lovingly dedicate all our performances to his memory and thank our audiences and supporters for helping us keep Scott's vision alive.

Season	Year	Show
1	2007	<i>The Miser</i>
2	2008	<i>Ten Nights in a Bar-room</i>
3	2009	Two Evenings of One-Act Plays: <i>Sorry, Wrong Number; Hello from Bertha</i> <i>Crawling Arnold; Hello Out There</i>
4	2010	<i>Rain</i>
5	2011	<i>Spoon River Anthology</i>
6	2012	<i>45 Seconds from Broadway</i>
7	2013–14	<i>Separate Tables</i> <i>The Hollow Crown</i>
8	2014–15	<i>The Loves of Cass McGuire</i>
9	2015–16	<i>This Train Still Runs</i> (cabaret fundraiser) <i>Deep Are the Roots</i>
10	2016–17	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> radio play (fundraiser) <i>Morning's at Seven</i>
11	2017–18	<i>Waiting in the Wings</i> staged reading (fundraiser) <i>All My Sons</i>
12	2018–19	<i>The Shop Around the Corner</i> staged reading (fundraiser) <i>Harvey</i>
13	2019–20	<i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> radio play (fundraiser)
14	2020–21	<i>Out of the Box Follies</i> online cabaret (fundraiser) <i>The 28 Stairs: A Radio Play Parody</i> (online performance) <i>The Real Inspector Hound</i> (online performance)
15	2021–22	<i>The Exonerated</i> <i>Out of the Box Follies 2</i> (online cabaret fundraiser) <i>The Cemetery Club</i> <i>Five by Tenn: 5 Short Plays by Tennessee Williams</i>
16	2022–23	<i>Chicago—the play</i> <i>Sex</i> (online performance, fundraiser) <i>Fallen Angels</i>
17	2023–24	<i>The Constant Wife</i>

Coming in December 2023

Getting to Know You, an Online Streaming Benefit

Go to www.outoftheboxtheatre.com for more information about our history, mission, and upcoming season!



Out of the Box Theatre Company, Inc. (NYC)

PRESENTS

The Constant Wife

by

W. Somerset Maugham

(Adapted from the original 1926 script)

with

Nick Denning*
Cary Gant
Elizabeth Hayden*

Darrie Lawrence*
Grant Machan*
Roumel Reaux*

Gloria Sauvé*
Vanessa Shaw
Jenny Tucker*

*Equity Member appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association without benefit of an Equity contract in this Off-Off Broadway production.

Scenic Designer
Harlan D. Penn

Costume Designer
Katherine Roberson

Lighting Designer
Stephen Cornelius

Music Director
Cary Gant

Stage Manager
Harrison H Harper

Produced by
Halina Malinowski

Co-Producer
Susan Case

Directed by
Jeffery V. Thompson

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Mrs. Culver	Darrie Lawrence*	
Bentley	Cary Gant	
Martha Culver	Elizabeth Hayden*	
Barbara Fawcett	Gloria Sauv�* <td></td>	
Constance Middleton	Jenny Tucker*	
Marie-Louise Durham	Vanessa Shaw	
John Middleton	Grant Machan*	
Bernard Kersal	Nick Denning*	
Mortimer Durham	Roumel Reaux*	

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

PLACE and TIME: The drawing room of Constance and John Middleton on Park Avenue, New York City, 1926.

ACT I: Afternoon.

ACT II: Two weeks later.

~~15-minute intermission~~

ACT III: One year later, afternoon.



**ACTORS'
EQUITY**
ASSOCIATION 1913

Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with the FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF

Director.....	Jeffery V. Thompson
Producer.....	Halina Malinowski
Co-Producer.....	Susan Case
Scenic Designer.....	Harlan D. Penn
Costume Designer.....	Katherine Roberson
Lighting Designer.....	Stephen Cornelius
Music Director.....	Cary Gant
Stage Manager.....	Harrison H Harper
Properties Manager.....	Sanath Wijeratne
Poster and Program Art Design.....	Bob Johnson
Wardrobe.....	Ziti Timms, Kelly Gilmore
Stage Hands.....	Errol Adams, Malique Dennis

Staff for *The Constant Wife*

Box Office.....	Susan Case, Halina Malinowski
Program Editor.....	Susan Case
Graphic Design/Art Direction.....	Bob Johnson
Publicist.....	Michelle Tabnick Public Relations
Senior Center Liaisons.....	Kelly Gilmore, Gloria Sauv�
Concession.....	Valerie Belzaguy
Ushers.....	Sue Brinnitzer, James Harter, Laurel Lockhart, Ward Nixon, Betsy Ross, Lin Snider

MUSIC CREDITS

Liebstraum No. 3 by Franz Liszt

"Heebee Jeebies" by Boyd Atkins

"I Love, I Love, I Love My Wife, But Oh! You Kid!" Words by Jimmy Lucas, Music by Harry Von Tilzer

"Makin' Whoopee!" (from *Whoopee*) Words by Gus Kahn, Music by Walter Donaldson

"After You've Gone" Lyrics by Henry Creamer, Music by Turner Layton

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WHO'S WHO



Nick Denning*

as Bernard Kersal

Nick is honored to be working again with cast member Cary Gant (*The Tooth of Crime* at La MaMa), and dir. Jeffery Thompson (*Class* at John Jay College). Recent credits: Pennywise in *S#I/T: The Musical* (Parody of Steven King's *IT*). TV: *The Blacklist*, *FBI*, *Power: Book III*, *Law & Order*. Thanks to my parents for always coming to see my shows!



Cary Gant

as Bentley

Cary has performed with and is a member of the Great Jones Rep. Co. of LaMama. Productions include *Oedipus*, *Antigone*, *7 Against Thebes*, *Herakles*, and others. Tours of *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Dreamgirls*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and others. Former Artistic and Musical director of Motown Cafe NYC, Las Vegas, Orlando, and Tokyo. Creon10031@gmail.com



Elizabeth Hayden*

as Martha Culver

Theatre: *Fallen Angels* (OotB); *Evita*; *Cabaret*; *A Chorus Line*; *I Do I Do!* She's sung with orchestras & performed her cabaret act across the country. She spent many years casting & producing film, TV, Off-B'way & Broadway, recently directed Jeff Passero's *Casting Aspersions* in NY, FL, Seattle, Pittsburgh, & LA and will be singing at Urban Stage's *Winter Rhythms* on 12.14.23.



Darrie Lawrence*

as Mrs. Culver

Broadway: *Come Back*, *Little Sheba*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Buried Child*. National Tour: *Doubt*. Off-Broadway: *Tales from Red Vienna*, *The Other Side* (MTC); *Children* (Clurman). Regional: *Age of Innocence* (McCarter); *The Foreigner*, *Lettice & Lovage* (Salt Lake); *Appoggiatura* (Denver); *Retreat from Moscow*, *Three Tall Women* (St. Louis); *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Cincinnati); *Seascape* (Cleveland). Film: *August Rush*, *Kettle of Fish*, *Hitch*, *The Night Before*, *Breath In*. TV: *New Amsterdam*, *Chicago Med*.

WHO'S WHO



Grant Machan*

as *John Middleton*

Grant Machan, AEA/SAG AFTRA, is appearing in his fifth production with Out of the Box. He is an actor, playwright, director, and loves nothing more than singing and strumming a guitar. A member of Polaris North Theatre Co-op for 18 years! (PN is always looking for the theatrically minded people.) He has worked in all media and on stages in 17 states.



Roumel Reaux*

as *Mortimer Durham*

Roumel Reaux has worked on numerous Broadway, Off-Broadway, Regional Theater, and Touring productions including *Bob Fosse's Big Deal*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Radio City Music Hall's Porgy and Bess*, *Crucifer of Blood*, *The Wiz*, *Three Mo' Tenors*, *Church & State*, *Fuerza Bruta*, and *Harry Belafonte in Concert*.



Gloria Sauvé*

as *Barbara Fawcett*

Gloria started in Toronto, Canada. Some credits are Broadway's *Comin' Uptown*, several *Having Our Says*, Bertha in *Hello from Bertha* in OotB's *Five by Tenn* last year. TV: *New Amsterdam*, *NYC 22*, *Damages*, *Nurse Jackie*, several *Law & Orders*, *August the First*, HBO's *The Corner* with Charles Dutton (dir.) & David Simon (won 3 Emmys). Numerous commercials, print modeling, and voice-overs. www.gloriasauve.com



Vanessa Shaw

as *Marie-Louise Durham*

Vanessa has appeared in musicals including *Timbuktu*, *A Little Night Music*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Tin Types*, *Purlie*, and *Teddy and Alice*. She is a writer (*Welcome Home*, *Marian Anderson*; *Eartha and Me*; *Women Who Smoke* series) and actress (*One Life to Live*, *The Crystal*, etc.). She is thrilled to be directed again by Jeffery V. Thompson.



Jenny Tucker*

as *Constance Middleton*

Excited to be working with Out of the Box for a third time! Favorite roles: Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Violet Weston in *August: Osage County*, Mama Rose in *Gypsy*. She is repped by Core Talent in Dallas and open to an agent in NYC. AEA www.jennytucker.net.

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CREW WHO'S WHO

Jeffery V. Thompson (Director) recently directed productions of *Sarah Sings a Love Story* (Crossroads Theatre Co.); *My Harlem, 'Tis Of Thee* (Aaron Davis Hall); *Ice Out: Shackled and Chained* (National Black Theatre); and *Shot: Caught a Soul* (Pulitzer Center). National directing credits include *The King and Me*, starring Emmy award-winner Keith David; *Paul Robeson*, starring Tony award-winner Chuck Cooper; *The Shannequa Chronicles*, starring Stephanie Berry; *Welcome Home, Marian Anderson*, starring Vanessa Shaw; *Gorilla, My Love* (Lincoln Center Institute); *Coriolanus* (Take Wing and Soar); and *The Souls of Black Folks: A Centennial Celebration*, starring Danny Glover, Phylicia Rashad, Geoffrey Wright, Nora Cole, Peter Jay Fernandez, and Keith David. As an actor, Mr. Thompson has appeared in critically acclaimed productions On and Off-Broadway and in regional theaters across the United States. His scripts have been produced on Broadway as well as at theaters in New Jersey; Philadelphia; Washington, DC; Florida; Arkansas; and Ohio.

Halina Malinowski (Producer) *The Constant Wife* is the 13th show that Halina has produced or co-produced for OotB. As president of OotB's board of directors, Halina is responsible for the company's strategic direction, legal compliance, and administrative, managerial, and financial challenges. Her experience includes over 30 years' engagement with and for nonprofits.

Susan Case (Co-Producer) is a founding member of OotB and has served on its board of directors since 2006. She has worked on- or off-stage in various capacities—everything from playing leads to doing laundry to moving sets—for all of the company's productions. A professional actor/singer, she has also performed with VHRP LIVE!, the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players, Light Opera of New York, and Opera Northeast. Off-stage, Susan is a freelance copy editor.

Harlan D. Penn (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) is a proud graduate of Florida A&M University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. The South Florida native has designed for Off-Broadway, Off-Off-Broadway, cable television, regional theater, and educational theater. In addition, Penn has served as an art director and assistant art director for film and television productions for Netflix, Hulu, ABC/Disney, NBC, Hallmark Movie Channel, CBS, and Turner Broadcasting. Film/TV productions include *God Friended Me*, *For Life*, *Girls Seva*, *The Last O.G.*, *Saturday Night Live*, *Raising Kanan*, *FBI Most Wanted*, *Fire Island*, *The Noel Diary*, *Rise, Madame Secretary*, *Katy Keene* and *Roland Martin Unfiltered*. Mr. Penn is currently an assistant professor of Scenic Design at York College in Jamaica, Queens, NY.

Katherine Roberson (Costume Designer) is glad to be back working with Out of the Box Theatre, having been the costumer for OotB's productions of *Chicago*, *Five by Tenn*, *The Cemetery Club*, *The Exonerated*, and *Harvey* and costume consultant on *Fallen Angels*.

Stephen Cornelius (Lighting Designer) has assisted with lighting setups at Goddard Riverside since 2015. This is his fourth show with Out of the Box, having previously designed the lighting for *Fallen Angels*, *Chicago*, and *Five by Tenn*. He has also acted as the Master Electrician for companies including Abingdon Theatre Co., Keen Co., Ma-Yi Theater Co., Prospect Theater Co., Target Margin, Trinity School, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. He currently works as an audio-visual technician at Trinity School.

CREW WHO'S WHO (CONT.)

Harrison H Harper (Stage Manager) is happy to be back working with Out of the Box Theatre Company after previously working on *Fallen Angels* with them back in spring of this year. He hopes you enjoy the show and come back for the next production!

Sanath Wijeratne (Properties Manager) has worked with OotB since 2016. He worked as the properties manager on their productions *Five by Tenn* and *Chicago* (2022). He is a banker by profession and a ballroom dance instructor in New York. He has also worked as the stage manager in one of the *Easter Play* productions (2017) in Staten Island.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Stories about culture wars, feminism, a woman's bodily autonomy, the Equal Rights Amendment, financial empowerment, infidelity, the other woman/side piece, sisterhood and the modern woman certainly are daily news staples.

But we're not talking about the news of 2023.... We are talking about the news headlines of New York City in 1920s!

A period in which the ideas and artistry of the likes of Margaret Sanger and Marcus Garvey, Carl Van Vechten and James Van Der Zee, Bessie Smith and Sophie Tucker, Madam C.J. Walker and Elizabeth Arden were mixing, matching, and making up the exhilarating rhythms of a "new" New York!

Our Out of the Box Theatre Company production of this classic W. Somerset Maugham play invites you to journey back through time...and drop in to the fashionable Park Avenue home of Constance and John Middleton, where the "happy couple" are dealing with consequences that often arise when we learn that "two is company"...but "three"?—well, that's a bit messy, at best!

In a world where everybody has an opinion about what's "best for her," Constance Middleton proves to be more than up to all the challenges that her changing world presents—and doing it with intelligence, wit, style, and with the keen vision of "the New Woman"!

Maugham's comic and engaging characters find themselves where the Victorian Golden Age rubs elbows, and occasionally bumps heads, with the new Jazz Age...where Park Avenue meets Sugar Hill...where laughter is definitely the best medicine...and where, even after one hundred years, "everything new...is old again!"

It's a world that I have really enjoyed revisiting, and I hope you will, too.

—Jeffery V. Thompson, Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Board of Directors and the Out of the Box Theatre Company's production staff gratefully acknowledge the generous efforts of the V.I.P. volunteers who have donated time, manpower, expertise and skill, materials, and equipment to help make our season possible. We express our sincerest appreciation to:

Our volunteer readers, ushers, concession and box office helpers; **Jeffery V. Thompson** and **Halina Malinowski** for the loan of set materials; and **Manon Manavit, Eva Rivas**, and the rest of the staff at the **Bernie Wohl Center at Goddard Riverside Community Center** for their graciousness and help to Out of the Box.

This program is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.



This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.



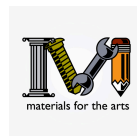
Thanks also for support from the following:

Strengthening NYC Theatres Grant, a program of the Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York

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The Indie Theater Fund NYC



For a complete list of our donors, please go to
outoftheboxtheatre.com/donors

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CURTAIN GOING UP ON OUT OF THE BOX THEATRE COMPANY'S 17TH SEASON!

OUR MISSION IS SPECIAL... LIKE NO OTHER COMPANY IN NYC!

- To feature working professionals at their peak and in their prime: seasoned actors, directors, and designers primarily past 50 years of age;
- To donate complimentary tickets (at least 25% of each performance's seating capacity) to lower-income seniors and/or disabled patrons through various organizations throughout New York City;
- To present new interpretations of period plays and contemporary classics: works written in the last century and earlier;
- To score each production with musical compositions that enhance mood, moment, and mise-en-scène.

OUR PURPOSE IS DIFFERENT... IT SETS US APART FROM ALL THE REST!

- To provide opportunity and freedom for artists to work outside the restrictions of age, race, sexual orientation, and disability and inside the sphere of passion;
- To mix and blend the talents of playwright and composer in a musical

WON'T YOU JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP FAMILY WITH YOUR GENEROUS, TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION?

Donations may be made via GiveButter
by texting **OOTB** to 202-858-1233;
or via PayPal on our website: OutOfTheBoxTheatre.com.

Or mail your check to:

Out of the Box Theatre Co.
c/o H. Malinowski
66 Nancy Court
Staten Island, NY 10306

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*A complete list of our current donors is available on our website
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Celebrating 17 Years of Out of the Box

Online Streaming Benefit

DECEMBER 2023

COMING SOON! | MORE INFO: OUTOFTHEBOXTHEATRE.COM

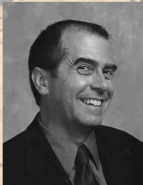
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