



Big Mama's Kitchen By Joseph Frost

Directed by Francine Reynolds

October 8, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Presented in the MS New Play Series as part of
the Eudora Welty New Play Series.

JOSEPH FROST (Playwright) is a playwright, director and actor living in Jackson, Miss., with his wife Shannon, and their children Nina, Darby, Emory, Beau and Violet, and holds an MFA in Script and Screenwriting from Regent University. His one act bio-play *van Gogh* was produced at an exhibit of the artist's work at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Virginia, while his play *Anathema* was given a reading at the inaugural New Works Festival at the Square Top Repertory Theatre in Colorado. Joseph's Mayfair farce trilogy (including *The Mayfair Affair* and *Mayfair, Ma Chère*) will be completed with *The Heir of Mayfair*, currently in development. Eight of his short plays were featured in the Malone College Playwright's Showcase and a set of three short plays, called *The Memory Trilogy*, has been given readings or productions in VA, MS, NC, TN, and New York City. His play, *Oz*, was read at the Art Within Symposium and Showcase in Atlanta, and developed into the independent feature film *Before We Close* by Tribal Cadence/ CineMoments Productions (CA). Joseph has penned several short films, including the Cine Award winning *The Heart of Saturday Night* and *And One for the Organizer* with Yellow Line Entertainment (NY). He has completed the 31 Plays in 31 Days challenge 9 times, for a total of 279 short plays (over 1900 pages of script). Joseph's work in devised theatre has led to the creation of adaptations *Johanne d'Arc*, *Don Quixote*, *Ecclesiastes*, *Ezekiel*, and the original work *the descent/ lifted me*. Joseph's current writing projects include the dramas *Miss* and *Sally & Ed*, and devised projects *Hollow* and *A Crossroads Christmas Carol*. He is a former vice-chair of the Playwriting committee and the coordinator of the Getchell New Play Contest for the Southeastern Theatre Conference, and served on the Playwriting committee for the Mississippi Theatre Association. Joseph is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, and is the artistic director of the floodlight theatre company.

SARAH COLEMAN (Bethany) is a recent graduate from Radford University where she earned a B.S. in theatre performance. She was last seen on the main stage in *Hell in High Water* (Petulia), *A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas* (Belle/Fred's Wife), and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Margot Frank). Favorite past performances include: *Heathers: The Musical* (Heather Duke/Dance Captain), *Oklahoma!* (Laurey Williams), *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeney), and *Crimes of the Heart* (Meg Magrath). Coleman just completed an apprenticeship here at New Stage where she toured to

local schools as Pinocchio in *Pinocchio!* and Joan Trumpauer in *If Not Us, Then Who?* From here she'll be moving to Richmond, Va. to be in Virginia Repertory Theatre's national tours of *Hansel and Gretel* and *A Christmas Carol*. She'd like to thank her family for the endless support, Marley Neville, Megan Ward and Dana Grindstaff for being the bomb, and her dog Jax for supplying endless happiness.

MICHAEL KINSLOW (Jasper) is from the big city of Edwards, Miss. He was last seen in the New Stage Unframed Series production of Robert Schenkkan's *Building the Wall*. Kinslow is glad to be back in Jackson performing on the main stage after a run of David Lindsey-Abair's *Ripcord* for Playhouse on the Square in Memphis, Tenn. His most recognized performances were as Rocky in *The Rocky Horror Show* and Eddie in Sam Shepherd's *Fool for Love*, both produced by Fondren Theatre Workshop in Jackson. Kinslow has also performed for New Stage Theatre as Doc Porter in Beth Henley's award winning play, *Crimes of the Heart* and Pete Willard in *A Time To Kill*. Kinslow would like to give a huge thanks to John Maxwell for giving him his first professional theatre job with his Fishtale Group's production of *The Laramie Project*.

EVAN MCCARLEY (Albert) previously appeared in *Into the Breeches*, *Silent Sky*, and *Shakespeare in Love*, as well as last season's *Unframed Series* productions of *Gloria* and *Sylvia*. Other notable roles include John Oldman in Fondren Theatre Workshop's production of *The Man From Earth* and Playhouse on the Square's world premiere of *Byhalia, Mississippi*.

MANDY KATE MYERS (Cath) is thrilled to be back with New Stage Theatre! Some of her New Stage credits include Babette in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*, Mrs. Darling in *Peter Pan*, Mama Bear in *Shrek the Musical*, Cindy Lou in *The Marvelous Wonderettes* and *It Ain't Nothin' But the Blues*. Other favorite roles include Kate Monster in *Avenue Q*, Kate Keller in *All My Sons*, Latrelle in *Sordid Lives*, CB's Sister in *Dog Sees God*, Amy in *Company*, and Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*. Myers also recently appeared in *54/54/54* at Feinstein's/54 Below in New York. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Myers serves on the Board of Directors for both Fondren Theatre Workshop and Cheshire Abbey canine rescue, and also works as Workshops and Talent Coordinator for BroadwayCon in New York.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Clara Seitz (Stage Manager), Alberto Meza, Jr. (Video/Zoom Technician),
Bronwyn Teague (Production Manager), Shannon Frost (Technical Assistant)