

James River THEATRE
COMPANY™

JANE AUSTEN'S

Sense & Sensibility

Written by Kate Hamill,
based on the novel by Jane Austen



JANE AUSTEN'S

Sense & Sensibility

Written by Kate Hamill,
based on the novel by Jane Austen

Starring

Greg Aldrich Dennis Hartman Bayley Crisp
Melissa Knapp Allie-Grace McNutt
Cynthia Phillips Daron McNutt
Stephanie Howieson Will Cloud
Ainsley Lederfind Morrissa Mae Scott

Director

Stage Manager

Costume Designer

Jonathan Brennan Lauren Gabler

Keighly Dawn

Yarboro

Props Master

Assistant Stage Manager

Box Office

John Wuest

Kiera Phillips

Peter Nickolas

Note From the Director

There is so much I could say in regards to how Jane Austen's *Sense & Sensibility* relates to my personal philosophy on life that the most daunting part of composing this note was deciding where to start.

My passion for this story is perhaps unusual, as I would not consider myself to be one of Austen's super-fans – she is beyond talented, no doubt, and her genre-defining works are incredible pieces of art, but I am not usually drawn to the Regency-era romances for which she is known and adored. The difference here, I believe, is that *Sense & Sensibility* is not, at its core, a Regency-era romance; the love stories between Miss Elinor Dashwood and Mr. Edward Ferrars and between Miss Marianne Dashwood, Mr. John Willoughby, and Colonel Brandon are decidedly secondary to the relationship between Elinor and Marianne as sisters.

This sisterly relationship embodies what I love most about theatre and the arts: the opportunity to observe and learn from the worldview of people different from ourselves. Elinor and Marianne could not be more different in how they behave or what they believe, but their great love for one another drives them to try and understand how the other sees the world. It is through these efforts that they are able to learn and grow into mature, well-rounded heroines – and it is only when Elinor has learned to trust in her emotions, and Marianne to approach things with a logical mind, that they are able to find their destined love stories.

I have made an effort to guide my wonderfully talented cast and crew into creating a colorful edition of this classic tale; one that highlights the bright and sometimes zany cast of characters Ms. Austen has so graciously crafted for us as well as indicates the complexity of the world around us and the shades that lie between black and white. I could not be prouder of the result. I hope you enjoy observing their work as much as I enjoyed shaping it.

Jonathan Brennan
Director
James River Theatre Company



ALLEGRO

MUSIC SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC EDUCATION



Allegro Music School is dedicated to offering high quality music instruction on multiple instruments to students of all ages in the Lynchburg area.

CONTACT US

Tel: 434-841-7374

highpeak3@gmail.com

JRTC'S FINAL BOW

To our wonderful and supportive JRTC Family:

We wanted to drop a personal note letting you all know the big news and what to expect in the future from JRTC.

I (Maggie) have recently accepted a new job in Maryland and will be using the next month to move and transition there full time. When I approached Christina about this change she took time to weigh all the options, personal and professional. We are both in agreement that it is best to close JRTC's door after *Sense & Sensibility*. Because of this we are canceling the remainder of Season 3 and any future projects. It wasn't an easy choice to close JRTC's doors; this company is something we've built from the ground up and have made lifelong friendships and connections that have changed both Christina and myself for the better. Our goal when we started JRTC was to bring excellence in classical theatre to the Lynchburg community and I believe we have done that. I want to thank each and every one of you for all you have done for this company and for this season. The amount of love and support we've experienced through JRTC is priceless. We hope you have enjoyed the ride as much as we have and that you came away from our shows with a new appreciation for your local artists- we truly could not have made the excellent art we were privileged to present to you without them. Every crew member and actor brought something new and essential to our productions and we are ever thankful that they chose to share their gifts with us.

We hope you enjoy *Sense & Sensibility* and that you remember our shows with the same fondness that we will- it's been a great three years!

Love, Maggie & Christina

Serving Lynchburg & Surrounding
Areas Since 2022



919-648-6357



cardinaltitleservice@gmail.com

CAST

Elinor Allie-Grace McNutt

Marianne Bayley Crisp

Edward/Robert Dennis Hartman

Col. Brandon Greg Aldrich

Willoughby Daron McNutt

Mrs. Jennings Stephanie Howieson

Mrs. Dashwood/Mrs. Ferrars Cindy Phillips

John Dashwood/Sir John/Gossip Will Cloud

Fanny/Lady Middleton/Gossip Morrissa Mae Scott

Lucy/Margaret/Gossip Melissa Knapp

Anne/Gossip Ainsley Lederfind

There will be fifteen minute intermission between Acts II and III

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.

V1848

Venue 1848 is your premiere destination for intimate weddings, small family gatherings, or corporate events.



434-664-2279



venue1848@churchmain.com

— Production Team —

Director.....Jonathan Brennan

ProducerMaggie Quick

Stage Manager.....Lauren Gabler

Assistant Stage ManagerKiera Phillips

Props Master.....John Wuest

Costume Designer.....Keighley Dawn Yarboro

Box Office Manager.....Peter Nickolas

Who's Who



Dennis Hartman

Dennis graduated in May of 2021 from Liberty University where he received a BFA in Musical Theatre. Since graduation, he has begun his travels across the East Coast, appearing in productions such as *Newsies*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *The Polar Express*. He is excited to join James River in their first Rep Season! He is incredibly thankful for the opportunity to use his gifts and do what he loves for the glory of God. Psalm 91:14 “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.”



Gregory Aldrich

Greg Aldrich is a theatre artist that hails from Fairbanks, AK and holds an MFA in Playwriting from Ohio University. Favorite acting credits include: Juror #8 in *Twelve Angry Men*, Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot*, Yepikodov in *The Cherry Orchard*, and Cassio in *Othello*. He is a transplant to Lynchburg and was most recently seen in James River Theatre Company's *Hamlet* and Renaissance Theatre's production of *Over the River and Through the Woods*.



Allie-Grace McNutt

Allie-Grace is an actress in Central Virginia with a BFA in Acting from Liberty University. She made her professional debut as Adriana in *Comedy of Errors*, and is excited to appear in the rest of the 2022-2023 season at James River. Originally from Denver, Colorado, Allie-Grace has found a love for the Blue Ridge Mountains. If not on stage, you will find her rock climbing, playing Dungeons & Dragons, or practicing her latte art. She is working on a local Broadway review to support YoungLife in Africa and the Middle East called Broadway to Africa. Allie-Grace is so thankful for the opportunity to perform along side these talented individuals and wants to thank her family, friends, and husband for their unwavering support.

Who's Who



Bayley Crisp

This is Bayley's third (and favorite) show with James River Theatre Company. She has also appeared in JRTC's productions of *Comedy of Errors* and *Hamlet*, and most recently she worked as the house manager and child director of *The Christmas Carol Experience* with Brian Clowdus Experiences. Apart from performing, Bayley keeps herself busy with movies, planning her wedding, and her cats. All her love and thanks to her family, friends, and wonderful fiancé Joshua, and all the glory to the Lord!



Melissa Knapp

Melissa Knapp is a professional actor based in the Lynchburg area, originally from Alexandria, Virginia. She is excited to join James River Theatre Company for her fifth show with the company. Her previous credits include Dromio of Syracuse in *The Comedy of Errors* and Cecily Cardew in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Melissa plans to continue pursuing a career in theatre as an actor but has also enjoyed working as a playwright, composer, costumer, and dramaturg. She is thankful for the opportunity to create theatre with such a talented cast and crew, as well as audiences like you who continue to support the arts!



Daron McNutt

As a performer, Daron had the privilege of bringing the character of Mr. Warbucks to life in the beloved production of *Annie*. His passion for the theatrical arts extends beyond acting, as he has honed his skills as a choreographer since high school. Now, he is thrilled to be a part of the thriving theatre community in Lynchburg and making his official debut with James River Theatre Company. He is grateful for the opportunities he has had in his career and gives all the glory to God.

Who's Who



Stephanie Howieson

Stephanie Howieson is an actor, director, and playwright. She holds an MFA in Shakespeare and Performance from Mary Baldwin University in association with the American Shakespeare Center. Originally from Ohio, she lives in Lynchburg with her husband Mark and their cat Shiloh, who is the boss of them.



Will Cloud

Will is excited to return to the Lynchburg theater scene with his debut JRTC production. He has been performing, writing, and directing for over a decade, with some previous credits including *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Parade*, *And Then There Were None*, and the Filipino opera *Noli Me Tangere*. He is very excited to step into more comedic shoes and share this funny, goofy, heartwarming story with you all!



Cynthia Phillips

Cynthia has been in several productions in Lynchburg over the past several years, the latest being JRTC's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She has enjoyed working with this company and this great cast!

Who's Who



Morissa Mae Scott

A JRTC veteran, Morrissa is delighted to be returning to the stage with James River for their final show. An Upstate New York native and local actor, she studied theatre performance at Liberty University, Iris Los Angeles and TALA in Los, Angles, CA. Apart of JRTC's Repertory Company, she most recently she appeared in *The Comedy of Errors*, most notably as the "Courtezan." She is elated to bring *Sense and Sensibility* to the stage, and grateful to her family and friends for their love and support.



Ainsley Lederfind

Ainsley Lederfind is a professional actress from North Carolina. She recently graduated from Liberty University with her BFA in Acting and a minor in Vocal Performance. Some of her favorite roles have been ensemble in *Parade* (Alluvion Stage Company), Winona in *To Sail Away* (an original work by Ryan Hippe), Nellie in *Decipher* (an original work by the 2020 Liberty Writing Project), and Naomi Miller in *Sugar Please With A Lump of Coal* (an original work by Matthew Boardwine). When she's not on stage you can find her practicing opera or working on her 1977 Scout II with her dad! She is grateful for her family's constant support and love, and to her Lord who has brought her this far.



LAW OFFICES
JESTER & JESTER

1022 COURT STREET
COURT STREET AT ELEVENTH
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24504

**Serving Lynchburg &
Surrounding Counties
since 1908**

Royston Jester, IV

Family owned and operated since 1908, Jester & Jester has been passed down from father to son bringing excellent service and high quality lawyering to the community of Lynchburg City and the surrounding areas. With customer friendly service, attention to detail, and thorough in-house title work, Jester & Jester assures your real estate experience will be a pleasant one!



434-528-5858



realestate@jesterandjester.com

Who's Who



Jonathan Brennan

Jonathan Brennan is a director, playwright, and stage manager located in Lynchburg, Virginia. Some of the many hats he has worn in the theater include Turntable Operator for Alluvion Stage Company's *Parade*, Stage Manager for Liberty University's *The Darkest Evening*, and writer of Liberty University's lab production, *Mary & Martha*. After this show, he will be jumping straight into the role of Assistant Stage Manager for Alluvion Stage Company's upcoming production of *The Music Man*, while *One West Main*, for which he served on the writing team, will be workshopped at Liberty University for a full premiere in Spring 2024. When he is not working behind the stage, he can be found working as a Course Editor for Liberty University, taking walks, or beating his friends in Mario Kart.



Kiera Phillips

Kiera Phillips is a 22 year old originally from Virginia Beach, VA. When she isn't stage managing, she enjoys reading, singing, and spending time with friends. Keira is so excited to be on the crew rep with James River Theatre for this year! She would like to thank her family, friends, and everyone who made this show possible.



Peter Nickolas

Peter has been a part of Lynchburg community theatre since 2017 when he was Assistant Stage Manager for *1776* at Poplar Forest. Peter has since found an immense love for outdoor theatre, especially when it involves Shakespeare. He has appeared as Stage Manager for many shows including *Love's Labour's Lost* and *Twelfth Night*, which also opened at Poplar Forest. Peter has also Stage Managed for musicals including *Heathers* and *Fountain of You*, both of which he was a part of while attending Sweet Briar College.

Who's Who



Keighley Dawn Yarboro

Keighley Dawn is a recent graduate of Liberty University where she received a B.S. in Theatre Arts. Since graduation Keighley Dawn has worked as a wardrobe technician on shows like *Cinderella*, *Legally Blonde*, *Brigadoon*, *Addams Family*, *Comedy of Errors*, and *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. She is so excited to be back in Lynchburg with James River. Thank you to my friends and family for their constant support of this wild career.

Psalm 16:8-9a "I have set the Lord always before me; because He is my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad."



Lauren Gabler

Lauren is a recent graduate of Liberty University with a B.S. Theatre Arts. During her time in college, she studied many different areas in theatre. Her most recent collegiate experience includes assistant stage managing *Crazy For You*, assistant directing *Measure for Measure*, and acting in the student written and directed works (2022). Her favorite show was directing *Mary and Martha* in the student directed works in fall of 2020. This is her third show with JRTC, most recently working as Box Office Manager for *Comedy of Errors*.

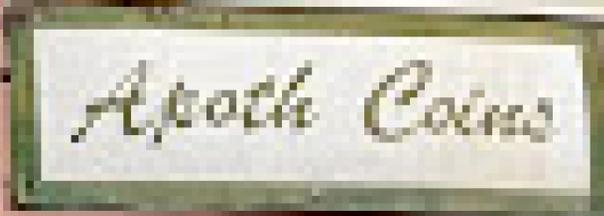


John Wuest

John Wuest is a current Sophomore studying Theatre Arts at Liberty University. He is excited to be a part of Sense of Sensibility with James River Theatre Company. His recent productions have been cast and crew on *You Can't Take it With You*, Run Crew on *The 39 Steps*, and Properties Master on *42nd Street*. He will also be working as an Assistant Stage Manager, for Alluvian Stage Company's production of *The Music Man* in April. In his free time, of which he has very little John likes to spend time with friends, read books, watch movies, bake, and share the love of Christ with others.



Scarlett's
Main St. Gallery
ANTIQUQUE MALL



Apoth Coins



OPEN



1026

1026 Main St, Lynchburg, VA 24504
(434) 528-0488



OPEN

Special Thanks To Our Venues

Allegro School of Music

Venue 1848

Please locate your nearest emergency exit.

Please turn off all cell phones and
electronic devices during the performance.

Thank you for your cooperation!