# Eating Crow



WRITTEN BY EUGENE LABICHE ADAPTED BY JAMES MAGRUDER DIRECTED BY JEF JOHNSON

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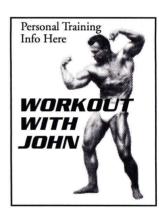
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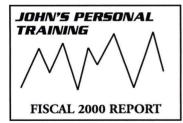
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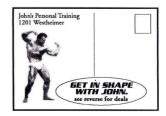
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Rebecca Greene Udden FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Julie Morin Managing Director

# EATING CROW

by

Eugene Labiche Adapted by James Magruder

Directed by Jef Johnson

featuring

Thomas Baird\*

**Bob Boudreaux** 

Fritz Dickmann

Jason Douglas\*

Ralph Ehntholt

Robert Leeds

Meghann Mason

Sarah Prikryl

Patrick Reynolds

Santry Rush

Sara Simmonds

Weston Webb

Quinn Wiseman

Costume Design
Margaret Monostory

Lighting Design
John Smetak

Properties Design Jodi Bobrovsky Scenic Design Mims Mattair

Sound Design
Janel Badrina\*

Stage Manager
Janel Badrina\*

Main Street Theater in the Village 2540 Times Boulevard

This production is funded in part by a grant from the City of Houston and the Texas Commission on the Arts through the Cultural Arts Council and by grants from the George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, Wortham Foundation, The Kathryn Murfee Endowment, Anchorage Foundation, Linda and Ken Lay Family Foundation, Simmons Foundation, Lillian Kaiser Lewis Foundation, Marian and Speros Martel Foundation, The Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts, and The Scurlock Foundation.

## THE CAST

de Criqueville	
Catiche	Sara Simmonds
General Renaudier	Thomas Baird*
Pagevin/Kerkadec	Robert Leeds
Emerance/Cakeseller	Meghann Mason
de Flavigny	Fritz Dickmann
Waiter	Weston Webb
Bartavelle	Bob Boudreaux
Montdouillard	
Madame Darbel	Sarah Prikryl
Arthur/Porter	Quinn Wiseman
English Man/de Saint-Putois	Ralph Ehntholt

Act One - Seine by the Pont Neuf

Act Two - Drawing Room of Pagevin the tailor

Act Three - Boulevard in front of the Cafe de Paris

Act Four - The next day. An office antechamber

Act Five - Drawing room at Madame Darbel's

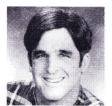
## There will be one 15 minute Intermission

Any use of camera or recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please turn off pagers, cell-phones and watches as a courtesy to other patrons and to the actors.

\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

www.mainstreettheater.com

# THE CAST



Thomas Baird



Bob Boudreaux



Fritz Dickmann



Jason Douglas



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Meghann Mason



Sarah Prikryl



Patrick Reynolds



Santry Rush



Sara Simmonds



Weston Webb



Quinn Wiseman

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

Jef Johnson (Director) has worked at MST as a director for The Reluctant Dragon, Alexander...Very Bad Day and If You Give A Pig A Pancake; a scenic designer in If You Give A Pig a Pancake, That Was Then, This Is Now, Many Moons and Defying Gravity; and actor in The Wave, Much Ado About Nothing, The Chemistry of Change, Defying Gravity, Oh, Kay!, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, The Outsiders, If You Give a Moose a Muffin, A Wrinkle in Time and The Wind in the Willows. Elsewhere he has appeared with Stages, Early Stages, Houston Shakespeare Festival in The Merry Wives of Windsor, Twelfth Night and The Taming of the Shrew and The Children's Theatre Festival in The Ugly Duckling, Pinocchio, Winnie the Pooh and The Emperor's New Clothes. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Thomas Baird\*** (General Renaudier) most recently directed *The Wave* for MST Youth Theater. He has appeared at MST in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *The Voysey Inheritance, Deep Down, Defying Gravity* and *The Trust*. Elsewhere, he has appeared at Stages Repertory Theatre in *Serenading Louie* and *Joe Egg*, the Houston Shaw Festival in *The Devil's Disciple* and *Playboy of the Western World* and Houston Repertory Theater in *The Night Hank Williams Died*. After a season of rotating repertory at Kentucky's Horse Cave Theater, Mr. Baird appeared in *Private Lives* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at Atlanta's Theatre in the Square in 1997.

**Bob Boudreaux** (Bartavelle) is making his MST debut. For the past 22 years he has been with KTRK-TV Channel 13. Mr. Boudreaux has spent 11 years with the Houston Shakespeare Festival and some of his favorite roles include the Captain in *Twelfth Night*, Murderer in *MacBeth* and Gratiano in *Othello*. He also portrayed Chick Royal in *Chili Queen* and the Narrator in *Side by Side by Sondheim* both at Stages Repertory Theatre.

Fritz Dickmann (de Flavigny) has previously been seen at MST as Kurt Muller in Watch on the Rhine, Thomas Carruthers in The Actresses, as well as directed two Youth Theater shows. He has also appeared as Falstaff in The Merry Wives of Windsor and Cassio in Othello both at the Houston Shakespeare Festival. Mr. Dickmann has appeared at the Alley Theatre, Express Theatre and Chocolate Bayou. He recently completed the independent film Twinkle Twinkle.

Jason Douglas\* (de Criqueville) was most recently seen as Jim Gianniani in MST's Full Bloom. Other MST credits include Henry Tilney in Northanger Abbey and Roderigo in Othello. Other recent theater: Stages Repertory Theatre in The Turn of the Screw and The Douglas Mitchell Play Festival, Alley Theatre in A Comedy of Errors, A Christmas Carol, Lemonade, Antony and Cleopatra, Julius Caesar and A Streetcar Named Desire, Houston Shakespeare Festival in Othello, Taming of the Shrew, Merry Wives of Windsor and Hamlet, Theatre Under the Stars in Zorro, the Musical, Infernal Bridegroom Productions in Camino Real and Rhinoceros and New Heights Theatre Compleat Wks of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged).

Ralph Ehntholt (English Man/de Saint-Putois) was last seen at MST as Duncan in *MacBeth*. He was most recently seen as Doctor Emmett in *The Curious Savage* at A.D. Players. Mr. Ehntholt has spent five seasons with the Houston Shakespeare Festival in such roles as Gremio in *Taming of the Shrew*, Gonzalo in *The Tempest* and Aegeon in *Comedy of Errors*. He has appeared in several commercials and industrials and two independent films, including *The Trust*, which was a MST hit.

Robert Leeds (Pagevin/Kerkadec) was most recently seen as Charley Johnson in MST's Lady in the Dark. Among his many other MST credits include Accidental Death of an Anarchist, MacBeth, The Witlings and The Mask of Moriarty. Elsewhere, he has appeared with the Houston Shakespeare Festival in Othello, Merry Wives of Windsor and Comedy of Errors, Stages Repertory Theater in The Dying Gaul, The Turn of the Screw and Mirandolina, Houston Grand Opera in Carmen and The Mikado, Texas Opera Theater in The Fantasticks. His television commercials include a feature role for Randall's and an international role for Kellogg's.

Meghann Mason (Emerance/Cakeseller) is making her MST debut. Ms. Mason was most recently seen in the University of Houston's *The Three Sisters* as Irina, *Who Will Carry the Word?* as Yvonne and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* as Lala. Ms. Mason just completed her first independent film *Wish 4* with Sojourner Entertainment.

Sarah Prikryl (Madame Darbel) is pleased to be returning to MST. Her previous credits include Midsummer Night's Dream, Little Women, Little House Christmas, That was Then, This is Now, Wind in the Willows, Many Moons and Ramona Quinby. She has also appeared at the Alley in Midsummer's Night Dream, Stages in Toys Take Over Christmas, University of St. Thomas in All My Sons, All in the Timing and Lady be Good and College of the Mainland in Anything Goes. Ms. Prikryl holds a B.A. in Drama and Communication from the University of St. Thomas. She will be appearing this fall in A Piece of My Heart at the Heinen.

Patrick Reynolds (Antoine) has appeared in MST's productions of *The Wave, The Reluctant Dragon, Much Ado About Nothing, Miss Nelson is Missing, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Little Women* and *The Outsiders*, and stage-managed the 1999 Main Stage revival of *The Trust.* Elsewhere, he has appeared in the Atomic Cafe's productions of *This is Our Youth* and *Sincerity Forever*, Infernal Bridegroom Productions in *Tamalalia 5*, and Actor's Theatre in *MacBeth* and *Sin.* Mr. Reynolds is a graduate of the University of Houston.

Santry Rush (Montdouillard) is pleased to return to MST having completed the role of Peachy Weil in the well-received *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Mr. Rush appeared as the title role in *The Tale of Young Goodman Brown*, an original musical which he also composed for the Stuart Ostrow Musical Theatre Lab. He has also appeared as Darren in *Abigail and Athony* at the Alley Theatre, Malcom in *MacBeth* for Stone Soup Productions, Mikey in *Shear Madness* at The Great Caruso and Gentleman Caller in *The Glass Menagerie* at the University of Houston. Mr. Rush holds a B.A. in Acting from the University of Houston.

Main Street Theater would like to thank

Tony Barilla

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Sara Simmonds (Catiche) is pleased to return to MST having just completed the role of Phoebe in Full Bloom. A few of her past credits include Teddy in The Debutante Ball, Felicity in Habaes Corpus, Joyce in Saturday Night in Uncertain and Saloon Girl in Wild Oats all at Actors Theatre of Houston and Ophelia in Hamlet with Stone Soup Productions. Ms. Simmonds has appeared in several industrials, films and commercials. She is currently doing children's theater and is working on an independent film project.

Weston Webb (Waiter) has worked at MST in *The Wave, The Reluctant Dragon, Much Ado About Nothing, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Number the Stars* and *Alexander and Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.* Elsewhere he has appeared with Actor's Theatre in *Wild Oats*, Theater LaB in *Lana Verner, Lana Verner*, Ensemble Theater in *Roll of Thunder* and *Noodle Doodle Box*, Stone Soup Productions in *Hamlet* and Express Theater in *United League of Animals*. Mr. Webb has trained with Brandon Smith and Chris Wilson.

**Quinn Wiseman** (Porter/Arthur) has previously performed at MST in *The Wave, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Many Moons* and *Number of the Stars*. Elsewhere, he has appeared with Unity Theatre in *The Dining Room*, Actors Theatre of Houston in *Sin* and *Once Upon a Wolf*, A. D. Players in *The Winslow Boy*, Houston Shakespeare Festival in *Othello*, Albee Workshop in *The Playground* and Texas Tech University in *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Night Sky* and *Turandot*.

Janel J. Badrina\* (Stage Manager/Sound Design) is pleased to be returning to MST having stage managed Full Bloom and The Last Night of Ballyhoo and Assistant Directed for A Midsummer Night's Dream. She was the Stage Manager for the tour of Heaven's Child, Houston Children's Theatre Festival 2000, University of Houston's Threepenny Opera, Skin of Our Teeth and Albee New Playwrights Workshop, TheaterLaB's Catholic School Girls and Assistant Director for The Last Night of Ballyhoo at the University of Houston.

Leslie A. Kemmerer (Assistant Stage Manger) is pleased to be returning to MST having just completed assistant stage manager, properties and board operator for Full Bloom. Other MST credits include assistant stage manager and board operator in The Countess and running crew for The Last Night of Ballyhoo. A few of her other credits include lighting operator for Faithful and stage manager for MacBeth at Actors Theatre of Houston, stage manager for Hello Dolly and Miss Maudie in To Kill A Mockingbird at Tomball College, Olga in Three Sisters and Dame Ellen Terry in The Actor's Nightmare at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Margaret Monostory (Costume Design) is pleased to return to MST have previously costume designed *The Countess, MacBeth, The Witlings, An Ideal Husband* and *The Reluctant Dragon*. Ms. Monostory has also designed for The Ensemble's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Distant Voices*, TheaterLaB's *Avenue X*, Stages Repertory Theatre *Kindertransport* and *Carpool*, Houston Shakespeare Festival *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Two Gentleman of Verona*, Houston Children's Festival *Winnie the Pooh* and The Strand *A Midsummer's Night Dream* and *Sherlock's Last Case*.

John Smetak (Lighting Design) is pleased to be returning to design lights for MST having just completed *The Wave*. Previously, he designed lights for The Little Room Downstairs' *Misery* and was the scenic and lighting designer for the University of Houston's *Who Will Carry the Word?* He was also the assistant lighting designer for *All My Sons*, a co-production between the Alley Theatre and University of Houston.

About the Playwright: Eugene Labiche (1815-1888) was a comic playwright who wrote many of the most popular and amusing light comedies of the 19th-century French stage. Born into the bourgeois class that was to provide him with the social setting for most of his works, Labiche read for the bar and then briefly worked as a journalist before turning to writing fiction. Labiche produced a long series of hilarious full-length and one-act plays that were presented mostly at the Palais-Royal, the home of light comedy. Typically, the plays are based on an improbable incident evolving into an embarrassing situation that brings out the folly and frailty of the characters. When his plays were first presented, the exaggerated and slapstick style often obscured the delightfully precise delineations of character. Though full of dramatic devices, Labiche's plays nonetheless show real insight into human nature and raised the lowly farce to a much higher level of literary accomplishment. He was elected to the French Academy during his retirement.

**About the Translator:** James Magruder is the resident Associate Dramaturg at CenterStage in Baltimore. Mr. Magruder holds two master's degrees and a doctorate from Yale. His adaptation of Marivaux's *The Triumph of Love* was honored as an Outstanding Translation of the Year 1997 by the Society of American Literary Translators and later turned into a Broadway musical.

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Jodi Bobrovsky (Props Master) is pleased to return to MST having designed set and properties for *Happily Everafter* and she was the Resident Designer for MST Youth Theater (97-98) designing such shows as *Ramona Quinby, Feet, Tuck Everlasting* and *Bunnicula*. Ms. Bobrovsky has worked as the Resident Properties Master at Stages Repertory Theatre and designed set and properties for *Anton in Show Business, Romeo and Juliet* and *Noonie's Masterpiece in Purple*. She has also worked at Infernal Bridegroom Productions designing costumes and props for *Tamalalia 4 & 5* and costume design for *King UBU is King*.

Mims Mattair (Scenic Design) has designed MST's productions of *The Countess, Night Must Fall, The Voysey Inheritance, Number the Stars, A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Deep Down.* Locally, he served as the Head Scenic Artist for the Houston Shakespeare Festival and the Children's Theatre Festival (1997-2000) designing the sets for *The Ugly Duckling* and *The Little Mermaid.* He also designed the University of Houston's Main Stage production of *Master Harold...and the Boys,* the Moores Opera Center's *Into the Woods* and the premier of the highly acclaimed dance piece, *Perhaps By Tomorrow.* He will be spending his summer as Scenic Artist for the Santa Fe Opera.

Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages, and provides a much-needed showcase for Houston theater professionals. Main Street Theater is a constituent member of Theater Communications Group, the national organization of professional not-for-profit theaters and produces under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

Actors' Equity Association was founded in 1913 to protect actors from the severe mistreatment that permeated the industry at the time. Equity has had only twelve presidents. The current president is Tony Award winner Ron Silver. The 39,000-member association consists of distinguished stars and other professional actors and stage managers who work nationwide, from New York's Broadway to Los Angeles, from Minneapolis to Miami Beach, in regional, stock, and dinner theater, and in theaters for young audiences which build the audiences of tomorrow. These actors and stage managers are committed to working in the theater as a profession, not an avocation, and bring to you the finest professional training and experience. By presenting Equity productions, this theater offers you, our audience, the best entertainment presented by the finest quality actors and stage managers that your admission dollars can buy.

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### **BOX OFFICE CHANGES**

Please remember that our advance sale box office is now located at our Chelsea Market location. When you telephone for reservations, your order is handled at the Montrose theater. We bring your tickets over to Times Boulevard one hour before the performance, but if you want to pick them up early, or if you want to purchase tickets in person, please go to 4617 Montrose, Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 AM to 5 PM. You'll find the parking much easier!