

 **EVOLUTION**
theatre company
Opening Eyes • Touching Hearts • Changing Minds



VAMPIRE

**LESBIANS
OF SODOM**

by Charles Busch

 **EVOLUTION**
theatre company
at

MACLAB

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21**

JUNE 17 - 26

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Vampire Lesbians of Sodom

A play in one act
by Charles Busch

Directed by Jeb Bigelow



Managing Artistic Director
Mark Phillips Schwamberger

CAST

Ali/P.J......Cody Schmid
Hujar/Zack.....Derek Gulley
The Virgin/Madeleine Astarte.....Mark Phillips
The Succubus/La CondesaBritt Kline
Etienne/Danny.....Michael Ruehrmund
King Carlisle.....Scott Douglas Wilson
Renee Vein/Tracy.....Baylee Sheets
Oatsie Carewe.....Ashley Woodard

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....Jeb Bigelow
Producer.....Mark Phillips Schwamberger
Assistant Director.....Katey Munger
Choreographer.....Rose Babington
Stage Manager.....Sue Rapier
Lighting Designer.....Kurt Mueller
Costume Design.....Dayton Edward Willison
Scenic Designer.....Katherine Wexler
Set Construction.....Michael Bynes
Wigs.....D.C. Simpson

A word from the director...



Jeb Bigelow

“Cause you gotta have friends...” - Bette Midler

As outrageous and spectacular and dramatic as life's moments can be, friends are there through it all. The long term friends made through life are a constant and often a comfort and occasionally a challenge.

Charles Busch says the main theme of *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* is the friendships that last a lifetime. You may not need to check in with each other every day, but you always have that friend to call on when in need. It is truly lovely to be needed.

Here's to reconnecting with those friends. Or to celebrating the friends you're here with tonight. Or to cherishing the friends you see performing before you.

I'm lucky to call these talents working on this production my friends and I'm thrilled to introduce you to them.

Jeb

The Cast...

Cody Schmid as Ali/P.J. has been acting since a wee lad. Throughout the years he has acted professionally and taught workshops. He was last seen in the Short North Stage production, Saturday Night Fever. Credits: Spamalot (Columbus Immersive Theatre) Columbus Zoo's ZooClue, No Holds Bard!: William Shakespeare's Fight Night 2 (Actors' Theatre of Columbus), Tarzan the Musical (Westerville Civic Theatre)

Derek CJ Gulley as Hujar/Zack is grateful to make his ETC debut! Recent credits include Short North Stage productions of Saturday Night Fever (Frank Manero Jr.) and Rocky Horror (Eddie/Dr. Scott). A graduate of the Conservatory of Music at Capital University, Derek also received training as an apprentice at The Barn Theatre (MI) following the footsteps of "Famous Barnies" Jennifer Garner, Jonathan Larson, and Marin Mazzie, to name a few. Favorite credits include Hairspray (Fender) featuring Robert Newman from TV's Guiding Light, and Bonnie & Clyde(Buck). Derek would like to give thanks to Jeb, Mark, and the ETC family for this opportunity, and to the entire cast and crew of Vampire Lesbians for a hilarious and motivating experience!

Mark Phillips as The Virgin/Madeleine Astarte

Mark Phillips is an actor, that is all.

Britt Kline as The Succubus/La Condesa This is Britt's first show with Evolution, having spent the last several years performing with the Columbus Civic Theater. Some of her favorite roles include Constance Contantia in Drama at Inish, Blanche DuBois in A Streetcar Named Desire, Mary Tyrone in Long Day's Journey Into Night and Charlotte Wallace in Beyond Therapy.

Michael Ruehrmund as Etienne/Danny is thrilled to make his Evolution debut and work with this incredible company of artists. You may have seen Michael in productions with Weathervane Playhouse, The Renaissance Theatre of Mansfield, and Hilliard Arts Council. Some of his favorite recent credits include: Daddy Long Legs (Jervis), The Music Man (Harold Hill), My Fair Lady (Doolittle), The Full Monty (Dave), and Tarzan (Kerchak). Michael holds a BA in Theatre from Otterbein, is the current Co-Director of the Westerville Civic Theatre along side Katey Munger. He sends love and thanks to all of his family, friends, and especially to Jeb for this opportunity to play.

Scott Douglas Wilson as King Carlisle

Scott is thrilled to be working with Evolution Theatre Company for the first time! A graduate of OSU (MFA '09) and Otterbein University (BFA '02), Scott has worked as an actor and educator throughout the country, from NYC to South Florida. Recent regional credits include: Circle Mirror Transformation (Curtain Players); A Better Nobler Man (Red Herring Productions); Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (Red Herring Productions); Terms of Endearment (Ember Women's Theatre Company); The Zoo Story (Columbus Civic Theater); Frankenstein (Actors' Theatre of Columbus); Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery (CATCO is Theatre); The Shadow Box (Adrenaline Theatre Group). He wishes to thank the cast; Jeb and the entire production team; and the great silent film stars of yesteryear! www.scottdouglaswilson.com

Baylee Sheets as Renee Vein/Tracy is a performer, model and costume designer based in Columbus, OH. She attended Bowling Green State University where she studied Theatre with specializations in Acting, Directing & Costume Design. Notable roles on stage include: CABARET (Sally Bowles), APPROPRIATE (River), BLITHE SPIRIT (Elvira) and REEFER MADNESS THE MUSICAL (Sally). Her notable roles behind the scenes include working as the costume designer on productions with NACP, Imagine Productions and Dublin Jerome High School as well as being a wardrobe supervisor with Weathervane Playhouse. Baylee would like to thank her friends and family for all their support with special thanks to Goblin, Ghoul and Aaron. Find Baylee on Instagram @BayleeJune and at www.bayleesheets.com.

Ashley Woodard as Oatsie Carewe is ecstatic to be back on stage in front of a live audience. She is especially grateful for the opportunity to work with such a wonderful cast and crew. Evolution Theatre regulars may recognize Ashley from the online production of THE PRESIDENT'S SON (Amy) or PERFECT ARRANGEMENT (Millie). A few favorite Columbus credits include: INTO THE WOODS (Baker's Wife), TWELFTH NIGHT (Olivia), TITANIC (Kate McGowan), and SCOTLAND ROAD (The Woman). Ashley is also a member of the local improv group Hashtag Comedy Co. She would like to thank Jeb for this delightful experience. She would also like to thank Brian, the girls, and her friends and family for sharing her. Finally, Ashley would like to thank you for coming back to live theatre. "To the world we dream about, and the one we live in now."

The Production Team...

Jeb Bigelow (Director) is excited to be helming his first Evolution Theatre production, after previously having directed An Ad Hoc Theatre Company's Chamber Music and Curtain Players' The Importance of Being Earnest. He has previously been seen on stage with Evolution Theatre in Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (Tick), Yank! (ensemble) and Sordid Lives (Odell). A proud Ohio Northern University graduate, he spends his days as a Kroger pharmacist. However, his theater minor inspired his nights, having performed in dozens of central Ohio productions over the years. He is also very proud to be the man behind the Jebby Awards, a local theater award show that has honored many of the performers in this production.

Katey Munger (Assistant Director)

Katey is excited to sink her fangs into her Evolution debut! She directed the 2019 Westerville Parks and Rec Civic Theater summer musical, *Mary Poppins*, with Michael Ruehrmund. Katey has been privileged to act in many local productions with companies such as WPRCT, Butterfly Guild, Imagine, Guts for Glory, and SRO. When she's not onstage, she is working as Policy Counsel for the Supreme Court of Ohio and acting as a chauffeur-service for her daughter. Thanks to Jeb for fostering a fun and collaborative process, and to Steve and Claire for their incredible support.

Sue Rapier (Stage Manager)

Sue is thrilled to be back stage managing for Evolution Theatre Company. Past work has been on *ELECTRICITY*, *WHO KILLED JOAN CRAWFORD?*, *THE TURKEY MEN*, and assistant stage manager for *PRISCILLA*, *QUEEN OF THE DESERT*. Sue has also stage managed at Little Theatre Off Broadway and at Gallery Players and will be assisting backstage this spring for Butterfly Guild's *CINDERELLA*. On occasion, she also manages to get onstage and in the director's chair. (She actually has one with her name on it.) When not working a show, Sue can usually be found following around her own "music man," Mendell Hibbard, listening to him playing in the pit.

Rose Babington (Choreographer)

Rose is so happy to be back in the theatre world and to work with Evolution Theatre Company for the first time. Past choreography credits include *Legally Blonde*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Chicago*, and 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, in addition to onstage appearances at SNS, Imagine, and LTOB. Rose is grateful to Jeb, the cast, and the team for the opportunity to create, and to Rob and Leona for the past six months.

Kurt Mueller (Lighting Designer)

Kurt has been a lighting designer in the Columbus community since 2014. His work was first featured in Theatre Columbus State. Since then, he has worked with several theatre companies in town. He has received 2 Theatre Roundtable Awards for Excellence in Lighting. Also, he is a 2018 Theatre graduate of The Ohio State University. This is his first Evolution show. He wants to thank Mark, Jeb, Sue and the cast for an incredible time!

Dayton Edward Willison (Costume Designer)

Dayton is very happy be working with Evolution Theatre again after the pandemic. Recently for Evolution he designed "The View Upstairs", "The Vultures", and the world premier of "The Sissy Boy Chronicles". He recently finished his MFA in acting and can be seen next on stage in the world premier of "Crain Song" for Evolution Theatre. Enjoy the show.

Kat Wexler (Scenic Designer) & Michael Bynes (Set Construction)

are the award-winning set design and set construction team that has helped bring many a story to life around the central Ohio area. They are the wife/husband team which is also known as Moo Cow Studios, LLC to many local community and professional theatres. Kat and Michael have created theatrical magic for Opera Project Columbus' Die Fledermaus, Gallery Players' She Loves Me, and the latest staged production at Little Theatre Off Broadway, Nunsense. They are excited to be working with Evolution Theatre Company for their 2021 season.

D.C. Simpson (Wigs) is very excited to work with Evolution for the first time. She's been doing wigs, hair, and makeup behind the scenes for 14 years. She hopes you enjoy the show, laugh until it hurts, and always remember to cross cross your bobby pins for added support!



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Scene 1

Sodom, in days of old.
The entrance to a forbidding cave

Scene 2

Hollywood, 1920. La Condesa's mansion

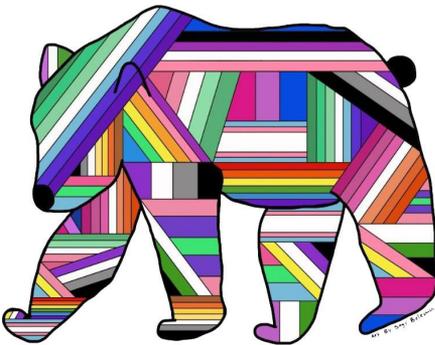
Scene 3

Las Vegas, 1984. A rehearsal hall.



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