PLAYBILL®

Evolution Theatre Company
Open Door Columbus
Columbus, OH

INSANITY IS IN THE HEIR.



THE VULTURES

A PLAY BY MARK A. RIDGE

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THE VULTURES BY MARK RIDGE

with

Anonymous Actor

Daniel Sawtelle	Mark Tomsic	Leslie Robinson
Sharifa Andrews	Christropher Ryan Quiroz*	Brian J Phillips
Zach Shafer	Brian N. Henry	Randy Benge

Director
Heather Schultz

Stage Manager
Kathy Hyland**

Production Manager
Aaron Mendoza

Producer/ Artistic Director
Mark Phillips Schwamberger*

*Member of Actors Equity Association
**Working under a contract with Actors Equity Association

We would like to give a special thank you to the Ohio Arts Council, Open Door Columbus, and the many individual and buisness sponsors who help us put on our productions.

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The Vultrues is presented with one ten minitue intermision and is approximately two hours. Thank you and enjoy the show!

CREDITS

Cast Members

Talbot	Anonymous Actor
Mr. Crosby	Daniel Sawtelle
Harrison Blythe	Mark Tomsic
Mary Roberts	Leslie Robinson
Ashley Hopwood	Sharifa Andrews
Charles Willard	Christropher Ryan Quiroz*
Paul Jones	Brian J Phillips
Hunter West	Zach Shafer
Rinehart	Brian N. Henry
Dr. Avery	Randy Benge

Production

Director	Heather Schultz
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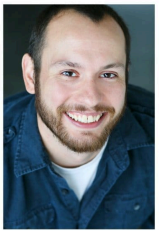
WHO'S WHO

Cast Bios

Anonymous Actor

Talbot

Anonymous Actor(Talbot) has been in theatre for many years. Is a citizen of the world. Happy to be on the stage reprising the role of Talbot first performed in the first professional production in 2019 by the Evolution Theatre Company.



Daniel Sawtelle

Daniel Sawtelle

Mr. Crosby

Daniel Sawtelle(Mr. Crosby) is thrilled to be making his Evolution debut. Favorite roles include *EARLY ONE EVENING AT THE RAINBOW BAR AND GRILLE* (Shep), *BLACK COMEDY* (Brindsley), *OF MICE AND MEN* (Slim), *THE LARAMIE PROJECT* (Various), and *THE BOYS NEXT DOOR* (Lucien). Thank you, Meredith, for watching the kids while I'm out doing this. I love you, and them, very much.



Mark Tomsic

Harrison Blythe

Mark Tomsic(Harrison) is excited to make his debut with Evolution Theatre. He is a social worker at The Buckeye Ranch working with at-risk teenagers. He has participated in Ohio's community theatre scene for the past six years which some of his favorite roles include "INTO THE WOODS (Cinderella's Prince), YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Tony), THE ELEPHANT MAN (Ross), and IN SEARCH OF A PRINCE (Duke Slade)." Mark's proudest theatre accomplishments include writing and staging four original plays and plans to stage his fifth in 2027.

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Leslie Robinson

Mary Roberts

Leslie Robinson (Mary Roberts) is excited to be back on stage at Evolution Theatre Company. She was last seen in Stage Right Theatrics production of SUMMER AT THE LAKE. Some of her favorite performances with Evolution Theatre were THE BODY POLITIC (Polly Sue) and SONS OF THE PROPHET (Gloria). Other favorite performances were INTO THE BREECHES (Winifred) at The Tipping Point Theatre Company and WHITE GUY ON THE BUS(Roz) at State of the Arts Productions.



Sharifa Andrews

Ashley Hopwood

Sharifa Andrews(Ashley) was raised in Columbus and is glad to be back on stage in her first production with Evolution Theatre. Her favorite stage credits include YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Rheba), FIVE WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS (Georgeanne), and DIXIE SWIM CLUB (Sheree). Thank you to all the family and friends who have supported her through these past couple years during her hiatus. She's happy to find joy in theater again.



Christopher Ryan Quiroz*

Charles Willard

Christopher Ryan Quiroz(Charles Willard) is a neurodivergent, Queer artist constantly developing and honing his artistic practice and teachings, combining his affinity for red-nose Clown, physical acting, and the Michael Chekhov technique. His solo show, *little QUEER*, had its NYC premiere at The Tank's Dark Festival in Summer 2024. Christopher is heavily involved with the Shakespeare & Autism Project, under the direction of Kevin McClatchy, and looks forward to finding new ways to combine his passion for storytelling and human connection with his unique point of view.

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Brian J Phillips

Paul Jones

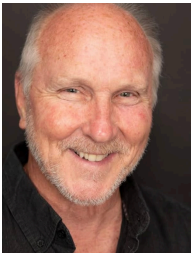
Brian J. Phillips(Paul Jones) is thrilled to make his Evolution Theatre debut in *The Vultures*. A lifelong performer, Brian returned to the stage in 2025 after a seven-year hiatus. Recent credits include *Cinderella* (Dove/Ensemble) and *Bah, Humbug!* (N3/Fezziwig/Belle's Husband/Charity Man/Friend 1). He also worked behind the scenes on *Fences* and *Memphis* this year. Brian thanks God, his loved ones, and everyone who continues to support his artistic journey.



Zach Shafer

Hunter West

Zach Shafer(Hunter West) is a Columbus-based actor and performer specializing in theatre and other live entertainment. Some of his recent credits include The Little Mermaid (Jetsam) and Evolution's productions of The Shakespeare Conspiracy (Christopher Marlowe) and A Real Boy (Pinocchio). He would like to thank his family and friends for their constant support of his artistic pursuits.



Randy Benge

Dr. Avery

Randy Benge(Dr. Avery) Randy has performed regionally in and around Springfield and Columbus. He performed in ANNIE (Daddy Warbucks) at the beautiful Palace Theatre, as well as in many other musicals, including ASSASSINS (John Wilkes Booth), THE SECRET GARDEN (Ben) and SHENANDOAH (Charlie). Play performances include FIREFLIES (Abel Brown), ON GOLDEN POND (Norman Thayer Jr.) and THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (Mr. Otto Frank) among others. Randy is currently in rehearsal for A CHRISTMAS CAROL, THE MUSICAL (Scrooge).As always, love to my girls and my protégé in training, Max.

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Brian N. Henry

Rinehart

Brian N Henry(Rinehart)- A resident of Delaware, this is his first production with Evolution. Past performances have been with Curtain Players: *RED HERRING* (Frank), *MARVIN'S ROOM* (Doctor Wally), *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* (Demetrius), *ANGEL STREET* (Rough), *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST* (Jack Worthing); and Arena Fair Theatre: *THE TEMPEST* (Antonio), *CLUE* (Prof. Plum). Thank you all for supporting local art and this facility!



Heather Schultz

Director

Heather Schultz(Director) has been defying gravity (and sometimes logic) in the performing arts for over 40 years. She's directed, danced, acted, sung, stage managed, produced, choreographed, and advised her way through stages in multiple states—often all at once and occasionally while wearing sequins. From opening night triumphs to backstage disasters narrowly averted (or stylishly survived), Heather's theatrical resume is longer than a Sondheim overture. Some things never get old—and neither does she. Here's to the next 40 years of jazz hands, tech cues, and making magic out of chaos.



Kathy Hyland**

Stage Manager

Kathy Hyland(Stage Manager) is happy to continue working with Evolution. She started as a member of the playwright festival selection commitee and stage managed the festival when the company first started. Other credits include LOOPED (SM) Boston Marriage (Catherine), The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told (character of SM). But her favorite role is that of daughter and grand daughter to the women that are her inspiration.

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Aaron Mendoza

Production Manager

Aaron Mendoza(Production Manager) has been with Evolution Theatre Company for over 4 years. He has worked with Evolution Theatre Company on a multitude of productions inlcuing, SANCTUARY CITY(Director) and THE INHERITANCE PT 1 & 2 (Stage Manager). He is honored to be working with them in a new capasity, and is excited to grow with the company. He would like to thank his family, friends, and partner, for their continued support. Thank you and enjoy the show!



Mark Phillips Schwamberger*

Producer/ Artistic Director

Mark Phillips Schwamberger(Producer / Artistic Director) Mark’s theatrical career spans over forty years. His passion for theatre began during his undergraduate studies at The University of Louisville and continues to this day. He has performed in productions at both Off and Off – Off Broadway venues as well as performing in New York and Michigan, he has also been in various musicals, comedies and dramas in Kentucky, Florida and Ohio. Mark is a member of Actor's Equity Association and the Dramatist Guild.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...









And the many individual and business sponsors who help make our productions possible.

And a Special Thank You to Tasha Naneth!

END NOTES

Evolution Theatre Comapny would like to thank you for joining us for our final show of the season. As we plan for the next year, we would like to encourage you to stay connected with all of the amazing things we have planned for 2027! And, if you are able, consider donating and supporting our new shared home!

For more information please visit our website www.evolutiontheatre.org or social medias to stay connected and see all the updates. We would also encourage you to check out Open Door Columbus at opendoorcolumbus.org and see the amazing work they do.

Thank you!

SCENES

The action takes place over the course of a dark and stormy night in September, on the secluded estate of Simon West.

ACT ONE
The Library at Westmount Manor

ACT TWO
The Master Bedroom at Westmount Manor

ACT THREE
The Library at Westmount Manor



Evolution Theatre Company announces plans for a new shared home! Evolution Theatre Company is collaborating with Open Door Columbus to create a 60+ seat thrust stage performance space that will become the new shared home for Evolution Theatre Company and Open Door Columbus Stage and Screen. The theatre will be located in the Open Door facility located on Industrial Mile Road. “Both Evolution Theatre Compnay and Open Door Columbus realize the need for more theatre space in central Ohio. This led to our joint decision to carve our own path and find a place to call our own,” Mark Phillips Schwamberger, Evolution Theatre Company’s Executive/Artistic Director. “We are still in the planning stages but hope to be operational in 2027. We lookforward to sharing more details about the project in the coming months.” “Both Open Door Columbus and Evolution Theatre Company understand the power of stroytelling to build connection, foster understanding, and create lasting change,” said Rebecca Sharp Porter Executive Director of Open Door Columbus. “As organizations dedicated to uplifting voices that have too often been overlooked, this partnership is a natural fit. We are excited to create a shared home where creativity, inclusion, and artistic expression can flourish while bringing artists, audiences, and communities together.” Evolution Theatre Company was established as a non-profit organization in 2012 and since then has been operating as a successful professional theatre company. Since their inception Evolution Theatre Company’s mission has been to lift up the voices of the LGBTQIA+ community. Open Door Columbus was established as a non-profit organization in 1979 epowering adults with disabilities by offering innovative services that foster independence. Since its inception, Open Door Columbus has advocated for the recognition of the valuable contributions each individual brings to the central Ohio community. Both Evolution Theatre Company and Open Door Columbus strives to create a world where everyone is valued, respected, and has the opportunity to thrive and shine.