



# STAGE Whispers

**THEATRE COMPANY**

A Quarterly Publication of American Stage Theatre Company, Winter 2011

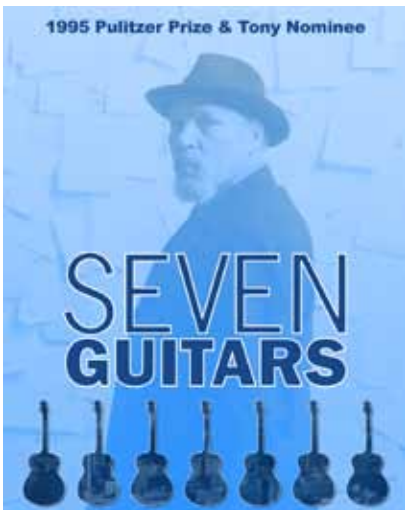
163 3rd Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Todd Olson, Producing Artistic Director

727.823.PLAY (7529) • americanstage.org

*The Fifth Chapter in our August Wilson's Century Cycle*

## Tradition Continues with **Seven Guitars**



Directed by Bob Devin Jones

Floyd Barton is a natural musician with a hit song and, in the expansive atmosphere after World War II, he dreams of the big time. But as the play begins, his wife and friends mourn his death. In Wilson's only play constructed in flashback, *Seven Guitars* takes us back to explore what happened. Who killed Floyd Barton, but more importantly, why?

*Mature subject matter and language.*

**Sponsor: Alfred T. May**

**Jan 18 - Feb 26, 2012**

For Tickets: 727.823.PLAY (7529)  
americanstage.org



Tia Jemison



Joshua Elijah Reese



Alan Bomar Jones



Kim Sullivan



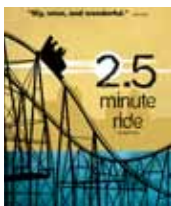
Brandy Grant



Ron-Bobb Semple



Ambe Williams



### Upcoming Productions:

#### **2.5 Minute Ride**

by Lisa Kron

**March 14 - May 6, 2012**



The 27th Annual American Stage in the Park

#### **The Rocky Horror Show**

by Richard O'Brien

**April 11 - May 13, 2012**



### Special Thanks:

#### To Raymond James:

We now have outdoor signage both on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave North and 3<sup>rd</sup> St. North.



#### To The Rays Foundation:

American Stage Education was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Rays Foundation to support our playwriting and drama outreach programs.



- **SEVEN GUITARS:** Previews Jan 18-19, Runs Jan 20 - Feb 26
- **2.5 MINUTE RIDE:** Previews Mar 14-15, Runs Mar 16 - May 6
- **THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW:** Previews Apr 11-12, Gala Apr 13, Runs Apr 14 - May 13
- **VANISHING POINT:** Previews May 29-31, Runs June 1 - July 1
- **THE FOREIGNER:** Previews July 25-26, Runs July 27 - Aug 19

Enjoy our Award-Winning Mainstage Productions and our "After Hours" Event Series. Visit [americanstage.org](http://americanstage.org) for the latest in comedy, cabaret, drama, and much more.

*“Nothing short of astounding.” -Pittsburgh City Paper*

## Fasten Your Seat Belts for *2.5 Minute Ride*

By Lisa Kron, Directed by Todd Olson, and Starring Lisa Powers Tricomi

Mar 14 thru May 6, 2012

**“Bespeaks the remarkable resiliency of the human spirit.” -Los Angeles Times**

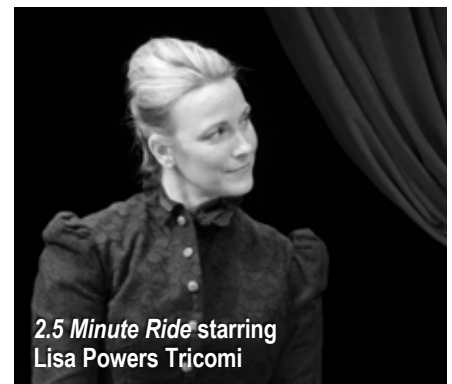
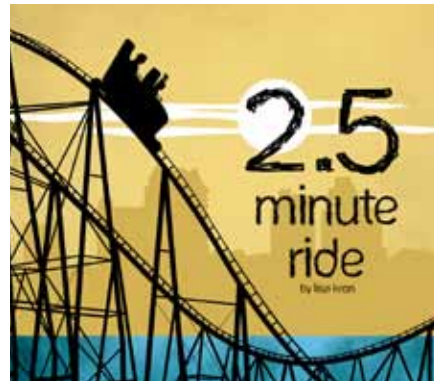
Winner of the 1999 Obie Award, *2.5 Minute Ride* is a funny and deeply disquieting story about a daughter who strives to understand the joys and sorrows of her father’s heart. It’s a startling and searingly funny meditation on how human beings make sense of tragedy, grief, and everyday life. Told with wit and compassion, *2.5 Minute Ride* tells the story of a father who, in spite of near-blindness, diabetes, and a heart condition, insists on family trips to Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio, the roller coaster capital of the world. But this isn’t the only journey this daughter would take with her father... a German-born Jew who escaped Nazi Germany as a teenager only to return as an American soldier.

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[americanstage.org](http://americanstage.org)



*2.5 Minute Ride* starring  
Lisa Powers Tricomi

*The Unforgettable Rock 'N' Roll Musical*

## American Stage Unleashes *The Rocky Horror Show*

Previews April 11 & 12, Gala April 13,  
Runs thru May 13, 2012

**“The most mutated, time warped phenomena in show business.”**

*-NY Times*

It’s the biggest and baddest rock ‘n’ roll musical ever! On the way to visit an old college professor, two clean cut kids, Brad and his fiancée Janet, run into car trouble and see a light down the road. It’s coming from the Frankenstein place, where Dr. Frank’n’Furter is in the midst of one of his maniacal experiments. Follow the squeaky-clean sweethearts on an adventure they’ll never forget, with the scandalous Frank’n’Furter, rippling Rocky, and vivacious Magenta. Get ready for a night of fun, frolics, and frivolity in this thrilling production of Richard O’Brien’s cult classic!

**Title Sponsor: Bank of America**



*Enroll now for classes of all ages and experience levels!*

## Spring Classes for Children and Adults!



American Stage Education is proud to offer acting classes for youth and adults. Whether you are looking to explore your creativity or expand your skills and theatre knowledge, we have classes for the beginning actor as well as for advanced performers.

Classes begin in January, so sign up today. For full course schedules, click on the link of interest below or visit [americanstage.org](http://americanstage.org). For more information or having

problems enrolling online, contact Meg Heimstead, the director of education, at 727-823-1600 x 201 or email her at [mheimstead@americanstage.org](mailto:mheimstead@americanstage.org).

### **Saturday Youth Classes (January 28 - April 21):**

**Creative Storytelling** (Ages 5-7)

**Story Theatre** (Ages 8-11)

**Improvisation** (Ages 11-13)

**Advanced Acting** (Ages 14-17)

### **Adult Classes:**

**Acting II**, Monday nights, January 23 - March 26

**Improvisation**, Saturdays, January 21 - March 24

**Playwriting**, Thursdays, January 19 - March 22

**For more information, visit [americanstage.org](http://americanstage.org)**



## Nathan's Corner

### **Meet Our New Development Director: Nathan Lindley!**

Nathan was born in Ft. Worth. He relocated to St. Petersburg in 1991 to pursue and receive his Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Science at Eckerd College. After graduation he spent a year as an historical tour guide and 3rd mate on board the HMS Bounty and captained a 50-foot sailboat while teaching summer camps in the British Virgin Islands. He returned to his alma mater to work for Eckerd College's Waterfront Program as their head sailing instructor and Development Coordinator supporting the Waterfront and the Eckerd College Search and Rescue Team (EC-SAR). Many years later he was a founding board member of the Friends of the Waterfront alumni group. For the past 10 years Nathan has been a part of the corporate world with both Bank of America and MetLife assisting clients in financial planning and securing financing for their dreams of home ownership. Nathan was a Charter Member for the St. Petersburg Sunset Rotary Club and has continued to enjoy an active role as a Rotarian in his local community. Nathan's passions are spending quality time with his two kids and wife, and he enjoys sailing, motorcycling, and traveling.



## Check out our new Mainstage Lecture Series!

Dedee Aleccia, a retired literature professor, will speak on the history of select plays in our season. Following her presentation, a member of the artistic staff will talk about their approach to the production being discussed. The lectures are \$5 for subscribers and \$7 for the general public. Reservations are strongly encouraged. All lectures take place from 1:00-2:30pm.

***Seven Guitars* - January 8**

***2.5 Minute Ride* - March 4**

***The Rocky Horror Show* - April 1**

***Vanishing Point* - May 20**

***The Foreigner* - July 15**



# WHAT THE CRITICS ARE SAYING!

**AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY** by Tracy Letts

"See it and believe again in the power of theater." -Mark E. Leib, *Creative Loafing*

"One of the most satisfying theater experiences in recent memory."  
-John Fleming, *St. Petersburg Times*

"Todd Olson corralled 13 brilliant cast members into a fierce and fearsome triumph of theater."  
-Kathy L. Greenberg, *Tampa Tribune*

**AN IDEAL HUSBAND** by Oscar Wilde

"Another American Stage must-see" -Kathy L. Greenberg, *Tampa Tribune*

"Brilliant...tour de force...devilishly clever...may be the most topical play you'll see all year."  
-John Fleming, *St. Petersburg Times*

"Splendid...excellent...impeccable." -Mark E. Leib, *Creative Loafing*

**american stage** **GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
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**SUBSCRIBE TODAY & SAVE!**

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PO Box 1560  
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St. Petersburg, FL 33731

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