

Main  
Street  
Theater

PRESENTS

!TROUBLE

!N M!ND

Regional Premiere  
by ALICE CHILDRESS

Sept 17 - Oct 16, 2022

Main  
Street  
Theater

# 47<sup>TH</sup> SEASON

MAINSTREETTHEATER.COM | 713-524-6706



## TROUBLE IN MIND

BY ALICE CHILDRESS | SEPT 17 - OCT 16, 2022

## *The Wickhams*

Christmas at Pemberley

BY LAUREN GUNDERSON & MARGOT MELCON  
NOVEMBER 19 - DECEMBER 18, 2022



## PERMANENT COLLECTION

BY THOMAS GIBBONS | FEB 11 - MAR 5, 2023



## *The Oldest Boy*

BY SARAH RUHL | APRIL 1 - 23, 2023

## THE BEST OF EVERYTHING

ADAPTED BY JULIE KRAMER  
BASED ON THE BOOK BY RONA JAFFE | MAY 20 - JUNE 18, 2023



## PRESENT LAUGHTER

BY NOËL COWARD | JULY 15 - AUG 13, 2023

Subscriptions on sale now!

# Trouble in Mind

By Alice Childress

Director

**Michelle James**

*with*

**Tené A. Carter\***

**Rutherford Cravens\***

**Alric Davis**

**Ansonia E. Jones**

**Rhett Martinez**

**Carl Masterson**

**Ginger Mouton**

**Manning Mpinduzi-Mott\***

**Tyler R. Rooney**

Set Design ..... **James V. Thomas**

Costume Design ..... **Krystal Uchem**

Lighting Design ..... **Edgar Guajardo**

Properties Design ..... **Rodney Walsworth**

Sound Design ..... **Janel J. Badrina**

Scenic Fellow ..... **Brandi Alexander**

Production Stage Manager..... **Julie Marie Paré**

Stage Management Fellow ..... **Karla Martinez**

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**Rebecca Greene Udden**  
Founding Artistic Director

**Michael Arlen**  
Managing Director

# THE CAST

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Wiletta Mayer .....	Tené A. Carter*
Henry .....	Carl Masterson
John Nevins .....	Alric Davis
Millie Davis .....	Ansonia E. Jones
Judy Sears .....	Ginger Mouton
Sheldon Forrester .....	Manning Mpinduzi-Mott*
Al Manners .....	Rhett Martinez
Eddie Fenton .....	Tyler R. Rooney
Bill O'Wray .....	Rutherford Cravens

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*\*Appearing through an Agreement between this theatre, Main Street Theater, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

**Setting:** A Broadway theater in New York City, 1957.

**Performed in two acts with one 15 minute intermission.**

*If you must exit the theater before intermission, please do so as quickly and quietly as possible. Re-admission to the theatre will occur at the sole discretion of the house manager, in the nearest available seats. Re-admittance during the act is not guaranteed.*

*The videotaping or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.*

**Special thanks** *The Ensemble Theatre, S. Denise O'Neal, Fade to Black Play Festival, Community Artists' Collective, Houston Community College, Tamara Siler, Greg Marshall, Pin Lim / Forest Photography, Seán Patrick Judge, Copy.com*

# PRODUCTION STAFF

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Dramaturg .....	Kaylin Jones
Production Crew .....	Dru Bowman, Star Hinson
Wardrobe Assistant .....	Amanda Adwers
Scenic Crew .....	Shane Manning, Reese Morris, Tommy Schnell
Graphic Design .....	Philip Hays
COVID Safety Manager .....	Andrew Ruthven

*The costumes for this production are provided in part by the Costume Connection of Houston.*

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*Main Street Theater (MST) was founded in 1975 to provide stimulating opportunities for Houstonians of all ages to engage with the performing arts while providing meaningful and challenging professional work for Houston theater artists. MST is a fully professional theater with three programs: MainStage, Theater for Youth, and Education Department. Main Street Theater is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters, of Theatre for Young Audiences/USA (formerly ASSITEJ), the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people, and a founding member of Houston Arts Partners. Our MainStage operates under Actors' Equity Association Small Professional Theater contract. Main Street Theater is funded in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.*



## ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Please turn off your cell phone, beeper, or any electronic device that might make noise during the performance. If you use your cell phone during an intermission, please be sure that your phone is turned off before you re-enter the theater. Any cell phone use during the performance is disruptive to the audience and the actors, including the reading and sending of text messages.

## ABOUT THE PLAY

Before it opened Off-Broadway in New York in 1955, one of the white, male producers made playwright (and director) Alice Childress change the ending, which she did - though she knew it was wrong - and of course, the end is the one part of the show the New York Times didn't care for. Then the play was optioned for Broadway IF Ms. Childress rewrote it to be more palatable for white people. For 2 years, she worked on it, trying to please the producers. But after reaching a point where she couldn't even recognize her own play anymore, Alice Childress stopped. And the play never made it to Broadway... UNTIL last year at the Roundabout Theatre in New York when *Trouble in Mind* made its glorious Broadway debut. Now Main Street Theater is honored to give the play its regional premiere.



Scan this QR code  
for digital access to  
our lobby display!



**Special opportunities for each of the MainStage productions to help you connect with the work at MST in new ways.**

**Tuesday, September 27 at 6:30pm:** join us for our next MST DEBI (Diversity, Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion) BIPOC Panel & Mixer moderated by Tamara Siler, professional actor and Deputy Director of Admission, Access and Inclusion at Rice University. Panelists include local artists S. Denise O'Neal, Crystal Rae, Steven J. Scott, and Bryan-Keyth Wilson.

**Sunday, October 9:** Join us for a post-show discussion featuring some of Houston's outstanding Black actresses: Tamara Siler, Tené A. Carter, Ansonia Jones, Sloane Teagle, and more.

**Main Street Theater's Fellowship Program** is a paid artistic leadership development program for early-career BIPOC individuals. Applicants will submit a resume and portfolio and three candidates will be selected. The selected fellows will be assigned to a production either with the MainStage or Theater for Youth programs in their area of interest (Directing, Design, or Stage Management) while being given access to additional professional development opportunities within the Main Street Theater organization.

For more details, please email [steagle@mainstreettheater.com](mailto:steagle@mainstreettheater.com)



**Tené A. Carter\***  
(Willetta Mayer)  
Main Street Theater:  
Debut; The  
Ensemble Theatre  
Artist Project:  
*Legend of Mountain  
Mama*; Barbara

Morrison Performing Arts Center: *For Colored Girls Who Considered Suicide When the Rainbow was Enufo*; Towne Street Theater: *In Response, Langston and Nicolas*; Strong Mountain Productions: *Bobby Lee Blood*; The Fountain Theatre: *Gem of the Ocean*; The Complex Theatre: *A Providential Occurrence*; The Robey Theatre: *For the Love of Freedom: Christophe*; Shakespeare & Company: *Coriolanus, The Winter's Tale*. Film / TV: *Uncontrol, Destiny, A Better Place, Strong Medicine*. Education: B.A., Florida A&M University, Theatre; M.Ed., National University; Shakespeare & Company, Summer Training Intensive.



**Rutherford Cravens\*** (Bill O'Wray) Main Street Theater: *Darwin in Malibu, The Book of Will, Daisy, Enemies, The Last Wife, Grand Concourse, Wolf Hall*

and *Bring Up the Bodies* (First American Productions), *Peace in Our Time, Into the Woods, Close Up Space, Henry V and Richard III* (both with Prague Shakespeare Company), *The Coast of Utopia: Voyage, A Number, The Weir*, (Playwright) *Wondergirl* (World Premiere), *Zero Tolerance?* (World Premiere); Catastrophic Theatre: *Buried Child, Middletown*; A.D. Players: *12 Angry Men*; Alley Theatre: *Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Taking Steps, Antony and Cleopatra*,

*Inherit the Wind*; Stages Repertory Theatre: *Southern Rapture, Panto Cinderella, The Unseen, Amy's View, Silence, Good Boys, The Laramie Project, Elizabeth Rex, Betrayal*; Theatre Under the Stars: *1776, Brigadoon*, Classical Theatre Company: *Hamlet, Candida, King Lear*; HSF: *Romeo and Juliet, The Tempest, As You Like It, Titus Andronicus, Macbeth, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, King Lear*. Film / TV: *Get Out, Preacher, Longmire, No Country for Old Men, Ray, Friday Night Lights, Temple Grandin, Dead Man's Walk, Streets of Laredo, Breaking Bad, Nashville*.



**Alric Davis** (John Nevins) Main Street Theater: Debut; Stages: *You're Cordially Invited to Sit In*, (Asst. Director) *PlumShuga*; The Ensemble

Theatre: *The Lawsons: A Love Story, Barrabus The Bus*; Sankofa Collective: *Next to Normal*; Island ETC: *Lobby Hero*; 4th Wall Theatre Co: *Twelfth Night*; Theatre Southwest: *The Legend of Georgia McBride*; Rice University: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Pearl Theatre: *The Wiz, Miss Evers Boys*. Education: B.F.A., Howard University, Musical Theatre.



**Ansonia E. Jones** (Millie Davis) Main Street Theater: *Speak of Me As I Am: A History of African American Shakespeare Performance*; The

Garden Theatre: *School Girls, Or The African Mean Girls Play*; Vincent Victoria Presents: *The Last Night of Josephine Baker, Starring: Cherry Cola Pitts/The Storm Is Here, The Slave Narratives*; The

## WHO'S WHO (continued)

Ensemble Theatre: *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*; Boiling Point Players: *Totally Twelfth Night*; Mildred's Umbrella Theater: *Six Triple Eight*; Pearl Theatre Company: *Silent Sky*; Film & TV: *Fifth Ward: The Series*, *All in the Family* (2022). Education: B.S., University of Houston-Downtown.



**Rhett Martinez** (Al Manners) Main Street Theater: *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue*, *The Hard Problem*, *Daisy*; Classical Theatre Company: *R.U.R.*; Mildred's Umbrella:

*Oh, God!*, *The Hunchback of Seville*, *In a Word*; Obsidian Theatre: *The Motherf\*cker with the Hat*; Next Iteration Theatre Company: *Turquoise*, *The Baby*; Ensemble Theatre: *Fly*; Frenetic Theatre: *Equus*; Theatre Southwest: *Critic's Choice*; Lanfour Productions: *Happy Hour*; Firecracker Productions: (Director) *BOB: A Life in Five Acts*; New York credits include IATI Theatre: *Three on a Match* (Playwright); The Samuel Beckett Theatre: *Mona* (one-man show); Collective Unconscious Art Space: *Cinders* (one-man show); Impact Theatre: (Playwright, Director) *Fresh Cut*, *Half a Ticket*. Education: M.F.A., Brooklyn College, Theatre Directing; B.F.A., Boston University, Theatre Studies.



**Carl Masterson** (Henry) Main Street Theater: *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Enemies*, *Stargirl*, *Peace in Our Time*, *The Giver*, *Othello*, *My Three*

*Angels*, *An American Daughter*, *Night Must Fall*; Classical Theatre Company: *An*

*Enemy of the People*, *Barber of Seville*, *A Doll's House*, *Cherry Orchard*, *The Birds*, *Ubu Roi*, *Uncle Vanya*; The Ensemble Theatre/Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center (the J): *City of Good Abode*; Dirt Dogs Theatre Co.: *Five by Tenn*; Country Playhouse: *Six Degrees of Separation*, *The Lion in Winter*, *A Christmas Story*, *Noises Off*, and many more; Theater Southwest: *Regrets Only*, *Anna Christie*; Wordsmyth Theater Co.: *Cat*, *Mouse*, *Bird and Body*, *Coneman Running*, *Trumbo*, *Red White and Blacklisted*, *Séance on a Hot Humid Afternoon*. Education: B.S., Texas A&M, Zoology.



**Ginger Mouton** (Judy Sears) Main Street Theater: Debut; Lamar University Theater: *Split*, *Whale Music*, *So You Can Look Ahead*, *Bakkhai*.

Education: B.S., Lamar University, Theater & Dance.



**Manning Mpinduzi-Mott\*** (Sheldon Forrester) Main Street Theater: *Night and Day*, *It's Only A Play*, The Ensemble Theatre: *Ceremonies in Dark*

*Old Men*, *A Soldiers Play*, *East Texas Hot Links*, *Distant Voices*, *Short Eyes*, *River Niger*, *Wine in the Wilderness*; Stages: *Valley Song*, *Good Boys*, *Car Pool*, *More Fun Than Bowling*; Houston Shakespeare Festival: *Merry Wives of Windsor*; A. D. Players: *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Film / TV: *Walker Texas Ranger*, *Mr. Justice*, *Patriot*, *Rushmore*, *Space Cowboys*.





**Tyler R. Rooney** (Eddie Fenton) Main Street Theater: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Dragons Love Tacos* (Tour); Creative Movement Practices: *Macbeth*; Art Park

Players: *Guys and Dolls*; Juxtapose Arts Collective: *A Chorus Line*; Lamar University: *Twelfth Night*, *The Bakkhai*, Fall and Recovery Dance Concert (2018 – 2021), Dance Unleashed Concert (2018 – 2022); San Jacinto Central Campus Theatre: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Little Shop of Horrors*; Aimed Dance: Summer Fest, The Arena; Taylor Dance Studio: *Babes in Toyland Ballet*; Julie Rogers Theatre: *Cinderella Ballet*; Lake Charles Civic Ballet: *Sleeping Beauty Ballet*. Education: B.S., Lamar University, Theatre and Dance.

**Michelle James** (Director) Main Street Theater: Debut; Wordsmyth Theater: (Director) *A Beautiful Death on 34th and Fifth*, *Complaint Box*; Mildred's Umbrella Theatre: (Director) *God's New Plan*, (Dramaturg) *Well*; Scriptwriters Houston: (Director) *Dad and Daddy*; Obsidian Theater: (Stage Manager) *Hypocrites*; Theatre Suburbia: (Asst. Director) *A Deal in the Desert*. Education: B.A., Baylor University, Theatre Arts.

**Brandi Alexander** (Scenic Fellow) Main Street Theater: Debut; Moore's Opera House: (Scenic Designer) *Little Shop of Horrors*; Miller Outdoor Theatre: (Asst. Scenic Designer) *Cymbeline*, *King Lear*; UH Quintero Theatre: (Scenic Designer) *Silence*; Lyndall Finley Wortham Theatre: (Scenic Designer) *Picnic*. Education: M.F.A. Candidate, University of Houston, Scenic Design; B.A., Prairie View A&M University.

**Janel J. Badrina** (Sound Design) Main Street Theater: over 12 seasons including *Dog Act* (2022 & 2012), *The Book of Magdalene*, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* (2022 & 2019), *The Weir* (2019 & 2003), *Buyer and Cellar*, *Enemies*, *Native Gardens*, *Into The Woods*, *Close Up Space*, *Cakewalk*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Driftwood*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Present Laughter*; Town Center Theater: *Julius Caesar*, *Merry Christmas George Bailey*, *Night & Her Stars*. Over 15 seasons as stage manager.

**Edgar Guajardo** (Lighting Design) Main Street Theater: Debut; Current resident lighting designer for Opera in the Heights and production manager of the Deluxe Theater; 10 plus years in Houston as a Lighting and Scenic Designer, Theatrical Producer, Poet, Actor, Painter, and Carpenter; Disney Live (Asst. Electrician) *Mickey Mouse's Rockin Road Show*; Queensbury Theatre Company: (Asst. Technical Director). Education: B.F.A, University of Houston, Theatrical Production.

**Karla Martinez** (Stage Management Fellow) Main Street Theater: (Crew) *Aunt Julia and the Script Writer*, *Mother of the Maid*, (Intern) *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*; Gilbert and Sullivan Society: *H.M.S. Pinafore*; LoneStar Children's Theater: *The Ruff Guide to Shakespeare*. Film & TV: *The Strange Case of the Starship Iris*, *Keep It Steady*. Education: University of Houston.

**James V. Thomas** (Set Design) Countless productions around Houston, including Main Street Theater, Dirt Dogs Theatre Co., Theatre Under the Stars, Opera in the Heights, Ebony Opera Guild, Stages, and Houston Grand Opera; also New Horizon Theatre, Pittsburgh, PA; National

## WHO'S WHO (continued)

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Black Theater Festival, Winston-Salem, NC; Syracuse Stage, Syracuse, NY; Public Theater, San Antonio, TX. Mr. Thomas received Broadway World nominations for *Fences*, *Glengarry Glen Ross* and won for *Josephine Tonight*; 2019 recipient of The National Black Theater Festival Award for Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design. Published designs have appeared in: *Ready Set Go*, organized by the Architecture Center Houston along with seven other Houston scenic artists; *Stages of Struggle and Celebration: A Production History of Black Theatre in Texas*, compendium of Black Theatre in Texas. Education: Prairie View A & M University, Theatre Technology.

**Krystal Uchem** (Costume Design)  
Main Street Theater: (Costume Design) *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963*, (Actor) *A Little House Christmas* (2021); The Ensemble Theatre: *School Girls, or the African Mean Girls Play*, *Pretty Fire*; Houston Grand Opera: *Salome*; Dirt Dogs Theatre Co.: *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*; Fade to Black Play Festival: *Escaping Inward*; Firecracker Productions: *Pipeline*, *Pedigree*; Express Children's Theatre: *Rhyme and Reason*; Montgomery County Shakespeare Festival: *Measure for Measure*; The Company Onstage: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, *Parallel Leighzaverses*. Film / TV: *An Education* (Dir. Kody N. Feliz), *All in the Family* (Dir. Holland Malone). Education: B.F.A., University of Houston, Theatre.

**Rodney Walsworth** (Props Designer)  
Over 110 productions at Main Street Theater as actor, director, set designer, properties designer, sound designer including *Enemies* and *Wolf Hall / Bring Up the Bodies* (First American Productions); Stages: Resident Properties Master, 2 ½ seasons; other Houston

acting work includes Ensemble Theatre, Theater LaB Houston, Talento Bilingüe de Houston, Stages; B&B Productions at Jump Start Theatre (San Antonio); *The Laramie Project* (Globe Award, Lead Actor – Drama). Resident Properties Master, Main Street Theater.

**Julie Marie Paré\*** (Production Stage Manager) Main Street Theater: (Production Stage Manager) *Darwin In Malibu*, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* (2019), *Private Lives*, *The Secretary*, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (2018), *Buyer & Cellar*, *The Last Wife*, *Grand Concourse*, *RFK*, *Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-A\*\* Wit of Molly Ivins, 1946* (World Premiere), *Silent Sky*, *Time Stands Still*, *Woof* (World Premiere), *Breakfast at Eight* (World Premiere), (Asst. Stage Manager) *The Book of Will*, *Men On Boats*, *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up the Bodies* (First American Productions), *Peace in Our Time*, *Heartbreak House*, *Richard III* (Prague Shakespeare Company); Stages; The Children's Theatre Festival; Houston Shakespeare Festival; The Juilliard School; PCPA Theaterfest; Seaside Music Theater; Birmingham Children's Theatre; Indianapolis Civic Theatre; Indiana Repertory Theatre; the Centennial Theater Festival; Northern Stage; Kentucky Repertory Theatre at Horse Cave; Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre; *Menopause the Musical*; Actors Theatre of Indiana; Arts Center of Coastal Carolina; Phoenix Theatre; Florida Repertory Theatre; Walt Disney World. Education: University of Washington. Julie is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

**Rebecca Greene Udden** (Founding Artistic Director) Main Street Theater: (Director) *Mother of the Maid*, *Darwin in Malibu*, *Elliot, a Soldier's Fugue*, *The Hard Problem*, *The Book of Will*, *Hecuba*

and *The Trojan Women*, *Troilus and Cressida*, *An Iliad* and *Twelfth Night* with Prague Shakespeare Company (MST collaborations), *Holes*, *Enemies*, *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up the Bodies* (First American Productions), *Silent Sky*, *Peace in Our Time*, *Heartbreak House*, *The Real Thing* (1986 & 2013), *The Coast of Utopia*, *The Year of Magical Thinking*, *The Heidi Chronicles* (2010 & 1992), *Arcadia* (2010 & 1996), *The House of the Spirits* (English-language premiere), *Caroline, or Change*, *An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf*, *The Rice* (World Premiere), and many more; (Actor) *Private Lives* (2019),

*Memory House*, *Richard III* (with Prague Shakespeare Company), *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Third*, *The Busy World Is Hushed*, *Somebody's Sons*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, *Hapgood*, *Hamlet*, and more; (Costume Design) numerous productions; Prague Shakespeare Company: (Director) *Twelfth Night*. Catastrophic Theatre: Advisory Board. Wordsmyth Theater Company: Advisory Board. Member, American Leadership Forum Class XVI.



**Actors' Equity Association (AEA)** was founded in 1913 as the first of the American actor unions. Equity's mission is to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Today, Equity represents more than 45,000 actors, singers, dancers and stage managers working in hundreds of theatres across the United States. Equity members are dedicated to working in the theatre as a profession, upholding the highest artistic standards. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits including health and pension plans for its members. Through its agreement with Equity, this theatre has committed to the fair treatment of the actors and stage managers employed in this production. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. For more information, visit [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org)

## LEGACY GIVING

As always, Main Street Theater thanks you for your presence and support. Planned gifts are important, needed, and will allow Main Street Theater to accomplish great things. Please join our donors who have remembered us in their will and trusts.

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*In the early days of Main Street Theater, the "Flying Man", taken from a poster design for T.S. Eliot's *The Elder Statesman*, served as an icon of our theater. The figure represents the company's desire to break "out of the ordinary," and embodies our gratitude for your generosity!*

***Current membership into the Flying Man Society is based on an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more.***

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# COLLECTION



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Previews: Feb 5, 9 & 10

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**away in storage. His proposal to add them to the public galleries is opposed by the Foundation's long-time education director, loyal to the idiosyncratic wishes of the late Dr. Morris who left direct orders never to change the art. Spurred on by a zealous local journalist, the clash quickly escalates to public accusations of racism and a bitter struggle for control of the collection.**

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By **Lauren Gunderson** and **Margot Melcon**

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**Nov 19 – Dec 18, 2022**

Previews: Nov 17 & 18

*No performance Thanksgiving Day, November 24*



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The Ensemble Theatre  
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Houston, Texas 77002  
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2022–2023

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## The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical

Adapted from the book by Rick Riordan  
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## Miss Nelson Is Missing

Music by Richard Rodgers  
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