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*Savage*

by John Patrick



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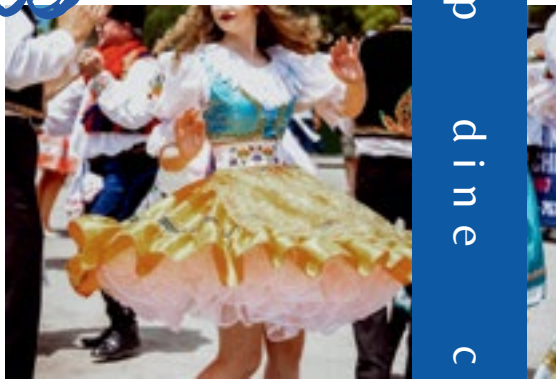
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**ENNIS PUBLIC THEATRE**  
PRESENTS

# **THE CURIOUS SAVAGE**

by John Patrick

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*This is a two-act show that is approximately two hours.  
There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.*

*THE CURIOUS SAVAGE* is presented by special arrangement  
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*EPT was established in 2004 as a not-for-profit cultural institution.  
Ennis Public Theatre is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation.*

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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What is real? How do we define sanity in a world where people believe in opposite versions of the truth? How can we possibly live peacefully with those who don't share our version of reality?

John Patrick asked his audiences these same questions in 1950. *The Curious Savage* premiered 74 years ago but, as with many great theatrical works, the messages of this show still apply.

Mrs. Ethel Savage has been sent to The Cloisters (a home for mental patients) by her step-children. They claim that the way Ethel is spending their late father's money proves she's not stable - her blue hair and penchant for carrying a teddy bear further prove their case. But, if Mrs. Savage comes to her senses and tells her step-kids where she's hidden \$10 million in bonds, they'll be happy to end her confinement.

The doctor and nurse of The Cloisters don't know what to make of Mrs. Savage. She doesn't know what to make of them either— or her fellow residents.

Each patient Mrs. Savage now resides with lives in their own version of reality. Ethel is almost positive she's not insane. So how is it that she finds herself belonging more and more here in The Cloisters?

You may notice that the walls of this set are not solid. The room on stage is a frame representing different frames of mind. The walls between reality and fantasy are left to your imagination. It's hard to know where the sanity begins and the insanity ends. Or is it hard to know where the insanity begins and the sanity ends?

We loved this play from the moment we started reading the script. Many poignant thoughts about life and love mix with humor to help us laugh as we ponder the complexities of a quality life.

Our goal is to give dignity and depth to the characters who live in The Cloisters. They are, in many ways, the heroes of the story. They know how to love. They practice radical compassion and acceptance. These characters who have been labeled by the outside world as thinking wrong, have an awful lot to teach us about living right.

We would like to thank this hard working cast and crew for putting in the hours of work to make this happen. It has been a pleasure working with them. We think you will find them to be compelling storytellers.

As always, thank you for supporting live theatre.

-Markus Baldwin & Julie Mitchell, Artistic Directors

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## CREW

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**Director** ..... Markus Baldwin & Julie Mitchell  
**Set Design** ..... Markus Baldwin  
**Lighting Design** ..... Dakota Russell  
**Technical Crew** ..... Nikki Crosland, Chey Smith  
**Costume Design** ..... Julie Mitchell  
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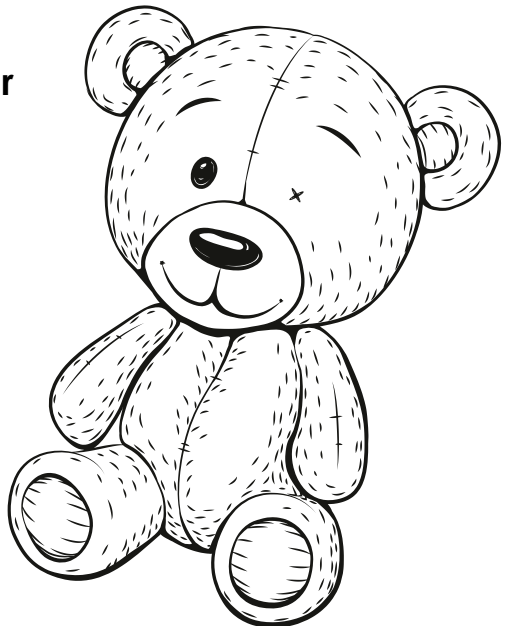
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# CAST

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## **CAROL BLAHA, MRS. PADDY**

Carol is thrilled to return to the EPT stage, where she has previously been seen in *B.I.N.G.O. the Musical*, *Always a Bridesmaid*, *Doublewide Texas*, and *The Red Velvet Cake War*. Volunteering has always been a part of Carol's life - she is currently an officer with the Ennis Garden Club and an EPT Board of Directors member since 2010. Thanks to Julie and Markus, and family and friends for cheering her on. Enjoy the play - laughter really is the best medicine!



## **JOHN BLEWITT, DR. EMMETT**

John is blessed to be a part of the EPT family! About the time he retired, his wife Karen came to work in the EPT office, and he tagged along to be a part of this wonderfully talented community. John has appeared on stage here in *Young Frankenstein*, as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, Reverend Bass in *Walking Across Egypt*, and the musical *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. When not at EPT, John promotes the power of nonviolence for personal and social change.



## **CAROL JONES, FLORENCE**

Carol is excited to return to EPT after appearing last year in *Rumors*. Carol found a love of theatre when she was young and was involved through high school and college. Now her entire family enjoys a passion for theatre. Some of her favorite roles include: Chris - *Rumors*, Alice - *Addams Family*, Judy - *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* and Becky - *Becky's New Car*. Thank you Jay for 25 years of patience, love and support!

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# CAST

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## **COURTNEY MARTINEZ, FAIRY MAY**

Courtney is so excited to be a part of Ennis Public Theatre's production of *The Curious Savage*. She has previously been in two shows here at the Ennis Public Theatre as Faye McFaye in *An Evening of Culture*, and Joanie in *Killer Halloween*. She wants to thank her boyfriend and her family for all of their love and support on and off stage.



## **JOSH MCDANIEL, TITUS**

Josh is excited to be back on the EPT stage after his previous roles in *Clue*, *Walking Across Egypt* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. *The Curious Savage* is a show with a ton of heart and humor that he is grateful to be a part of with this amazing cast. He would like to thank his loving wife Brittany and beautiful daughter Nahum for all of their support and encouragement in making this opportunity possible.



## **JONATHAN RUDD, SAMUEL**

Jonathan is thrilled to be a part of the cast of *The Curious Savage* and is excited to make his acting debut in his hometown theater. He enjoys working with the Ennis Public Theater and hopes to return to the stage soon.

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# CAST

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**DAKOTA RUSSELL, JEFFREY**

Dakota is excited to return to the stage with his wonderful wife Lauren in the show in which they first acted together back in college. Dakota and Lauren have a daughter who they want to inspire to chase her dreams in the future some day.



**LAUREN RUSSELL, LILY BELLE**

Lauren is happy to be returning to the stage after almost a year since playing Cassie in *Rumors*. She loves *The Curious Savage* so much that she has performed in this show three times as Florence, Mrs Paddy, and now Lily Belle. This show is important to her as it is the show where she met her husband Dakota in college. Thanks to her parents, husband, and daughter for always supporting her.



**KATI TIBBITS, MISS WILLIE**

Kati is excited to return to the EPT stage for her fourth play. Kati has been involved from the tender age of eight and has allowed her love of theatre to take her from various community theaters in Texas to the Globe Theatre in London (as a part of her Master's program in Shakespeare), and now most recently to EPT. She hopes to keep acting and creating with all the thespians in her life.

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## CAST

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### **NAN UDELL, MRS. SAVAGE**

Nan was painfully shy as a child, and it was theater that brought her out of her shell. The director convinced her that she didn't have to be afraid of the audience, because she was someone else on stage. It worked. While she would have loved to be an actress full time, she became an attorney instead and used the courtroom as her stage. "Thank you, Ennis Public Theatre, for letting me get back to the stage."



### **TANNER WILDMAN, HANNIBAL**

Tanner is ready to be back on the stage for his fourth show with Ennis Public Theatre after his previous role as Delbert in *An Evening of Culture*. He has performed in many shows at Ennis High including: *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *12 Angry Jurors*. Tanner would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support, and would also like to thank everyone at EPT for the opportunity to perform on their stage.

*Enjoy the show!*





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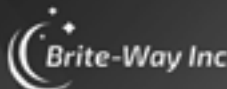
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