Madison Theatre Guild presents:

The

Best Man

By Gore Vidal

Directed by David Pausch

FOOTLIGHTS.COM®
The Best Man

By Gore Vidal

Director
David Pausch

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
Kelly Maxwell

STAGE MANAGER
Katherine Thompson

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Steven M. Peterson

SET DESIGNERS
Landon Petersen & Teresa Sarkela

SOUND DESIGNER
Paul Lorentz

COSTUME DESIGNER
Karen Saari

PRODUCER
Jim Chiolino

PROPS DESIGNER
David Heuer

MASTER BUILDER
Lee Waldhart

MASTER ELECTRICIAN
Chris Kaufmann

CAMPAIGN POSTER DESIGNER
Michael Austin

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Rebecca Plourd

Run time is roughly 2.25 hours
which includes a 15-minute intermission.

For the enjoyment of those around you, please turn off cell phones,
pagers, watch alarms, and other electronic devices.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
The use of flash photography is also forbidden.
PLACE

A presidential convention in Philadelphia.

TIME

Summer 1960.

*The Best Man* is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene 1. A Hotel suite.
Scene 2. Senator Joseph Cantwell’s suite. The same evening.
Scene 3. William Russell’s suite. The next afternoon.

**Intermission**

ACT TWO

Scene 1. Cantwell suite. A few minutes later.
Scene 2. Russell suite. A few minutes later.
Scene 4. Russell suite. The next evening.

CAST

Secretary William Russell ................................................................. John Jajewski
Alice Russell .................................................................................... Rebecca Raether
Dick Jensen ..................................................................................... Carl Cawthorne
Catherine / Reporter ....................................................................... Gina Gómez
Senator Joseph Cantwell .................................................................. R. Peter Hunt
Mabel Cantwell ................................................................................ Liz Angle
Don Blades ........................................................................................ Nick Kaprelian
Ex-President Arthur Hockstader ...................................................... Lee Waldhart
Mrs. Sue-Ellen Gamadge ................................................................. Deborah Hearst
Senator Clyde Carlin ....................................................................... Joseph Lutz
Dr. Artinian / Reporter ..................................................................... Bart Terrell
Sheldon Marcus ................................................................................ Edric Johnson
Reporters / Delegates ..................................................................... Sunny Schomaker, Jim Chiolino
PRODUCTION STAFF

Director .......................................................................................................................... David Pausch
Producer ....................................................................................................................... Jim Chiolino
Assistant to the Director ................................................................................................. Kelly Maxwell
Stage Manager ................................................................................................................... Katherine Thompson
Set Designers ..................................................................................................................... Landon Petersen, Teresa Sarkela
Costume Designer .............................................................................................................. Karen Saari
Lighting Designer ........................................................................................................... Steven M. Peterson
Sound Designer ................................................................................................................ Paul Lorentz
Props Designer .................................................................................................................. David Heuer
Campaign Poster Designer .............................................................................................. Michael Austin
Assistant Stage Manager .................................................................................................. Rebecca Plourd
Hair / Make-up Consultant ............................................................................................... Bridget Boywid Doxtater
Production Photography ................................................................................................. Brett Williams
Trailer ................................................................................................................................... Luke Kokinos

PROFILES

Liz Angle (Mabel Cantwell) is pleased to be back on stage with Madison Theatre Guild. Previous roles include Lil Bit (How I Learned to Drive), Jeanne Moore (Opiate of the Missus), Sylvia (Sylvia), and some other very interesting roles. Thank you for supporting local theater!

Michael Austin (Campaign Poster Design) has a long history with the Bartell. He designed a good number of season programs, posters, and ads for Strollers, and designed StageQ’s season brochure for a couple of years. The posters for this show are his first work to make it to the stage. Of that he’s quite proud!

Jim Chiolino (Reporter 4 / Delegate / Producer) is a producer/director/actor who loves Madison area stages. He is thrilled you came to this show! Thanks for supporting live theater.

Carl Cawthorne (Dick Jensen) is thrilled to be back at MTG and involved in some rather timely political drama. Favorite past roles in the Madison area include Tobias in A Delicate Balance, Tarleton in Misalliance, Baptista in The Taming of the Shrew, and The Old Man in Prelude to a Kiss. Much love to friends and family for all your kind support.

Bridget Boywid Doxtater (Hair / Makeup Consultant) has been involved in theatre, both on and off stage, for over 30 years. She is pleased to help the cast of The Best Man capture the period look. Thank you for supporting local theatre!

Gina M. Gómez (Catherine / Reporter 3) is thrilled to be making her MTG debut. She has worked and performed with various other theatre companies around Madison, including Broom Street, Mercury Players, Strollers, and Stage Q. She sends love to her family; and to Josh, thank you for your continued patience and love.

Deborah Hearst (Mrs. Gamadge) is delighted to be working with MTG again. Locally, she has also worked with Children’s Theater of Madison, Theatre LILA, Forward Theater, Strollers, Are We Delicious?, Mercury Players, Bricks Theater, and UW Madison’s Theater Department. Special thanks to Whitney and Eden, for their heart and inspiration, and to Edric for always being there, literally. “The women were not voting in 1860”…well, we are now.
David Heuer (Props / Poster) is on his 6th season designing for the Madison Theatre Guild. He has also enjoyed working with various other local theatre companies. He thanks the crew and cast for their patience, assistance, and inspiration.

R. Peter Hunt (Joe Cantwell) is pleased to be onstage once more, following a rather long hiatus. He has been fortunate to have participated in over thirty stage productions, as well as several local/regional commercials, a music video, two feature-length independent films, and as voiceover and motion capture talent in a number of video games. Love to Kate, Mom, Dad, etc.

John Jajewski (William Russell) is happy to be working with this wonderful cast and crew. He is happy to be working with Madison Theatre Guild once again!

Edric Johnson (Marcus Sheldon) acts and teaches children's drama at the university level. Last season he performed as “Brady” in Mercury Players’ A Place in the Woods and “Mike” in MTG’s Wait Until Dark.

Nick Kaprelian (Don Blades) has been acting on Madison stages for the last 11 years with many theater companies. Past roles include Preacher in Southern Baptist Sissies (StageQ), Jean in Rhinoceros (Strollers), Paul in Dumpster Flower (Broom Street) and Karl/Steve in Clybourne Park (Madison College).

Paul Lorentz (Sound Design) most recently made birds sing for Strollers’ The Drawer Boy, and phones ring for MTG’s Born Yesterday. His previous work for MTG includes sound design for The Whipping Man, The Nance, and Wait Until Dark.

Joseph Lutz (Senator Carlin) was last seen in Madison Shakespeare’s production of Henry IV Part I. He has worked with Broom Street Theater, Strollers Theatre, Left of Left Center, and others.

Kelly Maxwell (Assistant to the Director) performs improv comedy with Monkey Business Institute, writes and acts with Are We Delicious?, and sings with whomever will have her. She is grateful to witness this play being brought to life by such a capable cast and crew.

David Pausch (Director) is a Madison-based theatre artist. His most recent directing credits include: The Drawer Boy (Strollers Theater), August: Osage County (Mercury Players Theater), Someone’s Gotta Do It Monologue Festival (Forward Theater Company), Laughter on the 23rd Floor (Strollers Theater), Coyote Moon (Mercury Players Theater), Out of the Fire--The Banned Books Monologues (Forward Theater Company), Throwback Thursday: Truce or Consequences (Broken Dart Players), Oatesland (Bricks Theatre) and The Odd Couple (Alley Stage).

AN EXPLORATION OF THREE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE CLASSIC NARRATIVE

November 8, 9, 10 & 15, 16, 17
7:30pm, Broom Street Theatre
Tickets: arewedelicious.com/tickets
Show Info: facebook.com/arewedelicious

Are We Delicious? BST

Notorious Damsels, The Cinderella Stories
Landon Petersen (Set Designer) was thrilled to be asked by Teresa Sarkela to assist in the design of The Best Man set. Landon is an award-winning set designer who adores Teresa, therefore couldn’t say no, and this is his first time working with MTG. A special shout-out to David and Jim for their special brand of awesomeness. His previous work has been with Strollers Theatre and StageQ, last designing sets for Die Mommie Die!, A Delicate Balance, and Twilight of The Golds.

Steven M. Peterson (Lighting Designer) is excited to be working on The Best Man with MTG and Dave. He has most recently designed The Drawer Boy with Strollers and Suddenly Last Summer for StageQ. Steven has previously designed for Edgewood HS, Strollers, Mercury Players, KRASS, Middleton Players, and UW Opera. Thank you to all my friends and family for the help and support.

Rebecca Plourd (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be making her MTG debut as the assistant stage manager. She also is an intern for SPCT, CTM, and works as a designer/stage manager at MGHS. She would like to thank Kat, her friends, girlfriend, and family for their support!

Rebecca Raether (Alice Russell) is very happy to have suspended her “I don’t do political plays” rule to work with this wonderful cast, director, and crew. As always, huge thanks to her friends and family for their support—especially to the man who always claps the loudest.

Karen Saari (Costume Designer) has most recently done design work for The Drawer Boy and Laughter on the 23rd Floor (Strollers). She is a playwright whose work has been staged across the US this year. She is also an actor, marketing copywriter, voice actor, and mother of two. Love to Dave, Max, & Ginny.

Teresa Sarkela (Set Designer) designs, paints, and aspires to be a kayak. Most recent works have been seen with La Boheme (UW Opera), Hello Dolly! (Oregon Straw Hat Players), and The Drawer Boy (Strollers). Special thanks to Landon for being the rational, beautiful part of the brain!

Sunny Schomaker (Reporter 1) dug deep into her youth as a high school and college journalist. More recently, she was previously in Strollers’ productions of The Winter’s Tale and Rhinoceros. She thanks the City of Madison for tearing up Monroe Street.
Bart Terrell (Artinian, Reporter 2). Recent work includes *Little Miss Sunshine* (Grandpa), *1776* (Samuel Chase), and *Assassins* (Sam Byck). Bart actually believes that actors are nothing more than sub-human monsters and he only appears on the stage in order to anger his wealthy socialite parents.

Katherine Thompson (Stage Manager) is a life-long theatre enthusiast and has spent three decades working on the stage. She is ever so happy to find herself Stage Managing such a talented team of actors and crew. Favorite local productions include: *Skin Tight, Music Man, and Red, Hot and Cole.*

Lee Waldhart (Art Hockstader) is a familiar face to Madison area theater goers and has been an avid supporter of community theater for over 40 years, with over 200 stage productions under his belt. Look for him this April in CTM’s *Willy Wonka.*

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**AFTER THE REVOLUTION**

by AMY HERZOG

co-directed by SUZAN NUEBY & AMY C. MAY

Bartell Theatre's Evjue Stage

Nov. 30-Dec. 15, 2018

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**CABARET**

March 15 - March 30

music by John Kander
lyrics by Fred Ebb
book by Joe Masteroff

directed by Steve Neid
music direction by Evan Lange
choreography by Lyn Pilch

Leave Your Troubles Outside

Tickets on sale now: www.bartelltheatre.org

"Cabaret" is presented by special arrangement with Jerald Weinbach, Inc.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There are so many who have contributed their time or shared items to help us make this production possible. We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their assistance: Strollers Theatre, StageQ, Mercury Players, Krass, Kirk Stantis, Bonnie Balke, Marie Schulte, Kathleen Tissot, Brett Williams, Luke Kokinos, Chad Abel, Sam Kearney, and many others…

Special thanks to Reverend Staci Marrese-Wheeler, Lakeview Moravian Church & ETC.

MTG DONORS

The Madison Theatre Guild thanks all its generous contributors, including those who wish to remain anonymous. Listed are contributions received between January 1, 2018, and October 16, 2018.

Please let us know if we have inadvertently omitted someone.

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Betty Diamond
David Furumoto
Jordan Humpal
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Ilona Pinzke
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Phil Klein
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Karen Pollack
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Pat Stockland
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INFAMOUS MOTHERS
Directed by Marie Justice
Based on the book by Sagashus T. Levingston
Written for the stage by Coleman