

*The Greenbelt Arts Center and Seventh Street Playhouse present
the 2016 production of*

THE EATON WOMAN

by

Anthony E. Gallo

Directed by

Beatrix Whitehall



Friday at 8:00 p.m. : July 8, 15; Saturday at 8:00 p.m. : July 9, 16;
Sunday Matinees: July 10, 17 at 2:00 p.m.

CAST

Margaret Eaton	Tarpley Long
Andrew Jackson	Samuel A. Simon
John Eaton	Miles Benson
Rachel Jackson, Deborah Ingham	Christie Starley
Reverend John Campbell, John Berrien	John Starrels
Reverend Ezra Ely	Jon Marget
Floride Calhoun	Margaret Bagley
John Calhoun	Rod Ross
Emily Donelson, Mabel Jones	Johnna Leary
Martin Van Buren	Grant Bagley
Antonio, Chair Thief, Willie, John Branch	Charles Schoonover
Elizabeth Branch	Lindsay Williams
Eliza Berrien	Penny Martin
Ensemble	Entire Cast

CREW

Lighting and Sound	Tommy Zanner
Sound Design	Beatrix Whitehall
Photography	Grant Bagley
Videography	Matt Lolich

ACT ONE

- Scene 1 **The American Presidential Election. 1828**
Scene 2 **The Hermitage. Nashville, Tennessee. December 22, 1828**
Scene 3 **Inauguration Day. East Portico, The U.S. Capitol. March 4, 1829**
Scene 4 **Post-Inaugural Reception. The White House. That night.**
Scene 5 **Vice President Calhoun's Home. Washington, D.C. Late that night.**
Scene 6 **The White House. The President's Office. A week later**
Scene 7 **The Calhoun Home. Washington, D.C. A day later**
Scene 8 **Secretary of State Van Buren's Home. Washington, D.C. The next week**
Scene 9 **The White House. The President's Office. 1831**

TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

- Scene 1 **Reverend Ezra Ely's Office. The next day**
Scene 2 **The White House. The Green Drawing Room. 1831**
Scene 3 **The White House. The President's Office. The next week**
Scene 4 **American Embassy in Madrid. 1840**
Scene 5 **Andrew Jackson's Office. The Hermitage. Nashville, Tennessee. 1843**
Scene 6 **Andrew Jackson's Funeral. The Hermitage, Gardens. 1845**
Scene 7 **The Eaton Home. Washington, D.C. At sunset. 1856**
Scene 8 **The Eaton Home. 1859**
Scene 9 **Lochiel House, home for destitute women. Washington, D.C. 1879**

CAST and CREW

Grant Bagley (Martin Van Buren) appeared last year in the Seventh Street Players' production of "The Springfield Boys" at the GAC. He played a major role last year in "Life or Death", a Ron Tochtermann play presented at the Howard County Arts Center. He also recently played a role in Agatha Christie's "The Hollow" at GAC. Also a singer and bass player, he regularly performs with his wife, Margaret, in the jazz trio, Baguette Magique.

Bagley, Margaret (Floride Calhoun) She appeared in June in a presentation of "The Hollow", an Agatha Christie play at the GAC. In 2015, she had a part in a one-act play, "Life And Death". Last summer she was in "The Springfield Boys", a Tony Gallo play. Margaret has sung in the Capital Encore Chorale for five years. A pianist, she appears with her husband, Grant, a bassist, in the Baguette Magique combo joined by a vocalist and drummer. They provide pre-dinner music at Washington, D.C.'s Collington Community where the couple resides.

Benson, Miles (John Eaton) Miles Benson is a Washington-based retired journalist. For 50 years he wrote for the Newhouse Newspaper group, covering national politics and public policy issues. He was a White House correspondent for 16 years. For the last 10 years he has been a reporter and editor of a monthly environmental news report broadcast nationally by the award-winning KCET-Link TV.

Gallo, Anthony E. (Playwright) is the author of twenty plays, seven of which have now been produced at the Greenbelt Arts Center. His plays have been staged nearly 150 times in 35 venues in DC, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York

Leary, Johnna (Emily Donelson, Mabel Jones) Johnna Leary is an Equity Membership Candidate with a B.A. in Musical Theatre from Shepherd University. Favorite roles include Martha Cratchit in "A Christmas Carol" (Totem Pole Playhouse), Princess Briar Rose in "Enchanted Sleeping Beauty" (Pumpkin Theatre) and Cosette in "Les Miserables" (Way Off Broadway). Many thanks to her family and this cast. <http://johnnaleary.weebly.com/>

Lolich, Matt (Videographer) Working for a government organization in addition to running his own video production company (HilltopVideos.com), Matt's clients include DC/VA area sports networks and the Pentagon. Producer, writer, editor, cinematographer for the 2010 documentary, "I Put a Spell on You: A look Inside the Blair Witch Project " his works have been shown at film festivals.

Long, Tarpley (Margaret Eaton) appeared in "The Tragedy of King Saul" and "The Springfield Boys". She earned an MFA at the University of Alabama. Most recently she was cast as Boo in Anthony Gallo 's play "The Botticelli Cruise" produced at Greenbelt Arts Center in summer of 2013

Marget, Jon (Ezra Ely) Jon has appeared in several productions at GAC. His other venues have included the Pittsburgh Playhouse, the Maryland Renaissance Festival (13 seasons), Source Theater Company, Keegan Theater Company and several dinner theaters. In real life, he is a mostly retired lawyer.

Martin, Penny (Eliza Berrien Ensemble) Penny is returning home to GAC after having spent an enjoyable time as a highly hammy actor and a naïve Chamberlain in MAD's production of "Wyrd Sisters". From the witches of Terry Pratchett's "Discworld" to the...uh...mean girls of Jacksonian Washington, it's been quite a ride. Hope you enjoy the show.

Ross, Rod (John Calhoun, Ensemble) Rod Ross--BA, Knox, 1965; PhD, University of Chicago, 1975--is in his first play since college. On April Fools Day 2016 he retired from the National Archives with 41 years of government service. Illinois Congressional offices give out to visitors his year 2000 map of Illinois-related sites in Washington. For his YouTube video, Google "Rod Ross Memorial Day".

Schoonover, Charles (Antonio, Chair Thief, Willie, John Branch) Charles Schoonover is a student at Northern Virginia Community College. He played The Jester in NOVA's "House of Horrors" Halloween production at the Schlesinger Concert Hall And Arts Center; was Mickey in the HBO series, "House of Horrors"; and will appear in the upcoming movie, "Jackie".

Simon, Samuel A. Sam is pleased to appear with the Seventh Street Players. He performs a one-man show, "The Actual Dance", has appeared with various theaters, is trained in improv and performs with Gary Austin Workshop in Washington and New York. He lives in McLean, VA with his wife of 50 years, Susan

Starley, Christie (Rachel Jackson, Deborah Ingham, Ensemble) This is Christie's debut with Seventh Street Playhouse! A member of Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television Artists and Actors Equity, Christie has worked on 5 continents in 43 countries and 34 states in movies, t.v., stage, voiceovers and has modeled internationally. A great honor has been her 2nd billing co-star role opposite the legendary Mickey Rooney. A former member of the White House staff in the Office of Presidential Speechwriting, the second of her 2 concurrent lifelong careers is as a published writer and editor under pen name "Christie Wagner".

Starrels, John (John Campbell, John Berrien) A Californian, John Starrels has appeared in "The Cherry Orchard", "Paul", "The Agony of David", "The Springfield Boys", "Teresa" and "Margherita".

Whitehall, Beatrix (Director and Sound Design) has been with the Seventh Street Playhouse for seven years designing sound, narrating staged readings, acting, and now directing. She has over 35 years experience in community theater. Trix is a founding member of the Greenbelt Arts Center and serves on its Board of Directors. An attorney, Trix retired from the Maryland Office of the Public Defender after 26 years and hopes to pursue a new career as a teacher.

Williams, Lindsay (Elizabeth Branch) With a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance from the Eastman School of Music and M.A. in Performing Arts Administration from New York University, Lindsay is excited to make her 7th Street Playhouse debut! An accomplished musician, Lindsay is active as a woodwind doubler.

Special thanks to Tommy Zanner (Lighting and Sound) and to Christie Wagner a.k.a. Christie Starley for her work on this program.

The playwright would sincerely appreciate your suggestions and comments. You are most welcome to contact him at 202-544-6973 or agallo2368@verizon.net

Based on history's famous "Petticoat Affair", this two-act dramedy by Anthony E. Gallo is all about morals, adultery, lies, women's roles in Washington society, the quasi-downfall of the Jackson Administration and Margaret Eaton. To some she was the most beautiful woman in Washington history. To others the most immoral. But all agree that she and her husband, John Henry Eaton--at various times Secretary of War, attorney, ambassador to Spain, Governor of the Florida Territory, U.S. Senator from Tennessee (elected at age 28)--created more controversy than any other power couple in Washington's political history. How was the President to vanquish the rebellion by the Cabinet wives who objected to the Eaton woman--the de facto First Lady--and brought government to its knees?