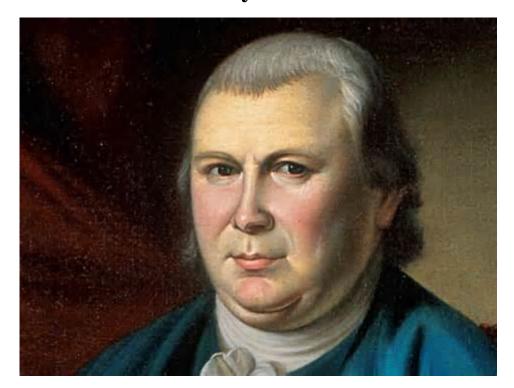
The Cosmos Theatre presents a Staged Reading of

### MR. MORRIS! MR. MORRIS!

Written and Directed by

## Anthony E. Gallo



## SATURDAY OCTOBER 13, 2018 NOON POWELL ROOM COSMOS CLUB

#### **CAST**

Robert Morris
Young Robert Morris
Robert Morris Senior
Gouverneur Morris
Thomas Willig
Haym Salomon
George Washington
Stanley Cloud
Brian Doyle
George Spencer
Mark Young
Brian Doyle
Rodney Ross
Rick Waugaman

George Washington
Mary White Morris
Benjamin Franklin
Alexander Hamilton
Sheriff
Rick Waugaman
Starr Kopper
Miles Benson
Brian Doyle
George Spencer

Pierre L'Enfant Miles Benson
Eliza Jaedene Levy
Polly Morris Bunty Ketcham
Eddy Brian Doyle

Rachel Salomon
Arthur Lee
Narrator
Lenore Salzman
Brian Doyle
Gloria Rall

Sound Designer Beatrix Whitehall

Stage Manager Tarpley Long

#### ACT 1

SCENE 1 OXFORD, MARYLAND 1747

SCENE 2 TWO YEARS LATER

SCENE 3 THE DANCE ASSEMBLY TWENTY YEARS LATER

SCENE 4 THE NEXT DAY

SCENE 5 FRANKLIN'S OFFICE

SCENE 6 CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

SCENE 7 MORRIS' OFFICE

SCENE 8 TWO MONTHS LATER SUPERINTENDENT

#### SCENE 9 MORRIS' OFFICE SCENE 10 OUTSIDE CITY HALL

# ONE TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION: DESSERT, FRUIT, COFFEE AND TEA SERVED

ACT 2

SCENE 1 MORRIS DINING ROOM

**SCENE 2 MORRIS OFFICE** 

SCENE 3 TWO YEARS LATER MORRIS OFFICE

SCENE 4 FRONT OF THE MORRIS HOME

**SCENE 5 PRUNE STREET PRISON** 

SCENE 6 TWO YEARS LATER

**SCENE 7 MORRIS HOME 1804** 

SCENE 8 A YEAR LATER THE MORRIS RESIDENCE



The playwright would sincerely appreciate your suggestions and comments. You may contact him at 202 544 6973 or agallo2368@verizon.net

Alexander Hamilton revered him. Benjamin Franklin prized this fellow-Philadelphian. None appreciated him more than both President and General George Washington. Thomas Jefferson thought he was a fox. But in 1781 they all agreed that only Robert

Morris could become the Superintendent of Finance and save the new nation from financial destruction. And he did. General Washington won the War, but never ceased in his praise of Morris' indispensable financial and economic acumen in confronting Great Britain, the world's greatest economic power.

But the mention of his name today elicits a "Who?" response. Surely, he is the most underappreciated founding Father. And his critics argue that Robert Morris did not finance the Revolutionary War. The Revolutionary War financed Robert Morris.

This two-act dramatization probes the life of Robert Morris, surely America's most under-appreciated Founding Father, who rose to become the richest man in all of the Americas, found ways of financing the Revolutionary War, laid the groundwork for the economic establishment of the new republic, and died in bankruptcy. He signed the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the U.S. Constitution. As Superintendent of Finance, he financed the American Revolution. Morris was, next to General George Washington, the most powerful man in America.

Young Mr. Morris showed he was an entrepreneur when as a young boy, he purchased flour in Philadelphia and exported it to England at triple the price. He died in poverty at age 74 after speculating on 16 million acres of American land to be sold to French settlers who never did arrive. He built the largest and most expensive home in North America (Morris Folly), along with investing in hundreds of other industries through leverage. He spent six years in debtor's prison and was the only prisoner in American history ever to be visited by a sitting President, the ever-grateful George Washington.

