

# from the FOOTLIGHTS

JANUARY 2016

"Life shouldn't be all work and no plays." <http://www.footlightsdc.org>

## January 13: Andrew Bovell's *When the Rain Stops Falling* Guest: Michael Dove, Director

It's raining. Gabriel York is awaiting the arrival of his grown son whom he hasn't seen since he was seven. "I know what he wants. He wants what all young men want from their fathers. He wants to know who he is. Where he comes from. Where he belongs. And for the life of me I don't know what to tell him."

That's the beginning of a family saga that takes us back and forth in time from one generation to another, from 1959 to 2039, from London to Australia. With four generations of fathers and sons, their mothers, lovers and wives, this is both an epic and intimate play.

Australian playwright and screenwriter Andrew Bovell premiered *When the Rain Stops Falling* at Australia's 2008 Adelaide Festival, then took it to Sydney, Melbourne and London's Almeida – playing to sold-out houses and broad acclaim. The American premiere, at the Lincoln Center was named best new play of 2010 by Time Magazine, and won five Lucille Lortel Awards. Since then *When the Rain Stops Falling* has been produced regionally.



Footlights is pleased to welcome Michael Dove, producing artistic director at Forum Theatre, and a returning Footlights guest. Michael is directing the upcoming 1st Stage production.

*Rain* is available from Dramatists Play Service, or Amazon (even a Kindle version) for \$9. Performances will run from

February 4 through 28, at 1<sup>st</sup> Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons, VA.

Reserve now for Footlight's dinner-discussion of *When the Rain Stops Falling* on **Wednesday, January 13** at Alfio's, located at 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, on the ground floor of the Willoughby Apartments – a short walk from the north entrance of the Friendship Heights metro stop on the red line. Street parking is limited if you drive, but valet parking is free at Alfio's. Dinner is at 6:30, the discussion begins at 7:30

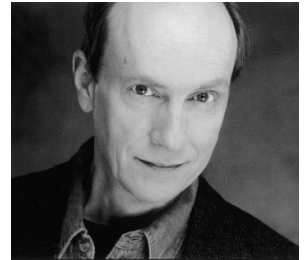
and ends at 9. (Note: if you know you must leave before 9, please try to sit near the door so you can exit quietly.)

The all-inclusive cost for dinner and discussion is \$20. Dinner is a green salad, choice among six entrees, and spaghetti, green beans, bread and butter, ice cream, and tea or coffee. Alfio's salad bar may be substituted for the entrée if you wish. Cash or check, please – no credit cards. Wine, beer, cocktails are available from the bar. You may come for the discussion only for just \$5.

**Make reservations** with Phyllis Bodin, at [phylbo@verizon.net](mailto:phylbo@verizon.net) or 301-986-1768. Reservations and/or cancellations will be accepted until noon on January 13. If you must cancel, please let Phyllis know as soon as possible since the restaurant needs a complete count. This is a seated, table-service dinner, not a buffet. We may be charged for no-shows and expect you to cover our cost.

## February 16: John Hodge's *Collaborators* Guest: Richard Henrich

Footlights meets on **Tuesday, February 16** at Alfio's to discuss ***Collaborators***. Recipient of the 2012 Lawrence Olivier Award for Best New Play, *Collaborators* is a darkly comic take on an imaginary relationship



between Russian writer Mikhail Bulgakov and dictator Joseph Stalin - who is the author and, who is writing history? Taking its inspiration from historical fact, *Collaborators* explores the intense, paradoxical, and ultimately deadly connection between the dissident writer Mikhail Bulgakov and Josef Stalin, centering around a play that Bulgakov was forced to write to commemorate Stalin's sixtieth birthday.

Our guest is Richard Henrich, founding artistic director of Spooky Action Theater. He will be directing this production.

Make reservations with Phyllis Bodin at [phylbo@verizon.net](mailto:phylbo@verizon.net) or 301-986-1768.

If you are coming to the dinner-discussion and would

like an ecopy of the play, contact Robin Larkin, [robinlarkin@comcast.net](mailto:robinlarkin@comcast.net) once you have made your reservation with Phyllis. Please observe copyright restrictions and do not distribute to others.

*Collaborators* will be performed from February 11 through March 6 at Spooky Action Theater, lower level of the Universalist National Memorial Church, 1810 16th St NW, Washington, DC.

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Newsletters are available via email to our elist or on our website at <http://footlightsdc.org/newsletters.htm>.

### ***Calendar – Discussions:***

- **Wednesday, January 13**, 6:30 p.m. dinner-discussion of **Andrew Bovell's** *When the Rain Stops Falling* with guest **Michael Dove**. At Alfio's, 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD. Dinner including discussion is \$20; discussion only is \$5. Reserve with Phyllis Bodin, [phylbo@verizon.net](mailto:phylbo@verizon.net) or 301-986-1768. John Glynn will moderate.
- **Tuesday, February 16**, 6:30 p.m. dinner-discussion of **John Hodge's** *Collaborators* with guest **Richard Henrich**. At Alfio's, 4515 Willard Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD. Dinner including discussion is \$20; discussion only is \$5. Reserve with Phyllis Bodin, [phylbo@verizon.net](mailto:phylbo@verizon.net) or 301-986-1768. Stephanie Olshan will moderate.

Robin Larkin for **FOOTLIGHTS**  
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