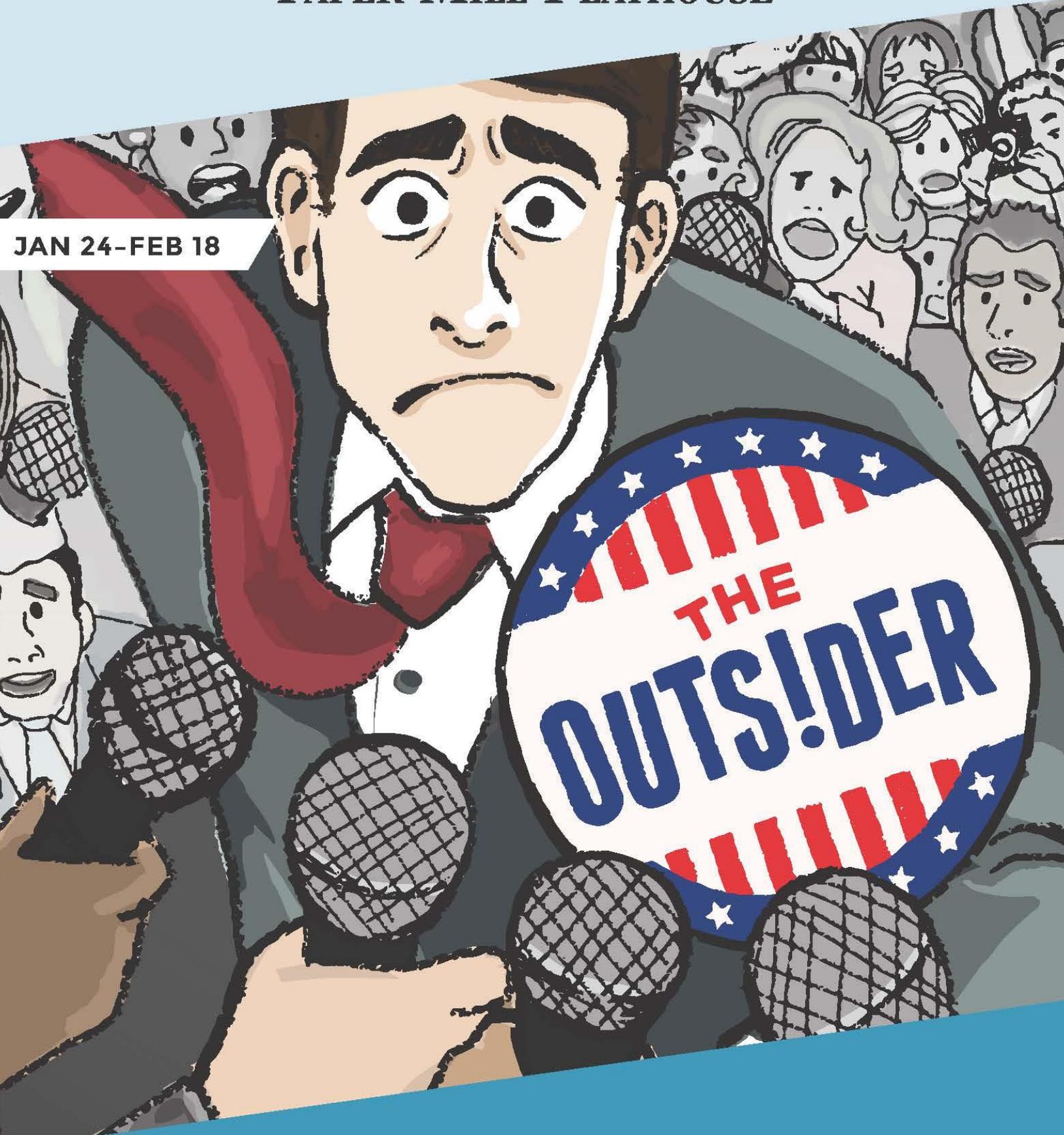


PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE

JAN 24-FEB 18



THE OUTSIDER

A New Play by **PAUL SLADE SMITH**, *Directed by* **DAVID ESBJORNSON**

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CREATIVE TEAM



Paul Slade Smith (Playwright) is the author of three plays: *The Outsider*, *Unnecessary Farce*, and *Hymn & Carol*. *The Outsider* has had a single previous production—its 2015 world premiere at Peninsula Players Theatre, which received three Milwaukee theater awards, including best new play. *Unnecessary Farce* has had nearly 250 productions throughout the United States and Canada, as well as in Great Britain, Australia, Singapore, Switzerland (in German), and Iceland (in Icelandic). As an actor, Paul appeared in the original Broadway casts of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Finding Neverland*; in national tours of *Wicked* and *The Phantom of the Opera*; and regionally at American Repertory Theatre, Goodman, Steppenwolf, and Chicago Shakespeare Theater.



David Esbjornson (Director). Premieres: *Driving Miss Daisy* by Alfred Uhry (Broadway, London, Australia); Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* and *The Play About the Baby*; Arthur Miller's *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan* (Broadway); *Resurrection Blues*; world premieres of Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* and *Homebody/Kabul*; *In the Blood* by Suzan-Lori Parks; Christopher Hampton's *Appomatox*; Ariel Dorfman's *Purgatorio*; Neil Simon's *Rose and Walsh*; *Tuesdays with Morrie*; *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*; *Red-Hot Patriot*. Revivals: *Glass Menagerie* (Shanghai); *A Few Good Men* and *Shawshank Redemption* (London); *Death of a Salesman* (Dublin); *Hamlet* (TFANA); *Measure for Measure* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (NYSF); *Lady from Dubuque*, *Mud*, and *Drowning* (Signature); *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *Summer and Smoke* (Guthrie); *The Normal Heart* (Public); *Endgame*, *Entertaining Mr. Sloane*, and *The Entertainer* (CSC). David has served as artistic director of Classic Stage Company in NYC and Seattle Repertory Theatre, and he currently is chair of Rutgers Theater Conservatory.

FARCE

The Outsider falls into the category of farce, which the Encyclopaedia Britannica describes as "a comic dramatic piece that uses highly improbable situations, stereotyped characterizations, extravagant exaggerations and violent horseplay." Farces have been written by every generation going back to the Greeks and Romans, when playwrights like Aristophanes and Plautus would use stock characters and physical comedic devices to entertain the crowds of their day.

Italian performers turned these elements into their own genre of called *Commedia dell'Arte*. This was street performance where a troupe of actors would tour around Italy improvising comedic situations with standardized movements. The comedy was often very physical and acrobatic, which has become one of the hallmarks of today's comedic farce.



Commedia dell'arte Troupe on a Wagon in a Town Square,
by Jan Miel, 1640

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France became the centre of farcical performance in the 15th Century and for hundreds of years produced many of the most influential farces out there. Some of the most important playwrights who contributed to French farce include Moliere, Marivaux, Goldoni, Camoletti and Feydeau. Many of their plays still grace the stage today. In fact, Paper Mill produced Camoletti's hilarious farce *Boeing-Boeing* to great acclaim back in 2012.

Over the past century, farce has become a regular element in television, film and on stage. The British have created some of the most memorable farces that use witty language along with physicality to great effect. One of the recent developments in the style is the use of slamming doors, which has been used to hilarious effect in many farces, including the backstage hit plays *Noises Off* and *Communicating Doors*.

We see elements of farce in many of today's most beloved comedic plays, musicals, tv shows and movies. Some examples over the past few decades include *One Man, Two Guvnors*, *Home Alone*, *The Hangover*, *Arrested Development*, *Freaky Friday*, and *Looney Tunes*.

In recent seasons, Paper Mill has treated its audience to many hilarious farces, including the previously mentioned *Boeing-Boeing*, *Lend Me A Tenor* and last season's *A Comedy of Tenors*. These plays, as well as *The Outsider*, do a masterful job of combining thousands of years of comedic devices into the action of the play. As you're watching the play, look out for any elements of farce that come up and most likely they will come around again for even more laughs!

FARCE AND MODERN REFERENCES

In theatre, a farce is a comedy that entertains the audience with extravagant and improbable situations, disguise and mistaken identity. It often contains verbal humor ranging from coarse to sophisticated, which include word play and a fast-paced plot. Farce also contains physical humor, or slapstick. Examples of farce include:

PERFORMERS: Charlie Chaplin, The Marx Brothers, The Three Stooges, Mr. Bean (*see picture below*)

THEATRE: *The Comedy of Errors*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Tartuffe*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*

MOVIES: *Dumb and Dumber*, *There's Something About Mary*, *Freaky Friday*, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, *Home Alone*, *Weekend at Bernie's*, *The Hangover*

TV: *I Love Lucy*, *Three's Company*, *Monty Python*, *Arrested Development*, *Frasier*, *Jackass*

CARTOONS: *Tom and Jerry*, *Looney Tunes*, *Scooby Do*, *SpongeBob SquarePants*

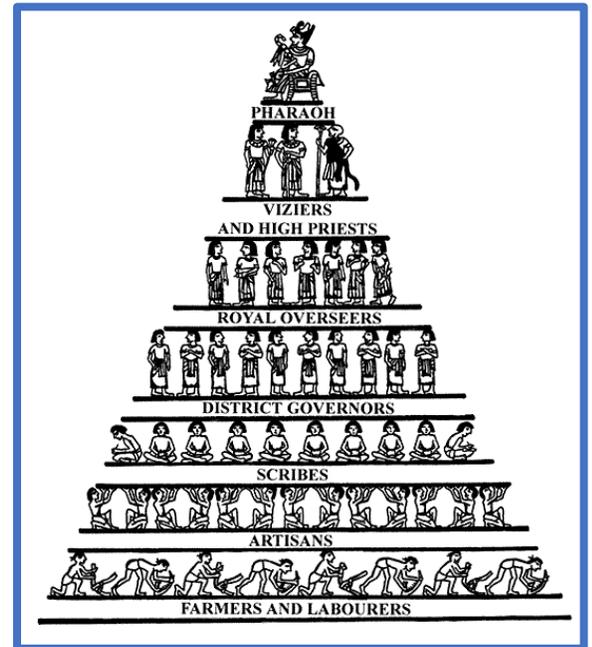


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THE HISTORY OF GOVERNMENT

A government is the system or group of people governing an organized community, often a state. Government normally consists of legislature, administration, and judiciary. Government is a means by which state policies are enforced, as well as a mechanism for determining the policy. While all types of organizations have governance, the word government is often used more specifically to refer to the approximately 200 independent national governments on Earth. Historically, forms of government include aristocracy, timocracy, oligarchy, democracy, and tyranny.

About 5,000 years ago, the first small city-states appeared. By the third to second millenniums BC, some of these had developed into larger governed areas: Sumer, Ancient Egypt, the Indus Valley Civilization, and the Yellow River Civilization. The development of agriculture and water control projects were a catalyst for the development of governments. For many thousands of years when people were hunter-gatherers and small scale farmers, humans lived in small, non-hierarchical and self-sufficient communities. On occasion, rituals or tests of strength were used to elect a chief to govern his tribe, sometimes with a group of elder tribesmen as a council. Starting at the end of the 17th century, republican forms of government grew. The Glorious Revolution in England, the American revolution, and the French revolution contributed to the growth of representative forms of government. The Soviet Union was the first large country to have a Communist government. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, liberal democracy has become an even more prevalent form of government. In the nineteenth and twentieth century, there was a significant increase in the size and scale of government at the national level.



Social hierarchy of Ancient Egypt

WHO ARE THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NEW JERSEY?



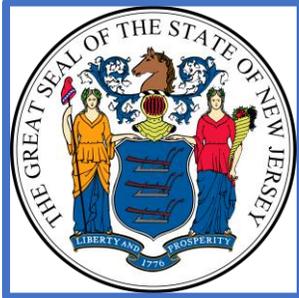
Governor Phil Murphy (D)
Serving since January 16th, 2018
Former Ambassador to Germany



Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver
Serving since January 16th, 2018
Former State Assembly Speaker

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR HISTORY IN NEW JERSEY



You may be surprised to hear that New Jersey having a Lieutenant Governor is a very new position! Prior to 2005, the Senate President would perform the duties of the Governor when he or she was out of the state or unable to perform their duties. This issue became more of a story during the early part of the 2000s when two New Jersey Governors resigned for different reasons and in both cases the Senate President became Governor. For some, they felt that this transition created a lot of power for the individual holding this position, as they would essentially have control of the state's executive and legislative branches. In 2005, a question for whether to add a Lieutenant Governor was put on the ballot and won by a large majority. The measure stated that the first possible election for this new position would be in 2009. Following Chris Christie's election to become Governor, former Monmouth County Sheriff Kim Guadagno became the first Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey.

THE OUTSIDER QUIZ

After you see the show and read this study guide, see how many of these questions you can answer!

- 1) Why did Larry Clarke have to resign as Governor?
- 2) What office did Ned Newley hold before becoming Governor?
- 3) How do we decide who should run the government? Do we trust politicians to tell us what we need? How can we influence our government?
- 4) After watching *The Outsider*, do you feel motivated or de-motivated to involve yourself more in politics?
- 5) How does Ned Newley grow in confidence during the show? Is he competent in his role as the Governor by the end?

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Audience Guide content compiled and written by Carrie Rubino and Andrew Lowy.