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Actors Guild of Parkersburg Presents

Big Fish

Book by JOHN AUGUST Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA

Based on the novel by Daniel Wallace and the Columbia Motion Picture written by John August

Originally produced on Broadway by Dan Jinks, Bruce Cohen and Stage Entertainment with Roy Furman, Broadway Across America/Rich Entertainment Group, John Domo, The Nederlander Organization and Edward Walson in association with CJ E&M, Dancing Elephant Productions, Parrothead Productions, Harvey Weinstein/Carole L. Haber, Peter May/Jim Fantaci, Ted Liebowitz/Joe Piacentile and Columbia Pictures.



THIS PROGRAM IS PRESENTED WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM

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SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

Setting: Alabama

ACT I

By the Bank of the River

“Prologue”

Will’s Bedroom

“Be the Hero” Edward, Young Will and Ensemble

The Swamp

“I Know What You Want” The Witch, Edward and Witches Ensemble

Wedding Reception

Doctor’s Office in NYC/Doctor’s Office in Alabama

“Stranger” Will

The Backyard

“Magic in the Man” Sandra, Will and Josephine

Ashton Town Square

“Jenny Hill” Jenny

A Cave

“Out There on the Road” Edward, Karl, Jenny, Don, Zacky and Ensemble

The Calloway Circus

“Little Lamb from Alabama” Sandra and Alabama Lambs

“Time Stops” Edward and Sandra

“Closer to Her” Amos, Edward and Ensemble

Auburn University

“Daffodils” Edward and Sandra

ACT II

Edward and Sandra’s House

“Fight the Dragons” Edward and Young Will

“Stranger” (Reprise) Will

“The River Between Us” Will and Edward

“I Don’t Need a Roof” Sandra

Jenny Hill’s House

Ashton Town Square

“Start Over” Don, Edward, Amos, Karl, Zacky and Ensemble

The Hospital

“What’s Next” Will, Edward and Ensemble

“How It Ends” Edward

By the Bank of the River

“Be the Hero” (Reprise) Will



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CAST

Edward Bloom	R. J. LOWE
Sandra Templeton Bloom.....	TASHA SPENCER
Will Bloom.....	ELI TRACEWELL
Josephine Bloom.....	EDAIN CAMPBELL
Karl, the Giant	SAM KINKER
The Witch	HEATHER HEPBURN
Amos Calloway	JOHN BURNS
Jenny Hill.....	SARAH SUNNIE BOGGS
Don Price.....	JOSHUA WOODARD
Zacky Price.....	SHAWN PRICE
Dr. Bennett	CHARLIE MATTHEWS
Young Will/Will's Son.....	JOSH MCCLUNG
The Mermaid	ANGELA SHRADER
The Alabama Lambs	ASHLEY FLUHARTY, ELLIE MARIE YEATER
Fisherman	TIM KUEHNE
Mayor	BRETT MEADE
Ensemble ..	ASHLEY FLUHARTY, TRU HILL, GEORGE HINES, TIM KUEHNE, BRETT MEADE, SAM MISER, JOANIE OWEN, SYDNEY REYNOLDS, ANGELA SHRADER, ELLIE MARIE YEATER

STAFF & CREW

Director	DAVID REXROAD
Musical Director	PETE SOUR
Technical Director	KATIE GODELL
Assistant Director	MARY LUCAS
Costume Sketcher.....	VERONICA FIELDS
Head Costumer.....	NANCY BLOOMER
Costume Crew.....	Betty Kelley, JANE MANCINI, ANN SIMONTON, BETTY DOTSON, MERYL WALKER, MAUREEN MODESITT
Choreographer	TASHA SPENCER
Stage Manager	NICOLE RABER
Assistant Stage Manager	MCKENZIE CAMERON
Production Assistant	MC AUGSTKALNS
Props	PAM SALISBURY, JEAN NEWTON
Set Designer.....	DAVID REXROAD
Scenic Painters	Madeline Grant, KATIE GODELL, BETH SOUR, MARA KATRINA CAPATI
Set Construction	CONNOR WALKER, SUSAN COURTNEY, JESS MANCINI
Lighting Designer.....	KATIE GODELL
Light Board Operator	CLARE WALKER
Spot Operators	OLIVIA PARSONS, MC AUGSTKALNS
Sound Designer	DAVE ROBERTS
Sound Operator	RANDI MARSHALL
Backstage Crew	MCKENZIE CAMERON, SKYLAR WALSH, ALEXIS RABER ROBERT FRANCIS
Advisor	BARBARA FULL
Photographer.....	JEFF BAUGHAN
Playbill Layout and Design	BRETT MEADE



“Actors are agents of change.

A film, a piece of theater,
a piece of music, or a book
can make a difference.

It can change the world.”

—ALAN RICKMAN



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President's Letter



Welcome to this wonderful family tale and be ready to have your heartstrings pulled with the love of this onstage family. I hope you will see yourself and some of your own relatives and friends in these characters in *Big Fish*.

Our Actors Guild family is proud of this production and we're proud of our family members who have worked so hard to present it to you. We look upon our fellow Guild members and participants as family: we spend lots of time together, we don't always agree on everything, but there is a very strong family bond here at 8th and Market.

While we love our current family members, we're always looking for new ones. Maybe you would like to join us this season and become our newest family members. We have many 'family' positions open and the easiest way to join us is to attend auditions. Each show's auditions will be publicized so that you will know when they are, where they are, and how many people are needed for each show. Since our first show *Jekyll & Hyde* will already be cast by the time you read this, here are the audition dates for the remainder of the season.

Sister Act August 13, 14 13 men, 15 women, plus ensemble
Peter and the Starcatcher..... October 15, 16 11 men, 1 woman
Fiddler on the Roof..... November 27, 28 15 men, 10 women, 5 girls/teens
To Kill a Mockingbird..... January 14, 15 10 men, 2 boys, 7 women, 1 girl
Little Shop of Horrors March 25, 26 4 men, 4 women
The Little Mermaid JR. May 20, 21 12 boys, 20 girls

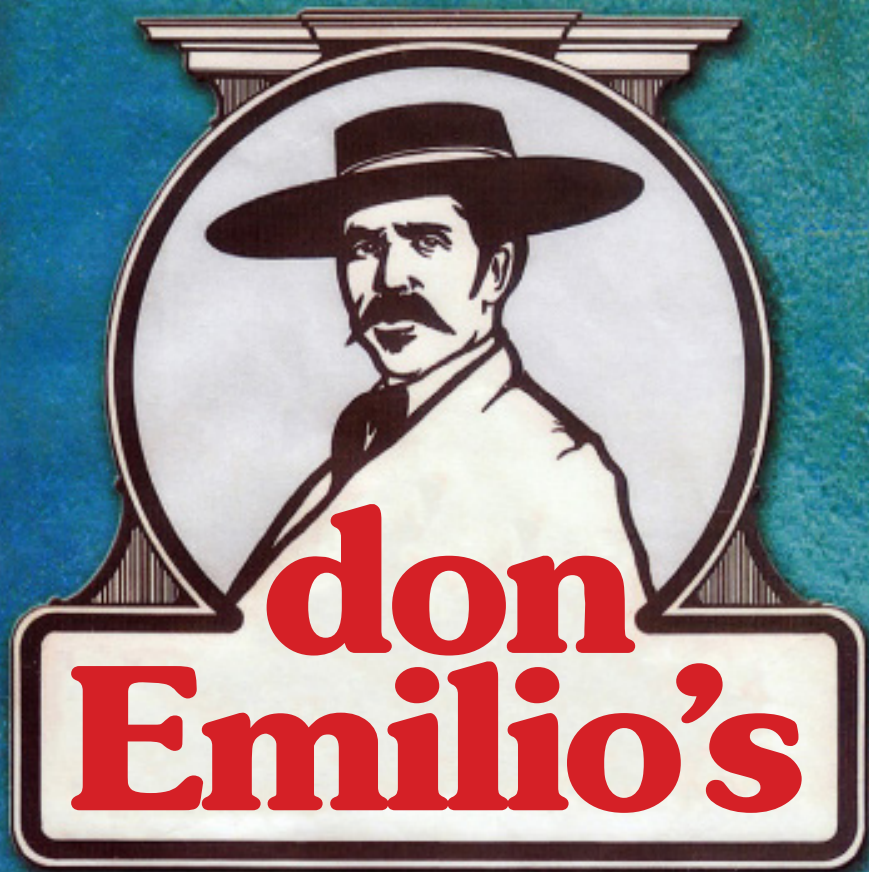
Typically, auditions are held upstairs in our rehearsal hall, with lots of signs to direct you to the correct location. Also, check out our website at actors-guild.com and you'll be able to find audition information, including packets with scenes and songs to prepare. We understand that auditions can be very scary and we try our best to help new people through the process.

And, if you are more interested in working behind the scenes, we always need new backstage family members, too. You can sign up for backstage (tech crew) at the time of auditions, or by emailing td@actors-guild.com

So, please give some serious thought to joining this wonderful family of people who are passionate about theatre. We'd love to have you!!

Barbara Full

BARBARA FULL
President of the Board of Trustees



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Director's Note



Big Fish is the story of Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman, who comes home with tall tales to tell his young son Will. Edward's fantastic stories of meeting a witch, a mermaid, a giant named Karl, and traveling with a circus to find the love of his life, are fine for a small boy. But now Will has grown up and is about to become a father himself, and he feels he never really got to know his father. As he sifts through Edward's life, and all those stories, he finds out that his father was a much bigger fish than he thought him to be.

It's been a long time since a show has touched my heart the way Big Fish does! Like millions of people, I, too, fell in love with the Tim Burton movie version of Daniel Wallace's charming book. It has become a cult classic. So, I was excited to see how they were going to make a stage musical out of that imaginative film. The first thing they did right was to hire John August, who wrote the movie script to adapt it for the stage. And the second thing they did right was to hire Andrew Lippa to write the music and lyrics. Lippa writes in a big lush style which is perfect for this fanciful and touching story. The results are just amazing; they are outstanding.

So, come take this journey with us through Edward Bloom's magical life. I hope you will fall in love with this show as much as our cast and crew and I have!

DAVID REXROAD
Director, *Big Fish*

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To become a Guild member, contact Susan Schuchts at membership@actors-guild.com or 304-488-8401. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7 P.M.

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| Raquel Jackmond | Rich Shafer | Ellie Yeater |
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Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

SARAH SUNNIE BOGGS (Jenny Hill) first appeared on the Actors Guild stage at the age of twelve in the 1991 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and grew up with her Guild family, appearing in ten other productions, most recently *Company*. Sunnie is a bartender at Ruby Tuesday's, single mother to the world's most adorable five-year-old boy, and in 2016 completed a cross-country walk of over three-thousand miles from Delaware to California with her father, Gary, to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Parkersburg Humane Society.

JOHN BURNS (Amos Calloway) first appeared on stage in the 5th grade as Cowpuncher in *The King of Kazoo*. He also sang in Chorus for four years at West Allegheny High School in Imperial, PA. This is John's second appearance on the Actors Guild Stage since he played The Ghost of Christmas Present in *Scrooge! the Musical* in November 2016. He is a retired Army Major who served 27 years in the Army Reserve. John served one tour in Iraq in 2005.

EDAIN CAMPBELL (Josephine Bloom) is excited to return to the Guild stage, having most recently participated in last winter's production of *Scrooge! the Musical*. She has taken part in several shows in the MOV area, including productions at Theatre de Jeunesse and WVU-P. This is her second show here at the Guild, and she hopes to return for more.

ASHLEY FLUHARTY (Ensemble) has appeared on stage at the Guild as Serena in *Legally Blonde* and Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*. She has also appeared at Ohio Valley University as Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* and

Ermengarde in *Hello, Dolly!*. As well as performing on stage, she enjoys working behind the scenes with hair and makeup. In her free time, Ashley can be found working as a licensed cosmetologist at Simply Irresistible in Southside Parkersburg. When she's not living at work or at the Guild, she can be found at Disney World wishing she was a real life princess.

HEATHER HEPBURN (The Witch) has been with ACP since 2004. You may have watched her as Paulette, Berta, Motor Mouth Maybelle, Eddie/Dr. Scott, or Gary Coleman, to name a few. She has won several regional OCTA awards including Outstanding in Acting for Ms. Muller. *The Red Velvet Cake War* was her directorial debut. She also has the pleasure of being involved with several area theatres including MOVP where Ms. Hepburn was awarded the Khalil for her portrayal of Steele in *A Piece of My Heart*. At MOVP she directed *The Odd Couple* which won several awards including Best Show.

TRU HILL (Ensemble) has been involved in musical theatre since the fifth grade and has had the pleasure of playing many roles including Orphan Pepper in *Annie*, The Wicked Witch in *Oz!*, Mayzie in *Seussical the Musical JR.*, and The Blue Fairy in *My Son Pinocchio JR.* She loves music and plays the clarinet in the Ritchie County Band and bass guitar in the jazz band. She is thrilled to be a cast member in *Big Fish!*

GEORGE HINES (Ensemble) is currently seventeen years old and a senior at Parkersburg High School, where he has been a part of their theater program for three years. He recently took part in the state competition show, *Things Fall:*

Meanwhile as Peter. This is George's first show for the Actors Guild and also his first musical.

SAM KINKER (Karl, the Giant) is happy to be stomping around on the Actors Guild stage where he has appeared previously in *Scrooge! The Musical* last year as Young Scrooge as well as many other shows over the years. He has also appeared on stage at the People's Bank Theatre and the MOVP. In his spare time he loves to box and do mixed martial arts.

TIM KUEHNE (Fisherman/Ensemble) is a resident of Saint Marys and is currently in his final semester as a MBA student at West Virginia University. Tim has performed with the West Virginia Symphony's Home for the Holidays concerts the last two years. This is his second production with the Actors Guild having recently appeared in *Company*, but he is looking forward to becoming an active participant in Guild productions now that his education is complete.

R.J. LOWE (Edward Bloom) has been active in theater for 30+ years and has worked on over 50 shows. He next directs this fall's *Sister Act*. R.J. has won 3 MOVP Khalil Awards, several Actors Guild "Charlie" Awards, multiple OCTA honors, the Best Actor Award at the multi-state AACT competition, and regional First Place at the first NSAL musical theater competition. He is a graduate of The American Musical & Dramatic Academy in New York City and performed/directed professionally for six years. R.J. dedicates this performance to the Edward Blooms of his life, Charlie Lowe (Father) and Bob Hickman (Grandfather).

CHARLIE MATTHEWS (Dr. Bennett) has been active in the Actors Guild

for many years having served in both administrative and artistic capacities. He has participated in well over 100 productions. His memorable directing experiences include *Company*, *Spamalot*, *Big River*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Civil War*, *Into the Woods*, *The Elephant Man*, *Children of a Lesser God*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Noises Off*, *Lombardi*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, and the award winning *Tuesdays with Morrie*. Memorable acting experiences include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *A Few Good Men*, *Noises Off, 1776*, *Moon over Buffalo* and *A Walk in the Woods*.

JOSH MCCLUNG (Young Will/Will's Son) is making his Actors Guild debut in this production. He has been seen on stage at The Smoot Theatre in the Missoula Children's Theater productions of *Alice in Wonderland* (Lobster) and *Peter and Wendy* (Cloud). He is a student at Parkersburg Catholic Elementary School where he just finished first grade. When not onstage he enjoys playing outside with friends, playing soccer, and solving logic problems. He would like to thank the production staff and the rest of the cast and crew for making this a great experience for him.

BRETT MEADE (Mayor/Ensemble) first appeared on the Actors Guild stage at age twelve in *The Panda and the Spy*, and has been seen more recently in productions of *RENT*, *Hairspray*, the musical revue *You Gotta Have Heart*, and *Company*. He assistant directed *Avenue Q*, *Shrek the Musical*, *The Addams Family Musical*, and *Legally Blonde the Musical* and co-created last year's *60 Seasons* anniversary show. Brett coordinates and designs the Guild's playbills, maintains its website, serves on the Marketing Committee, Capital Campaign Committee and chairs the Box Office. He's looking forward to assistant directing *Sister Act* this fall.

SAM MISER (Ensemble) is a junior music education major at Alderson Broaddus University where he participates in many music ensembles, such as the West Virginians, and community service groups. He has been in several Guild shows such as *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, and last year's production of *Spamalot*. He is extremely honored to be a part of such a talented cast.

JOANIE OWEN (Ensemble) is a junior attending Parkersburg High School. She is involved with the swim and track teams, the A Cappella Choir, and Musician's Club. This is her second show on the Guild stage, having recently appeared in *Spamalot*. She is very excited to be a part of such an outstanding production.

SHAWN PRICE (Zacky Price) is a theater major, recently graduated from Parkersburg High School, where he took part as Vice Principal Douglas Panch, in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and has been in a few productions at the Guild. He has been in the Actors Guild's production of *Legally Blonde* where he played Nikos Argitakos/Grandmaster Chad, and also in *Monty Python's Spamalot* as Sir Lamerick. Shawn enjoys having a supportive family, mediocre self-esteem, and a rare coin collection.

SYDNEY REYNOLDS (Ensemble) has been an active part in theatre for six years, four of them dedicated to the Actors Guild of Parkersburg. He has been in such shows as *The Lion King JR.* (Timon), *Buddy the Elf JR.* (Buddy), *Alice in Wonderland JR.* (Cheshire Cat), and *Annie JR.* (Mr. Warbucks). Along with theatre, Sydney is a 4.0 student in the 8th grade at Blennerhassett Middle School where he studies politics and is on the student council and newspaper team. Sydney was also inducted into the International Thespian Society.

ANGELA SHRADER (Mermaid/Ensemble) graduated from Marietta College with a major in psychology and theatre. She has been part of theatre since she was young, acting in various plays through secondary school, college, and MOVP. This is her debut on the Actors Guild stage, and she is thrilled to be involved, especially in a musical where she can dance. Her favorite role in a play was as Julianna in *The Other Place* at MC, and her favorite role in a musical was as Ginger in *Zombie Prom* at PSHS. She thanks her family, boyfriend, and cat for their love and support.

TASHA SPENCER (Sandra Templeton Bloom/Choreographer) has performed in *Company* (Kathy), *Legally Blonde the Musical* (Elle Woods) receiving the Khalil Award for Best Performance of 2015-2016, *Rent* (Mimi Marquez), *Annie* (Annie), *Peter Pan* (Peter Pan), *42nd Street* (Peggy Sawyer), and in Smoot Theatre Productions such as *High School Musical* (Gabriella Montez), and *Curtains* (Nikki Harris). Tasha would like to give her full gratitude to her partner Michelle Busiek for the love, support, patience, respect, and being her biggest fan. Ending with a quote, "Life is short. Forgive quickly, love truly, learn, laugh, and be kind. This life is yours."

ELI TRACEWELL (Will Bloom) previously appeared on the Guild stage as Giles Ralston in *The Mousetrap*, Sir Lancelot in *Spamalot*, Padamadan and Dewey in *Legally Blonde*, Richard Hannay in *The 39 Steps*, an Ancestor in *The Addams Family*, Huck Finn in *Tom Sawyer*, Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*, as well as several Guild Builders productions. He has also appeared in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Unexpected Guest*, and *James and the Giant Peach* at WVUP, and *Zombie Prom*, *Harvey*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Footloose* at Park-

ersburg South. Eli wrote a play named *Smart Trek: The Dating Frontier*.

JOSHUA WOODARD (Don Price) has previously appeared on the Guild Stage as Mal Beineke in *The Addams Family* and Sir Bedevere/Mrs. Galahad/Concorde in *Spamalot* as well as assisting behind the scenes with props, costumes, and scenery painting. He works as a senior health and human resource specialist for WV DHHR and spends his time traveling the state of West Virginia.

ELLIE MARIE YEATER (Ensemble) is fifteen years old and from Williamstown. *Big Fish* makes her 18th theatrical production. Some include: *The Giver*, *Les Miserables* 2015, *Music Man JR.* 2013, *Fiddler on the Roof JR.* 2014, *Beauty and the Beast JR.* 2015, *A Christmas Carol* 2014, and *The Wizard of Oz* 2015 (MOVP), *Disney's Alice in Wonderland, JR.* 2017, *Scrooge! the Musical* 2016, *Seussical JR.* 2016, and *My Son Pinocchio JR.* 2015 (Guild), *Oklahoma!* 2015 (People's Bank), *The Music Man* 2013 (Mta College). In her spare time she enjoys singing, reading, and playing the ukulele in her "glamper".

DAVID REXROAD (Director) directed *Boeing Boeing* and was an assistant director on *The Addams Family Musical* and *Shrek the Musical*. He is to direct *Peter and the Starcatcher*, the charming prequel to *Peter Pan*, next season. David serves on Guild Builders, Play Reading and the Board. He made his Guild acting debut at 15 playing Tony in *The Boyfriend* and recently played Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*. Other Guild work includes Billy Bigelow in *Carousel*, Rutledge in *1776*, and directing *Anything Goes* and *The Women*. In New York, David played El Gallo in the original off-Broadway production of *The Fantasticks*.

PETESOUR (Music Director) has been music director and in the pit for several productions, both at the Actors Guild and also at MOVP. He received the Khalil Award as music director for *Shrek* and *Avenue Q*. Other memorable shows are: *Tom Sawyer*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Seussical the Musical*, *The Sound of Music*, *Gypsy*, and *Nunsense Amen!* Onstage experience includes *Sweeney Todd* and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. He is the Minister of Music at First Presbyterian Church in Marietta and accompanies at Marietta College. Peter sends his love and appreciation to Beth, Callie and Gwen.

KATIE GODELL (Technical Director) is a soon to be graduate of Saginaw Valley State University, with BA in technical theatre. She focuses in lighting/scenic design, with a minor in art. Katie had her first internship at AGP, and is returning as the TD. She has worked 18 shows at SVSU thus far. Her most recent work includes artistic design for *Assassins* and lighting design for *Really Really*, and lights for *The Little Mermaid* at The Palace theatre in Wisconsin Dells. Katie has great love for theatre and her AGP family, and is thrilled to be at the Actors Guild once more.

MARYLUCAS (Assistant Director) has appeared on the Guild stage in *Company*, *Young Frankenstein*, and *The Red Velvet Cake War*. She also assistant directed last season's *Boeing Boeing* and was stage manager for this season's *The Mousetrap* and *Barefoot in the Park*. Mary has worked as production assistant, assistant stage manager, sound operator, and props runner on other shows at the Guild since 2013. Mary has a love of animals and currently has eight indoor cats. She also loves to read, walk half marathons, and travel, and she is learning to play the piano.

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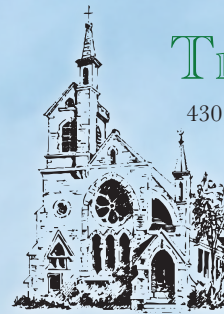
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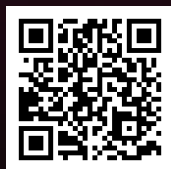
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