

and was the winner of the Pittsburgh Playwright's Festival in Black and White. *Chaucer's Trash* was a finalist at the Actors Theatre of Louisville. *Pretty Peggy* was produced by Barebones Productions. *The Chicken Snake* was awarded The Pittsburgh Foundation's Award for Outstanding Achievement, selected by The Lincoln Center's Director's Lab, received its world premier at The Point Park Repertory Company January and has been nominated for the American Critics Award. Amy is also a voice over coach and her plays are represented by Ron Gwiazda at Abrams Artist Agency.

**Clark DesSoye** (playwright) is a retired marketing executive and has been a Studio Board Member for the last six years. A native of Western New York where he earned his BA from SUNY Buffalo, he worked in publishing in New York City for nearly 30 years. Since relocating to Phoenix in 2010, he has been enjoying the sunshine all year long (and not missing the snow at all), His short scene *That Christmas in Riverside Park* was featured in last month's *Holiday Music & Musings* show. He is part of the Studio Playwrights Group which has helped him develop new plays that he hopes have some social relevance, humor and resonance with audiences. You can let him know if he's succeeding tonight!



**The Studio's FIRST LOOK program** is an opportunity for our audiences to participate in the development of new, imaginative theater — to interact with our playwrights, directors and actors to help us perfect a story before it is brought to the stage for a paying audience.

This series of live play readings is a standout favorite of our members and their friends from the general public. Participation is absolutely free to all who would like to join us.

Be sure to stick around after the reading for a discussion with the playwright, director, actors and the audience. Your feedback is an important part of the play development process and will be greatly appreciated.

### Studio Staff

Artistic Director ..... Carol MacLeod  
 Producer..... Theatre Artists Studio  
 Marketing..... Kandyce Hughes  
 Graphic Design ..... Michael Fleck  
 Social Media Manager, Program ..... Clark DesSoye

**Support for Theatre Artists Studio is generously provided by:**



# The Studio *First Look!*

Theatre Artists



**Monday, January 1, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**Directed by Amy Hartman**

**Featuring:** Dolores D'Amore Goldsmith, Cherylandria Banks, Muiyiwa Shawn Adeola, Lynnette Burnett, Isabelle Bandt, Kyle Milhouse, Patti Moran, Tom Koelbel, Mark Gluckman & Judith Eisenberg

As the neighborhood around her changes, Sophia must decide: will she allow her grown children to take charge of her life or can she find a way to adapt (again) and maintain her independence. A widow for twenty years, she built a new life for herself once, but at 88 she might not have the strength to make the changes in herself to once again feel at home in the city she has loved for half a century.

Theatre Artists Studio ~ [www.TheStudioPhx.org](http://www.TheStudioPhx.org) ~ 602-765-0120  
 12406 N. Paradise Village Parkway East, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Host..... Sally Jane Kerschen-Sheppard  
Narrator (stage directions)..... Judith Eisenberg  
Director ..... Amy Hartman

## Cast

Sophia Whitford.....Delores D'Amore Goldsmith  
Regina Beasley..... Cherylandria Banks  
Dashawn Jackson .....Muyiwa Shawn Adeola  
Yasmine Ford..... Lynnette Burnett  
Gladys Ramirez..... Isabelle Bandt  
Will Lawrence .....Kyle Millhouse  
Ella Reitz..... Patti Moran  
Jimmy Whitford..... Tom Koelbel  
John Whitford ..... Mark Gluckman

## Bios

**Delores D'Amore Goldsmith** (*Sophia*) is an award-winning theatre artist whose career spans five decades. Her actor training includes Daytona Beach Playhouse, Stetson University Drama School, Scottsdale Community College, Southwest Shakespeare Conservatory, D & D Acting Masters' class, and Mike Nichols' New Actors School. During 20 years abroad she co-founded theatre companies in Geneva and Hong Kong and then the Arizona Women's Theatre Company right here in the Valley. Favorite roles stretch from Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* to Queen Margaret in *Richard III* and she has graced the stages of ASU, Arizona Jewish Theatre Company, Southwest Shakespeare Company and Herberger Lunch Time Theater. She was a writer, actor and producer for The Improbable Theatre Company, and serves on the Board of iTheatre Collaborative. Dolores currently remains an active original member of The Studio as an actor, writer and producer.

**Cherylandria Banks** (*Regina*) was born in Memphis, TN, and has lived in the valley for 20 years. She has been involved as an actor with the various organizations here in Arizona since 2014. She loves black and white movies and sitting out on the patio with her husband. This is her first appearance at the Studio, but hopefully not the last, as she has enjoyed working with this cast, director and playwright on this reading.

**Muyiwa Shawn Adeola** (*Dashawn*) can be heard in jingles, documentaries and audio books across various media platforms. When he isn't cuddling Tigger his house cat, he works on improving his acting skills. With a successful voice-over career that has spanned more than 10 years, Shawn strives to offer hope, love and fun. His work is available on demand and has solicited feedback like "he always puts the kids to sleep."

**Lynnette Burnett** (*Yasmine*) is excited to be part of the cast for this reading with her son Kyle. "If you had told me two weeks ago that I'd be playing a 16-year-old girl in a play reading on a real stage, I would have called you crazy. But

here I am. Wish me ... a broken leg?"

**Isabelle Bandt** (*Gladys*) debuted at TAS in last season's *Summer Shorts*. She recently, portrayed "Darla" in Fountain Hills' production of *Mumblety Peg*. Her love for the stage has allowed her to perform and compete in Odyssey of the mind for six years, perform as Cat in the Hat for *Suessical the Musical*, play Nancy in *Gaslight* and perform in the Fiesta Bowl Parade. When Isabelle isn't on stage, she is a junior at RMHS, where she is currently active in performing arts, advanced acting, and advanced dance.

**Kyle Millhouse** (*Will*) enjoys all kinds of outdoor sports, playing violin and acting. He recently played Mr. Gerald in *Jurassic movie camp* directed by Matthew Dearing and has appeared in local TV commercials. This is Kyle's first time working at the Studio but he hopes it will not be the last. He is represented by the Leighton Agency.

**Patti Moran** (*Ella*) joined Theatre Artists Studio in 2015. and was part of last season's *New Summer Shorts*. She holds a Master of Music Degree and loves the gorgeous adagio chosen for the short his year. She has 3 children and one precocious grandson Rex!

**Tom Koelbel** (*Jimmy*) has been an artistic member of The Studio for nine years. Some of his favorite roles at The Studio have been Finbar Mack in *The Weir*, Gene Garrison in *I Never Sang for My Father*, John D'Agata in *Lifespan of a Fact*, and Tony/Todd in *The Perfect Party*. Tom has also performed at many theaters around the Valley including The Hale Centre Theatre (George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*), Don Bluth's Front Row Theatre (Elyot Chase in *Private Lives* and Socrates in the world premier of *Kill Socrates-A Comedy*) and Fountain Hills Theatre (Mr. Manningham in *Gaslight*).

**Mark Gluckman** (*John*) has been with the Theatre Artists Studio since 2008. He has been involved as an actor with the *New Summer Shorts Festival* as well as serving as the Studio's photographer. Mark holds a B.A. in drama from California State University and has trained at UCLA, the Pasadena Playhouse and with Stella Adler in New York City.

**Judith Eisenberg** (*narrator*) is an actor, screenwriter and producer. She most recently wrote, produced, and acted in the short film 42 Seconds. Other completed films: *The Secret Lives of Teachers*, *Deflated* (Best Comedy Short) and *Kerry and Angie*. As a working actor, Judith has appeared in television, stage, commercials and print. Her most recent stage roles at Theatre Artist Studio have been as Rose in *The Children* and as Wilma in *The Perfect Party*.

**Amy Hartman** (*director*) has directed many familiar plays around the country, including: *Agnes of God*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Franky and Johnny and the Clair Delune*, *Anne Get Your Gun*, *Fat Men in Skirts*, *The Woolgatherer* and *All My Sons*. She is also a playwright whose first play *Animal Medicine* was a finalist at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Conference. *Half of Zero* was produced by the New Group Theater, North Carolina School for the Arts,