

M A C MIDCITIES ARTS
COLLECTIVE

The Odd Couple



By Neil Simon

Directed by Tron Sutton

"The Odd Couple" by Neil Simon is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Production Team

DirectorTron Sutton
Stage Manager.....Blaise Sears
Costume Designer.....Erika Durham
Light Designer.....Seth Merrifield
Director of Operations.....Jennifer McCallum
Social Media Manager.....Micah Perkins
Web Design/Graphics.....Lindsey McCallum

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Director's Notes

There's a special kind of magic that happens when two completely different worlds collide. The Odd Couple has endured for decades not because of its punchlines—though they're sharp enough to slice through Oscar Madison's weekly pile of unopened mail—but because it captures something deeply human: the messy, hilarious, frustrating, and ultimately redemptive work of learning to live with one another.

At its heart, this play isn't just about a sloppy sportswriter and a tightly wound neat freak. It's about the fragile hope that even in our imperfections, we might still find connection. Oscar and Felix are exaggerated opposites, yes, but they're also mirrors—reflecting the ways we cling to our habits, defend our flaws, and sometimes need someone wildly different from us to shake us awake.

In rehearsals, we leaned into that tension: the comedy born from contrast, the tenderness hidden beneath the bickering, and the quiet truth that friendship often grows in the cracks left by our broken routines. The cast embraced the chaos with generosity and heart, finding the rhythm of Neil Simon's dialogue while grounding it in real emotional stakes.

As you watch these two men navigate cohabitation, conflict, and the occasional airborne linguine, I invite you to see a bit of yourself in both of them. We've all had Oscar days and Felix days. We've all tried to control what can't be controlled. And we've all discovered—sometimes the hard way—that life is richer when we let someone else into the mess.

Thank you for joining us. May this story remind you to laugh at your quirks, forgive someone else's, and cherish the odd, imperfect people who make your world feel like home.

Tron Sutton, Director

Synopsis of Scenes & Cast of Characters

Oscar Madison.....	Chris Gallego Wong
Felix Ungar.....	Joshua Maxwell
Cecily Pigeon.....	Charity Lebron
Gwendolyn Pigeon	Natalie Reid-Knutson
Speed.....	Chris Janvier
Murray.....	Terry Johnson
Roy	Darren Doyel
Vinnie.....	Dustin West

Setting

An apartment on Riverside Drive, New York City.
in the 1970's

Act I

A hot summer night

10-minute Intermission

Act II

Scene 1: Two weeks later, About 11 p.m.

Scene 2: A few days later, About 8 p.m.

10-minute Intermission

Act III

The next evening. About 7:30 p.m.

Cast Bios

Alphabetical by Cast/Crew

Darren Doyel (Roy) is excited to be on stage again. His first acting experience was in 2019 as Mr. De Pinna in *You Can't Take it With You*. He played Reverend Harper and Lieutenant Rooney in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. He played Titus in *The Curious Savage*, which was directed by Tron.

Darren's hobbies include golf, pickleball and background acting. Darren was recently married in September, and enjoys traveling.

Chris Gallego Wong (Oscar) is an award-winning filmmaker, editor, producer, and actor with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. During his time at NYU, Chris was selected to study Shakespeare at the prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, where he also performed in two productions at the John Gielgud Theatre. Upon graduation, Chris embarked on his professional acting career, joining his first Equity tour out of New York City, as well as performances at both Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Since then, Chris has established himself as a versatile performer, appearing in numerous national television commercials (Volkswagen, Dell, McDonald's, Lowe's, Verizon) and co-starring as firefighter Jake Gleason in the Emmy Award-winning television series *ER*. Chris' filmography has garnered him numerous accolades, including twelve wins and four nominations to date. Notably, he received the Best Emerging Director award for his short film, *SAVIORS*. His award-winning feature-length film *Train Baby* is available on Amazon Prime. His YouTube work has also been featured on a popular channel with over 30 million subscribers. Chris additionally launched—and serves as Creative Director for his daughter's YouTube and social media channels, @RealPrincessSophia, which have a combined following of over 200k across multiple platforms. He would like to express his gratitude to Tron Sutton for the opportunity to be part of this exceptional production, as well as his wife, two children, parents, and in-laws for their unwavering support.

Cast Bios

Chris Janvier (Speed) is excited to be working with Tron again. Chris has appeared in *It's a Wonderful Life* as Mr. Martini, *The Wizard of Oz* as Uncle Henry/Palace Guard, *A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley* in the ensemble, *You Can't Take it With You* as Paul Sycamore, *The Man with the Pointed Toes* as Lincoln, *Belles on their Toes* as Dr. Bob Grayson, *The Old Faith, Hope, and Charity* as Robert F. Evans, and *Moon Over Buffalo* as Richard Maynard. Chris did not get involved in theater until his 40's. Outside of theater, Chris enjoys traveling, photography, dancing, playing and coaching soccer, and cooking. Chris has been married to Wendy for 30 years, has 2 adult children, and a 4-year-old granddaughter. Family is very important to Chris. Thank you to Wendy for allowing me to pursue theater. Chris hopes you enjoy this show.

Terry Johnson (Murray) Terry Johnson has been involved with theater in the DFW area since 2023. At Artisan Theater in Hurst he played Mr. Sowerberry in *Oliver* and Daddy Cane in *Bright Star*. At STAND theater he has played Count Aploitiv in *Anastasia*, The Pirate Sanchez and the ships cat in *Peter and the StarCatcher*, Frank Gialini in *Over The River and Through the Woods*, and read the parts of Mr. Potter and Clarence the Angel 2nd Class in the radio drama *It's A Wonderful Life*. He is quite happy to be in his first MAC show and hopes that everyone has a wonderful time.

Charity Lebron (Cecily) Charity is a Puerto Rican actress, singer, and mother of three, including a son with special needs. Raised in challenging circumstances, she learned early that hard work turns dreams into reality. From a young age, she dreamed of the spotlight, starring in high school theater productions and choir performances where her natural charisma and vocal talent first took center stage. After building a successful corporate career, the diagnosis of her son reignited her passion for acting. Determined to model perseverance and joy for her children, Charity returned to the craft she loves most. With infectious energy, emotional depth, and a commitment to authentic storytelling, she brings heart and grit to every role. Charity's ultimate goal is to grace the big screen, inspiring others to chase their dreams no matter the obstacles.

Cast Bios

Joshua Maxwell (Felix) Josh is a multidisciplinary theatre artist and creative storyteller whose work centers on character-driven performance. As an actor, some of his favorite roles include Princeton in Avenue Q, Thomas Cromwell in A Man for All Seasons, and half the population of Tuna, Texas in an award-winning production of Red, White, & Tuna. His directing credits span a wide range of styles, from classic works such as The Wizard of Oz to popular favorites like Little Shop of Horrors. Beyond theatre, Josh is also an author, stand-up performer, and educator. The Odd Couple marks his first production with MAC, and he is grateful to the cast, crew, and creative team for an incredible experience bringing this bucket-list show to life.

For more information, please visit www.JoshuaMaxwell.cc.

Natalie Reid-Knutson (Gwendolyn) Natalie spent the majority of her professional career on the broadcast side of radio and television in the DFW market before being bitten by the bug of community theater. She's performed with Texas Star Dinner Theater, Runway Theater, Theater Coppel, Gateway Performing Arts, and more. Favorite shows: Steel Magnolias (Truvy), Joseph...Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Narrator), Cinderella and the Glass Slipper (Ugly Stepsister), Scrooge (Mrs. Cratchit), Godspell (Disciple), and The Other Wisemen (Librarian).

She's currently performing her original, one-women show, How to Live a Great Story: Maintaining Faith When Your Chapters are Rewritten. It was developed after the sudden death of her husband (August 2018) and tells her story in a unique way that inspires AND also entertains; delivering a message of hope to anyone facing difficulties or trials. For more info, visit www.brokenhaloshaven.org/speaking.

Natalie has remarried and co-founded the nonprofit, Broken Halos Haven, with her new husband, to serve young widows and kids in North Texas and beyond. Her blended family includes three know-it-all boys, a "screenager" stepdaughter, a weird dog, and one, very annoying cat.

Cast & Crew Bios

Dustin West (Vinnie) is excited to make his debut with Mid Cities Arts Collective in this production. He most recently appeared as Mr. Bumble in *Oliver!* and as The Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* at At Artisan Center Theater. He also enjoys motorcycling and open mics at every opportunity.

Crew

Erika Durham (Costume Designer) is excited to return to MAC for another production! She has previously designed costumes here for *Two By Two*, *Kilroy Was Here*, and *Give My Regards to Broadway*. Among her previous credits are *Anastasia*, *Disaster*, *The Lightning Thief*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Oliver!*, *Damn Yankees*, *A Doll's House Pt. 2*, *Spring Awakening*, *Men on Boats*, *Relatively Speaking*, *I Hate Hamlet*, and the feature film, *Seventy-8*. She thanks her husband and mother for their help and support.

Jennifer McCallum (Director of Operations) Jennifer McCallum serves as the Director of Operations and Administration for MAC, where she plays a pivotal role in bringing the organization's vision to life. With a strong background in organizational theater management, Jennifer enjoys building and leading teams, as well as fostering a collaborative environment that empowers volunteers and community members to contribute their talents. Her dedication to the performing arts and her passion for community engagement drive her efforts to ensure smooth operations and successful productions. Jennifer has been married for 26 years to Whatcha, and they have 3 precious children and a 1-year-old grandson. Outside of the theater, they enjoy camping, sailing and enjoying the outdoors with their 3 dogs. She is excited to help build a thriving arts community in the Mid-Cities area and looks forward to seeing MAC grow and flourish.

Crew Bios

Blaise Sears (Stage Manager) Blaise is a seventeen year old engineering student at Dallas College (although if you are an audience member reading this, he's actually eighteen, as of January fourth) and he couldn't think of a better way to spend his winter break than stage managing one of his favorite stories, with a great cast, and an okay director. Although, now that he thinks about it, he could have spent more time with his family of nine. Actually, that's a much better way to spend his break... Blaise has now decided to submit this bio as his letter of resignation, and will return to under his rock as soon as his employer gets back to him.

Tron Sutton (Director) Tron is thrilled to be directing once again for MAC. Tron's directing credits include Two By Two, Oliver!, The Sound of Music, The Sound of Music Youth Edition, Annie, The Wizard of Oz, Steel Magnolias, The Jury Room, Ella Enchanted, and My Three Angels. Tron's acting credits include The Philadelphia Story, Love Sex and the IRS, Robin Hood, A Bad Year for Tomatoes, Picnic, and Mary Poppins. Tron has been acting and directing in the DFW area for over 40 years. He would like to thank each of you making this great production possible. He hopes you enjoy The Odd Couple as much as he had directing it!



About MAC

Mission

Mid-Cities Arts Collective is a non-profit theatre company that seeks to unite creatives and audiences by telling engaging, family-oriented, redemptive stories on the stage.

Vision

To build a community theatre known for high quality, high collaboration, and high spirits

Values

Community is Life

People of varied backgrounds and generations coming together for personal engagement.

Optimism is Cool

Celebrating uplifting stories through optimism and encouragement.

Everyone is Welcome

We are collaborative, accessible, and inclusive to all.

The Play's the Thing

We value the fun and joy of artistic expression.



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MAC started with no money and a few friends who have a unique mission and vision. Many people may not realize how expensive shows are to produce. This production would not have been possible without the support of some very special people, partnerships, organizations, and cities. Please join me in thanking and supporting them.

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Chicken N Pickle Grapevine

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Mid-Cities Arts Collective is growing, and we're looking for dedicated, passionate individuals to get involved in a variety of areas—big and small. Opportunities include serving on committees, helping with fundraising, planning special events, coordinating cast meals, working front of house, and supporting community engagement efforts.

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