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**DIRT DOGS THEATRE CO. PRESENTS WITTY AF
PRODUCTION OF *BOSTON MARRIAGE***

Production Dates: Feb 8-23, 2019

Opening Night: Feb 8, 2019

HOUSTON— Women of fashion meet Wildean wit in this comedy by David Mamet. And while audiences are familiar with Mamet’s formula of quick-witted verbal gymnastics from testosterone-laden men, *Boston Marriage* delivers a wickedly funny AF—that is, All Female—production featuring three women of the early 20th Century. Director Linda Phenix describes *Boston Marriage* as “a delicious and unconventional drawing room comedy made special by Mamet’s dialogue of well-timed barbs and hilarious musings by a bumbling maid (**Jenna Morris**) and two zany yet cunning women—Anna (**Malinda L. Beckham**) and Claire (**Melissa J. Mayo**).”

Anna has received an enormous emerald from her married lover, as well as a stipend with which she intends to woo Claire, her longtime companion. But Claire is infatuated with a respectable young lady and wants to enlist the jealous Anna’s help for a rendezvous. When Claire’s young inamorata appears, it sets off a crisis that puts both the valuable emerald and the women’s futures at risk.

“*Boston Marriage* is a contemporary homage to the Victorian New England past, which in many ways still speaks to the present,” says Phenix, who is making her directorial debut with Dirt Dogs Theatre Co. Phenix’s work is well-known in Houston, having directed 13 shows at Theater LaB Houston, beginning with *The Big Bang* in 2002. Most recently she directed Richard Bean’s *Kiss Me* (2018) and *The Chosen* (2017) by Aaron Posner and Chaim Potok.

It was these last two shows that drew DDTCo. Artistic Director, Malinda L. Beckham, to Phenix. “Linda’s background in dance and choreography was evident in *Kiss Me* and *The Chosen*. Watching her direction and blocking was like witnessing an exquisite dance. I knew immediately that her choreographic style was a perfect complement to our all-female production.”

In addition to the director and cast, DDTCo. has also assembled an all-female design team, which includes **Lydia Meadows** (assistant director), **Barbara Alicea-Aponte** (production stage manager), **Malinda L. Beckham** (costume and set design), **Ananka Kohnitz** (set dressing), **Kris Phelps** (lighting design) and **Elizabeth Nguyen** (sound design).

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

David Mamet is a prolific playwright, novelist, essayist, screenwriter, and director. Born and raised in Chicago, he found early success with his plays *The Duck Variations* (1971), *Sexual Perversity in Chicago* (1974), and *American Buffalo* (1975). He was awarded The Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1984 for *Glengarry Glen Ross*. Along with a long list of original screenplays, which includes *The Untouchables*, *House of Games*, *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, and *Homicide*, Mamet adapted several of his plays for the screen, including *American Buffalo*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Oleanna*, and *Sexual Perversity in Chicago (About Last Night.)* Two of his screenplays, *The Verdict* and *Wag the Dog*, were nominated for Academy Awards. He was also the creator of the Emmy-nominated television series, *The Unit*. Mamet’s most recent play, *China Doll*, premiered on Broadway in December 2015. He was inducted into the American Theatre Hall of Fame in 2002.

DETAILS

CALENDAR LISTING

Theatre/Performing Arts

WHAT

Boston Marriage

WHO

Written by David Mamet

Directed by Linda Phenix (77042)

Featuring

Role	Actor	(ZIP)	Previous DDTCo. credits
Anna	Malinda L. Beckham	(77077)	<i>The Graduate (Mrs. Robinson)</i> , <i>Five x TENN: Something Unspoken (Cornelia Scott)</i> , <i>The Lady of Larkspur Lotion (Mrs. Hardwicke-Moore)</i> and <i>Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen (Woman)</i>
Claire	Melissa J. Mayo	(77057)	<i>The Exonerated (Sue/Ensemble)</i> , <i>Life x 3 (Inez)</i> , <i>Five x TENN: Something Unspoken (Grace)</i> , <i>The Boundary (Secretary)</i>
Maid	Jenna Morris	(77063)	Dirt Dogs debut

WHEN

Feb 8-23, 2019

PERFORMANCES

Opening night

Friday, Feb 8, 2019 (reception following the performance)

Evenings

8pm | Fridays & Saturdays, Feb 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23

7:30pm | Thursdays, Feb 14 & 21

7:30pm | Monday, Feb 18

Matinees

2pm | Sundays, Feb 10 & 17

Talk back (with director & cast)

Thursdays, Aug Feb 14 & 21 | after the performance

Approximate run time

2 hrs (plus one 15-minute intermission)

WHERE

MATCH – Midtown Arts & Theater Center Houston

Matchbox 1, The Emily Todd Theater, 3400 Main St., Houston, TX 77002

BOX OFFICE

713.521.4533 | <https://matchouston.org/events/2019/boston-marriage>

TICKETS

Single tickets, \$25

Matinees and Industry Mondays are “Pay What You Can”

PRESS CONTACT

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ABOUT DIRT DOGS THEATRE CO.

Dirt Dogs Theatre Co. creates multi-faceted theatrical productions that enrich and entertain audiences, inspire artists, and honor playwrights. It was established in 2015 by Houston theatre veterans, Trevor B. Cone, Malinda L. Beckham, and John Baker. Dirt Dogs collaborates with Houston artists and playwrights to provide an opportunity for new works to be seen, and previously produced ones to breathe new life. www.dirtdogstheatre.org.

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