



# Betty Buckley and Rachel York Stars in “Grey Gardens” at Bay Street

August 4, 2015

by Hamptons Art Hub Staff

Bay Street Theater is pleased to announce that Tony Award winner Betty Buckley and Drama Desk Award winner Rachel York will star as Big Edie and Little Edie Bouvier Beale in GREY GARDENS, the musical presented from August 4 to 30, 2015.

**GREY GARDENS** tells the story of Big Edie and Little Edie Bouvier Beale, the eccentric aunt and cousin of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. It is based on the 1975 documentary by Albert and David Maysles, which is celebrating its 40 th anniversary this year. Set at the Bouvier mansion in East Hampton, N.Y., this bold musical follows a mother and daughter on their hilarious and heartbreaking journey from glamorous aristocrats to notorious recluses in a crumbling house filled with memories and cats.

The cast stars Betty Buckley as Edith Bouvier Beale and Rachel York as “Little” Edie Beale/Edith Bouvier Beale and Howard McGillin as George Gould Strong; other cast members include: Gracie Beardsley as Jacqueline; Matt Doyle as Joe/Jerry; James Harkness as Brooks Sr./Brooks Jr.; Sarah Hunt as Young Edie; Simon Jones as Major/Peale; and Dakota Quackenbush as Lee.



Betty Buckley, Rachel York. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

The production team includes Hope Clarke (Choreography), Andy Einhorn (Music Director), Jeff Cowie (Set Design), Robert Wierzel (Lighting Design), Ilona Somogyi (Costume Design), Heather Ugrina (Props), Charles Swan (Associate Director/ Associate Choreographer), Robert Bennett (Production Stage Manager), Denise Yaney (Assistant Stage Manager), and Stewart/Whitley (Casting).

“I am very excited to have a dream cast and creative team joining us for **GREY GARDENS** at Bay Street!” says Scott Schwartz, Artistic Director for Bay Street Theater. “The brilliant Betty Buckley and Rachel York will bring humanity, depth, and humor to Big and Little Edie Beale, women who are part of the shared heart and history of the Hamptons. They are joined by a cast of dazzling actors and award-winning designers, and we welcome them all. I am confident that under Michael Wilson’s inspired direction, this production will be a perfect finale for our 2015 season and an event not to be missed.”

## BETTY BUCKLEY

Betty Buckley, who has been called “The Voice of Broadway,” is one of theater’s most respected and legendary leading ladies. She is an actress/singer whose career spans theater, film, television and concert halls around the world. She was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame for 2012.

Betty Buckley won a Tony Award for her performance as Grizabella, the Glamour Cat, in Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *Cats*. She received her second Tony Award nomination for Best Actress in a musical for her performance as Hesionne in *Triumph of Love*, and an Olivier Award nomination for her critically acclaimed interpretation of Norma Desmond in the London production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *Sunset Boulevard*, which she repeated to more rave reviews on Broadway.



Betty Buckley. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

Her other Broadway credits include *1776*, *Pippin*, *Song and Dance*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *Carrie*. Off-Broadway credits include the world premiere of Horton Foote’s *The Old Friends* for which she received a Drama Desk Nomination in 2014, *White’s Lies*, Lincoln Center’s *Elegies*, the original NYSF production of *Edwin Drood*, *The Eros Trilogy*, *Juno’s Swan* and *Getting My Act Together and Taking it on*, *The Road*. Regional credits include *The Perfectionist*, *Gypsy*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Camino Real*, *Buffalo Gal*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *The Old Friends* at Houston’s Alley Theatre. In London she starred in *Promises, Promises* for which she was nominated for An Evening Standard Award and in 2013 the British premiere of *Dear World*.

Films include her debut in Brian de Palma’s screen version of Stephen King’s *Carrie*, Bruce Beresford’s *Tender Mercies*, Roman Polanski’s *Frantic*, Woody Allen’s *Another Woman*, Lawrence Kasden’s *Wyatt Earp* and M. Night Shymalan’s *The Happening*.

On television, Buckley appeared in *The Pacific* for HBO and twice on the Kennedy Center Honors. She also starred for three seasons in the HBO series *Oz* and as Abby Bradford in the hit series *Eight is Enough*. She has appeared as a guest star in numerous television series, miniseries and films for television including *Evergreen*, *Roses for the Rich* the CBS series *Without a Trace*, *Law & Order: SVU* for NBC, ABC Family’s *Pretty Little Liars* and HBO’s *Getting On*.



Rachel York. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

## RACHEL YORK

Rachel York is a dynamic and versatile actress, singer, dancer and comedienne. She is best known for her critically acclaimed Broadway performances in *City of Angels*, *Les Misérables*, *Victor/Victoria* (Drama Desk Award), with Dame Julie Andrews, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Sly Fox* with Richard Dreyfuss, and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. She recently turned heads on television with her portrayal of Lucille Ball in the CBS movie, *Lucy*.

Most recently, Ms. York starred as Reno Sweeny in the national tour of the Tony-Award winning production of *Anything Goes* (Helen Hayes Award). She created the role of Cruella de Vil in the national tour of *The 101 Dalmatians Musical*; starred as Guenevere in the national tour of *Camelot* opposite Michael York; and portrayed Lilli Vanessi/Kate in *Kiss Me, Kate* (US Tour and London's West End). Off-Broadway Ms. York has starred in *The Best Is Yet to Come: The Music of Cy Coleman*; Stephen Sondheim's *Putting It Together* (MTC, Drama Desk nomination) also with Julie Andrews, Dessa Rose (Lincoln Center Theater, Drama Desk nomination), and *New York City Encores!* critically acclaimed productions of *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* opposite Megan Hilty and *Little Me* opposite Christian Borle.

Favorite regional productions; *The Game* (a musical adaptation of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*); *Turn of the Century* opposite Jeff Daniels (Goodman Theatre, Chicago); *Hello, Dolly!* (Boston, IRNE Award); *Into the Woods* (Boston, IRNE Award); *Spamalot*; *Ragtime*; *Evita*; *Summer and Smoke*; and *The Odd Couple* with Jason Alexander and Martin Short.

In concert, Ms. York has performed with the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall; the National Symphony and the Pittsburgh Pops under the direction of conductor Marvin Hamlisch; Broadway Showstoppers with Peter Nero and the Philly Pops; *The Sound of Music* at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic; the San Francisco Symphony; the Detroit Symphony; the Minnesota Orchestra; the Utah Symphony; the St. Louis Symphony; and the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra among others.

Ms. York has also appeared on several popular TV series including *Hannah Montana*, *Frasier*, *Reba*, *Numb3rs*, *Close to Home*, *Spin City*, and *Diagnosis Murder*. She is the voice of Bitty in *Higglytown Heroes* and Circe on *The Justice League*.



Rachel York. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

## **HOWARD MCGILLIN**

Howard McGillin and Betty Buckley will be reunited in this production. They previously starred together in the original, Tony Award winning production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* on Broadway in 1985.

Howard most recently starred opposite Vanessa Hudgens in the Broadway revival of *Gigi*, and is

perhaps best known for his record-setting run on Broadway in the title role in *The Phantom of the Opera*. Howard's career on Broadway includes leading roles in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *She Loves Me*, *The Secret Garden*, *Anything Goes* (Tony, Drama Desk Award nominations), *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Tony, Drama Desk nominations; Theatre World Award) and *Sunday in the Park with George*. London: *Mack & Mabel*, *Anything Goes*. Also Stephen Sondheim's *Bounce* (Goodman Theatre, Chicago and Kennedy Center - Helen Hayes Award nomination).

Howard has starred in several *Encores!* presentations including *Where's Charley?* and *Ziegfeld Follies of 1936*. Off-Broadway: *It's a Wonderful Life*, *I Remember Mama*, *High Spirits*, *As Thousands Cheer*, *La Boheme* (Drama Desk Award nomination). National tour: *Peter Pan*. Regional: *Damn Yankees*, *It Shoulda Been You* (George Street Playhouse), *The 39 Steps* (George Street and The Cape Playhouse). Films: *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*; *The Swan Princess*. Concerts: *Ragtime*, *Follies: In Concert*. Solo CD: *Howard McGillin: Where Time Stands Still*, available online.



Sarah Hunt, Howard McGillin, Rachel York. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

## **MATT DOYLE**

Most recently starred as Trey in the new musical '*Brooklynite*' at the Vineyard Theater in NYC directed by Michael Mayer. Broadway: *The Book of Mormon* (Elder Price), *War Horse* (Billy Narracott), *Spring Awakening* (Hanschen), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Hugo Peabody). National Tour: *Spring Awakening* (Melchior). Off-Broadway: *Jasper in Deadland* (Jasper). Regional: *Jasper in Deadland* at the 5th Avenue Theater in Seattle (Jasper), *Giant* at Dallas Theater Center (Jordy Jr). Film/TV: *Gossip Girl* (Jonathan), *Private Romeo* (Glenn). Recordings: *Bare* (Peter).



Sarah Hunt, Matt Doyle. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

## **JAMES HARKNESS**

James Harkness is currently on Broadway in *Beautiful The Carole King Musical*. Other Broadway credits include: *Aida*, *The Color Purple*, *Chicago*, and *Guys and Dolls*. James next project is directing *The Color Purple* for The Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe.

## **SARAH HUNT**

A graduate of last year's Juilliard class, Sarah made her Broadway debut last season in *Sting's The Last Ship*. Other credits include: 1st National Tour of *Spring Awakening* (Martha), *Middletown*, *In Arabia We'd All Be Kings*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cabaret* and *Twelfth Night*.

## **SIMON JONES**

Broadway: *The Real Thing*, *Benefactors*, *School for Scandal*, *Getting Married*, *Private Lives*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Herbal Bed*, *Ring Round the Moon*, *Waiting in the Wings*, *Blithe Spirit*, (also in London's West End and North American National tour - all with Angela Lansbury).

Films include: *Privates on Parade*, *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life*, *Brazil*, *Twelve Monkeys*, *Miracle on 34th Street* and *The Devil's Own*. Recent TV: *OZ* (HBO), *to Cambridge Spies* (BBC), and the portrayal of C.S.Lewis in *The Question of God* (PBS) - but still best-known as 'Bridey' in TV's *Brideshead Revisited* and 'Arthur Dent' in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (radio, TV & stage versions).

Award-winning Narrator of Audio Books and served for 12 years as co-Artistic Director of TACT, Off-Broadway theatre company. Jones was also in Bay Street Theater's production of *Quartet* in 2006 with Kaye Ballard and Sian Phillips.



Simon Jones, Gracie Beardsley, Dakota Quackenbush. Photo by Lenny Stucker/lennystucker.com.

## **GRACIE BEARDSLEY**

Gracie Beardsley was most recently seen in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* at The Theater at Madison Square Garden. Other regional favorites include *The Sound of Music* (Paper Mill Playhouse), *Mary Poppins* (Fireside), and *Into the Woods* (Kids of the Arts).

## **DAKOTA RILEY QUACKENBUSH**

Dakota Riley Quackenbush is a nine year old resident of East Hampton attending the John Marshal Elementary School. She has appeared in the East Hampton YMCA showcases and at Bay Street Theater's *Christmas Carol* and *Tap: An Evening of Rhythm* presented at Guild Hall.

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**BASIC FACTS: GREY GARDENS, THE MUSICAL** opens August 4 and remains on view through August 30, 2015. For tickets, call the Bay Street Theater Box Office at 631-725-9500 or purchase online at [www.baystreet.org](http://www.baystreet.org).

A "Pay What You Can" performance takes place August 4 at 7 pm. "PWYC" tickets are limited. Previews are sponsored by Peconic Landing.

FREE STUDENT SUNDAY MATINEES continue with high school and college students receiving one FREE admission for the 2 pm performance of **GREY GARDENS, THE MUSICAL**. Student ID must be shown. Based on availability.

TALKBACK TUESDAY with Bay Street's Artistic Director, Scott Schwartz, and members of **GREY GARDENS, THE MUSICAL** cast follows each Tuesday performance except for preview week on August 5. On Tuesday, August 11 Jerry Torre, the original "Marble Faun" will do a special talkback after the performance with Matt Doyle, the actor who portrays him in the show.

Bay Street Theater is located at 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963.

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