

## 2009 The Lost Colony Artistic Staff Bios

### **William Ivey Long** *Production Designer*

Five time Tony Award-winning costume designer William Ivey Long returns for his 39<sup>th</sup> season with *The Lost Colony*. First associated with the production at age eight, he joined the company as a colonist boy. While his mother performed in front of the footlights as Queen Elizabeth I and his father worked as property master, technical director, and then director, Mr. Long spent numerous hours backstage under the eye of costume designer Irene Smart Rains, whose guidance and encouragement helped lay the foundation for his career as a Broadway costume designer. He currently has 2 shows on Broadway: *Nine to Five* and *Chicago*, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year. Other credits include *Young Frankenstein*; *Curtains*; *Grey Gardens* (Tony Award); *The Producers* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards); *A Streetcar Named Desire*; *La Cage Aux Folles*; *The Boy from Oz*; *Hairspray* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards); *Cabaret*; *Contact* (Hewes Award); *The Music Man*; *Annie Get Your Gun*; *Swing*; *Steel Pier*; *Smokey Joe's Café*; *Crazy for You* (Tony, Outer Critics Circle Awards); *Guys and Dolls* (Drama Desk Award); *A Christmas Carol*; *Six Degrees of Separation*; *Lend Me a Tenor* (Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards); *Nine* (Tony, Drama Desk, Maharam Awards). He has also designed for such artists as Mick Jagger, Siegfried and Roy, the Pointer Sisters, and for choreographers Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, Peter Martins, David Parsons and Susan Stroman. Upcoming projects include the American production of *Dreamgirls*. Mr. Long was the recipient of the Morrison Award (1992), the UNC Chapel Hill Playmakers Award (1994), the National Theatre Conference "Person of the Year" Award (2000), the Order of the Long Leaf Pine (2001), the Distinguished Career Award from the Southeastern Theatre Conference (2002), and the 2004 North Carolina Award presented by Governor Easley. William earned an undergraduate degree in history from The College of William and Mary, was a Kress Fellow at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and then earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in stage design from Yale University School of Drama. He also holds honorary degrees from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina at Asheville, and The College of William and Mary. William is president of the Eastern Seaboard Trust, at 501-C3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to the economic revitalization and historic preservation of his hometown of Seaboard, North Carolina. In 2005 he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.



### **Robert Richmond** *Director*

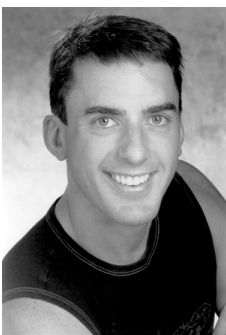
Robert Richmond, is originally from Hastings, England, and studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. For 14 years he was the Associate Artistic Director of the Aquila Theatre Company before pursuing a freelance career. He is delighted to be returning to direct *The Lost Colony* for a second season. Robert has directed over 30 productions in New York, Europe and across the nation including

*Romeo & Juliet, Hamlet, Twelfth Night, The Invisible Man, Agamemnon* (with Olympia Dukakis), *Othello, The Man Who Would Be King, Midsummer Night's Dream, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Tempest, Wrath of Achilles, Much Ado About Nothing, Cyrano de Bergerac, Julius Caesar, The Iliad: Book One, and King Lear*. He has also directed special concert engagements of Cherubini's *Medea*, Tanyev's *Oresteia*, and Theodorakis' *Electra* at Carnegie Hall. In 2005, Mr. Richmond's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* played a command performance for a private reception at the White House in honor of Shakespeare's birthday for the President Bush and First Lady. This was the first performance of a Shakespeare play in the White House for many years. Robert taught for seven years in the Classical Studio at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and now is a Visiting Assistant Professor and head of undergraduate performance, at University of South Carolina, in Columbia where he now resides with his wife, Dionne, and two beautiful children.



**Carl V. Curnutte III Executive Director/ Producer**

This summer marks Curnutte's 20th season with *The Lost Colony*. A native of Ashland, Kentucky, he now resides in Manteo, North Carolina where he is active in the Outer Banks community as a Rotarian and fundraiser for the March of Dimes. He holds a degree in theatre arts and history from Morehead State University. In his career, he has worked on several feature films including *Head of State, Gods and Generals, Tuck Everlasting, The Farm* and *Local Knowledge*. Television credits include: *Ghost Stories, The New Detectives* (Telly Award), *The FBI Files, The Prosecutors, Untold Stories of the Navy Seals*, and *Daring Capers* (Telly Award); *The Killing Fields*, and *Take the Money and Run; Commander in Chief, Georgetown* and *The End of Civilization*. Broadway credits include *The Producers* (Tony Award), *Crazy for You* (Tony Award), *Guys and Dolls, Private Lives, The Royal Family*, and a national tour of *A Christmas Carol*. Carl's crowning achievement was receiving a 2003-2004 Primetime Emmy Awards Nomination in the category of Outstanding Costumes for a Miniseries, Movie or Special for his work on the HBO's *Iron Jawed Angels* starring Hillary Swank, Patrick Dempsey, and Angelica Houston. He is a voting member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and a former recipient of *The Lost Colony's* Evelyn Russell Layton Award which recognizes promising theatre talent. Curnutte dedicates his summer season to the volunteers, business and community leaders whose support keeps this enduring drama a shining achievement of American theatre



**Sean Kelly Choreographer**

Sean Kelly is currently the Resident Director for the touring Broadway musical *Movin' Out* by Twyla Tharp with music by Billy Joel. He staged the current production with Twyla Tharp. He was in the Broadway production, was previously the Supervising Dance Captain/swing for the First National tour of the show, and also assisted in staging the production in London's West End. Previous to *Movin' Out* he was the Dance Supervisor and swing for the touring

production of the musical *Swing* which performed extensively throughout the U.S. and Japan. Mr. Kelly trained at the Marin Ballet. He danced for 2 years with American Ballet Theater II. Mr. Kelly performed for many years with Houston Ballet where he became a principal dancer and eventually Ballet Master. He also choreographed two ballets for the company. He had the opportunity to perform works by many world renowned choreographers such as Ben Stevenson, George Balanchine, Paul Taylor, Christopher Bruce, and Stanton Welch. Mr. Kelly has been a guest artist, teacher and choreographer with numerous regional dance companies in the U.S., the Dominican Republic, and Guam.



### **Michael Rasbury Sound Designer**

Since 2004, Michael Rasbury has been an Assistant Professor in Sound Design at the University of Virginia. Before that, he served on the faculty of the School of the Performing Arts at Louisiana Tech University. In 2008, his original musical script titled *Max Understood* (co-written by Nancy Carlin) received a staged reading by the Eugene O'Neill National Music Theatre Conference. Before that, he composed music and sound for *Macbeth*, presented by the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Since 2007, he has worked with the "Obie" and Drama Desk award winning Transport Group in New York as sound designer for *Being Audrey*, *Bury The Dead*, *Dark at the Top of the Stairs* and the two new musicals *Crossing Brooklyn* and *Marcy in the Galaxy*. Between 2004 and 2007 he composed music and sound for six productions presented by the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival. He has served as sound designer for The Lost Colony Outdoor Drama since 2006. In 2001, he toured Europe and the United States with the production of *An Alphabet*, a John Cage piece produced by the John Cage Trust. Also in 2001, he wrote an orchestral score for Louisiana Tech University's theatrical adaptation of *The Leafmen and the Brave Good Bugs*, written by award winning children's author/illustrator, William Joyce. Michael composed music/sound for the 1998 and 1996 Humana Festivals for New American Playwrights at Actors Theatre of Louisville and for The Public in New York City. Michael has performed as a keyboardist/vocalist at two New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festivals with The Lightnin' Bugs, a Louisiana band. In 2003, he was recognized as the Louisiana State Funded Theatre Artist by receiving the Artist Fellowship Grant in Theatre presented by the Louisiana Division of the Arts.



### **Jim Hunter Lighting Designer**

Jim Hunter rejoins the company for his second season as Lighting Designer at *The Lost Colony*. Jim's scene and lighting designs have been seen at such theatres as: Theatre Virginia, Phoenix Theatre, Charlotte Rep, Arkansas Rep, Florida Rep, Playhouse on the Square (Memphis), Drury Lane Theatre (Chicago), Heritage Repertory Theatre (VA), Flat Rock Playhouse (NC), as well as others. He designed the scenery for the national touring production of *VeggieTales Live!* and also toured as lighting designer with the modern dance company Wall Street Danceworks. Recent projects include the lighting design for *The Cherry Orchard Sequel*

at LaMaMa in NYC and the scenery and lighting for *The Glass Menagerie* at Florida Repertory Theatre. Professor Hunter serves as the Chair for the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of South Carolina and is the Artistic Director of Theatre South Carolina. He serves on the Commission for Accreditation with the National Association of Schools of Theatre. Please visit his online portfolio at [www.jimhunterdesigns.com](http://www.jimhunterdesigns.com).



### **Ken Clifton Musical Director**

Ken is glad to return to the familiar sands of Roanoke Island. This is his seventh year as music director for *The Lost Colony*. Born in Florida then raised in East Tennessee, Ken now calls New York City his home. He graduated with a degree in Piano Performance from the Stetson University School of Music in Deland, FL and enjoys a diverse career as music director/conductor, vocal coach, composer, and accompanist. As a music director/conductor he has swung the stick from Maine to Minnesota, from Carolina to Florida and several points in between. As vocal coach, he has worked with the National tours of *Oliver!*, *The Full Monty*, *Rent*, and *Sweet Charity* (with Molly Ringwald). He coached Jennifer Hudson for her role in *Dreamgirls*-the movie. Clifton's musical compositions have been heard at Walt Disney World Orlando, Tokyo Disney, and the Disney Cruise Line. He has written two full-length musicals produced in Florida: *Midnight Clear* and a musical version of *A Christmas Carol*. Additionally, he wrote the opening production number for the 2008 Rose Bowl Parade; a show for the Disney Cruise Line, recorded by the London Symphony Orchestra; and a children's musical *Being a Bee* produced by Macy's at Herald Square. This spring, Ken accompanied Tony-nominated singer/actor John Tartaglia at Feinstein's in NYC.