



## **'ROYAL MATCHMAKER'**

### **Cast Bios**

**JOY LENZ (Kate Gleason)** – In 2017, Joy Lenz joined the second season of USA's much lauded Carlton Cuse series, "Colony" as resistance fighter Morgan with a major recurring arc through the entire season, and last May she co-starred in the Lionsgate film, *Extortion*, with Barkhad Abdi and Eion Bailey. Upcoming in 2018, Lenz will guest star on two episodes of ABC's hit series "Grey's Anatomy."

In the last few years, Lenz was the female lead opposite JoBeth Williams and Bruce Greenwood in Jerry Bruckheimer's thriller pilot "Home" for TNT. She also played the title role in E!'s pilot "Songbyrd," based on the life of multiple Grammy winning songwriter Diane Warren, and she had pivotal arcs on "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." and "Dexter." From 2002 to 2011, Lenz was the female lead of CW's "One Tree Hill," where she regularly directed episodes. She was also in rotation as a director on the award-winning web series "Nasty Habits."

An accomplished singer trained by the Director of the Brooklyn College of Opera, Lenz fell in love with musical theatre at a young age. She was raised and trained on Rogers & Hammerstein, Gershwin and Sondheim, but mostly performs acoustic indie-rock and bluegrass when she tours. Her music credits include five indie albums, an extensive tour with Michelle Branch and Gavin DeGraw and a recording contract with Epic Records. She has collaborated on several albums with Bruce Springsteen's producer/Grammy winner Ron Aniello, and co-wrote a staged musical with Aniello based on Nicholas Sparks' novel, The Notebook.

Lenz is most active with charities Equality Now and Love146, and she was selected by Lancôme to promote their 2016 St. Jude's campaign in a commercial she wrote and starred in. She also adds jewelry designer and fine artist to her repertoire, and is best known for being a terrific actress in both comedy and drama.

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**WILL KEMP (Prince Sebastian)** – An accomplished dancer, Will Kemp began his dance training at the age of nine with Elizabeth Harrison, a Fellow of the Imperial Society Teachers of Dance (FISTD), and later joined The Royal Ballet Senior Associates as well as The Royal Ballet Upper School in England. His dancing credits include the role of the Gypsy Lover in Fredrick Ashton's *The Two Pigeons* at the Royal Opera House, and after graduating from the Royal Ballet school, he joined Adventures in Motion Pictures (AMP) for the creation of Matthew Bourne's award-winning production of *Swan Lake*.

(more)

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As a Principal Dancer, Kemp portrayed the lead in *Swan Lake*, in both Broadway and West End productions and danced the role of James in *Highland Fling* at the Sandler's Wells Theatre. In addition, he originated the roles of the Angel in *Cinderella* in both the West End and Los Angeles productions, Angelo in *The Car Man* at The Old Vic in England, and Anthony in *Play*

*Without Words* at the National Theatre. Finally, Kemp danced in gala favorite, *Spitfire* at Sadler's Wells Theatre, The Old Vic and National Theatre.

For choreographer Will Tuckett, Kemp created Ratty in *Wind in The Willows* at the Linbury Theatre and the West End, the Narrator in *The Soldier's Tale* at the Linbury Theatre as well as a Japan Tour, and Stromboli in *Pinocchio* at the Linbury Theatre and on BBC Film. For choreographer Matthew Hart, he portrayed both the Grandfather and Narrator in the revival of *Peter and the Wolf* alongside Sergei Polunin at the Royal Opera House.

On stage, Kemp starred in the West End revival of *Equus*, alongside Daniel Radcliffe and the late Richard Griffiths, and on film he appeared in *Van Helsing*, alongside Hugh Jackman and Kate Beckinsale and *Mindhunters*, alongside Val Kilmer and Christian Slater. His additional film credits include: *Step Up 2: The Streets*, *The Midnight Man*, *Slumber*, *The Secrets of Emily Blair*, and *Miguel and William*. On the small screen, Kemp's credits include TV movies "Unveiled," "Petals on the Wind," "Christopher and His Kind," "Peter and the Wolf," "The Soldier's Tale," "HR," "Non-Stop," "Kristin's Christmas Past," "Grace" and the miniseries "The Great Fire" as well as "The Prisoner." His TV series credits include "90210," "Nikita," "New Tricks," and most recently "Code Black," "Reign" and "Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce."

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