By ITAMAR MOSES
Directed by LILA NEUGEBAUER

With CHERISE BOOTHE, ELIJAH JONES, MICHAEL KHALID KARADSHEH, JOY OSMANSKI, JOSH RADNOR, BEN ROSENFIELD, MADELINE WEINSTEIN

Scenic Design LAEL JELLINEK
Costume Design SARITA FELLOWS
Lighting Design REZA BEHJAT
Sound Design Bray Poor
Prop Manager CLAIRE M. KAVANAH
Dramaturg SARAH LUNNIE
Casting JORDAN THALER, KATE MURRAY
Production Stage Manager ROXANA KHAN
Line Producer EMMA MCSHARRY
Company Manager GRACE CHARIYA
Production Manager CRISTINA AYÓN-VIESCA

THE LUESTER T. MERTZ LEGACY TRUST provides leadership support for The Public Theater’s year-round activities.
COMPANY
(in alphabetical order)

Nakia......................................................................................................... CHERISE BOOTHE
Baron......................................................................................................... ELIJAH JONES
Farid .......................................................................................... MICHAEL KHALID KARADSHEH
Gwen ..................................................................................................... JOY OSMANSKI
Asaf .............................................................................................. JOSH RADNOR
Reuven ...................................................................................... BEN ROSENFIELD
Rachel .......................................................................................... MADELINE WEINSTEIN

SETTING
The campus of an American university.
September and early October of 2023.

Stage Manager ..................................................................................... JENN ELYSE JACOBS

THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.

The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, beepers and watches. The use of cell phones in the theatre is prohibited by New York City law.
Dear Friends,

THE ALLY takes place on a college campus and engages on a deep level with issues that are facing universities and colleges across the country: what free speech means, what points of view are acceptable and which are beyond the pale, how we can engage in civil dialogue in a time of such stark polarization, and what impact do colleges have on the communities around them. In dramatizing these issues, among them police violence against Black communities and the Israel/Palestine conflict, our brilliant playwright, Itamar Moses, places them within some of the most incendiary and difficult arguments of our moment. What emerges is a play that will evoke strong and contradictory opinions in an audience.

The theater is a safe space in the most literal sense of that term: no one is going to be physically harmed during this performance in the Anspacher. But it is most decidedly not a safe space if by that term we mean a space where everyone will feel comfortable and no one will feel angry, saddened, or offended. It can't be that kind of space. The theater depends on conflict—the form itself refuses the idea of a single truth. It's why I believe that theater is the ultimate democratic art form—just like citizens in a democracy, the theater demands that we listen to and share opposing viewpoints, and that from that conflict, a greater truth will emerge. What each character holds as their belief system in THE ALLY should not be confused for the message of the play. There is no spokesperson for the author in this play. Rather, Itamar has dived into some of the most difficult topics of our time and asks us to patiently listen to all sides. That act—the act of listening to views we oppose—is the most radical act this play demands. And if we can't do that in the theater, where can we?

The great Greek tragedies were understood to be lessons in citizenship, venues where painful conflicts could be acted out, “played.” The word “play” does not imply that the questions weren’t serious: it implies that the theater is a place where we can play out our conflicts, our fears, and our desires, without fear of the consequences that might follow in the real world. At its best, the theater allows us to get some distance from our own position, empathize with the feelings of others, and break the habits of thought and belief that keep us at each other’s throats in the world outside the theater.

I hope THE ALLY provides you with this opportunity.

Itamar’s masterful play has been brought to life by one of our greatest directors, Lila Neugebauer. I can’t believe this is her first show at The Public, given how much I admire her. She has assembled an amazing group of actors and designers to bring this play to life. Their rehearsal room has been one of the most thoughtful and serious rooms I have ever witnessed. I am grateful to the entire group for their courage, dedication, and talent.

OSKAR EUSTIS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, THE PUBLIC THEATER
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

THE PUBLIC THEATER continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation’s first nonprofit theatres, The Public has long operated on the principles that theatre is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public’s wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City’s five boroughs, Public Lab, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative and Joe’s Pub. Since premiering Hair in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American theatre and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musical Hamilton by Lin-Manuel Miranda and the upcoming spring 2024 productions of Suffs and Hell’s Kitchen. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 60 Tony Awards, 190 Obie Awards, 57 Drama Desk Awards, 61 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics’ Circle Awards, 65 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Tony Awards and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

CHERISE BOOTHE she/her (Nakia). Obie Award recipient for Fabulation Or, the Re-Education of Undine (Signature) and Milk Like Sugar (Playwrights Horizons/WP/La Jolla Playhouse). NY: Ruined (Goodman/MTC), Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3) (Public Theater Lab). Regional: Barbecue (Geffen, NAACP Best Ensemble Cast), Familiar (Yale Rep). Film: Ricki and the Flash (opposite Meryl Streep), 42. TV: “Dispatches From Elsewhere,” “The Good Doctor,” “Westworld” and “Law & Order: SVU.” MFA from NYU Graduate Acting.

ELIJAH JONES he/him/his (Baron). The Public: Richard II (Free Shakespeare on the Radio with WNYC). Off-Broadway: Confederates (Signature Theatre, AUDELCO Award for Outstanding Ensemble). Regional: Bonez (People’s Light). Jones can currently be seen starring opposite Tom Holland, Sasha Lane and Amanda Seyfried in Apple TV+’s “The Crowded Room.” Education: Juilliard, Penn State.

MICHAEL KHALID KARADSHEH he/him/his (Farid). New York: A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Classical Theatre of Harlem), The Most Oppressed of All (Target Margin Theater). Regional: A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Shakespeare on the Sound), Tomorrow Will Be Sunday (Chautauqua Theatre Company), Sabra Falling (In the Heart of the Beast). Film/TV: “Everything’s Trash” (Freeform). Graduate of Columbia University MFA Acting.

JOY OSMANSKI (Gwen) is thrilled to make her debut at The Public. Osmanski has worked regionally at the Mark Taper, La Jolla Playhouse and San Jose Rep. Recent TV work includes roles in the DC series “Stargirl,”

On stage or off...
Find your next gig through

PLAYBILL JOBS

Visit Playbill.com/Jobs to apply for everything from internships to administrative positions.
WHO’S WHO IN THE CAST

FOX’s “Duncanville” and Taylor Sheridan’s “1923.” She has narrated over 160 titles on Audible and is a multiple Earphones Award winner. MFA grad from the acting program at UCSD. Thank you C+C+S+W!


BEN ROSENFIELD (Reuven) can most recently be seen in Amazon’s “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel.” Additional screen credits include “Mrs. America” (FX); “Twin Peaks” (Showtime); Mark, Mary & Some Other People; Mickey and the Bear; 6 Years (Netflix); “Boardwalk Empire” (HBO); and A Most Violent Year (A24). On stage, Rosenfield starred in Atlantic’s Through a Glass Darkly, Cornelia Street, On the Shore of the Wide World, MCC’s The Nether, Lincoln Center’s Carousel and Roundabout’s Love, Love, Love.

MADELINE WEINSTEIN (Rachel). Broadway: Harry Potter and the Cursed Child; The Real Thing directed by Sam Gold. Additional theatre includes Simon Stone’s Medea (BAM) and the world premiere of Tracy Letts’ Mary Page Marlowe directed by Anna D. Shapiro (Steppenwolf). Film: Between the Temples (upcoming selection Sundance 2024), Beach Rats (official selection Sundance 2017), Alex Strangelove, Queen of Glory and Hair Wolf (winner Jury Award U.S. Fiction short film Sundance 2018). TV: “Mare of Easttown.”


LILA NEUGEBAUER (Director). Broadway: Kenneth Lonergan’s The Waverly Gallery, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins’ Appropriate. Recent Off-Broadway: Simon Stephens’ Morning Sun (MTC), Tracy Letts’ Mary Page Marlowe (Second Stage), Annie Baker’s The Antipodes, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins’ Everybody, Edward Albee’s Homelife/The Zoo Story (Signature Theatre), Sarah DeLappe’s The Wolves, Zoe Kazan’s After the Blast (Lincoln Center). As co-artistic director of The Mad Ones: Mrs. Murray’s Menagerie (Ars Nova) and Miles for

Get Social!
Follow us for exclusive insider content

PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT
**WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST**

Mary (Playwrights Horizons), among others. TV: “Maid,” “The Last Thing He Told Me,” “The Sex Lives of College Girls,” “Room 104.” Neugebauer’s directorial feature debut Causeway, starring Jennifer Lawrence and Brian Tyree Henry (Oscar nomination), is available on Apple TV+. Obie, Drama Desk and Princess Grace Award recipient.

Lael Jellinek they/them (Scenic Design). The Public: Buzzer, Sea Wall/A Life. Broadway: Oklahoma! (Tony and Drama Desk nominations, Obie Award); Sea Wall/A Life; Marvin’s Room. Off-Broadway: The Antipodes, Everybody (Signature); The Best We Could (MTC); Mary Jane (NYTW); Rags (Ars Nova); The Wolves (LCT); Heroes… (Playwrights Horizons); A Life (Playwrights, Lortel and Hewes Awards); Small Mouth Sounds (Ars Nova, Signature, national tour); The Debate Society; The Mad Ones. Regional opera credits. Obie for Sustained Excellence in Design.

Sarita Fellows (Costume Design) was born in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Recent works: Death of a Salesman (Broadway); Drinking in America (Minetta Lane); Theater of the Mind (Denver Center); Elyria (Atlantic); Blues for an Alabama Sky and Sweat (Guthrie); Joy and Pandemic (Huntington); A Bright Room Called Day (The Public); FeFi and Her Friends (A.C.T.); Odyssey (Acting Theater). Fellows has worked with choreographers such as Liz Lerman and Edisa Weeks. MFA: Tisch School of Design.


Claire M. Kavanah (Prop Manager). The Public: Hell’s Kitchen, Comedy of Errors (Mobile Unit), The Harder They Come, A Raisin in the Sun, Fat Ham, Girl From the North Country, The Michaels, Mojada, Eve’s Song, Miss You Like Hell, Fire in Dreamland, Illyria, Hamlet, Gently Down the Stream, Privacy, The Gabriels, Eclipsed. Working Theater: The Block, Cherry Smoke, La Ruta. Select artisan work: SpongeBob SquarePants, Moulin Rouge!, Hand to God. Broadway production props supervisor: Girl From the North Country, Fat Ham.

Roxana Khan she/her (Production Stage Manager). The Public: The Tempest, Kings. Off-Broadway: A Bright New Boise (Signature Theatre); Where the Mountain Meets the Sea (Manhattan Theatre Club); Epiphany, Greater Clements (Lincoln Center Theater); Mies Julie, The Dance of Death (Classic Stage); Pride and Prejudice (Primary Stages). Regional: American Repertory Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Westport Country Playhouse, Actors Theatre of Louisville, South Coast Repertory and others.


Information in “Who’s Who in the Cast” is provided by the production. Where opinions are expressed, they are those of the players, not necessarily those of PLAYBILL Magazine.
STAFF FOR THE ALLY

Assistant Director ..................................... Mirirai Sithole
Writer’s Assistant .............................. Fernando Buzzar de Toled Segall
Voice & Text Coach ............................. Julie Congress
Voice Coach for Josh Radnor, James McAvoy.. Deborah Hecht
Associate Scenic Designer ....................... Ant Ma
Associate Costume Designer .................. Amanda Roberge
Associate Lighting Designer ..................... Colleen Doherty
Associate Sound Designer .................... Nathan Rubio
Assistant Company Manager .................. Autumn Knight
Production Assistant ............................ Molly Foy
Prop Manager .................................... Claire M. Kavanah
Assistant Prop Manager ........................ Mary Flynn
Hair Consultation ................................ Nikya Mathis
Production Audio .............................................. Herbie
A1 .............................................................. Bryson Ezell
Sub A1 .............................................. Melissa Valencia
Audio Crew ....................... Stephen Curry, Ken Goodwin, Andrew Hienz
Costume Coordinator ......................... Jules DeSchryver
Seasonal Lead Stitcher ............... Miranda Beck-Bird
Costume Crew ........................................ Griffin Patria
Costume Crafts ......................................... Sharone Malka
Wardrobe Supervisor .................. Heliosa Randriananana
Dresser .................................................. Max J Kelly
Production Electrician ...................... Liz Andrews
Head Electrician ..................................... Hayes Wolfe
Lighting Programmer ....................... Maryam Sweirki
Light Board Operator ....................... Dana Spataru
Electricians ....... Erin Bulman, Darcy Burke, Avalon Cole, Ethan Feil, Olivia Grasso, Evan Gómez, River Knight, Miller Koppang, Terysa Maloofian, Julia Mansur, Jack Meister, Jesus Santiago, Natalie Shipley, Juniper Stuart, Archer Swietek
Prop Runner ............................................. Riley Hutchison
Prop Carpenter .......................................... Milo Robinson
Charge Artist ........................................ Hugh Morris-Stan

Scenery Special Projects ........................... Meb Griffin
Lead Carpenter ........................................... Courtney Kupferschmidt
Scenery Construction & Load-In Crew .............. Kevin Abrams, Anna Biggerstaff, Brandon Brumm, Jamiel Burkhart, Kris DeGirolamo, KJ Diaz, Aqil Huggins, Beckett Mullen, Jay Savana, Olona Smith, Justin Tristan
Lead Scenic Artist ........................................ Jacob Caire
Scenic Artists ............................ Kendall Davila, Anna Fredrick, Steven Kendall
Deck Carpenter ........................................ Howard Moncada
Assistant Logistics Technician ........ Andrew Anderson
General Production Crew .......................... Lee Melillo, Joanie Tripodi-Kaminsky

CREDITS
Sound equipment provided by Masque Sound. Men’s hair by Tommy Kurzman.

SPECIAL THANKS
Harkness Dance Center, Starbright Floral Design

STAFF FOR THE PUBLIC THEATER

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
Artistic Director ................................. Oskar Eustis
Executive Director ............................... Patrick Willingham
Associate Artistic Director/ Director of Public Theater Productions .... Mandy Hackett
Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director ...... Saheem Ali
Associate Artistic Director/Director of Artistic Programs ........ Freedome Bradley-Ballentine
General Manager ..................................... Jeremy Adams
Senior Director, Development ................... Kristina Hoge
Chief Marketing Officer ......................... Tom McCann
Chief Financial Officer ......................... Murray Abeles
Senior Director, Human Resources .............. Sarah Rosen
Senior Director, Anti-Racism, Equity and Belonging .................. Alexa Smith

EVERY. OPENING. NIGHT. PLAYBILL.
FOR 12 MONTHS, MAILED TO YOUR DOOR

PLAYBILL OPENING NIGHT SUBSCRIPTION
Subscribe at PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT
Or call 888-558-2054
PRODUCING
Director of Producing & Artistic Planning ........................... Chiara Klein
Associate Line Producers .......................... Emma McSharry, Cittali Pizarro
Producing Fellow (Brooklyn College) .......................... Madison Tamayo

CASTING
Directors of Casting ........................................ Jordan Thaler, Heidi Griffiths
Casting Director .......................................... Kate Murray
Casting Associate ........................................ Chalin Tulyathan

GENERAL MANAGEMENT
General Management ........................................... Chantal Easterling
Senior Contracts Manager .......................... Rachel London
Interim Budget Manager ...................................... J. Heatherley
Artistic Planning Manager .......................... Cody Johnson
Senior Company Manager .......................... Heather Fichthorn
Company Manager ........................................ Grace Charrya
Assistant Company Manager .......................... Autumn Knight
House Seat Coordinator .................. Carlos Serrano
Company Management Fellow .................. (Miranda Family Fellowship) José Noel

NEW WORK DEVELOPMENT
Director of New Work Development .......................... Amrita Ramanan
Associate Director .......................... Jack Phillips Moore
New Work Development Manager .................. Zoë Kim
Senior Contracts Manager .......................... Rachel London
New Work Development Fellow .................. (Miranda Family Fellowship) Haley Lopes

NEW WORK DEVELOPMENT (continued)
Nozake Shange Social Justice .......................... Erika Dickerson-Despensa
Playwright in Residence ............. (CRNY) Resident Artists Ryan J. Haddad, Ife Olujobi
Creatives Rebuild New York .................. (CRNY) Resident Artists Julian Goldhagen, Anthony Vaughn Merchant,
                                         (CRNY) Resident Artists Esperanza Rosales Bárcalcer, Chazz Bruce, Angel Universe

PRODUCING
Director of Production .......................... Peter Dean
Senior Production Manager .......................... Jon Grenay
Production Manager .......................... Cristina Ayon-Viesca
Associate Production Manager .......................... Autumn Mitchell
Assistant Production Manager .......................... Jes Czekala
Production Office Assistant .......................... Dana Zhang
Production Management Fellow (Brooklyn College) .......................... Karla De Leon
Production Logistics Manager .......................... Samuel Arenicbia
Lead Logistics Technician .......................... Robert Vesce
Logistics Technician .......................... Martin Rios
Production Office Manager .......................... Kelly Moore
Technical Director .......................... Nick Moody
Assistant Technical Directors .......................... Carson Bishop, Fiona Malone, Carrie First

PUBLIC WORKS
Director of Public Works .......................... Laurie Woolery
Associate Director .......................... Pablo Hernandez Basulto
Community Arts Projects Coordinator .......... Jennifer Haley
Teaching Artists .......................... Kelly Campbell, Cornelius Davidson, Julian Goldhagen, Anthony Vaughn Merchant,
                                         (CRNY) Resident Artists Esperanza Rosales Bárcalcer, Chazz Bruce, Angel Universe
Creatives Rebuild New York .................. (CRNY) Resident Artists Julian Goldhagen

PUBLIC SHAKESPEARE INITIATIVE
Teaching Artists .......................... Jennifer Cuffman, Julie Congress,
                                        (CRNY) Resident Artists Marsha Pierre, Melissa Salguero

FINANCE & HUMAN RESOURCES
Associate Director .......................... Financial Planning & Analysis Tophery Soltys
Financial Planning & Analysis .................. Mark Rowan
Controller .......................... Courtney Wallace
Senior Accountant .......................... Kevin Reilly
Finance Associate .......................... Ann Marie Connolly
Manager, Talent Acquisition .......................... Jon Jon Johnson
HR Coordinator .......................... Morganne Evans
Manager, Talent Acquisition .......................... Jon Jon Johnson
Senior Manager, Workforce Development Programs .................. Morganne Evans

HEALTH & SAFETY
COVID Operations Manager .......................... Brit Sellers
COVID Compliance Monitor .......................... Jennifer Haining

DEVELOPMENT
Director, Special Events .......................... Brooke Amico
Manager, Special Events……………………Liv Amundsen
Development Associate…………………..Unna Bharat
Director, Institutional Partnerships………..Gina DiRado
Manager, Major Gifts & Special Projects… Annabel Ekelund
Associate, Special Events………………..Nick Gentry
Director, Strategic Advancement…………Kristen Gongora
Advisor, Leadership Giving………………….Jan Gura
Major Gifts Officer…………………………Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti
Manager, Major Gifts…………………………Drew Klinger
Development Finance Strategy
& Operations Analyst…………………Taylor Logan
Development Fellow
(Miranda Family Fellowship)………………Nayarit Alcantara
Manager, Institutional Partnerships……..Gabriel Lozada
Manager, Advancement
Services Operations……………………Richard Mena
Director, Advancement Data Operations……Kelsey Moriarty
Deputy Director of Development…………Becca Niemeyer
Associate, Patron Programs………………Krystal Rajkowski
Associate, Advancement Services Operations……….Holly Reif
Associate, Advancement
Data Operations……………………………Shannon Teppert
Director, Patron Programs and Services…Shayla L. Titley

MARKETING
Director, Corporate Partnerships………….Jody Bell
Director of Marketing, Delacorte Project…….Chris Kam
Associate Director, Tessitura Ticketing Operations………………Zac Ford
Senior Manager, Marketing…………………Aoife Mahood
Marketing Manager………………………Karina Mena
Marketing & Communications Associate…Emma Minkoff
Seasonal Marketing
Outreach Coordinator…………………Rebecca Kenigsberg

COMMUNICATIONS
Director, Communications………………….Julie Danni
Senior Manager, Digital Content…………..Seth Jolles
Digital Media Associate……………………Nada Shaaban
Senior Manager, Public Relations………….Jana Zschoche
Manager, Public Relations…………………Laura Mullaney

BRAND STUDIO
Art Director………………………………Tam Shell
Graphic Designers…………………..Izzy Henderson, Joanne Na,
Millena Cecilia

AUDIENCE SERVICES
Senior Manager, Audience Services/ Call Center……………………………Kate Longosky
Senior Manager, Audience Services
Theatre Management…………………..Chris Capozzi
Box Office Manager…………………..Anthony Conty
Associate Box Office Manager…………..Logan Wolfe
Box Office Associate……………………Daniela Martinez
Box Office Staff…………………………Cliff Billings, Linnea Huston,
Cameron Reese, Kate Thackaberry, Tyler Warren
Call Center Manager…………………..Kaleda Davis
Call Center Associate……………………Josh Rozett
Call Center Staff…………………………Bethany Fustos, Melanie Lloyd,
Yating Sun, Rose Viets
Associate Theatre Manager……………………Manuel Vega
Theatre Supervisor……………………………Sam Colon
Front of House Box Office Supervisors
(The Delacorte)…………………..Marlina Brown, Russell Williams
House Managers…………………..Sandra Bilgen-Doyle, Jolee Cohen,
Jennifer Gaspard, Elizabeth Reagan, Carlos Vega,
Neda Veyanek
First Responders……………………………Shayna Cohen, Marianne DeVirgiliis,
Georgia Evans, Nadia Ho, Jessica Hollander-Sunshine,
Quinn Kelley, Peter Kendall, Riley Liburd, Devi Lir,
Damiris Lopez, Alexander Reyes, Spencer Senzon,
Sofia Tarczy-Hornoch,
Front of House Staff…………………………Adelshyn Ann, Dora Batinovic,
Megan Benton, Lorenza Bernasconi, Bella Burke,
Mari Cipriano, Ella Danylik, Carson Davis,
Gracie Donnelly-Fisher, Gabriel Elgiset, Emily Forman,
Sierra Gamble, Wellington Garbutt, Lulu Grant,
Nadine Hart, Mayzie Kilgore, Tess Kondratiev,
Kenjiro Lee, Rhys Luke, Leilani Maldonado,
Leta Marcellus, Cherie Marcus, Julianna Mateo,
Sophia Morris, Sarah Muller, Michaela Pascuzzi,
Brie Ramthun, Catherine Raymond, Breeanna Resto,
Michelle Resto, Amanda Rose, Jade Rosenberg,
Natsumi Sasabe, Emily Sciaino, Brant Simmons,
Samantha Stein, Mako Toft, Steele Whitney,
Ella Wickham, Emily Yarmey

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS
Director, Facilities………………………Ismael (Izee) Figueroa
Director, Operations…………………………Helene Bennett
Director, IT……………………………………Arthur Pinori
IT Analyst…………………………………Paul Rosario
Operations Associate……………………Shelly Vance
Operations Coordinators………………….Tere-An payroll, Tia McDonald
Network Administrator…………………………Jan Malinowski
Assistant Superintendents…………………Jefferson David Aguilar,
Eric Glover, Rafael Tinoco-Jimenez, Robert Vazquez
Handyperson………………………………Adonis Garcia
Housekeeping Supervisor…………………Amparo Lopez de Nova
Housekeepers………………Giordano Collado Lendof, Efrain Martinez,
Aracelis Mendez-Leon, Leandro Mota,
Naydavel Rodriguez Rodriguez, Wendy Rodriguez
Front Desk Attendant………………Fabian Harvey
Part-Time Front Desk Attendants…………Jaida Foreman,
Morgan Hahn, Savannah Lee Mumford, Quinn Nehr,
Cindy Tsa, Aylin Akira Aspliano

SPECIAL SERVICES
Managing Partner of Joe’s Pub LLC…………Kevin Abbott
General Manager of Joe’s Pub LLC…………Jersey Katz
Service Director and AGM…………………..Michelle Clay
Supervisor of Joe’s Pub LLC………………..Israel Payaro-Cabral
Chef of The Public…………………………Andrew Carmellini
Chef of Cuisine……………………………Ricky Mungray
Institutional Design………………………Pentagram/Paula Scher
Photographers…………………………..George E. Joseph, Joan Marcus,
Carol Rosegg, Martha Swope, Simon Luethi
Attorneys…………………..Davis Wright Tremaine LLP/Graham Coleman;
Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP/Gerald T. Hathaway;
Proskauer Rose LLP/Allan Bloom;
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP/Andrew Lance;
Venable LLP/Susan E. Golden
Accountants……………………………………Lutz & Platt LLP
Architectural Consultant…………………..Ennead Architects
Insurance……………………………………DeWitt Stern/Risk Strategies

THE ACTORS AND STAGE MANAGERS EMPLOYED
IN THIS PRODUCTION ARE MEMBERS OF ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION, THE UNION OF PROFESSIONAL ACTORS AND STAGE MANAGERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

AUDITION NOTICE
The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violations may render the offender liable for money damages.

FIRE NOTICE: The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run—WALK TO THAT EXIT.

Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas. Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas. Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas.

WARNING
The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violations may render the offender liable for money damages.

FIRE NOTICE: The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run—WALK TO THAT EXIT.

Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas.

FIRE COMMISSIONER

PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT
I have a friend, a theater director, whose one of many mantras is that the best way to physically realize a challenging scene is to, as he puts it, “stage the problem.” Whatever seems to make putting something on its feet difficult or even impossible is, in other words, the very thing that needs to be foregrounded, the element around which the whole thing needs to pivot. Take the obstacle and make it necessary.

There’s a writing equivalent of this principle, of course, and when I find myself struggling with a scene because of something fundamental that seems to make it impossible to write, I can hear my friend’s voice in my head, saying: “Maybe that’s what the scene is about.”

I have notes on my laptop for the play that would become THE ALLY going back at least seven or eight years. It wasn’t any one particular event or incident, global or domestic, that got my wheels turning so much as any number of events, the arguments that followed, and my own reluctance to take part in them.

This was during a period of my life when I still thought an effective use of my time was to argue with people about politics on social media (the kinds of arguments I’m talking about never take place in person). I would engage daily with strangers on email listservs or friends of friends in Facebook comment threads on the subject of gun control or Hillary Clinton’s Senate record. But on certain topics I would go mute; the arguments would continue, and I would read along but say nothing.

It was not lost on me that the topics on which I fell silent were not ones that had little to do with me but, rather, those with which my own actual identity—as a left-wing, American Jew with Israeli-immigrant parents—intersected most directly. So it wasn’t that I had nothing to say. Rather, I didn’t know where to begin because what I had to say was too confused, too contradictory, too raw. It was definitely too much for an internet comment thread. And I was cowed by what at least appeared to be the stark, unwavering certainty of everybody else weighing in on these things. What possible use was the mess inside of me in the face of that?

A fault line inside of the writer is, I’m guessing, the genesis of many plays. Certainly, it’s true of a lot of mine. I just wasn’t sure how to go about saying anything on subjects about which I felt I could say nothing.

And then I remembered my friend’s advice.
THANK YOU TO OUR SEASON SPONSORS!

THE LUESTHER T. MERTZ LEGACY TRUST PROVIDES LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FOR THE PUBLIC THEATER’S YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

LEAD SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

Ford Foundation  SHUBERT FOUNDATION  HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

THE RUTH EASTON FUND OF THE EDELSTEIN FAMILY FOUNDATION  NYC Cultural Affairs

PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT
PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT
PUBLIC THEATER CONTRIBUTORS (CONTINUED)

Wendi Rose
Lauren Rosenkranz
Josh Sapan
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
The SHS Foundation
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Marilyn Skony Stamm
The Seth Sprague Educational & Charitable Foundation
The Starr Foundation
Starry Night Fund
Jim & Lori Steinberg
Sheila & Lee Stewart §
T. Christian Stracke
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation
Forrest Wilkinson
Ms. Lee Wolf & Dr. Jordan Cohen
Irene Worth Fund for Young Artists
Kevin Muu & Sascia Yuan
Anonymous (6)

$10,000–$14,999
The SHS Foundation
Andresen Horowitz
Diane Archer
Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc.
Kathleen Begala & Yves-Andre Istel
Melissa & Dan Berger
Birinyi Family
Jane S. Block
Stanley & Roberta Bogen
John and Rosemary Brown
Family Foundation
Patrick Callinan & Dan Rosales
Daniel Carroll & Stasia Obrenowsky
Donald McInery
David Charitable Fund
Christopher DeNicol and Karen Ostergren
Distraught Globe Foundation
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
Mary Alice Dwyer-Dobbin
The Ekdahl Hutchinson Family Fund
Distraught Foundation
Esther Simon Charitable Trust
Randy Fertel
Jeanne Donovan Fisher
Joanne & Ellen Flanagan
Foros
Bill & Helena Foulkes
Nancy, Britanny, & Alex Molesworth
Bruce & Alice Geismer
The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Rene & Justin Greenstein
Hitz Foundation
John Holmes
Cheryl & Ron Howard
Paul K. Humphreys
Jeff Hunter Charitable Trust
The Susan Israel Foundation
Corey & Michelle Jassem
Sherry Jun Chen
Chris Kaled
Sharon Karmazin
Susan Karp & Paul Haahr
Eunu Chun & Lisa Kim
Jackie & Andrew Klauer
Henri Koenigsberg
Kameron Kordestani
Stephanie Turner & Paul Kremer
Judith & Douglas Krupp
Peter & Ellen LaFeche
Grace & Bert Lytell & Helen Menken Foundation
Nina Matsi
The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation
Irene & Tony Melchior
Richard & Ronay Menschel
The Mertz Gilmore Foundation
Christina Miller
Erin F. Moriarty
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Nicolas Neguer & Alberto Alvarez
Lucette Tulp
Carol & Melvin Newman
Charline Spektor in Memory of Jeremy Nussbaum
Michael & Gabrielle Palitz
The Peckham Family Foundation
Dominic Ramos Ruiz
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Lauren Rosenkranz
F. Richard Pappas
The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Lauren Rosenkranz
F. Richard Pappas

$15,000–$24,999
ADOBE Systems, Inc.
Eileen & Lowell Aptman
Barbara Aubrey
The Bessie Foundations
Leisle & Ashish Bhuatari
Scott & Roxanne Bok
Alessandra Carlin
Amy Starck & Jack Cogen
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
Dancing Tides Foundation
Gordon J. Davis & Peggy Cooper Davis
Christine Denham & Robert Stein
Beth Dozoretz
The Durst Organization
Susanne & Douglas Durst
Eric Ellenbogen §
Sharon Fay & Maxine Schaffer
Barbara H. Freitag
Getir
Judith Gibbons & Francesco Scattone
James Gleek & Cynthia Crossen
Goldman Sachs
Stephanie Herdrich & Matthew Tirschwell
Marlene Hess & Jim Zirin
IAC
Amie & Tony James
Joel Isaacson & Co., LLC
The J. M. Kaplan Fund
Leslie Kogod & Laurie Goldberger
The Mark Krueger Charitable Trust
Gary K. Lippman
Gary Lynch & Kate Hall
Marquit-Grieser Fund
Mayer Brown
Virginia & Timothy Millhiser
Pandora
Penguin Random House
Michael Roberts
May & Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc.
The Scherman Foundation
Irwin S. Sherzer Foundation
Solandy Gay Edelberg PLLC
Amy Sherman-Palladino
The Ted Snowden Foundation
Gillian Stern
Syntax LLC
Monica & Douglas Taylor
Travelzoo
Sonel Uberti & Sunil Aggarwal
Wachtele, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
Jonathan Weiss & Barbara Asch
Lauren Flicker Yap & Julian Yap
Nina & Michael Zilkha
Anonymous (7)

$25,000–$49,999
The Ted Snowdon Foundation
Anonymous (6)

$50,000 & OVER
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
Mary Alice Dwyer-Dobbin
The Ekdahl Hutchinson Family Fund
Distraught Foundation
Esther Simon Charitable Trust
Randy Fertel
Jeanne Donovan Fisher
Joanne & Ellen Flanagan
Foros
Bill & Helena Foulkes
Nancy, Britanny, & Alex Molesworth
Bruce & Alice Geismer
The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Rene & Justin Greenstein
Hitz Foundation
John Holmes
Cheryl & Ron Howard
Paul K. Humphreys
Jeff Hunter Charitable Trust
The Susan Israel Foundation
Corey & Michelle Jassem
Sherry Jun Chen
Chris Kaled
Sharon Karmazin
Susan Karp & Paul Haahr
Eunu Chun & Lisa Kim
Jackie & Andrew Klauer
Henri Koenigsberg
Kameron Kordestani
Stephanie Turner & Paul Kremer
Judith & Douglas Krupp
Peter & Ellen LaFeche
Grace & Bert Lytell & Helen Menken Foundation
Nina Matsi
The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation
Irene & Tony Melchior
Richard & Ronay Menschel
The Mertz Gilmore Foundation
Christina Miller
Erin F. Moriarty
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Nicolas Neguer & Alberto Alvarez
Lucette Tulp
Carol & Melvin Newman
Charline Spektor in Memory of Jeremy Nussbaum
Michael & Gabrielle Palitz
The Peckham Family Foundation
Dominic Ramos Ruiz
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Lauren Rosenkranz
F. Richard Pappas

PUBLIC THEATER CONTRIBUTORS (CONTINUED)

Wendi Rose
Lauren Rosenkranz
Josh Sapan
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
The SHS Foundation
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Marilyn Skony Stamm
The Seth Sprague Educational & Charitable Foundation
The Starr Foundation
Starry Night Fund
Jim & Lori Steinberg
Sheila & Lee Stewart §
T. Christian Stracke
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation
Forrest Wilkinson
Ms. Lee Wolf & Dr. Jordan Cohen
Irene Worth Fund for Young Artists
Kevin Muu & Sascia Yuan
Anonymous (6)

$10,000–$14,999
The SHS Foundation
Andresen Horowitz
Diane Archer
Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc.
Kathleen Begala & Yves-Andre Istel
Melissa & Dan Berger
Birinyi Family
Jane S. Block
Stanley & Roberta Bogen
John and Rosemary Brown
Family Foundation
Patrick Callinan & Dan Rosales
Daniel Carroll & Stasia Obrenowsky
Donald McInery
David Charitable Fund
Christopher DeNicol and Karen Ostergren
Distraught Globe Foundation
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
Mary Alice Dwyer-Dobbin
The Ekdahl Hutchinson Family Fund
Distraught Foundation
Esther Simon Charitable Trust
Randy Fertel
Jeanne Donovan Fisher
Joanne & Ellen Flanagan
Foros
Bill & Helena Foulkes
Nancy, Britanny, & Alex Molesworth
Bruce & Alice Geismer
The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Rene & Justin Greenstein
Hitz Foundation
John Holmes
Cheryl & Ron Howard
Paul K. Humphreys
Jeff Hunter Charitable Trust
The Susan Israel Foundation
Corey & Michelle Jassem
Sherry Jun Chen
Chris Kaled
Sharon Karmazin
Susan Karp & Paul Haahr
Eunu Chun & Lisa Kim
Jackie & Andrew Klauer
Henri Koenigsberg
Kameron Kordestani
Stephanie Turner & Paul Kremer
Judith & Douglas Krupp
Peter & Ellen LaFeche
Grace & Bert Lytell & Helen Menken Foundation
Nina Matsi
The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation
Irene & Tony Melchior
Richard & Ronay Menschel
The Mertz Gilmore Foundation
Christina Miller
Erin F. Moriarty
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Nicolas Neguer & Alberto Alvarez
Lucette Tulp
Carol & Melvin Newman
Charline Spektor in Memory of Jeremy Nussbaum
Michael & Gabrielle Palitz
The Peckham Family Foundation
Dominic Ramos Ruiz
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Lauren Rosenkranz
F. Richard Pappas

PUBLIC THEATER CONTRIBUTORS (CONTINUED)

Wendi Rose
Lauren Rosenkranz
Josh Sapan
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
The SHS Foundation
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Marilyn Skony Stamm
The Seth Sprague Educational & Charitable Foundation
The Starr Foundation
Starry Night Fund
Jim & Lori Steinberg
Sheila & Lee Stewart §
T. Christian Stracke
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation
Forrest Wilkinson
Ms. Lee Wolf & Dr. Jordan Cohen
Irene Worth Fund for Young Artists
Kevin Muu & Sascia Yuan
Anonymous (6)

$10,000–$14,999
The SHS Foundation
Andresen Horowitz
Diane Archer
Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc.
Kathleen Begala & Yves-Andre Istel
Melissa & Dan Berger
Birinyi Family
Jane S. Block
Stanley & Roberta Bogen
John and Rosemary Brown
Family Foundation
Patrick Callinan & Dan Rosales
Daniel Carroll & Stasia Obrenowsky
Donald McInery
David Charitable Fund
Christopher DeNicol and Karen Ostergren
Distraught Globe Foundation
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
Mary Alice Dwyer-Dobbin
The Ekdahl Hutchinson Family Fund
Distraught Foundation
Esther Simon Charitable Trust
Randy Fertel
Jeane Donovan Fisher
Joanne & Ellen Flanagan
Foros
Bill & Helena Foulkes
Nancy, Britanny, & Alex Molesworth
Bruce & Alice Geismer
The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Rene & Justin Greenstein
Hitz Foundation
John Holmes
Cheryl & Ron Howard
Paul K. Humphreys
Jeff Hunter Charitable Trust
The Susan Israel Foundation
Corey & Michelle Jassem
Sherry Jun Chen
Chris Kaled
Sharon Karmazin
Susan Karp & Paul Haahr
Eunu Chun & Lisa Kim
Jackie & Andrew Klauer
Henri Koenigsberg
Kameron Kordestani
Stephanie Turner & Paul Kremer
Judith & Douglas Krupp
Peter & Ellen LaFeche
Grace & Bert Lytell & Helen Menken Foundation
Nina Matsi
The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation
Irene & Tony Melchior
Richard & Ronay Menschel
The Mertz Gilmore Foundation
Christina Miller
Erin F. Moriarty
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Nicolas Neguer & Alberto Alvarez
Lucette Tulp
Carol & Melvin Newman
Charline Spektor in Memory of Jeremy Nussbaum
Michael & Gabrielle Palitz
The Peckham Family Foundation
Dominic Ramos Ruiz
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Bryan & Robert Rieger
Lauren Rosenkranz
F. Richard Pappas
$5,500–$7,999
Kathy Alecia
Bruce Baber & Michele Cassidy
Brian Bartholomew & James Garnett
Jodi & Lisa Benenson
Tim Bensley
Reena Bhatt
Mary Billard & Barry Cooper
Pamela Brown & George Canellos
Mark & Sarah Butler
Kathy Chazen & Larry Miller
Andrew B. Cogan
Sarah E. Cogan & Douglas H. Evans
Kris & Kathy Heinzelman
Jocelyn & David DeNunzio
Richard & Claudia Edelman
Shane Ewen
Anna & Jim Fantaci
Margaret & Howard Fuhr
Jill & Michael J. Franco
Barbara E. Gallay
Theresa Galvin & Mark Almeida
Lola Goldberg & Family
Susan & Gary Goodman
Russel T. Hamilton
Kris & Kathy Heinzelman
Anita K. Hersh
David & Pamela Hornik
Jeremy Hylton & Tara Gilligan
Inspire Entertainment, LTD
Isaiah SB
Susan Jasper
Robin A Jones
Drs. Robert & Anna Kelly
Debbie Kenyon & Peter Hess
Melinda Miller & Lee Kowarski
Lisa Cleff Kurtz & Michael Kurtz
Liza Landsman
Myla Lerner & Larry Kramer
Kim Y. Lew
Jane & Bill Macan
Tracy MacKenzie & Tyler Mixter
Linda Mahoney & Peter Smith
John John C. Manlutac & James M. Jaeger
Richard W. Mark & Maura L. Hanway
K.C. Maurer
Juliana & Jon May
Mary Elizabeth McGarry
Peter Mensch
Marianne & Steve Mills
Felinda Moffitt & John Alexander
Halle & Larry Nath
Adam Offenhartz
Barbara Page & John Liu
Gail Merrifield Papp
Lee Perlman & Linda Riefberg
Julie Peterson
c. Pfisterfinger & M. Clements
Gary & Iris Posternack
Related Companies LP
Peter N. Rigby
Marcia Riklis
Carrie Kreifels & Sanj Sanampudi
Megan Savage
Allison Schiffman
Dr. Binita Shah
Carrie Shapiro & Peter Frey
THE SHMJ.RILEY FUND
Brett & Randi Singer
Kerry & Jeff Strong
Steve Symonds
Tilevitz/Moshief Charitable Trust
Sandra & Steven van der Zwan
Vanetta Vancak & Ivan Santiago
Elizabeth Wahab
Elizabeth Weatherford
Danny Winderker
Malcolm & Carolyn Wiener
Jacqueline Woodson
Abigail Young & Jonathan Moses
Anonymous (15)

$3,000–$5,499
Anne & Andy Abel
Elaine & Hirschel B. Abelson
Vicki & William Abrams
Nina Adams & Moreson Kaplan
Allyson K. Adler & William H. Green
The Ackin Fund of Horizons Foundation
Barbara & Todd Albert
Alexandra Alger & Dan Chung
Madeline & Steve Ambinder
Ana & Andre Appignani
Karen & Greg Arenson
Walter Arnlheim & Marsha Rehns
Bain & Company
Joseph Baio & Anne Griffin
Jamie Baldinger
Jodi & Craig Balsam
Karim & Henry Barkhorn
Caryl Hudson Baron
David & Sheila Barrett
Mr. Kenneth G. Barrels & Ms. Jane Condon
Victor and Clara C. Bartin Foundation
Deb & Jay Baum
Carter & Denise Bays
Dr. Eugene & Mrs. Harriet Becker
John & Gary Beinecke
Sandy Berger
Monica Bernheim & Daniel Gelb
Gayle & Stephen Bernstein
Sarah Billinghamstur Solomon
Jill & John C. Bishop, Jr.
Monty Blanchard & Leslie Tcheyan
Edward and Magda Palacci Blieler
RBD Designs

In addition to annual support, indicates a planned gift commitment to the Public Legacy Circle. To make a planned gift, contact plannedgiving@publictheater.org. List current as of 1/10/2024. The Public Theater greatly appreciates all contributions in support of our work and all of the donors who, due to space constraints, could not be listed here. Donor lists are updated quarterly. Please advise the Development Department at 212.539.8734 of any needed corrections.
PUBLIC THEATER CONTRIBUTORS (CONTINUED)

Stacey & Sanford Domain
Samuel M Duncan
Robin & Robert Easton
Eberstadt Kuffner Fund
Theater League/Mark Edelman
Mary & Kenneth Eline
Andra & John Ehrenkranz
Suzan & Fred Ehrenreich
David & Alice Elgart
Marty Ellington MD
Nancie Ellis & Geoffrey Domn
Robyn & David Epstein
Alicia Ernst & John Katzman
Thérèse Esperdy & Robert Neborak
Diane E. Kutwak & Germán Esquilín
Holly Elin & Andrew Krieger
Richard & Florence Fabricant
Fang
David Farer & Elsa King
April & Joel Feffer
Stephen Feinberg & Susan Foote
Richard Feiner & Annette Stover
Lynn & Richard Feinson
Fever-Freeze
Jodie & Ron Fischer
Karen & Evan Flatow
Mark Flynn & Audrey Fisch
THE FOCUS FOUNDATION
John III & Anne Forlines
Alison Forner & Martha McBrayer
Jordan Fox
Mr. & Mrs. Austin T. Fragomen
Lauren & Brian Frank
Carmi & Shelly Fredman
Tanya Friedman & Denise Savoy
Marti Gabbard
Sheryl & Henry Gaines
Barbara Becker & Chad Gallant
Neel Gandhi & Aarti Agarwal
Donna Garban
Judith A. Garson & Steven N. Rappaport
Jeff Gates & Mike Moran
Leslie & Gary Geis
Debra and Jeffrey Seller Family Foundation
Chris & Lori Geraci
George Gewirtz
Paul & Lauren Ghaffari
Lauren Glint & Michael Gillespie
Elizabeth Glitsch & Jim Parham
Kristin Booth Glen & Harold Edgar
Andrea Glimer
David Goldberg & Bethany Bristow
Mary Cirillo-Goldberg & Jay Goldberg
Liz Goldenberg
Charles & Jane Goldman
Malcolm Goldman
Jill Laurie Goodman & Melvin Bukiet
Judy & Mark Goodman
Margaret L Goodman
Alton Abramowitz & Susan Gorelick
Ann Gottlieb
Amy Grabino & Robert Schecterson
Christine Varney & Tom Graham
Grandpa Dick
Suzanne & Stuart Grant
Kayla Grine
Scott Grinsell & Basha Frost Rubin
Joanne Guerrero
Alex & Lucia Gutierrez
Dustin F. Guzior
Liza H. Hamm
Scott & Ellen Hand
Joe Harper & Mark Stankiewicz
Suzan Harris
Lois Hull & Bill Harrison
Lucy Mayer Harrop & Mark Delavan
Harrop; Nelson B. Delavan Foundation
Kim & Alan Hartman
Grace Harvey
Michael Hefferman & Jee Lee
Molly K. Heines & Thomas J. Moloney
Henshel Foundation
Cheryl Henson & Ed Finn
Dr. Charles & Mary Hesdorffer
Anne H. Hess & Craig Kaplan
Anita Highton, M.D.
Will Hildreth & Ryan Cooke
Mari Hinajosa
Carron Sherry
Dianne & Ron Hoge
Craig & Vicki Hollemann
Frank Holzczubiec
The Richard H. Holzer Memorial Foundation
Russell & Sadie Hooker
Jeremy Dobrick & Tamara Hoover
Derric Horner & Dr. Erika Faust
Bonnie Howard & Charles Charrow
Bo & Liz Huang
Hudson Yards New York
Doug Hughes
Kelly & André Hunter
Ben Indek & Robyn Mewshaw
Beth Jacobs & Keith Gottesdiener
Stephen & Susan Jeffries
Caythia & Michael-Jentis
The Jim Henson Foundation
Joanek Family
Maureen & Claude Johnston
Alan Jones & Ashley Garrett
Rita J. & Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, Inc.
Alan S. & Ellen J. Kaplinsky
Nancy Karpf
Dr. Jane Karsh
Irving Scher & Amy L. Katz
Susan & Jules Kaufman
Iris W. Keitel
Randy Kender & Eric G. Bing
Kathy Keneally & Tom Marshall
Sharon & Steve Kess
Mary Elizabeth Dunbar Kiggen Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Jeffrey Kimball & Pamela Hogan
Jeanette King & Phillip Hogue
Sally S. Kleberg
Jody & Jennifer Klein
Howard Kleinman & Elizabeth Albert
Little Johnny Koerber
Lisa Kohl & Ricardo Horner
Kay & William Koplovitz
Helen Kornblau/The Kornblau Family Foundation
The Krasner Family
Simona & Scott Krawitz
Susan Kreisman
Paul & Barbara Krieger
Mary Ellen & Mark Kris
Ida Pagter Kristensen
Sven Krogius
Roberta & Arnomb Krumholz
Elaine Crowley & John Kuehn
Jerry & Wendy Labowitz
Barb & Barry Lafer
Diane & Nicholas LaVecich
Guy Lancaster & Kate Maier
Frederick A. Landman
William and Kathleen Lathrop
Patty Laxton
Chad A. Leat
George & Renate Lee
Roseanne Legrand
David & Stacey Lender
Lorren Enstad & David Lerner
Rosanne & Marty Leshner
Lizzie & Ben Leventhal
Michael Levin & Andy Abowitz
Francine Levine
Robert I. Cantor & Margo L. Levine
Ruth & David Levine
Brian Levy & John Duff
Richard H. Levy & Lorraine Gallard
Tamar Lewin & Robert Kruhlic
In Memory of Sagan Lewis
Amy & Frank Linde
Dana & Larry Linden
Vicki Apted & David Linkin
Lisa & Greg Linn
Simi & David Linton
Laura & Stuart Littwin
Robie Livingstone
Dianne Lobl & Andrew Miller
Gary & Jan Lechtenberg
Alexandra Legue & Ian Shrank
Michael Lowenstein
Susanna Lowy & Victor Davis
Richard Lynn & Joseph Evall
Anna Verdi & John MacIntosh
Greg & Eileen Makoff
Carolyn Rossip Malcolm
Charu Venkat Mari
The Marber Family
Iris Z. Marden
Wayne P. Marshall
Beth Martin & Michael Birns
David & Anita Massengill
Jill Hunter Matichak
Ms. Diane Max
Heather McDonald
Scott C. McDonald
Tigre McMullan & Olga Jakim
Joseph & Katherine Mele
Nancy Reatsher & Wayne Merkelson
Frances Millberg
Robin & Sara Miles
Jennifer Melin Miller & David Miller
Mauri Miller & Kate Wheble
Jennifer & David Millstone
Judy Minor
Dale & Phil Mintz
Frederick Cannon & Jean Mitchell
The Leo Model Foundation
Paul S. Nadler Family Charitable Trust
Asha & D.V. Nayak
David Neill & Susan Griffith
plannedgiving@publictheater.org. List current as of 1/19/2024. The Public Theater greatly appreciates all contributions in support of our work and all of the donors who, due to space constraints, could not be listed here. Donor lists are updated quarterly. Please advise the Development Department at 212.539.8734 of any needed corrections.
Jaquel Spivey is playing a new Damian in *Mean Girls*, the movie musical.

By Logan Culwell-Block

Jaquel Spivey says when he writes his memoir, the *Mean Girls* chapter will be titled “My Light at the End of the Tunnel.”

“To get to tell a story of a fat, Black, queer person who is happy about the world around him and loves himself unconditionally and walks through the world with his head held high—it was the perfect segue into finding Jaquel again,” he tells Playbill.

That happy character is Damian, *Mean Girls*’ least mean character and most loyal friend. Spivey is taking on the role in the story’s newest iteration, a screen version of the 2018 Broadway musical (itself based on the hit 2004 film). And as for finding Jaquel again, that’s because Spivey hit most of our radars in the Tony-winning musical *A Strange Loop*. Spivey earned a Tony Award nomination starring as Usher, a Black, queer musical theatre writer struggling for self-acceptance in a world that seems to hate him.

“I had such a great experience on Broadway,” he says. “But after a while, when you’re playing a character that’s in such a dark place, it starts to weigh on you.”

Spivey’s take on Damian was partially helped, he says, by some initially disappointing news. Two of Damian’s big numbers from the Broadway version of *Mean Girls*—“Where Do You Belong?” and “Stop”—were cut from the film. “I feel that in this world of *Mean Girls*, Damian is not your theatre gay,” Spivey explains. He decided to use the opportunity to widen perceptions about gay and queer people. “Queerness doesn’t have one look and one existence. There are a lot of queer people out here who don’t even like Broadway... everybody has their own thing.”

It’s also helped him address another quirk of queer representation that can be unintentionally damaging. “Sometimes queer people put on the show because they know that we often entertain people with our existence,” he says. “I happen to be queer, and that doesn’t come with me needing to perform for you.”

This Damian is a little more unapologetically himself. “I grew up in North Carolina,” Spivey says. “I know what it’s like to walk down the hall and have a group of jocks laugh and snicker, but I sashayed anyway. Damian does that, too. I hope it encourages some kid out there to keep being their best true self.” In short, Jaquel Spivey does, in fact, go here.
How *Days of Wine and Roses* is a love story, albeit an unhealthy one.

By Logan Culwell-Block

When asked to sum up the new Broadway musical *Days of Wine and Roses*, Tony winner Kelli O’Hara calls it “a love story [about] two people who find each other, they fall into addiction.” Wait, how is that a love story?

Well according to composer Adam Guettel, “Love can be expressed through addiction It’s just not expressed very healthily.” Guettel and Craig Lucas’ newest piece, *Days of Wine and Roses* is currently playing a limited engagement on Broadway at Studio 54.

Based on the 1962 film and a 1958 teleplay, *Days of Wine and Roses* is a tragic romance between Kirsten Arnesen (O’Hara) and Joe Clay (Brian d’Arcy James), two people also battling alcoholism. The original film made Guettel cry when he first saw it. And the ensuing musical, which is a one act and 100 minutes long, has O’Hara and James in some of the darkest scenes of their career. Or as director Michael Grief tells Playbill, “They get to do the suffering for us.”

D’Arcy James admits the material is "challenging because it’s taking a head-on look at addiction and the real-life ramifications of what this disease can do to people, how it can destroy them.”

The production, a transfer from Atlantic Theater Company’s 2023 Off-Broadway world premiere, is a multi-layered reunion. Guettel, Lucas, and O’Hara previously collaborated on 2005’s *The Light in the Piazza*. “I was having a hard time knowing where my type of voice fit in, and meeting a composer like Adam gave me a spot,” recalls O’Hara of how Guettel helped create a space for her classical soprano voice on Broadway.

The Tony winner is also sharing the stage with James after co-starring in Broadway’s *Sweet Smell of Success* in 2002. They’ve been good friends since then. “To be able to jump back into a working relationship... at this point in our lives has been really fascinating and fun,” enthuses James about working with O’Hara. “We’re both really interested in trying to be as diligent and ferocious about creating great characters, and this is demanding.”

For O’Hara’s part, she says the long connections with her *Days of Wine and Roses* collaborators is what helps her go to the difficult places required by its plot onstage.

“We’re dealing with a subject matter that’s very emotional,” O’Hara says. Guettel started talking to her about the show 20 years ago. “It’s very deep and dark, and you have to feel safe. We go onto that stage within that story, and if we don’t just feel like we dive and fall into each other, we can’t do it.”
PLAYBILL QUIZ: SPRING PREVIEW 2024!
By Andrew Gans

It’s a banner season for new musicals on Broadway. The 2023-2024 season on the Main Stem has already welcomed the openings of *Back to the Future*, *Here Lies Love*, *Harmony*, *How to Dance in Ohio*, and *Once Upon a One More Time*. And there’s even more musicals coming this spring. Can you identify each new musical below?

1. Following an acclaimed Off-Broadway run, this Adam Guettel-Craig Lucas musical, adapted from the 1962 film and 1958 teleplay, plays a limited engagement at Studio 54. It stars Kelli O’Hara and Brian d’Arcy James, with direction by Michael Greif.

2. Based on the novel by Sara Gruen, this new musical from Rick Elice and PigPen Theatre Co.—about a young man who finds a new home with a traveling circus—will arrive in February with direction by Jessica Stone at the Imperial.

3. Based on Alicia Keys’ life growing up in New York City, this new musical from the Grammy-winning songwriter and librettist Kristofer Diaz will begin previews in March at the Shubert Theatre under the direction of Michael Greif.

4. Danya Taymor will direct this new musical—based on the novel by S.E. Hinton and Francis Ford Coppola’s film—created by Adam Rapp, Justin Levine, and Jamestown Revival. It’s about a group of young men in a fight for survival and a quest for purpose. Performances begin in March at the Jacobs.

5. With a book by Jonathan A. Abrams and a story by Tyler Mitchell and Abrams, this musical, inspired by the songs of Huey Lewis and The News, will begin in March at the James Earl Jones Theatre. It will be directed by Gordon Greenberg.

6. Based on the novel by Nicholas Sparks that inspired the film of the same name, this new Ingrid Michaelson-Bekah Brunstetter musical about the enduring power of love will arrive at Broadway’s Schoenfeld Theatre in February. Schele Williams will direct.

7. Directed by Rachel Chavkin, this new musical from Carson Kreitzer, Matt Gould, and Raja Feather Kelly casts Eden Espinosa as a famed painter and will begin previews at the Longacre in March.

8. Following an extended run at The Public Theater, Shaina Taub’s new musical, set in 1913 as women fight for the right to vote, will open at the Music Box in April under the direction of Leigh Silverman.