THE PUBLIC THEATER

OSKAR EUSTIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR PATRICK WILLINGHAM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Presents



By MARY KATHRYN NAGLE Directed by LAURIE WOOLERY

Featuring RAINBOW DICKERSON, ELIZABETH FRANCES, DAVID KELLY, JEFFREY KING, ENRICO NASSI. JESSICA RANVILLE. JOE TAPPER. SHEILA TOUSEY. REX YOUNG

Scenic Design MARCELO MARTÍNEZ GARCÍA Costume Design LUX HAAC Lighting Design JEANETTE OI-SUK YEW

Sound Design and Composition PAUL JAMES PRENDERGAST

Hair and Wig Design YOUNGHAWK BAUTISTA Prop Manager RACHEL M.F. KENNER

Fight and Intimacy Direction KELSEY RAINWATER

Movement Direction TY DEFOE

Dramaturg AMRITA RAMANAN Cultural Consultant JOE BAKER

Dialect Coach ROBERT RAMIREZ

Casting HEIDI GRIFFITHS, JORDAN THALER, JOY DICKSON

Production Stage Manager AMANDA NITA LUKÉ-SAYED Line Producer EMMA MCSHARRY

Company Manager GRACE CHARIYA Production Manager MIKE BEST

Associate Artistic Director / Resident Director **SAHEEM ALI**

Associate Artistic Director/ **Director of Artistic Programs**

FREEDOME BRADLEY-BALLENTINE

Director of Producing & **Artistic Planning CHIARA KLEIN**

Managing Director JERĚMY ADAMS Associate Artistic Director / **Director of Public Theater Productions**

MANDY HACKETT

Directors of Casting HEIDI GRIFFITHS. JORDAN THALER

Director of Production PETER DEAN

World premiere produced by OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL. Ashland, Oregon, Bill Rauch, Artistic Director. Cynthia Rider, Managing Director

THE LUESTHER T. MERTZ LEGACY TRUST provides leadership support for The Public Theater's year-round activities.

Generous support for MANAHATTA is provided by the Ford Foundation.







COMPANY

(in alphabetical order)

Toosh-ki-pa-kwis-i/Debra	RAINBOW DICKERSON
Le-le-wa'-you/Jane	ELIZABETH FRANCES
Jonas Michaelius/Michael	DAVID KELLY
Peter Minuit/Dick	JEFFREY KING
Se-ket-tu-may-qua/Luke	ENRICO NASSI
Jakob/Joe	JOE TAPPER
Mother/Bobbie	SHEILA TOUSEY
Stage Manager	JANELLE CASO
Fight Captain	RAINBOW DICKERSON

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for the listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the appearance.

For Le-le-wa'-you/Jane-JESSICA RANVILLE; for Toosh-ki-pa-kwis-i/Debra-JESSICA RANVILLE; for Mother/Bobbie-JESSICA RANVILLE; for Jakob/Joe-REX YOUNG; for Peter Minuit/Dick-REX YOUNG; for Jonas Michaelius/Michael-REX YOUNG.



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.

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Dear Friends.

Lower Manhattan is the center of the financial universe and has been since the I8th century. Wall Street is a location, but also the overarching term for the stock exchange, the banking business, and investment itself. J.P. Morgan planted himself there as he remade American capitalism, and the opposition of Wall Street to Main Street, USA has become shorthand for the way that banks can be seen as opposed to business and to those who make things. As Thomas Jefferson says to Alexander Hamilton in one of the more well-known shows The Public birthed. "you just want to move our money around."

The home-loan crisis of 2008 exposed many of the weaknesses of a financial system built on complex formulas that even the bankers don't understand, but it's the genius of Mary Kathryn Nagle to focus on a different real estate transaction in the same location; the famous deal where Peter Minuit "bought" Manahatta from the Lenape for the commonly reported sum of \$24 (although such exactitude is suspect). In Mary Kathryn's view. it was that original real estate transaction that planted the virus of capitalism that has, like an invasive species, taken over not only New York but the vast majority of the planet. It is well-known that during this time the Lenape didn't have the same concept of ownership as the Dutch—but with guns and disease and greed, the European concept of ownership triumphed—and doomed the society of the Lenape, like so many other First Nation peoples, to forced removal, genocide, and centuries of attempted erasure. So thorough was the removal that the Lenage people of the present day have their homes in Oklahoma and Wisconsin, far from the island they called home, and that we now call home.

At its best, theater can take great historical and political issues and make them real and palpable in the lived experience of characters. Jane Snake, her mother Bobbie, and her sister Debra are struggling not just with their own lives and choices, but with the hand history has dealt them. The clarity of the personal being political is sharp in MANAHATTA; we have private lives, but we always live them with the context of our histories.

It is a wonderful honor to bring this play back to where it began more than a decade ago in the Emerging Writer's Group here at The Public. We developed the play and presented a workshop production in 2014; later the play went on to have full productions at OSF and Yale Rep. Our own Laurie Woolery helmed both those productions. as she is doing with ours. Mary Kathryn has never stopped working on the play, constantly going deeper, finding new connections, and uncovering the kind of truths that can only be revealed through art.

I am so proud that she, Laurie, and their magnificent company are here at The Public, telling the story of our beloved New York City through a very different lens. We live on Lenape land, never ceded, and it's important that we acknowledge that. This beautiful play is also a reimagining of what New York might have been, and perhaps still could be.

Welcome and enjoy.

OSKAR EUSTIS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR. THE PUBLIC THEATER

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. 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, 62 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonyo Awards and 6 Pulitzer Prizes.

RAINBOW DICKERSON she/her (Tooshki-pa-kwis-i/Debra). Public Theater debut. Broadway: August: Osage County. Regional: Cashed Out, Othello, Redwood Curtain, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Boleros for the Disenchanted, Autonomy, White Buffalo, The Buddha Prince, Desert Stories for Lost Girls and more. Film: Beans, The River and

others. TV: "Avatar: The Last Airbender," "Gone," "Chicago Fire," "Banshee." Awards: Toronto International Film Festival Rising Star, Vancouver Film Critics Best Supporting Actress, ABC Disney Discovers alumna.

ELIZABETH FRANCES she/her (*Le-le-wa'-you/Jane*). Public Theater and NYC debut. She received a BFA from CalArts and has worked with notable theatres such as Center Theater Group, La Jolla Playhouse, Los Angeles Theater Center, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Marin Theater Company, Native Voices and the Kirk Douglas Theatre. Oncamera roles include "The Son" (AMC), Star Wars: Jedi Survivor (EA), "Mayans M.C." (FX), "Love" (Netflix), *Drunktown's Finest* (Sundance), Emmy-nominated series "Her Story" and more. www.elizabethfrances.me

DAVID KELLY he/him (Jonas Michaelius/ Michael). Public Theater debut. Huntington Theatre: understudy for A Prayer for the French Republic and Joe Turner's Come and Gone. The Guthrie: Emma and Harvey. Berkeley Rep: Hand to God and It Can't Happen Here. Twenty-eight seasons at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Other theatres: Santa Cruz Shakespeare, La Jolla Playhouse, South Coast Rep, Rogue Theater Co., Geva Theater, Center Theater Group and others. TV: "City on a Hill" (Showtime). www.davidkelly.online

JEFFREY KING (Peter Minuit/Dick) was in the OSF acting company for 20 seasons, appearing in over 50 productions including the world premiere of Manahatta. He originated the role of Joe Pitt in Angels in America at the Eureka Theater and Mark Taper Forum. He has worked widely at major regional theatres. Recent roles include Big Daddy in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Friar Laurence in Romeo and Juliet and Henry in The Lion in Winter.

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ENRICO NASSI he/him (Se-ket-tu-may-qua/Luke) is an enrolled member of The Otoe-Missouria Tribe/Cherokee Nation. Nassi is Bear Clan and named Moon-Chin-Ne-Yeh (First Light of the Morning) in Otoe after his grandfather Milton James Pettit Jr. Credits include performances at Studio Theater, Arena Stage, La Jolla Playhouse, JACK (Brooklyn), Theatre for a New Audience, Theater J and most recently with Native Voices at The Autry. Nassi is based out of L.A. and earned his MFA at UCSD.

JESSICA RANVILLE she/they (Understudy Toosh-ki-pa-kwis-i/Debra, Le-le-wa'-you/Jane, Mother/Bobbie) is Red River Métis and an enrolled citizen of the Manitoba Métis Federation. Ranville has developed new works at The Playwrights Realm, the Drama League, the Lark, WP Theater, New Ohio Theatre and La MaMa. Off-Broadway: understudy in Stupid Fucking Bird (The Pearl). Regional: Where We Belong (Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Center Stage) and Men on Boats (Baltimore Center Stage). MFA: The New School for Drama. jessicaranville.com

JOE TAPPER (Jakob/Joe). The Public Theater: Socrates, Henry V (Mobile Unit), A Midsummer Night's Dream. Broadway: You Can't Take It With You. Off-Broadway/regional: Cherry Lane Theatre, Gym at Judson, 59E59 Theaters, Mabou Mines/La MaMa, Shakespeare & Co., Studio 42, Huntington Theatre Company, Pioneer Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre and Edinburgh Fringe Festival. TV: "Chicago Med," "Blue Bloods," "Masters of Sex," "Odyssey," "Brooklyn Taxi," "Law & Order: SVU." Yale School of Drama MFA.

SHEILA TOUSEY (Mother/Bobbie) is a writer, director and actress with many film, television and theatre credits to her name. Some of her favorite theatres that she has worked at include New York Theater Workshop, The Public, Lincoln Center Theater, Classic Stage Company, the Guthrie, Berkeley Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Native Voices at the Autry and the San Francisco Playhouse.

REX YOUNG (Understudy Jonas Michaelius/ Michael, Jakob/Joe, Peter Minuit/Dick). Off-Broadway: Irish Rep, Melting Pot Theatre. Regional theatre: Oregon Shakespeare Festival (23 seasons), Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Cincinnati Playhouse, Indiana Rep. Film/TV: Captain Fantastic, ABCD, "All My Children" and "Designing Women."

MARY KATHRYN NAGLE (*Playwright*) is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and an alum of the 2013 Public Theater Emerging Writers Group. Commissions include Arena Stage, Rose Theater, Portland Center Stage, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Yale Repertory Theatre, Round House Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Kansas City Repertory Theatre and Santa Fe Opera. She is an attorney whose work focuses on the restoration of tribal sovereignty and the inherent right of Indian Nations to protect their women and children from domestic violence and sexual assault.

LAURIE WOOLERY she/her/ella (*Director*) is an Obie Award-winning director, playwright, community activist and director of Public Works. Working at the intersection of

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community and transformative collaboration, Woolery directs at theatres across the country including OSF, NY City Center/Encores, Alliance, Yale Rep, Cornerstone Theater Company, etc. She recently directed Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles; Promenade; El Huracán; DreamHou\$e; As You Like It and The Tempest at The Delacorte. Woolery is a founding member of The Sol Project and has been awarded the 2020 United States Artist, 2021 Americans for the Arts Johnson Fellowship for Artists Transforming Communities and 2022 National Theatre Conference Person of the Year Award.

MARCELO MARTÍNEZ GARCÍA he/him/él (Scenic Design) is a proud Mexican scenic designer and architect. Theatre: Torera (Alley Theater), Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles (Yale Rep). Upcoming: Dial M for Murder (Alley Theatre), Garbologists and Sandra (TheaterWorks Hartford). Martínez holds a degree in architecture from ITESM MTY, a specialization in scenic design from CENTRO CDMX and an MFA in theatre design from Yale School of Drama. marcelomg.com @marcelomgdesigns

LUX HAAC she/her (Costume Design). The Public: The Comedy of Errors (Mobile Unit). Broadway: The Thanksgiving Play. Off-Broadway/NY: On That Day in Amsterdam (Primary Stages), 53% of (Second Stage), Songs About Trains (New Ohio Theatre), Eureka Day (Colt Coeur). Regional: For the People (Guthrie Theater), The Wizard of Oz (Geva Theatre), Between Two Knees (OSF, Yale Rep, McCarter, Seattle Rep), Espejos: Clean (Hartford Stage, Syracuse Stage), Kim's Convenience (Westport Country Playhouse, TheatreSquared), Lear (Cal Shakes). MFA: NYU/Tisch. @luxhaac luxhaac.com

JEANETTE OI-SUK YEW she/her (Lighting Design) is an award-winning designer for theatre, dance, opera, musicals, music performances and large-scale immersive installations. The New York Times described her designs as "clever" and "inventive." Recent: Kimberly Akimbo and The Thanksgiving Play (Broadway), King Lear (STC), shadow/land and cullud wattah (The Public), The Nosebleed (LCT3), Gloria: A Life (Daryl Roth Theatre), Walden (TheaterWorks), Golden Shield (MTC), Oratorio for Living Things (Ars Nova), Madame Butterfty (Boston Lyric Opera) and David Byrne's Theater of the Mind. jeanetteyew.com

PAUL JAMES PRENDERGAST (Composition and Sound Design). Broadway: All the Way, The Great Society. Off-Broadway: Julius Caesar (TFANA). Select regional: OSF, The Guthrie, Seattle Rep, Arena Stage, Alliance Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Rep, Long Wharf, Geffen, Hartford Stage, Berkeley Rep, American Conservatory, American Repertory, La Jolla Playhouse, Alley Theatre, McCarter. Awards: Grammy and Drama Desk nominations; Broadway World, Ovation, Drama League, Garland, Gregory, Footlight and Gypsy awards. Work as a singer/songwriter has appeared in films, on recordings and in music venues nationwide.

YOUNGHAWK BAUTISTA's (Wig Design) approach to hair and beauty is a hybrid of classic shapes with modern styling techniques that has a timeless appeal fueled by iconic images from film, fashion and the arts. Hair team for Motown the Musical (tour) and Wicked on Broadway. Previous wig design credits include Kim's Convenience at Westport Country Playhouse and Between Two Knees at Yale Repertory Theatre, McCarter Theatre and Seattle Rep.

RACHEL M. F. KENNER all pronouns (Prop Manager). The Public: (as an artisan) Girl From the North Country, Suffs, many years at Shakespeare in the Park; (as assistant prop manager) The Vagrant Trilogy, Gently Down the Stream. Other selected credits include Broadway: Merrily We Roll Along, Leopoldstadt, The Glass Menagerie. Atlantic Theater Company: Elyria. LCT: Marys Seacole, Queens, Dada Woof Papa Hot. On Site Opera: What Lies Beneath, Il Tabarro.

KELSEY RAINWATER (Fight and Intimacy Direction). Based out of the ancestral lands of the Quinnipiac people. The Public: The Tempest, White Noise, Measure for Measure. Off-Broadway: Blues for an Alabama Sky (Keen Company). Regional: Sally & Tom (The Guthrie); Between Two Knees (McCarter Theatre Center); the ripple, the wave that carried me home; Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles; Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (Yale Rep). Film: Baby Ruby. TV: "The Green Veil."

TY DEFOE he/him/we (Movement Director) is a citizen of Anishinaabe/Oneida Nations, Grammy Award-winning interdisciplinary artist and sovereign story trickster. Fellow of Robert Rauschenberg, MacDowell, Sundance, Kennedy Center's Next 50. Jonathan Larson

and Helen Merrill Awards. Defoe creates work with rural communities, Broadway productions and in the digital metaverse, fostering relations for Indigenous and decolonial futures. Publications: *Casting a Movement*, Routledge Press, Bloomsbury. Degrees: CalArts, Goddard College, NYU Tisch. A professor of practice at ASU Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

ROBERT RAMIREZ (Dialect Coach). Regional voice, text and dialect coaching: The Guthrie Theater, American Players Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Alley Theatre, Huntington Theatre, Hartford Stage. Regional directing credits: American Players Theatre, Pacific Conservatory Theater, Arkansas Shakespeare Theater, Austin Shakespeare. Acting credits: Alabama, Illinois, Utah, Great River Shakespeare Festivals. Actor's Equity member. Head: Carnegie Mellon School of Drama.

AMANDA NITA LUKE-SAYED (*Production Stage Manager*) is a freelance, Indigenous producer/stage manager. She has worked at Primary Stages, Signature Theatre, McCarter

Theatre, Seattle Rep, Long Wharf Theatre, Yale Rep, Syracuse Stage, The Old Globe, Red Bull Theater, the Houston Ballet and many more. She has produced drag shows, festivals and other large-scale events. Her passion is advocating for stage managers as artistic collaborators and increasing the visibility of Native theatre artists. Yale School of Drama MFA.

JANELLE CASO (Stage Manager). The Public: The Tempest (Public Works), shadow/land, Plays for the Plague Year, cullud wattah, The Line, Shipwreck, Romeo y Julieta, Coal Country, Wild Goose Dreams, The Tempest (Mobile Unit), Mlima's Tale, Oedipus El Rey and Los Desdichados. Broadway: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Noises Off. HVSF: Lamentable Trial of Miz Martha Washington, Into the Woods and Cyrano. Regional: Frost/Nixon, Hurlyburly, Fiddler on the Roof and Gypsy. MFA: Columbia University.

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.

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A D C FROM JOE BAKER FROM JOE BAKER

Since I609, Lenapehoking, the land of the Lenape people, has endured unimaginable suffering due to the genocidal actions of settler colonization and the imposition of foreign value systems. This has resulted in the displacement of my people and the irrevocable destruction of our environment. For centuries, Lenape individuals were forcibly uprooted from our ancestral homes and forcibly removed across the United States and Canada. The repercussions of this dark history continue to reverberate through our lives today.

Presently, Lenape people find themselves as members of federally recognized nations in places like Oklahoma, Wisconsin, and Ontario. For those who are unfamiliar with our colonial legacy and have grown accustomed to the altered landscape, the river that separates New Jersey and New York is commonly known as the Hudson River, but in our language, it is called Muhheacanituk. The island known as Manhattan has retained close to its original Lenape name, its enduring spirit standing as strong as its once magnificent tulip trees and

plum orchards. It is crucial to understand that Lenapehoking existed long before the arrival of colonizers, and its cultural restoration is vital to the preservation of our way of life.

For decades, the Lenape Center has been diligently working to continue the legacy of Lenapehoking through community, culture, and the arts. It is through these endeavors that we have reintroduced many to the profound significance of Lenapehoking, a land that holds deep meaning for our people.

In the midst of this ongoing struggle for recognition and justice, Mary Kathryn Nagle's play, MANAHATTA, directed by Laurie Woolery, serves as a beacon of hope and understanding.

It shines a light on the far-reaching consequences of this complex history and brings forth a silenced narrative that deserves to be heard. As a perturb in the execution of this point atoms the

deserves to be heard. As a partner in the creation of this poignant story, the Lenape Center takes great pride in challenging popular stereotypes and shifting the narrative surrounding Lenape people.

Through the unfolding of this play, audiences are reminded that Lenape people are not mere relics of the past, but vibrant members of contemporary society. We exist in the present, and our voices, our stories, and our presence are equally deserving of acknowledgment and respect.

We are grateful that you are here with us.

JOE BAKER

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PRODUCTION CULTURAL CONSULTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER. THE LENAPE CENTER



Executive Director...... Patrick Willingham

Associate Artistic Director/

STAFF FOR MANAHATTA

	Associate Artistic Director/
Associate DirectorJess Slaght	Director of Public Theater Productions Mandy Hackett
Dialect Coach Robert Ramirez	Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director Saheem Ali
Voice & Text CoachJulie Congress	Associate Artistic Director/Director of
Associate Scenic Designer Sarah Karl	Artistic Programs Freedome Bradley-Ballentine
Associate Costume Designer Lindsey Eifert	Managing Director Jeremy Adams
Assistant Hair/Wig DesignerChad Taber	Senior Director, Development Kristina Hoge
Assistant Lighting DesignerShannon Clarke	Chief Marketing OfficerTom McCann
Associate Sound Designer Tosin Olufolabi	Chief Financial OfficerMurray Abeles
Assistant Company ManagerAutumn Knight	Senior Director, Human ResourcesSarah Rosen
Assistant Production Manager Autumn J. Mitchell	Senior Director, Facility Operations Valerie D. Simmons
Production Assistants Dani Berman, Kayla Owen	Senior Director, Anti-Racism,
Sub Production AssistantRico Froehlich	Equity and BelongingAlexa Smith
Prop ManagerRachel M.F. Kenner	Administrative Chief of Staff Rosalind Barbour
Assistant Prop ManagerAisha Hamida	Artistic AssociateJess Slaght
Production AudioHerbie	Deputy Administrative Chief of StaffTina Huang Abrams
A1 Farid Vargas	Government Affairs CoordinatorKate Madigan
Sub A1Kasey Price	Associate Director,
Audio Crew Erik Cereghino, Stephen Curry,	Public Theater Productions Leah Matthes
Emily Nyby, Marques Rhoden,	Artistic Programs Manager Asha Nelson-Williams
Taylor Riordan, Natalie Soto,	Writer in Residence Suzan-Lori Parks
Emilia Wojciechowski	Resident Artists Tarell Alvin McCraney, Daniel Sullivan,
Costume CoordinatorJules DeSchryver	Shaina Taub
Wardrobe Supervisor Andrea Gorzell	Director of Voice Andrew Wade
Wardrobe Dresser Cheris Broadbelt	Voice Associate Julie Congress
Wardrobe Sub Julia Kehrley	Shakespeare Scholars in ResidenceJames Shapiro,
Seasonal Lead Stitcher Miranda Beck-Bird	Ayanna Thompson
Crafts ArtisanAnita Stotler	
Cutter/Draper Sarah Reever	PRODUCING
StitcherGriffin Patria	Director of Producing & Artistic Planning Chiara Klein
Hair Wig/Supervisor Joelle Zazz	Associate Line Producers Emma McSharry,
Hair/Wig SubChynah Gayton	Citlali Pizarro
Production ElectricianLiz Andrews	Producing Fellow (Brooklyn College) Madison Tamayo
Head Electrician Sam Weiser	
Light Board Programmer Evan Herman-Chin	CASTING
Light Board Programmer Evan Herman-Chin Light Board Operator Tim Harrison	Directors of Casting Jordan Thaler, Heidi Griffiths
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Light Board Operator	Directors of Casting Jordan Thaler, Heidi Griffiths Casting Director Kate Murray Casting Associate
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A MANAHATTA HOME COMING

During a pivotal scene in Mary Kathryn Nagle's MANAHATTA, sisters Debra and Jane Snake find themselves at a crossroads of understanding. In an attempt at familial reconciliation, Debra evokes an ancestral phrase that echoes with deep resonance throughout the play: "Machi! Machi Manahatta!" The Lenape phrase translates to "Go Home. Go Home to Manahatta," in English.

The concept and inspiration of home holds a profound duality for Mary Kathryn in the creation of

MANAHATTA. The seed of her play first grew in 2013 when she was a member of The Public's' Emerging Writers Group. Having recently worked as a corporate litigation lawyer litigating against and for numerous companies—including Fannie Mae, J.P. Morgan, and Lehman Brothers—during the housing crisis of 2008, Mary Kathryn found herself reflecting on the commercialization and commodification of homes and the land on which they reside in concert with the cyclical history of colonialism and communal displacement. In conversation with her non-Native colleagues at the time, Mary Kathryn learned that the Lenape roots of Manhattan were unknown, with many citing that the name likely derived from a Dutch word. This personal research—coupled with her long-standing, unwavering advocacy for the stories of Indigenous people to be uplifted in both her legal work and playwriting—fueled Mary Kathryn's desire to bring MANAHATTA to the page, and later, to the stage.

Home occupies a complex meditation in MANAHATTA, with characters engaging in parallel conversations across a 400-year period about the relationship of home to ownership, ephemerality, lineage, and family. Home becomes a source of pain, confusion, resilience, and curiosity. What is home? Who makes a home? And ultimately, how does home become a place you carry with you?

As MANAHATTA returns to Lenapehoking and the theater where it was first developed a decade ago, we extend our gratitude to the artistic homes and expansive community of actors, designers, dramaturgs, technicians, artisans, elders, advocates, and audience members who supported the play along the way, as well as the company members and audiences joining us today.

Thank you for being part of MANAHATTA's journey.

amutakamanan

AMRITA RAMANAN Production Dramaturg & Director of New Work Development



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here are new souls inhabiting

Hadestown, and they're cracking
open what it means to be the King
and Queen of the Underground. Tony
nominee Phillip Boykin is now Hades, the King
of the Underworld. Dance-pop star Betty Who
is his Persephone. While their onstage pairing
in the 2019 Best Musical Tony winner may
be fraught with emotional upheaval, offstage
the pair have quickly developed an ebullient
camaraderie.

"I could tell you were a silly goose the day that I met you!" Who laughs, her arm draped around Boykin. While Boykin is a Broadway veteran, *Hadestown* marks Who's stage debut. To Who, "the stakes are really high" on Broadway. "Every eye is on you. To have him next to me on opening night took the pressure off; everybody was watching us, and I was really grateful for that."

Historically, Persephone has been depicted in other adaptations as being trapped in the Underworld, but that dynamic is notably absent from the bond between Who and Boykin. "They can be played quite cold, and sort of lifeless, because they are gods," Who explains, turning toward Boykin. "What I felt in your Hades, that then inspired me and my Persephone, was the humanity and warmth that you bring, even when you're having fun kicking the shit out of Oroheus. It has so much

feeling in it. Instead of being excited to run away to spring, I really don't want to leave you either."

Boykin nods, his eyes downcast as Who continues. "They're the mom and dad who are fighting, but try to stay together for the kids, and it's not working...And Orpheus and Eurydice are the kids who are trying to Parent Trap their mom and dad into loving each other again."

At the stage door, Boykin has had numerous women pull him aside to share the similarities between their own marriages and the dynamic between Hades and Persephone. "I've been married for almost 25 years, and I can relate to Hades and Persephone, and their arguments," Boykin admits. "We've had some huge arguments, but they never cross the line where you completely forget that this person loves you."

Who nods fervently, adding: "We both know what it's like to continue to choose a partner. I think that's what relationships really are, is that continued choice...They choose to try again. They aren't going to figure it out tonight, but they're going to try. That is so beautiful to me."

As Who becomes emotional, Boykin looks at his co-star and remarks: "What a spectacular, unbelievable, tremendously successful, and gorgeous Broadway debut."

