

**WEL-
COME**

What unfolds here are not just productions, but an active process of building New York City. The revitalized Delacorte Theater stands as a living expression of the belief that culture belongs to everyone: that stories, ideas, and beauty are not privileges, but essential parts of public life. When we gather like this—across neighborhoods, generations, and lived experiences—we affirm our interdependence and our responsibility to one another.

Last summer, more than 60,000 New Yorkers from all five boroughs came together here to celebrate the reopening of The Delacorte after an 18-month closure. Together, we were reminded how free, open cultural spaces still matter deeply. They are where we listen, debate, celebrate, and begin again. They are where a city practices being a city, and where we tend the flame of democracy.

This season continues that promise. On this stage, timeless stories of love, loss, faith, and renewal return to ask urgent questions about who we are and who we might become.

Thanks to you and your neighbors' support, this space becomes a gathering ground for ideas, conversation, and civic exchange, a modern town hall where artists, thinkers, and neighbors meet in the spirit of curiosity and courage.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for believing that culture is a shared inheritance. This is your theater and tonight, as always, it belongs to all of us.

OSKAR EUSTIS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

&

PATRICK WILLINGHAM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**TO YOUR
THEATER**

PLAYBILL.COM/VAULT

A VOICE TO THE WAY WE LIVE NOW

At our six-venue home at Astor Place, we produce an ANNUAL SEASON OF WORLD PREMIERE PLAYS & MUSICALS, giving voice to a diverse range of new and established artists, leading and framing the dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day.

FREE SHAKESPEARE FOR EVERYONE

For over six decades, we have been producing FREE SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK and more than 6,000,000 people have visited The Delacorte Theater in Central Park for free performances, making it one of New York's most beloved summer traditions.

BRINGING THEATER TO ALL OF NYC

With the MOBILE UNIT, we tour all five boroughs, bringing free performances to correctional facilities, senior and recreation centers, parks, and more for members of our community with little or no access to the arts.

PUTTING NEW YORK ON STAGE

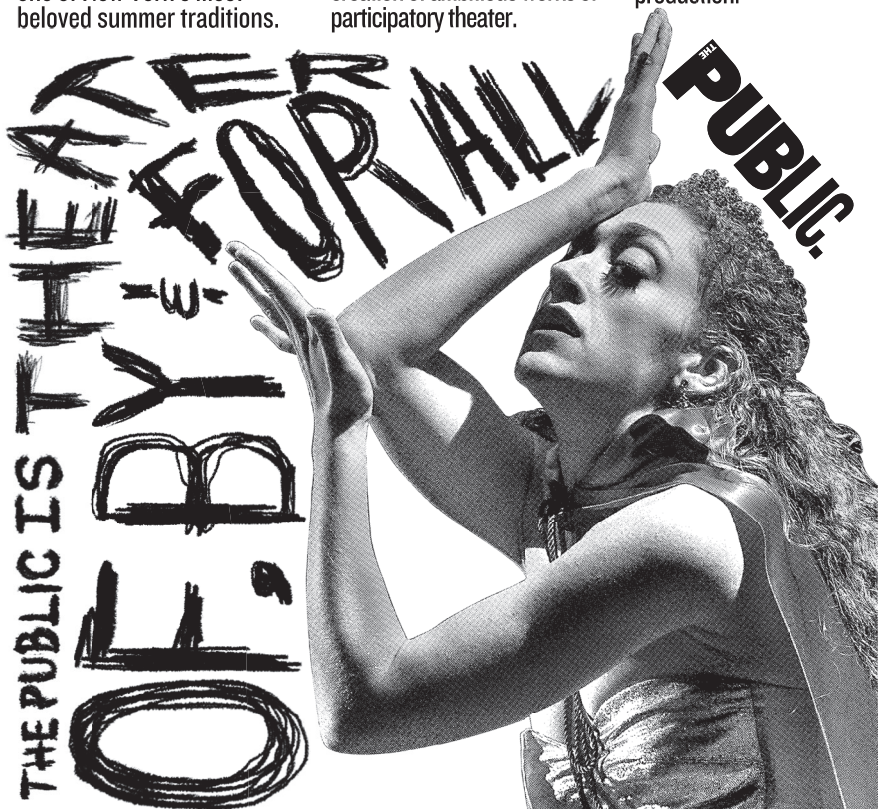
With PUBLIC WORKS, we seek to engage the audience by making them creators and not just spectators. Working deeply with partner organizations in organizations around the city, we invite community members to participate in workshops and classes, attend performances, and join in the creation of ambitious works of participatory theater.

MAKING A HOME FOR MUSICIANS & ARTISTS

At our famed JOE'S PUB at The Public, we present hundreds of shows per year and support thousands of artists in one of the most welcoming, intimate live venues in the city.

FOSTERING ARTISTS

Through a variety of initiatives, including the Emerging Writers Group, BIPOC Critics Lab, and multi-year residencies, we provide support for artists of all career levels, and development opportunities for work at every stage, from new idea to full production.



THE PUBLIC THEATER: OSKAR EUSTIS, Artistic Director; **PATRICK WILLINGHAM**, Executive Director

In cooperation with the City of New York

Hon. Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor, City of New York

Hon. Julie Menin, Speaker, New York City Council

Hon. Diya Vij, Commissioner, Department of Cultural Affairs

Hon. Tricia Shimamura, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation

Presents



By **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

Spanish Translations by **ALFREDO MICHEL MODENESSI**

Choreography by **MAYTE NATALIO**

Directed by **SAHEEM ALI**

With **RA'MYA LATIAH AIKENS, SERGIO MAURITZ ANG, DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ, ANDRÉS NICOLÁS CHAVES, RACHEL CROWL, REECE DOS SANTOS, CALEB JOSHUA EBERHARDT, JACQUERNST F. FILIAS, GLENN FLESHLER, FRANCIS JUE, ARIYAN KASSAM, LACHANZE, MARTIN K. LEWIS, ZACK LOPEZ ROA, GILDA MERCADO, TINA MUÑOZ PANDYA, DEIRDRE O'CONNELL, JASON MANUEL OLAZÁBAL, JESSICA PIMENTEL, FEDRA RAMÍREZ OLIVARES, PIPER RUNGE, MILES SEGURA, MARIAND TORRES, MARLON XAVIER**

Scenic Design **MARUTI EVANS**

Costume Design **OANA BOTEZ**

Lighting Design **CHRISTOPHER AKERLIND**

Sound Design and Sound System **MIKE TRACEY**

Original Music **MICHAEL THURBER**

Hair, Wigs, and Makeup Design **KRYSTAL BALLEZA**

Prop Manager **JESSICA ZIVNY**

Fight Direction **THOMAS SCHALL**

Intimacy Direction **KELSEY RAINWATER**

Spanish Dialect & Text Coach **DAVID JARZEN**

Voice & Text Coaches **ANDREW WADE &**

JULIE CONGRESS

Casting **KATE MURRAY & HEIDI GRIFFITHS**

Production Stage Manager **KAMRA A. JACOBS**

Producer **CITLALI PIZARRO**

Company Manager **HEATHER FICHTHORN**

Production Manager **CRISTINA AYÓN VIESCA**

Associate Artistic Director /

Resident Director

SAHEEM ALI

General Manager

ERIK SCHROEDER

Associate Artistic Director /

Director of Cultural Transformation

ALEXA SMITH

Directors of Casting

**HEIDI GRIFFITHS,
JORDAN THALER**

Director of Producing

JEREMY ADAMS

Interim Director of Production

FRANK BUTLER

CITIZENS is the presenting partner of Shakespeare for the City.

THE JEROME L. GREENE FOUNDATION is lead sponsor of Free Shakespeare in the Park.

Leadership support for Free Shakespeare in the Park is provided by **A&O Shearman, Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Bernard & Anne Spitzer Charitable Trust, and The New York Community Trust - The George T. Delacorte Fund for Performance at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park.**

THE PUBLIC

COMPANY

(in alphabetical order)

Juliet.....	RA'MYA LATIAH AIKENS*
Friar John/Ensemble	SERGIO MAURITZ ANG*
Romeo	DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ*
Ensemble.....	ANDRÉS NICOLÁS CHAVES
Apothecary/Ensemble	RACHEL CROWL*
Balthasar	REECE DOS SANTOS*
Mercutio.....	CALEB JOSHUA EBERHARDT*
Ensemble.....	JACQUERNST F. FILIAS
Lord Capulet	GLENN FLESHLER*
Friar Lawrence.....	FRANCIS JUE*
Tybalt	ARIYAN KASSAM*
Lady Capulet.....	LACHANZE*
Paris.....	MARTIN K. LEWIS*
Benvolio.....	ZACK LOPEZ ROA*
Ensemble.....	GILDA MERCADO
Ensemble.....	TINA MUÑOZ PANDYA
Nurse.....	DEIRDRE O'CONNELL*
Lord Montague.....	JASON MANUEL OLAZÁBAL*
Escalus	JESSICA PIMENTEL*
Ensemble.....	FEDRA RAMÍREZ OLIVARES*
Ensemble.....	PIPER RUNGE
Ensemble.....	MILES SEGURA
Lady Montague	MARIAND TORRES*
Pedro/Ensemble	MARLON XAVIER
Stage Managers.....	BENJAMIN E. C. PFISTER*, GISELLE ANDREA RAPHAELA*
Fight Captains	ZACK LOPEZ ROA*, BENJAMIN E. C. PFISTER*

UNDERSTUDIES

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

For Friar Lawrence—SERGIO MAURITZ ANG*; for Romeo, Pedro—ANDRÉS NICOLÁS CHAVES; for Nurse—RACHEL CROWL*; for Paris, Lord Montague—REECE DOS SANTOS; for Benvolio, Balthasar—JACQUERNST FILIAS; for Mercutio—ARIYAN KASSAM*; for Apothecary—GILDA MERCADO; for Lady Montague—TINA MUÑOZ PANDYA; for Lord Capulet—JASON MANUEL OLAZÁBAL*; for Escalus—FEDRA RAMÍREZ OLIVARES; for Juliet—PIPER RUNGE; for Tybalt—MILES SEGURA; for Lady Capulet—MARIAND TORRES*; for Friar John—MARLON XAVIER.

* Member of Actors' Equity



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 during the performance is prohibited by New York City law.

The tragedy unfolds over four days in Nueva Verona, a border wall community.

Day 1. Following a violent fray at the wall, instigated by Tybalt, Romeo, a Montague, meets up with his friends, Benvolio and Mercutio.

They learn of a party at the home of the Capulets—parents of Juliet—that night. The Capulets invite Paris to the party, hoping that he and Juliet might marry. Romeo and Juliet meet, fall in love at first sight, and, meeting again at night, agree to wed. Juliet's nurse acts as a go-between.

Day 2. Romeo reveals their plans to Friar Lawrence, who later that morning marries them.

Tybalt, angry that Romeo, a Montague, crashed the Capulets' party, seeks him out, and in a series of sudden and violent encounters, Tybalt kills Mercutio, and is killed in turn by Romeo, who is banished by the Prince. Romeo and Juliet spend the night together.

Day 3. The exiled Romeo flees at dawn to Mantua.

When told by her parents that she must wed Paris, Juliet goes to Friar Lawrence, who gives her a sleeping potion that will lead others to believe that she is dead. The Friar then sends a letter to Romeo in Mantua, telling him of these plans, so he can return and take Juliet with him when she awakes. Meanwhile the Capulets prepare for Juliet's wedding to Paris.

Day 4. Juliet is discovered, apparently dead, and is carried to the family tomb.

Balthasar rushes to Romeo in Mantua to convey this news. The Friar's letter never reached Romeo, who buys poison from an apothecary and returns that night to Nueva Verona and Juliet. Believing that she is dead, he takes the fatal potion. Juliet wakes and, seeing the dead Romeo, takes her own life. As dawn breaks, the community gathers, and the feuding Montagues and Capulets reconcile over the bodies of their dead children.

ROMEO &
JULIET

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ROMEO & JULIET is the most famous love story in western culture.

It is the best known and most accessible of Shakespeare's plays; performed all over the world, translated into almost every language on the planet, enjoyed by all ages, adapted in many different forms. It has a seemingly limitless ability to fascinate and attract.

What accounts for its almost universal appeal?

The portrait of young love is exquisite—

the sudden, complete merging of spirits that Romeo and Juliet experience is not only instantly recognizable to anyone who has had a first love, it is rendered in such perfect detail that it can't help but remind us of the joy and pain of our own youthful love. Shakespeare captures, better than any other artist I know, the thrill of stepping into our own adulthood through the act of loving another.

But the heart of the tragedy, what makes the play tick, lies in the context of that love. Romeo and Juliet belong to warring families,

whose hate for each other, entirely unexplained, goes back generations. When the young people fall in love, it forces both them and their families to confront that hatred. The tragic consequence is death, for Mercutio, for Tybalt, and for Romeo and

Juliet themselves. Despite the pain of the lovers' death, their loss is not meaningless: it leads to healing. Appalled by the slaughter their feud has caused, the Montagues and the Capulets agree to erect golden statues of the dead lovers and to swear peace between their families forever more.

That, I think, is what ultimately makes this tragedy so uplifting, and so universally popular. ROMEO & JULIET affirms something we must believe if we are to survive all the pain and loss that make up any human life: that love is a force that does not stop at the grave. Love defeats not only hate, but death itself.

Saheem Ali has once again assembled an extraordinary cast and design team

to bring this old tale to magical contemporary life at The Delacorte. The theater, like any performing art, always exists only in a specific moment, at a specific place: the play may be timeless, but the production is always here, always now. The here is The Delacorte, in New York, in the United States; the now is the summer of 2026. Our job is to marry a 400-year-old text with this moment. We couldn't ask for a better director, or a more thrilling company to do just that.



OSKAR EUSTIS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, THE PUBLIC THEATER

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

THE PUBLIC 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 Works 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 64 Tony Awards, 197 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 64 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 72 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonio Awards and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

RA'MYA LATIAH AIKENS she/her (*Juliet*) graduated from NYU's acting MFA program in 2025. Recent credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Classical Theatre of Harlem) and *One Night Only* (Universal Pictures). Featured in last year's Disney Discovers Talent Showcase, Aikens is a trained singer and originally from Georgia. For her family, friends and cohort. For anyone grieving. For Mama, forever.

SERGIO MAURITZ ANG he/they (*Friar John/Ensemble/Understudy Friar Lawrence*). The Public: debut! Select theatre: *Pride and Prejudice* (Hartford Stage), *Far Country* (Yale Rep). Film: *Relay* (Blackbear Films). TV: "Crutch" (Paramount+), "Law & Order: SVU" (NBC), "The Other Two" (HBO Max). Love to CLA, BWA, Hubs, 妈妈, Tatay. For Dreamers. MFA: UNC Chapel Hill/PlayMakers Rep. BFA: Brooklyn College. LaGuardia Arts High School. sergiomauritzang.com

DANIEL BRAVO HERNÁNDEZ he/him (*Romeo*) is grateful to be back with The Public! The Public: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Mobile Unit). Broadway: *Romeo + Juliet* (2024). Off-Broadway: world premiere of *Spread* (INTAR). He'd like to thank The Stars of Tomorrow Project, Brian D. Hills, Clara Bello, Lucia Rogerson, Kate Murray, HCKR and his family. Sobre todo gracias a Dios.

ANDRÉS NICOLÁS CHAVES (*Ensemble/Understudy Romeo/Pedro*). Colombian-born artist driven by a deep belief in the dignity and boundless value of those often forgotten. I dedicate this performance to the thousands who have been separated from their families or have lost their lives at the hands of American imperialism. NY: INTAR, LPC. Regional: Guthrie, ATL, The Globe. Film: *La Piel de Ayer, Tumba del Mar*. NYU Graduate Acting.

RACHEL CROWL she/her (*Apothecary/Ensemble/Understudy Nurse*). Public Theater debut. Off-Broadway: *Prince Faggot* (Obie), *Between Two Knees* (Obie). Regional: *Between Two Knees*, *Henry V*, *As You Like It*, *The Swindlers*. Film: *And Then There Was Eve*. TV: "The Lowdown." Videogames: *Life Is Strange: Double Exposure*. She lives in Wisconsin mostly with her wife and cats.

REECE DOS SANTOS he/him (*Balthasar/Understudy Paris/Lord Montague*). Off-Broadway: *The Irrepressible Magic of the Tropics* (INTAR). Selected regional: *Pride & Prejudice* (Cleveland Play House), *All My Sons* (Hartford Stage), *A Welcome Guest* (Contemporary American Theater Festival). Feature film: *The Man I Love* (dir. Ira Sachs), *Triumph of the Will*. TV: "New Amsterdam," "The Equalizer," "American Rust." MFA: NYU Graduate Acting. IG: [@recee_dossantos](https://www.instagram.com/receedossantos)

CALEB JOSHUA EBERHARDT he/him (*Mercutio*). Public Theater debut. Broadway: *An Enemy of the People* (Drama League nomination), *Choir Boy*. Off-Broadway: *You Got Older*, *Galas*, *Eurydice*, *The Comeuppance* (Obie Special Citation, Drama League nomination), *On Sugarland*, *Is God Is*. Select TV/film: "Demascus" (Tubi), "Betty" (HBO), *A House of Dynamite* (Netflix). Training: SUNY Purchase, BFA. [@rosehardt](https://www.instagram.com/rosehardt)

JACQUERNST F. FILIAS he/him (*Ensemble/Understudy Benvolio, Balthasar*) is a Haitian actor. Upon completing his BFA at SUNY Purchase he made his Off-Off-

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Broadway debut at the Chain Theatre with his performance of *Hang It Up*. He's thankful to casting and to Saheem Ali. He also thanks his loved ones and Brian D. Hills, without them none of this would be possible. Ayiti Cherie! @jacquernst

GLENN FLESHLER (*Lord Capulet*). Public Theater: *Stuff Happens*, *Mother Courage*, *Measure for Measure*, *King Lear*, *The Merchant of Venice* (Broadway transfer). Other Broadway: *Good Night, and Good Luck*; *Death of a Salesman*; *Arcadia*; *Guys and Dolls*; *Spring Awakening*. Film: *Joker*, *Suburbicon*, *A Most Violent Year*, *Werewolves Within*. TV: "Billions," "Barry," "For Life," "True Detective," "Boardwalk Empire."

FRANCIS JUE (*Friar Lawrence*) received Tony, Outer Critics Circle, Lucille Lortel and Obie Awards for *Yellow Face*. Other recent theatre: *Tartuffe*, *Cambodian Rock Band* (Lucille Lortel Award), *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, *Good Enemy*, *Soft Power* (Outer Critics Circle Award), *Wild Goose Dreams* (Obie Award). Film/TV: *Good Sex*, *Our Son*, *White Noise*, *Joyful Noise*, "Madam Secretary," "New Amsterdam," "Law & Order: SVU."

ARIYAN KASSAM (*Tybalt/Understudy Mercutio*). London-born Muslim actor with roots in East Africa and South Africa. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama. Kassam is grateful to be returning to The Delacorte for a second consecutive year. Previous credits include Luca Guadagnino's *After the Hunt*. Kassam is deeply grateful for every opportunity he receives to bring his own authenticity to each role. @ariyan.kassam

LACHANZE (*Lady Capulet*) is excited to be making her Delacorte debut as Lady Capulet in *Romeo & Juliet!* For more information on her performance and directing credits, please visit mslachanze.com. For more information on her producing credits, please visit lachanzeproductions.com. Enjoy the show!

MARTIN K. LEWIS he/him (*Paris*) is thrilled to make his Public Theater debut! Off-Broadway: New York Theatre Workshop, Atlantic Theater Company, Red Bull Theater. Regional credits include Chautauqua Theater Company, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Miami New Drama and Elm Shakespeare Company. Film: *Meet Cute in Manhattan*. Training: MFA from NYU. To my friends and family: I love y'all so much! @kmart171

ZACK LOPEZ ROA he/him (*Benvolio*). U.S. Air Force veteran. Off-Broadway: *Titus Andronicus*. Regional: *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *As You Like It*, *The Story of My Life*. TV: "The Equalizer" (Tustin Green). Training: Columbia University/MFA acting. A massive thanks to my team, to my brother Jack and to my husband (& reader!) Taylor - GO BILLS!

GILDA MERCADO she/her (*Ensemble/Understudy Apothecary*) is a bilingual Mexican actress based in NYC. Her work has taken her to NYC, Glasgow and London, where she performed at Shakespeare's Globe through her training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. A graduate of RCS and Stella Adler Studio, her work spans theatre and film, including *Center of the Echo* (New York Latino Film Festival). @gildamarianamer

TINA MUÑOZ PANDYA she/her (*Ensemble/Understudy Lady Montague*) is an actor/musician based in Chicago, where credits include *Dhaba on Devon Ave* (Writers Theatre); *London Road* (Shattered Globe); *The Mousetrap* (Court Theatre). Regional/touring: *Matchbox Magic Flute* (Goodman Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre DC, Berkeley Rep); *As You Like It* (Door Shakespeare); *The Pirates of Penzance* (The Hypocrites-Skirball Center, Pasadena Playhouse, Olney Theatre). Represented by Gray Talent Group.

DEIRDRE O'CONNELL (*Nurse*) has worked at The Public Theater, Lincoln Center, Manhattan Theatre Club, Page 73, Playwrights Horizons, LAByrinth, New York Theatre Workshop, Rattlestick, Soho Rep, the Vineyard and on Broadway. TV includes "The Penguin" (Emmy nomination). Film includes *Eddington*. She has received two Obies, an Outer Critics Circle Award, New York Drama Critics' Circle Citation, Lilly Award, Lucille Lortel Award and Tony Award.

JASON MANUEL OLAZÁBAL he/him (*Lord Montague/Understudy Lord Capulet*). The Public: *Guinea Pig Solo*, *Massacre: Sing to your Children*. Broadway: *Julius Caesar*, *Anna in the Tropics*. Select Film/TV: *Skincare*, *I Don't Feel at Home in This World Anymore* (Sundance Grand Jury Award winner), *Inside Man*, *Bad Boys II*, "Dexter" (SAG Award nomination), "Fear the Walking Dead" (AMC). MFA: UMKC. LAByrinth Theater Company member.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

JESSICA PIMENTEL (*Escalus*). Brooklyn-born actor/musician and three-time Screen Actors Guild Award winner, featured in numerous film and television productions, is best known for playing Maria Ruiz on "Orange Is the New Black" (Netflix). Notable theatre credits: *Don't Eat the Mangos*, *Jasper*, *Surfer Girl*, *The Clean House*, *Anna in the Tropics*. Graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

FEDRA RAMÍREZ OLIVARES she/her (*Ensemble/Understudy Escalus*) is an actor/musician from Mexico City. She is excited to be making her debut at The Public Theater. Shoutout to Comunidad Fandanguera Soneros de City Lore por crear una comunidad tan bella en Nuevayol llena de amor y música. Gracias! Film: *In Passing*. Regional: *Metamorphoses*, *Native Gardens*, *Smokefall*, *How to Defend Yourself*. MFA: NYU. @fedramirez

PIPER RUNGE she/her (*Ensemble/Understudy Juliet*) is elated to be making her Public Theater debut. TV: "The Chair Company," "FBI," "Chicago Fire." Rutgers MGSA (BFA). Thank you to HCKR and Suskin/Karshan. Huge thanks and love to her incredible family, friends and loved ones. I am so very lucky. This is so very cool. @piperrunge

MILES SEGURA he/him (*Ensemble/Understudy Tybalt*) is delighted to be making his Off-Broadway debut at The Delacorte. Segura lives in Brooklyn, trained in the Stella Adler Studio of Acting (NYU Tisch) and has an ardent fervor for all things Shakespeare. Love and gratitude to my father, mother, Naima, IanJ, Benny, Ryan, Kris, IanH, Steve, Tirosh, Mr. Miller. @milessegura

MARIAND TORRES (*Lady Montague/Understudy Lady Capulet*). The Public: *Hell's Kitchen*. Broadway: *Wicked*, *Hell's Kitchen*, *Lempicka*, *Hadestown*, *In Transit*. National Tour: *Wicked* (Elphaba). Off-Broadway: *The Great Comet*. Film: *Holiday Touchdown*. TV: "Law & Order: SVU," "Madam Secretary." Torres starred in the Japan world premiere of *Prince of Broadway*, directed by Hal Prince & Susan Stroman. Love to Nick. Favorite role: Maia's mama.

MARLON XAVIER (*Pedro/Understudy Friar John*) is of Ecuadorian descent. Thrilled to make his Public Theater debut. Theatre: *ExtraOrdinary Aliens* and many more. Film: *A Stage of Twilight*, *Magic Hour*. TV: "Law & Order," "Blue Bloods," "The Savant." MFA: Actors Studio Drama School. LAByrinth

Theater Company member and Actors Studio finalist. Grateful to his wife Juanita Castro Ochoa for all her support.

MAYTE NATALIO (*Choreography*) is an NYC-born, Dominican-American movement-based artist. Broadway choreography: *How to Dance in Ohio*, *Suffs*. Off-Broadway: *Urinetown* (City Center Encores). Select regional choreography: *The Winter's Tale* (DTC/Public Works), *Into the Woods* (Barrington Stage Company), *Love in Hate Nation* (Two River Theater), *Hair* (The Old Globe), *Kiss My Aztec* (Hartford Stage). Film: *Playland* (Tribeca Film Festival). Natalio was a recipient of the 2024 Douglas & Ethel Watt Critic's Choice Chita Rivera Award. maytenatalio.com

SAHEEM ALI (*Director*) is a proud immigrant from Kenya, currently serving as the associate artistic director/resident director of New York's Public Theater. He is a two-time Tony Award nominee, for *Buena Vista Social Club* and *Fat Ham*, the latter of which also earned the Joe A. Callaway Award and Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel nominations. He is the recipient of an Obie Award for Sustained Excellence in Directing. His productions of *Twelfth Night* and *Merry Wives* (Free Shakespeare in the Park) were recorded for PBS' "Great Performances," and *Merry Wives* was the subject of the HBO documentary *Reopening Night*. Productions include *Goddess* (The Public Theater, Berkeley Rep), *Good Bones* (The Public Theater), *Nollywood Dreams* (MCC), *Fires in the Mirror* (Signature Theatre), *The Rolling Stone* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Passage* (Soho Rep) and *Sugar in Our Wounds* (MTC). He is a Sir John Gielgud SDCF fellow and a Shubert fellow.

MARUTI EVANS (*Scenic Design*). The Public: *Fat Ham* (also Broadway, RSC), *Twelfth Night*, *Good Bones*. Off-Broadway: *Real Enemies*, *Else Where* (BAM); *At the Wedding*, *Daphne* (LCT); *Kill Move Paradise*, *Amani* (NBT). Regional: *Angels in America* (ArenA). International: *The Ring Cycle* (Opera Australia). Awards: Drama Desks for *Tiny Dynamite* and *Pilo Family Circus*, Obie Award for *Fat Ham*. Six Drama Desk nominations, two Henry Hewes Design nominations.

OANA BOTEZ (*Costume Design*). The Public: *Twelfth Night*, *Good Bones*, *Love's Labour's Lost*. Off-Broadway: *An Oresteia*, *Master and Margarita*, *Orlando*, *Eurydice*, *A*

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

House in Bali, texts&beheadings/ElizabethR, Alan Smithee Directed This Play, Supernatural Wife. Regional: *Macbeth, Angels in America, Man in a Case.* International: Bucharest National, Old Vic, Théâtre National de Chaillot, Maison des Arts Creteil, Les Substances. Botez teaches in the design department at Yale's David Geffen School of Drama.

CHRISTOPHER AKERLIND (*Lighting Design*). The Public: *Initiative, Office Hour, Grounded, King Lear, Wrecks, Measure for Pleasure, See What I Wanna See, Well, Troilus and Cressida, Silence Cunning Exile, The Skriker.* 650-plus productions. Broadway: *Indecent* (Tony, Drama Desk Award), *The Last Ship, Rocky* (Tony nomination), *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (Tony nomination), *110 in the Shade* (Tony nomination), *Awake and Sing!* (Tony nomination), *Seven Guitars* (Tony nomination), *Light in the Piazza* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards).

MIKE TRACEY (*Sound Design and Sound System*). Select designs include *Rolling Thunder, 3 Summers of Lincoln, The Lonely Few, Dreamgirls* (national tour), *F#%king Up Everything, Newsies* (regional), *Jersey Boys* (regional), *West Side Story* (regional), *Spamalot* (regional), *Million Dollar Quartet* (regional). Select associate design work includes *Buena Vista Social Club, Waitress, Jagged Little Pill, Springsteen on Broadway.* mtsounddesign.com

MICHAEL THURBER (*Composer*) is a Tony-nominated, Drama Desk/Outer Critics Circle-winning composer and lyricist. Broadway: *Just in Time.* Off-Broadway: *Twelfth Night, Merry Wives* (Shakespeare in the Park); *Goddess* (The Public Theater). As a bassist, Thurber was an original member of the house band on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert."

KRYSTAL BALLEZA (*Hair, Wig and Makeup Design*). Broadway: *Real Women Have Curves.* Designs include Atlantic Theater Company, The Public, MCC, Signature, Lincoln Center, A.R.T., Paper Mill, Yale Rep, Arena Stage, NY Philharmonic and Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. She is the HMU supervisor of *SIX: The Musical* on Broadway. Co-owner of The Wig Associates. thewigassociates.com

JESSICA ZIVNY she/her (*Prop Manager*). The Public: *Socrates.* Select Broadway

(MTC): *Punch; Old Friends; Eureka Day; Mary Jane; Jaja's African Hair Braiding; Prayer for the French Republic; Cost of Living; Skeleton Crew; Summer, 1976; The Collaboration; How I Learned to Drive; My Name Is Lucy Barton.* Select Off-Broadway: *We Had a World, Poor Yella Rednecks, A Sherlock Carol.*

THOMAS SCHALL (*Fight Direction*). Broadway: 100-plus shows. *Othello, Purlie Victorious, A Soldier's Play* (Drama Desk Award), *Cost of Living, The Cottage, The Kite Runner, True West, To Kill a Mockingbird, Jitney, War Horse, Romeo and Juliet.* The Public: *Hamlet, Titus Andronicus, The Merchant of Venice, Othello, Mother Courage.* NYTW: *Red Speedo, Othello* (Drama Desk nomination). The Armory: *The Hairy Ape* (Drama Desk nomination), *Hamlet.*

KELSEY RAINWATER (*Intimacy Direction*). The Public: *Antigone, Jordans, Goddess, Sally & Tom, Manahatta, White Noise.* Broadway: *Liberation, The Last Five Years, Hell's Kitchen.* Off-Broadway: *Blues for an Alabama Sky.* Regional: *Furlough's Paradise; Wish You Were Here; Dreamgirls; Choir Boy; The Light; Pass Over.* Film: *Baby Ruby.* TV: "The Artist," "The Green Veil."

DAVID JARZEN he/him (*Spanish Dialect & Text Coach*) is a Colombian American actor, singer, coach, educator, advocate and researcher. Make the world better with your voice. Amo a mi familia más que a nada en el mundo. West End: *Matilda the Musical* (Cambridge Theatre). Off-West End: *Blood on Your Hands, Orpheus Descending.* BFA: Point Park; MFA: RCSSD; PhD: currently an NYU Steinhardt fellow; DLT; KTS; VASTA. davidjarzen.com

KAMRA A. JACOBS she/her (*Production Stage Manager*). The Public: *Much Ado About Nothing, Twelfth Night* and *The Bitter Game.* Select Broadway credits: *John Proctor Is the Villain, Our Town, Purlie Victorious, Fat Ham, Topdog/Underdog, Skeleton Crew* and *Lackawanna Blues.* First Broadway national tour of August Wilson's *Jitney.* MFA: U.C. San Diego.

BENJAMIN E. C. PFISTER he/him (*Stage Manager*). The Public Theater: *As You Like It, Much Ado About Nothing, Merry Wives.* Broadway: *Carousel, Choir Boy, The Rose Tattoo, A Soldier's Play, A Strange Loop, Kimberly Akimbo, Topdog/Underdog, Wicked, Purlie Victorious, Our Town,*

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Othello. Regional: Northern Stage, Yale Repertory Theatre, Dorset Theatre Festival. Lecturer in stage management at David Geffen School of Drama.

GISELLE ANDREA RAPHAELA (*Stage Manager*). The Public: *Goddess, Good Bones, Hamlet*. Broadway: *John Proctor Is the Villain, Othello, Our Town, Purlie Victorious, Topdog/Underdog, Skeleton Crew*. Off-Broadway: *Inspired by True Events, Safe, Endgame*. Regional: *Trinity, Gun and Powder, Spring Awakening*. ¡Dedico mis logros con mucho cariño a mi mama, mi hermana y amigos!

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 ROMEO & JULIET

Associate Director..... Miguel Bregante Garcia
 Assistant Director Cnaan Levkovich
 Directing Observers Alon Moradi, Jeffery Wagner
 Associate Scenic Designer Arthur Wilson
 Assistant Scenic Designer Matt Steinberg
 Associate Costume Designer Miranda Boodheshwar
 Assistant Costume Designer Rea J. Brown
 Associate Lighting Designer Peter W. Mitchell
 Assistant Lighting Designer Cathleen Conte-Merraro
 Associate Sound Designer
 and Sound System Associate Thomas Ford
 Associate Composer Sasha Bartol
 Associate Hair and Wigs Designer Ashley Wise
 Production Assistants Majo Ferrucho, Misha Fristensky
 Head Props Corinne Gologursky
 Seasonal Assistant Head Props Aisha Hamida
 Prop Manager Jessica Zivny
 Assistant Prop Manager Mary Flynn
 Production Audio JP Queenan, Derek Stevenson
 A1 Andrew Hienz
 A2 Jennie Gorn, Emilia Wojciechowski
 Costume Coordinator Jasmine Canjura
 Drapers Sarah Reever, Marie Stair
 First Hand Maria Albutra, Kennedy Green,
 Audrey Pallmeyer, Griffinn Patria
 Costume Crew Paola Castañeda, Edouard Farrell,
 Penelope Gerosa, Kimberly Goings, Bailey Hammett,
 Grace Jeon, Maeve Rose
 Costume Crafts Lead Jules DeSchryver
 Costume Crafts Ali Caruso, LA Cleverson,
 Lindsey Eifert, Nato Hermann, Cam Upton
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 Noah Willis-Hogan
 Wardrobe Daywork Tom Branigan, Megan Vaughn
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 Hair and Makeup Crew Pelle Melio
 Production Electrician Megan Mahoney
 Lead Electricians Parker Damm, Hayes Wolfe
 Lighting Programmer Ben Fichthorn
 Sub Lighting Programmer Harrison Freni
 Light Board Operator Hayes Wolfe
 Follow Spot Operators Liz Andrews, Jay Greenberg,
 River Knight, Archer Swietek
 Lighting Subs Parker Damm, Terysa Malootian,
 Juan Lara Valentini

Electricians..... Liz Andrews, Anna Brevetti, Erin Bulman,
 Jack Creegan, Parker Damm, Jessica Dunn, Ethan Feil,
 Drew Finley, Ruth Faulkner, EJ George, Olivia Grasso,
 Jay Greenberg, Vic Hernandez, Joseph Lorenzen,
 Terysa Malootian, Sam Pierce, Will Rossiter,
 Jesus Santiago, Destiny Scott, Sawyer Smith,
 Archer Swietek, Juan Lara Valentini
 Prop Runners..... Callie Harris, Riley Hutchison, Carter White
 Sub Prop Runner Adina Valerio
 Prop Artisans Antonia Howard, Helen Hylton,
 Milo Robinson
 Assistant Technical Directors Carly Genovesi,
 Em Simpson
 Head Carpenter Carl Whipple
 Assistant Head Carpenter Simon Lass
 Scenery Construction
 & Load-In Crew..... James Blydenburgh, Jewel Calabro,
 Amanda Chisholm, Bri Davis, Eric Deysner, Scott Foglia,
 Sophia Hafter, Chuck Huller, Bec Karlin, Logan Kerr,
 Thane Madsen, Gavin McNicholl, Howard Moncada,
 Beckett Mullin, SJ Reynolds, Rory Schall, Cliona Smith,
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Interim Director of Production..... Frank Butler

Production Management

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Production Managers..... Colin JB, Aliyah Sall
Associate Production Manager..... Autumn Mitchell
Production Office Assistant Lana Zhang
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Associate Technical Director Carrie First
Assistant Technical Directors Carly Genovesi,
Em Simpson
Charge Artist..... Hugh Morris-Stan
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Costume Director Vanessa Watters
Associate Costume Director Melinda Basaca
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First Hand..... Audrey Pallmeyer
Video Supervisor..... Ido Levran
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