

2011/12 SEASON

APR 13 - 22

CAFÉ VARIATIONS

MUSIC & LYRICS BY **GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN**

BOOK BY **CHARLES L. MEE, JR.**

DIRECTED BY **ANNE BOGART**

A CO -PRODUCTION WITH **EMERSON STAGE AND SITI COMPANY**

ARTS
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THE WORLD ON STAGE

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APRIL 2012

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theatrebill

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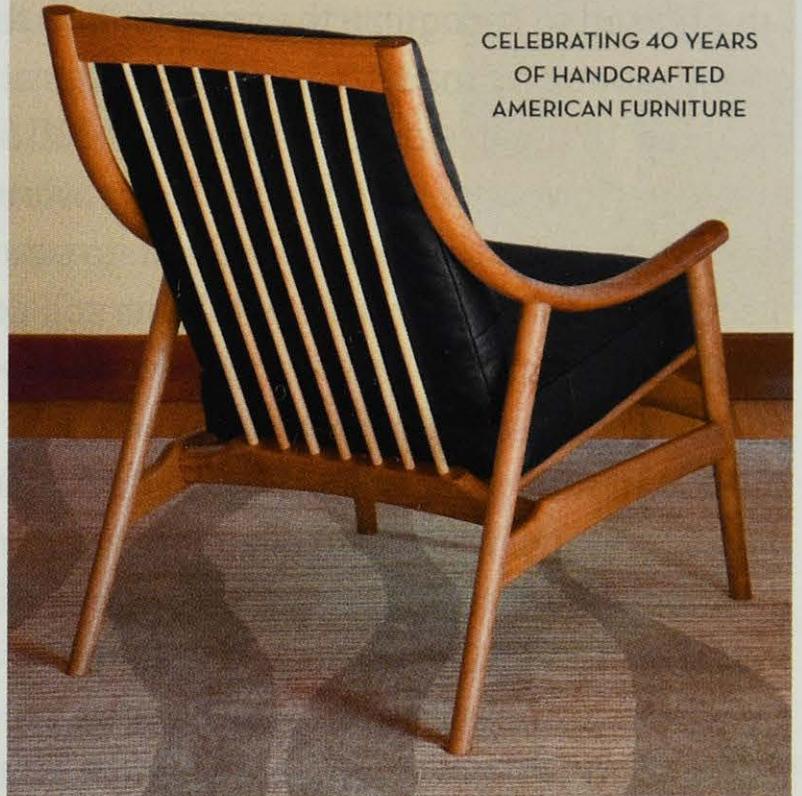
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Message from the President of Emerson College

Welcome to ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage.

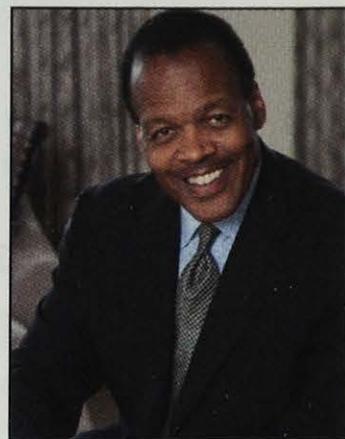
As ArtsEmerson nears the completion of its second season, I'm pleased to recognize the contribution that this vibrant arts organization has made to Boston's cultural landscape. This season included 18 theatre productions, over 100 film screenings, and three music performances from around the world. Additionally, more than 400 community members were able to attend performances at a discounted rate or for free. ArtsEmerson continues to be a highly visible expression of Emerson College's enduring commitment to bringing innovative and thoughtful arts to Boston and beyond.

This month, I'm particularly excited about the debut of **Café Variations**. The development of this world premiere is a result of the collaboration between distinguished director Anne Bogart and SITI Company and students from Emerson's Performing Arts Department. Set to the timeless music and lyrics of George and Ira Gershwin, **Café Variations** celebrates café culture through a series of vignettes and dance movements. It's a great example of the unique opportunities that ArtsEmerson brings to our students and to audiences worldwide.

This summer, a new program, The Center for the Theater Commons at Emerson College ("The Commons"), joins ArtsEmerson as part of Emerson's Office of the Arts. Under the direction of ArtsEmerson's Executive Director Rob Orchard, and with the addition of two renowned leaders in the field of theatre development, David Dower and Polly Carl, The Commons will include a residency program for playwrights to create new theatrical works. With the opening of the Paramount Center, the establishment of ArtsEmerson, and now the inclusion of The Commons, Emerson College is becoming a living laboratory for the future of theatre.

It's an exciting time, and we very much appreciate your support. Your decision to attend today's show and future performances advances Boston's dynamic arts scene. We are enormously proud to partner with Boston and Mayor Thomas Menino in the revitalization and renaissance of our historic Theatre District.

Enjoy the performance.



Tony Rinaldo

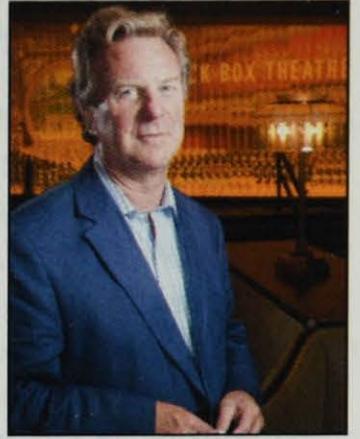
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Lee Pelton".

M. Lee Pelton
President, Emerson College

Welcome to ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage

Welcome to the very first ArtsEmerson/Emerson Stage/SITI Company world premiere production of **Café Variations**!

This collaboration is unprecedented—on stage today, young artists from Emerson join Anne Bogart's SITI Company in an effort produced entirely from scratch. Not only is it a wonderful opportunity for Emerson students to work with Anne and the professionals from SITI, but also for Boston to enjoy the work of this inspired director. Anne collaborated with students at NYU back in the 1980s, and I sensed that she would be eager to work with Emerson's talented young artists—luckily, I was right.



The Gershwin estate has graciously given us the opportunity to create an original work incorporating their magnificent music. Pairing Chuck Mee's dialogue with vivacious choreography, **Café Variations** breathes new life into classic melodies. I'm so glad that with **Café Variations** we're able to expose the next generation of music theatre makers and audience members to the Gershwins and their lyrical genius. (And if you enjoy musicals like **Café Variations**, don't miss out as our American Movie Musical retrospective, **Gotta Dance**, wraps up this May in the Bright Family Screening Room.)

I also invite you to return to ArtsEmerson to witness more staples of American music in a fresh context when Hershey Felder appears in **Maestro: Leonard Bernstein** at the Paramount Center Mainstage, beginning April 28th. Delving into Bernstein's fascinating life and iconic compositions, Hershey offers an intimate portrayal of this Boston musical legend.

In planning for next season (our third!), I'm structuring it with three different rhythms. The first will be a series of projects spread out starting in September and going into the spring—a kind of advance season package. In addition, we'll present a parallel season of works programmed with shorter planning horizons, allowing us to bring you a burst of newly minted projects hot off stages far and near. And, finally, we'll bring you a festival of new works—just a few performances each of relatively unknown productions, giving audiences the opportunity to sample a range of theatrical gestures bubbling up from a younger generation.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity toward the end of our second season to thank all of you for your supportive messages, goodwill, spreading the word, conversations and taking a leap of faith with us on this new adventure. You're the *best*!

Rob Orchard, Executive Director

P.S. If you're not already a Member, I encourage you to join ArtsEmerson today so that you can be among the first to learn about our exciting 2012/13 Season developments. Members also enjoy a multitude of benefits, and have the first chance to purchase tickets to our 2012/13 Season!

Envisioning ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage

ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage evolved from three founding objectives:

- to generate new work
- to bring international artists to Boston
- to add to the cultural choices of the community

The facilities of the Paramount Center and the Cutler Majestic Theatre, nestled within a college of arts and communications and a thriving, culturally active city, are fantastic resources for artists and ensembles. These venues are programmed by ArtsEmerson with work from this country and around the world that would otherwise never be seen in Boston. ArtsEmerson also fosters the creation of new work by developing multi-year partnerships with a revolving roster of artists and institutions, giving Bostonians the opportunity to witness the artists' growth over multiple years and building long-term, meaningful relationships between performers and audiences. Our programs include:

THEATRE:

LEGENDS: Established, highly regarded institutions and artists whose work is celebrated around the world, and

PIONEERS: A new generation of acclaimed artists whose ideas are redefining the performing arts and pointing to the future.

FILM: Weekends in the Bright Family Screening room feature films for every cinema fan: from family and children's matinees to independent, repertory and foreign films.

MUSIC: ArtsEmerson's music programming complements the theatre offerings and connects with the tastes and sensibilities of a diverse audience.

FAMILY: As part of ArtsEmerson's commitment to including works that appeal to all ages, we have theatre productions and weekly films that will engage the whole family— young and old alike.

EXTRAS: ArtsEmerson hosts a variety of ancillary events designed to enhance the experience of attending performances and screenings.

ROB ORCHARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In October 2009, theatre producer and educator Rob Orchard became Emerson College's first Executive Director for the Arts and Stephen G. Langley Chair in Theater Management and Production. Orchard was Managing Director of the Yale Repertory Theatre and School of Drama, where he also served as associate professor and co-chair of the MFA Theatre Administration Program. Following his time at Yale, Orchard was the Founding Managing Director of the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) and subsequently Executive Director, and was the architect for the A.R.T. training Institute and its relationship with the Moscow Art Theatre School, as well as Director of the Loeb Drama Center at Harvard. At the A.R.T. he produced more than 200 works, including premieres by Nobel prize winners Dario Fo and Derek Walcott; composers Philip Glass, David Byrne, Liz Swados and Galt MacDermot; playwrights Robert Brustein, Marsha Norman, Christopher Durang, Milan Kundera, Susan Sontag, Charles Mee, David Mamet, Anna Deavere Smith, David Rabe, Paula Vogel, Sam Shepard and Lisa Kron, among others. He has also worked with many of the world's most respected directors, among them: Andrei Serban, Robert Brustein, Peter Sellars, Joanne Akalaitis, Robert Wilson, Richard Foreman, Anne Bogart, Robert Woodruff, Janos Szasz, Andrzej Wajda and Martha Clarke.

Orchard has served as chairman of both the Theatre and the Opera/Musical Theatre Panels at the National Endowment for the Arts, on the Board and Executive Committee of the American Arts Alliance, the national advocacy association for the performing and visual arts, and as a trustee of Theatre Communications Group (TCG). In addition, he has served on the Board of the Cambridge Multi-Cultural Arts Center and as President of the Massachusetts Cultural Education Collaborative. In 2000, Orchard received the Elliot Norton Award for Sustained Excellence. He is currently on the Board of the Boston Arts Academy.

About Emerson College

Emerson College is the only four-year private college in the United States devoted to teaching communication and the arts in a liberal arts context. The College has approximately 3,453 undergraduates and 837 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. It's internationally recognized in its fields of specialization: marketing communication; journalism; communication studies; communication sciences and disorders; visual and media arts; the performing arts; and writing, literature and publishing.

Since 1993, Emerson has been on a remarkable journey, including the relocation and expansion of the school's campus, from Boston's Back Bay residential neighborhood to the heart of Boston's Theatre District. The move, which included the purchase and renovation of four new buildings and renovation of The Cutler Majestic Theatre, has re-energized the neighborhood adjacent to the historic Boston Common.

In March 2010, Emerson celebrated the crowning achievement of its cultural presence with the opening of the reconstructed Paramount Center. The College established the arts organization ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage to bring culturally enriching theatre, film and music to Emerson's historic theatre venues and to provide opportunities for students, faculty and the community to engage in the creative process.

This season's collaborations between Emerson's Department of Performing Arts and ArtsEmerson can be seen in the following productions: **You Better Sit Down: Tales From My Parents' Divorce**, **Sugar** and **Café Variations**. For more information, visit www.emerson.edu or www.artsemerson.org.

In addition to ArtsEmerson's professional productions, Emerson Stage, the producing organization of the Department of Performing Arts at Emerson College, will showcase eight student productions during 2011-2012. For more information, visit www.emerson.edu/emersonstage.



The Paramount Center

559 WASHINGTON STREET

PARAMOUNT MAINSTAGE

Originally a 1930s cinema palace, the Paramount Center's largest facility features a 596-seat theatre, enchantingly reconstructed in lively Art Deco style.

THE JACKIE LIEBERGOTT BLACK BOX ("THE JACKIE")

The exposed brick, tall windows and open layout of the 150-seat Jackie Theatre invite artists to envision their own worlds and create unique environments for audiences.

BRIGHT FAMILY SCREENING ROOM

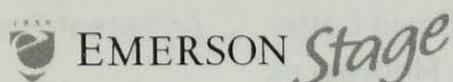
This state-of-the-art facility features 16-millimeter, 35-millimeter and digital projection equipment with seating for 170 people.



The Cutler Majestic Theatre

219 TREMONT STREET

Built in 1903 as the second venue in Boston's historic Theatre District, The Majestic showcased theatre, vaudeville and film. The 1,186-seat theatre had severely deteriorated when Emerson College purchased the property in 1983 but reopened in 2003 after a magnificent restoration, made possible by Ted and Joan Cutler.



PRESENT

Café Variations

MUSIC & LYRICS BY **GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN**

BOOK BY **CHARLES L. MEE, JR.**

DIRECTED BY **ANNE BOGART**

ARRANGER/ORCHESTRATOR
RACHEL GRIMES

MUSIC DIRECTION BY
JON GOLDBERG

CHOREOGRAPHY BY
BARNEY O'HANLON*

SCENIC DESIGN BY
NEIL PATEL**

COSTUME DESIGN BY
CAITLIN WARD**

LIGHTING DESIGN BY
BRIAN H SCOTT**

SOUND DESIGN BY
STOWE NELSON

RESIDENT COSTUME DESIGNER
RAFAEL JAEN

STAGE MANAGER
MARISSA ROBINSON

CAST

*Henry A—Tom Nelis**
Henry B—Devin Holloway
Henry C—Mitchell Canfield
*Peter A—Stephen Duff Webber**
Peter B—Braden Joyce-Schleimer
Peter C—Maximilian Sangerman
*Harold A—Barney O'Hanlon**
Harold B—Jake Stempel
Harold C—Michael Niederer
*Raymond A—Gian-Murray Gianino**
Raymond B—Brock Bivens
Raymond C—Matthew Koplik
*Andrew A—Leon Ingulsrud**
Andrew B—Andrew Frank
Andrew C—Jayson James

*Tilly A—Deborah Wallace**
Tilly B—Abby Goldfarb
Tilly C—Hallie Brevetti
*Edith A—Ellen Lauren**
Edith B—Hannah Tehrani
Edith C—Mariah MacFarlane
*Ya-Ya A—Akiko Aizawa**
Ya-Ya B—Lily LaGravenese
Ya-Ya C—Anna Harissis
Nanette A—Sarah Mitchel
Nanette B—Lauren Chapman
Nanette C—Gigi Watson
Lucia A—Melody Madarasz
Lucia B—Chelsea Williams
Lucia C—Kaitlyn Frank

The performance lasts 1 hour and 40 minutes with no intermission.

ArtsEmerson gratefully thanks **Café Variations** production sponsor Marilyn Zacharis.



Our 2011/12 Season is generously supported by Ted and Mary Wendell, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Café Variations is supported in part by a grant from the Fresh Sound Foundation, and was made possible with funding by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Pilot, with lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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*Member of the Actors' Equity Association **Member of United Scenic Artists

Anne Bogart is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

Creative and Production Staff

General Manager.....David Colfer	Assistant Props MastersAnne Sherer and Tyler Hall
Assistant Director.....Nick Medvescek	Scenic Artist.....David Blaakman
Production Stage Manager..Debra A. Acquavella*	Scenic Artist AdvisorBobbie-Jean Powell
1st Assistant Stage Manager.....Jason Pacella	Costume Shop
2nd Assistant Stage Managers....Abigail Medrano and Sean Swords	SupervisorRichelle Devereaux-Murray
Dramaturg.....Magda Romanska	Costume Shop Business Manager...Debbie Krasa
Assistant DramaturgsTierra Bonser and Luke Palmer	Cutter/Draper.....Laurie Bramhall
Orchestra Contractor.....Louis Toth	Makeup/Hair.....Vivian del Bello
Apache ChoreographyTom Nelis	Wardrobe Supervisor.....Mallory Frers
Assistant Scenic Designer.....Orrin Whalen	Wardrobe Assistant.....Kathleen Dewitt
Assistant Costume DesignersHae Min Yun, Haley Vigil and Arielle Chernoff	Lighting Supervisor.....Matt Adelman
Associate Lighting Designer.....Kevin Semagin	Resident Master ElectricianGarrett Herzig
Assistant Lighting DesignersAnthony Fiorillo and Emily Witt	Master Electrician.....Will Delorm
Associate Sound DesignerErik Skovgaard	Assistant Master ElectriciansZach Cosenza, Brett Israel, Kevin Zabrecky
Director of Production.....Bonnie J Baggesen	Lighting Faculty AdvisorScott Pinkney
Associate Production	Sound Supervisor.....Darby Smotherman
Manager.....Daniel Burmester	Sound Engineer.....Matt Sloan
Assistant Production	Assistant Sound Engineer.....Christian Carter
Managers.....Megan Harris and Lauren Contard	Assistants to the Orchestrator...Andrew Bukowski and Michal Weiner
Company Manager.....Helen Bennett	RUN CREW: Marysa Angelli, Samantha Burke, Kathleen Dewitt, Naomi Ibasitas, Tonaisa Jones, Michael Kelly, Colton Laferriere, Everett Mason, Paul McGlew, Sarah Metcalf, James Murray, Matthew Nadler, Alexander Pierce, Matthew Pierleoni, Mark Roberts, Adaire Robinson, Amie Sandillo, Katelyn Semer, Emily Simon, Chloe Sonnenfeld, Ian Stewart, Ryan Sweeney, Brenna Sweet, Maya Tripathy, Zachary Tucker
Associate Company	
Manager.....Ashley-Rose Galligan	
Assistant to the General Manager.....Tyler L. York	
Director of Technical Operations.....Warren West	
Resident Technical DirectorKeith Cornelius	
Assistant Technical DirectorBen Clark	
Scenic Faculty AdvisorTim Jozwick	
Props Master.....Alyssa Dillon	
Props Faculty AdvisorRon DeMarco	

ORCHESTRA: Amy Advocat (clarinet), Louis Toth (alto sax/tenor sax/bassoon), Walt Bostian (trombone), Olga Kouznetsova (violin), Heather Porter (viola), Jennifer Minnich (cello), Kate Foss (bass), Don Holm (drums)

*Member of the Actors' Equity Association



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We'll post our favorites on the Paramount Marquee!

#CafeVariations / #ThisSeatTaken

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Musical Numbers

Overture*
Isn't It a Pity?*
Prelude II
Promenade (Walking the Dog)
Tortoise/Hare*
Blah Blah Blah
Do It Again**
Treat Me Rough*
Love Is Here to Stay
Embraceable You
They Can't Take That Away From Me*

Recordings:

"For Lily Pons (Gershwin Melody #79)" performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic & Michael Tilson Thomas on *Gershwin: Rhapsody In Blue, Preludes for Piano, Short Story, Violin Piece, Second Rhapsody, For Lily Pons, Sleepless Night, Promenade*, used by arrangement with Sony Classical/Legacy.

Selections from "Rhapsody in Blue" performed by Leonard Bernstein and the Columbia Symphony Orchestra on *Bernstein Century—Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue/An American in Paris; Grofe*, used by arrangement with Sony.

"Oh, Lady Be Good!" performed by Artie Shaw and His Orchestra on *The Essential Artie Shaw*, used by arrangement with RCA.

*Contains elements of "Rhapsody in Blue"

**Lyrics by B.G. DeSylva

Director's Note

The creation of **Café Variations** is a story of inspiration, influence and development and, in the same way as the play, unfolds in a process of theme and variations. I had been thinking about a project for SITI Company that would interweave scenes from many of Charles Mee's plays that happen in cafés. One of Mee's recurring themes is the philosopher Heidegger's notion that we become who we are through our relationships to other people and to the environment. I imagined that a café environment would be a perfect world for this investigation. It was clear to me that music and dance would play a key role in the project. And then came a call from Rob Orchard, the Executive Director of ArtsEmerson and a dear friend. He asked if I had any ideas about a musical work that could be a collaboration with Emerson's undergraduate theatre program, ArtsEmerson and SITI Company. Yes! And then he mentioned that it might be possible to work with music from the George and Ira Gershwin catalogue. Oh yes! The project has been evolving ever since to become what you will now experience upon the stage of the beautiful Cutler Majestic Theatre.

—Anne Bogart, director

Emerson Student Actors on their *Café Variations* Experience

“The fact **Café Variations** is a new piece even further enhances the necessity of collaboration between all involved, where every individual plays the role of teacher AND student and learns, by working in tandem, to take new and effective artistic risks.”

—Andrew Frank

“I appreciate how lucky I have been to be able to work with and watch the SITI Company to inspire my own specific work and truly delve into some of the more foreign training methods with no fear.”

—Abby Goldfarb

“Anne Bogart and the SITI Company have created a safe atmosphere for us that has allowed us complete freedom to explore our craft in new ways. It has been a fascinating process, requiring rigorous discipline but allowing for a stimulating collaboration.”

—Matt Koplak

“I have enjoyed being able to learn an entirely different acting technique outside of the one we study in our classes here at Emerson. Getting a new perspective on the process of creating a play and gaining a new set of vocabulary and tools is something I will use long after the show is ended.”

—Mariah MacFarlane

“It’s a new experience working on a 100% collaborative piece—no detail is too small, no suggestion overlooked—it’s an amazing thing to be a part of.”

—Melody Madarasz

“I am learning more about myself and how my body works in tandem with other individuals than I ever have before in any kind of acting training. We’re learning how to be and how to work with human beings in here.”

—Maximilian Sangerman

“This rehearsal process has been able to teach me about the importance of stillness, which is something I find hard to maintain as an actor.”

—Jake Stempel



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Creative Team

DEBRA A. ACQUAVELLA (*Production Stage Manager*). Broadway: *Metamorphoses*, *Jane Eyre*, *the Musical*, *Master Harold...and the boys*. Off-Broadway: SITI Company, Second Stage Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Theatre Club. Regional: Actors Theatre of Louisville, Baltimore's CenterStage, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Trinity Repertory Company.

AKIKO AIZAWA (*Ya-Ya*) has been a member of SITI Company since 1997. Productions with SITI include: *Trojan Women*, *Antigone*, *bobrauschenberg america*, *La Dispute*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Radio Macbeth*, *American Document (2010)*, *Under Construction*, *War of the Worlds* and *Who Do You Think You Are*. Theatres include: American Repertory Theater, Arena Stage, Los Angeles Opera, Getty Villa, Walker Art Center, Wexner Center for the Arts, BAM, The Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, Joyce Theater, New York Live Arts and Japan Society. Festivals/venues include: Edinburgh, Dublin, Bonn, Bobigny, Sydney, Bogota, Sao Paulo, Moscow, Toga and Tokyo.

BROCK BIVENS (*Raymond B*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Emerson Stage: *Cloud Nine*, *NewFest Readings '11*, *Family Weekend Showcase '09*. Other Credits: *Darling* (RareWorks), *Urinetown* (MTS), *Dear Edwina* (Kidding Around), *Gypsy* (Lakewood Theatre Co.), *Big River* (Broadway Rose).

ANNE BOGART (*Director*) is the Artistic Director of SITI Company. Recent works with SITI include *Trojan Women*, *American Document (2010)*, *Antigone*, *Under Construction*, *Freshwater*, *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Hotel Cassiopeia* and *Death and the Ploughman*. Author of four books: *Conversations with Anne*, *A Director Prepares*, *The Viewpoints Book* and *And Then, You Act*.

HALLIE BREVETTI (*Tilly C*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Emerson Stage: *She Loves Me* (Ensemble), *Nine* (Chambermaid/dance captain). Previous Emerson credits: *Darling*, *Emanations*, *Songs of Shakespeare*, *Carousel*, *The 29th Annual EVVY Awards*, *The Wiz*. ArtsEmerson's **Fraulein Maria** (dancer) and Berkshire Theatre Festival's *Tommy* (ensemble/understudy).

MITCHELL CANFIELD (*Henry C*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Previous Emerson credits include *She Loves Me* (Arpad), *Man of La Mancha* (Paco), *Grey Gardens* (Joe/Jerry), *I Love You*

Because (Austin), *Zazou* (Luc), *Mini Musicals 2009 & 2010* and *Family Weekend Showcase 2009*.

LAUREN CHAPMAN (*Nanette B*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Previous Emerson Stage credits: *Nine* (Chambermaid). Other Emerson credits include *Darling: A New Musical* (Ursula), *Sweet Charity* (Helene) and *Carousel* (Carrie).

ALYSSA J. DILLON (*Props Master*). BFA Theatre Design/Technology: Props Design '12. Selected credits include: Properties Master for *Robin Hood*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Color of Rose*, *Light Up the Sky*, *Paint* and Assistant Properties Supervisor for New York Stage and Film's 2011 Powerhouse Season.

ANDREW FRANK (*Andrew B*). BFA Musical Theatre '14. Andrew's previous Emerson credits include *She Loves Me* (Emerson Stage), *Grey Gardens*, *Honk!* and the *Family Weekend Showcase 2010*.

KAITLYN FRANK (*Lucia C*). BFA Musical Theatre '14. Recent credits include Penny in *Hairspray* and Lorraine in *42nd Street* at TriArts Sharon Playhouse (CT), *America Dances* at City Center (NYC) and *X Dance* at Emerson College.

GEORGE GERSHWIN (*Composer*) was born in Brooklyn on September 26, 1898, and began his musical training when he was 13. At 16 he quit high school to work as a "song plugger" for a music publisher, and soon he was writing songs himself. "Swanee," as introduced by Al Jolson, brought George his first real fame and led to his writing a succession of 22 musical comedies, most with his older brother, Ira. The Gershwins' shows include *Lady Be Good*; *Oh, Kay!*; *Strike Up the Band*; *Girl Crazy*; and the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Of Thee I Sing*. From his early career George had ambitions to compose serious music. These ambitions were realized in some of his masterpieces, among them "Rhapsody In Blue," "Concerto In F," "An American In Paris" and "Second Rhapsody." In the late '20s George became fascinated by the DuBose Heyward novel *Porgy*, recognizing it as a perfect vehicle for opera using jazz and blues idioms. George's "folk opera" *Porgy and Bess* opened in Boston on September 30, 1935, and had its Broadway premiere two weeks later. In 1937 George was at the height of his career. While working on the score of *The Goldwyn Follies* in Hollywood, he collapsed, and on July 11, died of a brain tumor. He was not quite 39 years old.

creative team (continued)

IRA GERSHWIN (*Lyricist*), the first songwriter to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize, was born in New York City on December 6, 1896. In 1917 *The Evening Sun* published his first song ("You May Throw All The Rice You Desire But Please Friends, Throw No Shoes"). Four years later Ira enjoyed his first major stage success, *Two Little Girls in Blue*, written with another Broadway newcomer, Vincent Youmans. In 1924 Ira and his brother, George, created the smash hit *Lady Be Good* and went on to continue their remarkable collaboration through a dozen major stage scores, producing such standards as "Fascinating Rhythm," "The Man I Love," "S Wonderful," "Embraceable You," "I Got Rhythm," "But Not For Me" and others far too numerous to mention. During his long career, Ira also enjoyed productive collaborations with such songwriters as Harold Arlen, Vernon Duke, Kurt Weill, Burton Lane and Jerome Kern, with whom he created his greatest song hit of any one year, "Long Ago And Far Away." Ira Gershwin died on August 17, 1983, in Beverly Hills, California.

GIAN-MURRAY GIANINO (*Raymond A*). As a member of SITI Company he has performed in shows all over the globe, including *Trojan Women*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Freshwater*, *Systems/Layers* and *bobrauschenbergamerica*. NY: BAM, Second Stage, Signature Theatre, The Public Theater, Women's Project, SoHo Rep. Regional: Yale Rep, Getty Villa, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Arena Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville (Humana Festival), Provincetown Rep. TV: "White Collar," "Law & Order," "Law & Order: SVU," "All My Children." A graduate of Wesleyan University, he is the third generation of a NY theatre family.

JON GOLDBERG (*Musical Director*). A member of the Musical Theatre faculty at Emerson, Jon has been musical director for Emerson Stage productions of *Assassins*, *Bat Boy*, *City of Angels*, *Little Women*, *Illyria*, *Into the Woods*, *Nine* and *Man of La Mancha*. He often works as a musical director at the Lyric Stage Company (including *Big River* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*) and the Wheelock Family Theatre. He has received four IRNE Awards for Best Musical Direction. Other credits include *Forever Plaid* (Stuart Street Playhouse), *Pacific Overtures* (North Shore Music Theatre), three years with the Boston company of *Nunsense* and over a decade of shows and classes at Boston Children's Theatre.

ABBY GOLDFARB (*Tilly B*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Previous Emerson credits include:

Man of La Mancha, *Nine*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Dear Edwina* and the *Family Weekend Showcase 2009, 2010* and *2011*.

RACHEL GRIMES (*Music arrangements and orchestrations*) has contributed music to several SITI productions and co-created *systems/layers* with band-mates in Rachel's. She has participated in Viewpoints training many summers at their intensive programs at Skidmore and Columbia. She tours the U.S. and Europe as a solo pianist, recently with chamber ensembles Orchestra Kandinskij and astrid. Six albums with Rachel's and two solo releases, her recordings are used in numerous films, dance and theatre productions. Recent releases: an album with King's Daughters & Sons and Marion County 1938, a chamber music soundtrack for a vintage film shot in her home state of Kentucky.

ANNA HARISSIS (*Ya-Ya C*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Previous credits include: *Nine* (Emerson Stage), *The Baker's Wife* (MTS), *Placebo* (RareWorks) and *Carousel* (MTS).

DEVIN HOLLOWAY (*Henry B*). BFA Musical Theatre '14. Emerson Stage: *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992* (Charles Lloyd & Tom Bradley), *She Loves Me*. Other credits: *Grey Gardens* (Brooks Jr. & Sr.), *The 30th Annual EVVY Awards* and *Songs of Shakespeare*.

LEON INGULSRUD (*Andrew A*) helped to found SITI Company and has appeared in *Orestes*, *Seven Deadly Sins* (New York City Opera), *Nicholas & Alexandra* (LA Opera), *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *Under Construction*, *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Antigone*, *American Document*, *War of The Worlds* and *Trojan Women*. With the Suzuki Company of Toga: *Homage to Homo Ludins*, *King Lear*, *Dionysus*, *Macbeth*, *Ivanov* and *Greetings from the Edge of the Earth*. Formerly, resident director at the ATM Arts Center, Mito Japan and artistic director, Swine Palace, Baton Rouge, LA. MFA in directing from Columbia University.

JAYSON JAMES (*Andrew C*). BA Theatre Studies: Performance '13. Emerson Stage credits: *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, *Paraffin*, *Man of La Mancha* and *Bud, Not Buddy*. Past credits: *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Rent*, *Cabaret*, *Hair* and *Oz: A Twisted Musical* at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

BRADEN JOYCE-SCHLEIMER (*Peter B*). BFA Musical Theatre; Honors Program '12. Previous

creative team (continued)

credits include *Man of La Mancha* (Emerson Stage), *Death and the Powers* (American Repertory Theater, dir. Diane Paulus), *Romeo+Juliet* (Boston Ballet) and many other regional and student productions. www.bradenjs.com.

MATTHEW KOPLIK (*Raymond C*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Emerson Stage: *She Loves Me* (Sipos), *Man of La Mancha* (Sancho). Other Emerson credits: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Charlie Brown); *Carousel* (Director). Emerson mini-musicals: *Legally Blonde*; ...*Spelling Bee*; *The Fantasticks*.

LILY LAGRAVENESE (*Ya-Ya B*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Previous Emerson Stage credits include *She Loves Me*, *Nine* and *Family Weekend Showcase 2009*. Other credits include Boo in RareWorks' *Blue Window* and Victoria Morgan in *Darling: A New Musical*.

ELLEN LAUREN (*Edith A*). SITI Company founding member and associate artistic director. Associate artist with The Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT) Japan, under the direction of Tadashi Suzuki (1997–present). Festivals: Brooklyn Academy of Music, Melbourne, Theatre Olympics Athens, Singapore, Moscow Art Theatre, Beseto, London RSC, Bogota. NY: New York Theatre Workshop, Classic Stage Company, Public Theater, Women's Project, Dance Theater Workshop, LiveArts. Regional: Actors Theatre of Louisville, Court, Hartford Stage, StageWest, Alley, Walker Arts, Wexner Center, Getty Villa. Faculty member: The Juilliard School of Drama, New York (1999–present); Kosovar Award NY City Opera; TCG Fox Fellowship recipient for Distinguished Achievement 2008–2010.

MARIAH MACFARLANE (*Edith C*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. Her recent productions include Emerson Stage's *X Dance*, *Dot in Sunday in the Park with George*, *Big Edith/Little Edie in Grey Gardens* and *Edwina in Dear Edwina*.

MELODY MADARASZ (*Lucia A*). BFA Musical Theater '13. Emerson Stage: *Nine*. Other credits include: *Darling: A New Musical*, *Bat Boy*, Don't Tell Mamma's "Almost Twenty Something" Cabaret. Papermill Playhouse: *Alan Menken Gala*. 2012 IRNE nomination for Best Actress (*Bat Boy*, Shelley).

NICK MEDVESCEK (*Assistant Director*). BA Theatre Studies: Directing/Performance '13. Previous Emerson Stage credits include *Paraffin* and *Nursing*. Other Emerson credits: *Darling*,

Seascape, An Evening of Ionesco (RareWorks Theatre Company); *Honk* (Kidding Around); *Pippin* (Musical Theatre Society). Nick is the President and Producing Director of RareWorks Theatre Company.

CHARLES L. MEE, JR. (*Book*). Chuck Mee has written *bobrauschenbergamerica* and *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *Big Love* and *True Love* and *First Love*, and *Summertime* and *Wintertime*, among other plays—all of them available on the internet at www.charlesmee.org, and as a free iPhone app. Among other awards, he is the recipient of the gold medal for lifetime achievement in drama from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His work is made possible by the support of Richard B. Fisher and Jeanne Donovan Fisher.

SARAH MITCHEL (*Nanette A*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Previous Emerson shows include *Seussical the Musical*, *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, *Zazou*, *Nine* and *Darling*. Other credits include, *Edges* (Caitlin), *I Love You Because* (Diana) and Epcot's holiday show with Chita Rivera (ensemble).

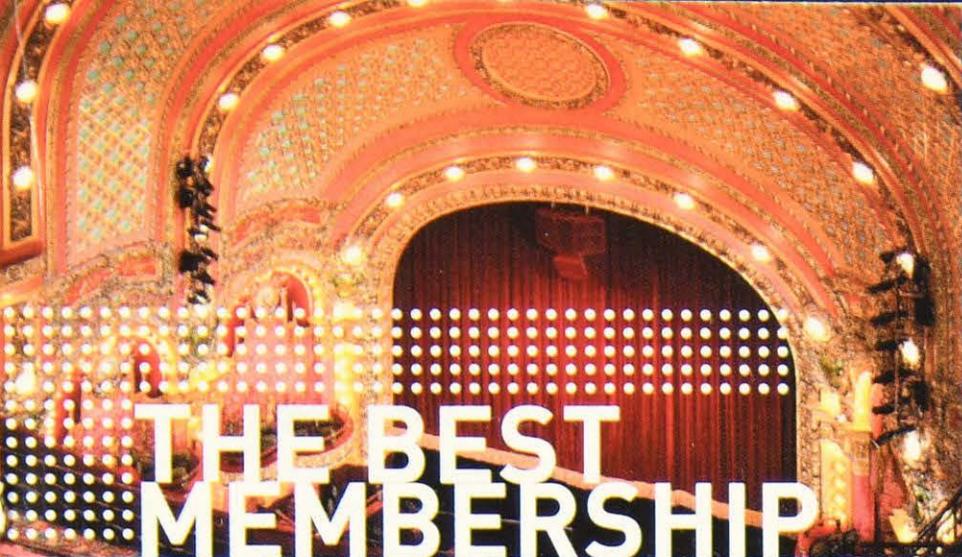
TOM NELIS (*Henry A*). SITI Company: *Antigone*; *Under Construction*; *Freshwater*; *American Document*; *bobrauschenbergamerica*; *Score*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *War of the Worlds*; *The Radio Play*; *Going, Going, Gone*; *The Medium*; *Orestes*. Broadway: *Enron*, *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial*, *Aida*. Boston: *The Blue Flower* (ART), *The Merchant of Venice* (Majestic). New York: BAM, Theater for a New Audience, Classic Stage, Signature Theatre, Playwrights Horizon, The Public Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Ripe Time, Ontological Hysterical Theater. Mr. Nelis is a founding member of SITI Company. Awards: OBIE (*The Medium*), San Diego Circle Critics Ensemble Award (*Wintertime*), Drama League nomination (*Score*), Barrymore nomination (*Candide*). MFA, UC San Diego.

STOWE NELSON (*Sound Designer*) is a sound designer based in Brooklyn. Recent designs include: *Samuel & Alasdair*, New Ohio/Mad Ones; *Amelia*, Washington Stage Guild; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, NYU/Strasberg; *What's the Penalty in Portugal?*, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre; *Honus & Me*, Totem Pole Playhouse. Stowe is a co-founder of the Telephonic Literary Union—a company that devises phone-based storytelling experiences for a single audience member. His design for *Samuel & Alasdair: A Personal History of the Robot War* won the 2010 NY Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Sound Design.

2011/12 SEASON

September 2011 – April 2012

- P** **HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH:
OUR VALUES IN QUESTION**
The Foundry Theatre
World premiere
SEP 13- 25, 2011
- L** **DELUSION**
Laurie Anderson
Boston premiere
SEP 27-OCT 02, 2011
- L** **THE INFERNAL COMEDY:
CONFESSIONS OF A
SERIAL KILLER**
starring John Malkovich
American premiere
SEP 29- 30, 2011
- P** **THE SPEAKER'S PROGRESS**
Sulayman Al-Bassam Theatre
Boston premiere
OCT 12-16, 2011
- P** **YOU BETTER SIT DOWN:
TALES FROM MY PARENTS'
DIVORCE**
The Civilians
Boston premiere
OCT 25-30, 2011
- L** **MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE**
Mabou Mines/Lee Breuer
Boston premiere
NOV 01-06, 2011
- P** **MOBY DICK**
Gare St. Lazare Players
Ireland
Boston premiere
NOV 07-12, 2011
- L** **ANGEL REAPERS**
Martha Clarke and Alfred
Uhry
Boston premiere
NOV 15-20, 2011
- L** **SUGAR**
Robbie McCauley
World premiere
JAN 20-29, 2012
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- P** **69° S.**
[The Shackleton Project]
Phantom Limb
World premiere production
FEB 07-12, 2012
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- P** **CIRCA**
Circa Circus
Boston premiere
FEB 29-MAR 04, 2012
1 WEEK ONLY!
- P** **AMERIVILLE**
Universes
Boston premiere
MAR 13-18, 2012
1 WEEK ONLY!
- L** **THE ANDERSEN PROJECT**
Ex Machina/Robert Lepage
Boston premiere
MAR 24-APR 01, 2012
1 WEEK ONLY!
- P** **TOMÁŠ KUBÍNEK:
CERTIFIED LUNATIC
& MASTER OF THE
IMPOSSIBLE**
Boston premiere
MAR 29-APR 01, 2012
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- L** **CAFÉ VARIATIONS**
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SAT, APR 28 @ 2PM AND 7PM
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creative team (continued)

MICHAEL NIEDERER (*Harold C*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Emerson Stage: *She Loves Me*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Illyria*. MTS: *Carousel* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. RareWorks: *Darling: A New Musical*. Michael has performed at the McCarter Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse and the Keswick Theatre.

BARNEY O'HANLON (*Harold A & Choreographer*) has been collaborating with Anne Bogart since 1986 and has been a SITl Company member since 1994. International: Dublin Theatre Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Prague Quadrennial, MC93 Bobigny, France, Bonn Biennial, Festival Iberoamericano, Bogota. New York: BAM's Next Wave Festival, Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, PS 122, The Joyce Theater (with The Martha Graham Dance Company), New York City Opera and Glimmerglass Opera. Also, performances with the Rude Mechs (Austin, TX), Steppenwolf Theatre Company (Chicago, IL), American Repertory Theater (Cambridge, MA) and numerous productions at Actors Theatre of Louisville, KY.

NEIL PATEL (*Scenic Designer*). SITl Company: *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *War of the Worlds*, *The Adding Machine*, *Private Lives*, *Hayfever*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Room*, *Bob* and *Score*. Broadway: *Fat Pig*, *Wonderland*, *Oleanna*, [title of show], *Sideman* (West End and Kennedy Center), *'Night Mother*, *Ring of Fire*. West End: *Underneath the Lintel*. Off-Broadway: Roundabout Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights Horizons, New York Theatre Workshop, Brooklyn Academy of Music. Regional: La Jolla Playhouse, Center Theatre Group, Guthrie Theater, Steppenwolf Theatre. International: Royal Shakespeare Company, Edinburgh International Festival. Opera: New York City Opera, Montreal Opera, Santa Fe Opera. Dance: *Shadowland* (Pilobolus). TV/film: "In Treatment" (HBO), *Alone* (Gregory Orr Productions). Helen Hayes Award, EDDY Award, numerous Drama Desk and Hewes nominations, 1996 and 2001 OBIE for sustained excellence. www.neilpatel.design.com.

MARISSA ROBINSON (*Stage Manager*). BFA Stage/Production Management '12. Emerson Stage credits: *The Hundred Dresses* (ASM), *Into the Woods* (ASM), and *X Dance 2011* (SM). Professional credits: The New London Barn Playhouse (ASM/SM) and London's West End (SM Intern).

MAGDA ROMANSKA (*Dramaturg*) is a professor of theatre and dramaturgy at

Emerson, and a research associate at Harvard University's Davis Center. She is the author of *The Post-traumatic Theatre of Grotowski and Kantor* (2012) and *Comedy: Theory and Criticism* (2012). She also co-authored the musical *Vinci*, and is a recipient of the Aquila Polonica Prize and the Kahan Scholar's Prize from American Society for Theatre Research. Former exchange scholar at the Yale School of Drama and fellow at the Mellon School of Theatre and Performance Research at Harvard, she graduated with honors from Stanford and holds a Ph.D. from Cornell.

MAXIMILIAN SANGERMAN (*Peter C*). BFA Musical Theatre '13. His credits include Emerson Stage's production of *Man of La Mancha* (Muleteer), MTS's *Carousel* (Billy) and RareWork's *Zazou* (Rene).

BRIAN H SCOTT (*Lighting Designer*). SITl Company: *Trojan Women* (with the Getty Villa, Los Angeles), *American Document* (2010) (with the Martha Graham Dance Company), *Antigone*, *Freshwater*, *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Radio Macbeth*, *Hotel Cassiopeia*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *systems/layers*, *War of the Worlds—The Radio Play*. With Rude Mechanicals: *I've Never Been So Happy*, *The Method Gun*, *Lipstick Traces*, *Big Love*, *Cherrywood*, *Matchplay*. Public Theater: *Loves Labors Lost*. Classic Stage Company: *The Age of Iron*, *Hamlet*, *Richard II*, *Richard III*, *The Tempest*. Playwrights Horizons: *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. New York Theatre Workshop: *Songs From an Unmade Bed*. The Women's Project: *How The World Began*.

JAKE STEMPEL (*Harold B*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Professional credits: *Awesome '80s Prom* Boston, *Big the Musical* at The Apple Tree Theatre. Educational credits: *She Loves Me*, *Illyria*, *Newfest Readings 2011* (Emerson Stage), *Dani Girl* (RareWorks), *Honk!* and *Dear Edwina* (Kidding Around).

HANNAH TEHRANI (*Edith B*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Favorite Emerson works include directing *Moan for Man* for Broadway Cares Emerson Fights Aids and *Saraghina* in *Nine*.

DEBORAH WALLACE (*Tilly A*) is from Glasgow, Scotland. She has studied with The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and SITl Company. Previously with SITl Company: *Radio Macbeth* (Tour). Credits include: International WOW Company's *The Bomb*, *A Girl Of Sixteen*, *Death of Nations*, *Foreign*, *A History of God*, *Auto Da Fe*, *Reconstruction* and *The Expense of Spirit*; Richard

creative team (continued)

Foreman and John Zorn's *Astronome*. Deborah is Associate Artistic Director of the International WOW Company, her original plays have been produced at the Ohio Theatre (*Homesick, Psyche*), HERE Arts Center (*Psyche*), New Dance Group (*Agnes/Martha*) and at the Incubator Arts Project with Hybrid Stage Project (*The Void*).

MEGAN WANLASS (*Executive Director/SITI Company*). Member of SITI Company since 1995 and its Executive Director since 2000, where she has helped to create over 30 shows. Megan began working with Anne Bogart during *The Adding Machine* at Actors Theatre of Louisville (1995). She has an Arts Administration Certificate from NYU, attended the Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders at Stanford University Business School, was a member of the Arts Leadership Institute Charter Class at Teachers College, Columbia University and holds a BA in Theater from Occidental College in LA. Currently serves on the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG) and on the Enrichment Committee at the Pearls School.

CAITLIN WARD (*Costume Designer*) recently completed the release of a classical music video project, the Handel-Halvorsen Passacaglia, and a series of multi-media concerts for the Music Technology Center. Opera/Music: English National Opera, Lithuanian National Opera, Lincoln Center Festival, Handel and Haydn Society, Carnegie Hall, Simmetrico/Italia; Bonsai Ninja, New York City Opera. Theatre: Royal Shakespeare Company, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Signature, Intiman, Guthrie. Film/TV: Sundance Film Festival, PBS—"Great Performances" and, in association with Eiko Ishioka, Opening Ceremonies—Beijing 2008 Olympics, designing costumes for pianist Lang Lang.

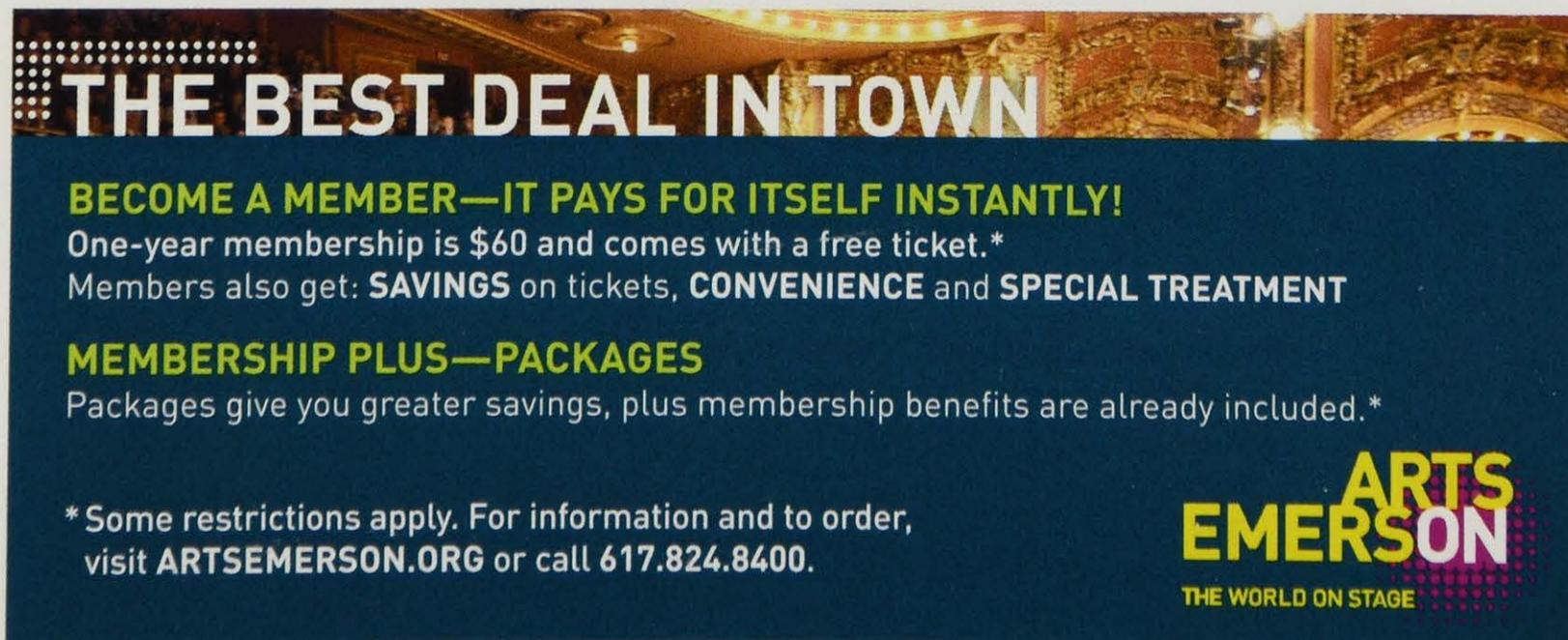
GIGI WATSON (*Nanette C*). BFA Musical Theatre '14. Previous Emerson credits include *Paraffin* (Emerson Stage), *Three Sisters* (Shakespeare Society), *Honk!* (Kidding Around) and *Songs of Shakespeare* (Shakespeare Society/Musical Theatre Society/Kidding Around).

STEPHEN DUFF WEBBER (*Peter A*). SITI Company: *American Document, Antigone, Under Construction, Radio Macbeth* (Macbeth), *Hotel Cassiopeia, Freshwater, Death and the Ploughman, War of the Worlds* (Orson Welles), *bobrauschenberg america, systems/layers* (with Rachel's), *La Dispute, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Cabin Pressure, Going Going Gone, Culture of Desire, The Medium, Private Lives, Hay Fever, War of the Worlds—The Radio Play* (Orson Welles), *Short Stories*. Off-Broadway: Classic Stage Company, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York Theatre Workshop, Joyce Theater, En Garde Arts, Women's Project. Regional: includes American Repertory Theater, Actors Theatre of Louisville (*Betrayal, Glengarry Glen Ross*), Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Portland Stage Company, Court Theatre.

CHELSEA WILLIAMS (*Lucia B*). BFA Musical Theatre '12. Emerson Stage credits include *Into The Woods* (Florinda), *Nine, Man of La Mancha* (Duke) and *She Loves Me* (Amalia). Other credits include *Big River* with the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, *...Spelling Bee* (Rona) and *Darling* (Stella).

SPECIAL THANKS

Melia Bensussen; Rena Fogel for her work on script development; Emma Futhey; Thomas Grabski; Ted Hewlett and Robert Najarian for their help on fight choreography



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About SITI Company

SITI Company was built on the bedrock of ensemble. We believe that through the practice of collaboration, a group of artists working together over time can have a significant impact upon both contemporary theatre and the world at large.

Through our performances, educational programs, and collaborations with other artists and thinkers, SITI Company will continue to challenge the status quo, train to achieve artistic excellence in every aspect of our work, and offer new ways of seeing and of being as both artists and as global citizens.

SITI Company is committed to providing a gymnasium-for-the-soul where the interaction of art, artists, audiences and ideas inspire the possibility for change, optimism and hope.

Founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki, SITI Company began as an agreement to redefine and revitalize contemporary theatre in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, New York, SITI expanded to encompass a year-round company based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga. The Company is known nationally and internationally as a top-level artistic collective that generates groundbreaking theatre while also training artists from around the world.

In addition to Artistic Director Anne Bogart, SITI Company is comprised of ten actors, four designers, a playwright and an executive director. The company represents a change in thinking about the relationships between artists and institutions. SITI Company has formed relationships with theatres and venues around the world who present the Company's work.

CONTACT AND CONNECT

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SITI Extended Ensemble [SEE]: siti.groupsite.com

SITI Company is: Akiko Aizawa, J. Ed Araiza, Anne Bogart, Will Bond, Gian-Murray Gianino, Leon Ingulsrud, Ellen Lauren, Kelly Maurer, Charles L. Mee, Jr., Elizabeth Moreau, Tom Nelis, Barney O'Hanlon, Neil Patel, James Schuette, Brian H Scott, Megan Wanlass, Stephen Duff Webber and Darron L West.

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SITI Company Staff & Interns: Megan Wanlass, Executive Director; Tina Mitchell, Artistic Associate; Mikhael Tara Garver, Interim Associate Producer.

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Emerson Stage, the producing organization of the Department of Performing Arts, trains students both onstage and off to be our next generation of theater artists and audiences.

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THE FANTASTICKS, Fiddlehead Theatre Company, 619 High St., Dedham, 781-329-1901. **Apr 13-29**. The record-setting off-Broadway musical tells the story of a young boy and girl who fall madly in love through the machinations of their meddling fathers, but soon grow restless and stray from one another. Will their separation provide a deeper appreciation for the love they once shared—or create a permanent gulf between them?

THE LUCK OF THE IRISH, Huntington Theatre Company, Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. **Through Apr 29**. When an upwardly mobile African American family buys a house in an all-white neighborhood, they pay a struggling Irish family to act as their front. Fifty years later, the Irish family asks for "their" house back in this intimate new play by Boston area native Kirsten Greenidge.

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA, Actors' Shakespeare Project, Modern Theatre at Suffolk University, 525 Washington St., 866-811-4111. **Apr 25-May 20**. Renowned director Tina Packer tackles Shakespeare's reimagining of the Trojan War and its passionate love stories, fierce battles, ravaged warriors and archetypal characters: Achilles, Hector, Helen and Agamemnon.

THE TEMPERAMENTALS, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-585-5678. **Through Apr 28**. This hit off-Broadway play tells the story of two men—the communist Harry Hay and the Viennese refugee and fashion designer Rudi Gernreich—as they fall in love while forming the first gay-rights organization in the pre-Stonewall United States.

YESTERDAY HAPPENED: REMEMBERING H.M., Catalyst Collaborative@MIT, Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 866-811-4111. **Apr 12-May 13**. After experimental brain surgery, Henry Molaison was unable to form new memories. His personal tragedy contributed more to our understanding of the brain than had been learned in the previous 100 years. This world premiere explores the mysteries of his moving story, expanding on them and helping us understand ourselves.

TIGERS BE STILL, Zeitgeist Stage Company, Plaza Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. **Apr 13-May 5**. When Sherry, an unemployed recent college graduate still living at home, gets hired as a substitute art teacher, things begin to brighten up. Now, if only the dysfunctional people around her would come around—and someone would catch the tiger that escaped from the local zoo—everything would be just about perfect.

28 SEEDS, Liars & Believers, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. **Apr 19-May 12**. Based on the original radio play and album by local indie band Walter Sickert and the Army of Broken Toys, this apocalyptic sci-fi steampunk musical traces the precipitous decline of our species in an explosive display of light, sound and movement.

WOODY SEZ, American Repertory Theater, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. **May 5-26**. Bringing folk music giant Woody Guthrie to life in a joyous, toe-tapping and heart-felt theatrical portrait that uses his words and songs to transport the audience through his fascinating, beautiful and sometimes tragic life.

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