

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Stratford
FESTIVAL

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SUBVERSIVE FUN FOR SCARY TIMES

BY DONNA FEORE

"You know the plant is talking, right?"

These words actually came out of my mouth at a rehearsal for *Little Shop of Horrors* because at that moment we'd lost sight of just how much fun this show is. It's fun, creepy and startlingly moving. And the plant talks! True to its sci-fi roots, *Little Shop* is not afraid to be imaginatively outrageous.

And sure, there'll be blood, but always for a good or bad cause. It all depends on which side of the plant you sit. When our hero, Seymour, accidentally discovers the plant's secret, he faces an existential

crisis. Really! Giving blood is great if you're at the Red Cross; giving it to a houseplant is a whole other thing. Some plants make promises (remember the Beanstalk?) and some make deals. We humans are pretty vulnerable as we muddle through tough lives, comforted by dreams of something different. Seymour and Audrey don't want a lot, just a little more than what they've got – and, of course, each other.

Our plant, named Audrey II by Seymour in an affectionate tribute to his love, offers fame and fortune but at an exorbitant cost. I mean, it's asking for blood, and blood is life, so ... it's going to cost you everything. But then, life always does. What Howard Ashman and Alan Menken have managed to do is pose the important questions in super-digestible ways (sorry, can't help myself). What are we prepared to pay for the life we want? What are we prepared to do? What or whom are we prepared to sacrifice?

And they ask these questions with a wonderfully wacky scenario and wildly compelling music and lyrics. The story is subversively powerful, handling issues as difficult as abuse and identity, but all with the sly humour that Ashman and Menken insist is the only "sugar" that can help this medicine go down.

Last year's *Rocky Horror Show* taught us a lot about the value of having *Horror* in your title. People have an appetite for horror. In harsh times it seems we need it even more. When the headlines of the daily news scare us witless, we might be forgiven for not quite grasping that the plant is talking, and talking to us. And just as forgiven, I hope, for listening.



PODS AND MONSTERS: THE EVERGREEN APPEAL OF LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

BY MARTIN MORROW

Last year at this time, in this same theatre, audience members were going wild for the Stratford Festival's first-ever production of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Maybe you were one of them. It's hardly a surprise, then, that the Festival should decide to favour us with another beloved cult musical inspired by the "science fiction double feature."

Like *Rocky Horror* before it, *Little Shop of Horrors* has its roots firmly, fondly embedded in the kitschy world of B-movies. And, like its predecessor, it grows into something with much more bite.

Where Richard O'Brien's freaky Frankenstein spoof ends up gleefully shredding sexual and gender norms, Howard Ashman and Alan Menken's botanical nightmare reshapes its cinematic source – a cheesy Roger Corman creature-feature – into a poignant tale about pure love ensnared by the seductive tendrils of fortune and fame. It is also, like *Rocky Horror*, lush with clever, catchy songs. Indeed, *Little Shop* was the first flowering of the genius of Ashman and Menken, the team that would go on to pen the memorable tunes for those durable Disney classics *The Little Mermaid* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

But before writing musicals about beasts and mermaids, the duo cut their teeth on one about a man-eating plant.

The seeds of the show lie in a 1960 film by legendary producer-director Corman, Hollywood's maestro of the cheap exploitation quickie, who pumped out an endless flow of horror, sci-fi and action flicks

to feed the drive-in theatres during their heyday. *The Little Shop of Horrors* was the quickest of his quickies, shot over two days and one night, prudently reusing the sets from his previous picture, *A Bucket of Blood*.

The script, by Charles B. Griffith, tells the tale of Seymour, a bumbling nebbish working in a Skid Row flower shop, who becomes a celebrity after cultivating a spectacular plant that secretly thrives on human blood. Part horror, part grotesque black comedy, the film includes a requisite love interest – Audrey, Seymour's sweet-natured fellow employee – some outlandish Jewish stereotypes (led by Mr. Mushnik, the shop's penny-pinching proprietor), laughably tacky special effects and a bizarre cameo by a young, unknown Jack Nicholson as a masochistic dental patient.

Like most Corman movies, this one was aimed squarely at the indiscriminating, thrill-seeking teenager, designed to fill a drive-in double bill and then be swiftly forgotten. But one of those teens didn't forget. New York playwright Ashman had seen the movie as a kid in Baltimore and long toyed with the notion of making it into a musical. Years later, as artistic director of the off-off-Broadway WPA Theater, he pitched the idea to Menken, an up-and-coming composer whose credits included writing songs for *Sesame Street*. The two had previously collaborated on another musical project: a well-received but short-lived 1979 adaptation of the Kurt Vonnegut novel *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*. Their strange little follow-up would prove to have far greater staying power.

Directed by Ashman and featuring a cast of nine (including another *Sesame Street*-er, puppeteer Martin P. Robinson, as the killer plant), *Little Shop of Horrors* premiered at the WPA in May of 1982. After a month-long run, it transferred that summer to the off-Broadway Orpheum Theatre, where it soon became a must-see sensation, winning a bouquet of awards and eventually running for a record-setting five years. While the show was still playing to packed houses in New York, Hollywood came calling. A movie version of the musical, with a budget far surpassing the Corman original, was released in 1986. It starred SCTV's Rick Moranis as Seymour, Ellen Greene (repeating her stage role) as Audrey and Steve Martin as Orin, the sadistic dentist.

Thanks to the show's success, Ashman and Menken were brought in to work the same magic at Disney. They played a key role in the studio's animation renaissance, writing songs and winning Oscars for *The Little Mermaid* (1989) and *Beauty and the Beast*, released in 1991. Their brief, brilliant career as a team ended tragically that same year, when Ashman died of AIDS at the age of forty. Menken continues to compose for Disney to this day.

In retrospect, Ashman's idea to turn Corman's quirky flick into a musical was inspired, but it initially met with resistance. For one thing, *Rocky Horror* aside, the B-movie musical had few precedents at the time. The playwright's sister, Sarah Ashman Gillespie, writing in *Playbill* in 2015 – on the occasion of a *Little Shop* concert staging in New York – shamefacedly recalled how his family and friends thought it would be career suicide. “We tried to talk him out of it,” she admitted. Ashman, however, saw how the crass movie concealed a tender core: the love between a poor, naïve boy and girl, and the boy's Faustian bargain in a bid to give them a better life. The fact that his Mephistopheles is a smooth-talking, fast-growing, blood-thirsty cousin to a Venus flytrap is what makes it so sublimely ridiculous.

While Ashman found the hidden romance in the story, the satire was already there. The canny Corman, no mere

schlockmeister, loved to sneak some social commentary into his entertainments. But where the movie uses humour like a blunt instrument, Ashman's artful lyrics deftly mock and tug at your heartstrings at the same time. There is no better example than “Somewhere That's Green,” Audrey's wistful ballad in which she dreams of escaping bleak Skid Row for a tract house in the leafy suburbs. Even as the song pokes fun at plastic suburbia circa 1960, it's a genuine expression of longing by a simple girl trapped and brutalized in the concrete jungle. (It's so effective that Ashman and Menken would essentially rewrite it for *The Little Mermaid* as Ariel's power ballad, “Part of Your World.”)



COSTUME DESIGN BY
DANA OSBORNE

“ITS UNDERLYING THEMES ARE MORE PERTINENT THAN EVER, AS THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR WIDENS AND OUR CULTURE’S OBSESSION WITH CELEBRITY CONTINUES TO GROW”

Ashman’s libretto cuts some of the film’s secondary characters but expands upon others – most wickedly and effectively, Orin the dentist. A minor figure in the movie, in the musical he becomes Audrey’s sexy-but-sadistic boyfriend, a slick, motorcycle-riding “leader of the plaque” who gets his jollies torturing patients with his array of scary dental instruments. (He’s played here by Frank N. Furter himself, Dan Chameroy of last year’s *Rocky Horror Show*.)

Orin becomes the show’s second villain, his abusive treatment of Audrey bringing added pathos to her situation and giving her adoring Seymour a motive for murder. The dentist’s giggling demise also furnishes the show with its creepiest number, “Now (It’s Just the Gas).”

Of course, dark shadows aside, *Little Shop* is a goofy, exuberantly funny – and very hummable – musical. Ashman and Menken’s succulent score dives headfirst into the pop music of the late-1950s, early-1960s era, serving us witty parodies of doo-wop, Motown, rock ‘n’ roll and R&B. We also get a “Greek chorus” of three sassy female singers whose names (Chiffon, Crystal and Ronnette) evoke the girl groups of the time. Meanwhile, the monster plant – dubbed Audrey II by Seymour in honour of his love – barks out its demands in a growling, bluesy voice that falls somewhere between Howlin’ Wolf and The Big Bopper.

Those of us who saw the original *Little Shop* at the Orpheum back in the day knew that Ashman and Menken had created something special. But I don’t know that we could have predicted its long life, with countless productions – including a belated Broadway debut in 2003 – and an enduring popularity among school and community-theatre groups. It has also given birth to a whole brood of B-movies-turned-cult musicals, from *The Toxic Avenger* to *Evil Dead: The Musical*.

Today, it has lost none of its weirdness and charm. And its underlying themes are more pertinent than ever, as the gap between rich and poor widens and our culture’s obsession with celebrity continues to grow. Seymour’s moral dilemma, meanwhile, is timeless. And that’s where *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Rocky Horror Show* part ways. Where the latter urges us to answer the call of temptation, *Little Shop* warns us of the dangers of seduction – especially when the siren song is coming from something carnivorous and green. Or, as the show pithily puts it: Don’t feed the plants.

Martin Morrow is a Toronto-based arts journalist and past president of the Canadian Theatre Critics Association. He struggles to keep his house plants alive.

THINKING GREEN

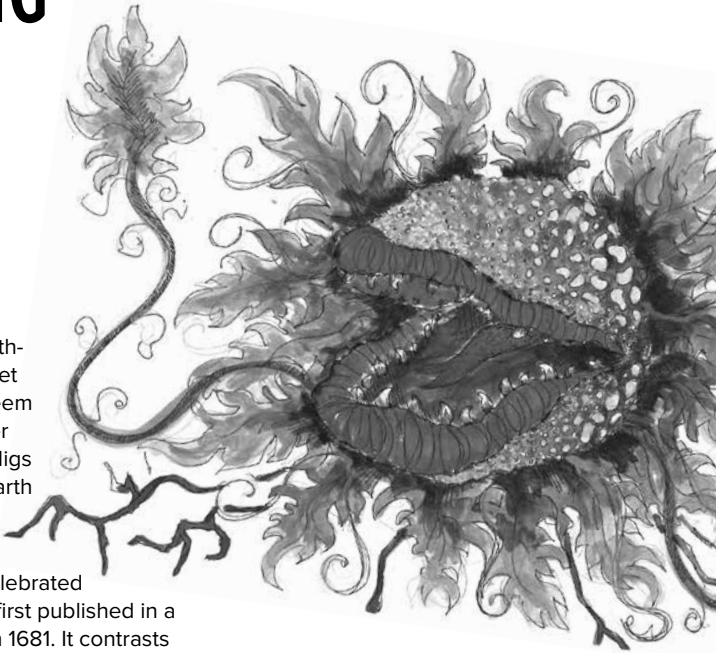
BY DAVID PROSSER

Carnivorous alien plant Audrey II and seventeenth-century metaphysical poet Andrew Marvell might seem to have nothing whatever in common – but if one digs down a bit, one can unearth a single tenuous strand of shared literary DNA.

One of Marvell's most celebrated poems is "The Garden," first published in a posthumous collection in 1681. It contrasts the futile toil of striving for worldly success and renown – "How vainly men themselves amaze / To win the palm, the oak, or bays" – with the Edenic loveliness of nature. Even fleshly passion seems tame by comparison: "No white nor red was ever seen / So am'rous as this lovely green," enthuses the poet, waxing ecstatic about botanical encounters in surprisingly erotic terms:

What wond'rous life in this I lead!
Ripe apples drop about my head;
The luscious clusters of the vine
Upon my mouth do crush their wine;
The nectarine and curious peach
Into my hands themselves do reach;
Stumbling on melons as I pass,
Ensnar'd with flow'rs, I fall on grass.

These merely sensory delights, though, are nothing compared to the profound spiritual peace to be found in a garden, where "the mind, from pleasure less / Withdraws into its happiness." Our senses and our mental faculties, says Marvell, enable us to perceive and enjoy the world around us; the mind, however, can take us into tranquil realms beyond the physical:



Yet it creates, transcending these,
Far other worlds, and other seas;
Annihilating all that's made
To a green thought in a green shade.

It's in the last two of those lines that we can discern a tiny rootlet of Audrey II. While the most iconic of the vegetable aggressors to have sprouted in science fiction over the years may be the ambulatory killer plants of John Wyndham's 1951 novel *The Day of the Triffids*, the inspiration for Roger Corman's original 1960 film *The Little Shop of Horrors* is thought to have come from a slightly earlier source: a short story by English author and screenwriter John Collier. Published in 1930, Collier's story concerns a strange orchid that annihilates those unfortunate enough to get too close to it; the victims' heads then bud forth anew as excrescences on the plant. That story's title, courtesy of that memorable couplet in Andrew Marvell's poem, is "Green Thoughts."

David Prosser is the Stratford Festival's Literary and Editorial Director.

HOWARD ASHMAN

Best known for his work on such popular Disney animated films as *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin* and *Beauty and the Beast*, Howard Elliott Ashman was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 17, 1950. He studied at Boston University and Goddard College before taking a master's degree at Indiana University, from which he graduated in 1974. He then found work as an editor at a New York publishing house; his first love, however, was theatre.

One of his early plays, *The Confirmation*, was produced in Princeton in 1977, and that same year he became a founder of off-off-Broadway's renowned WPA Theater.

There, in collaboration with composer Alan Menken, he conceived, wrote and directed the musicals *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater* (1979), adapted from the novel by Kurt Vonnegut, and *Little Shop of Horrors* (1982). In 1986, he wrote and directed the Broadway musical *Smile*, with music by Marvin Hamlisch.

Ashman won two Academy Awards for his songs, one for "Under the Sea," from *The Little Mermaid*, and the other, posthumously, for "Beauty and the Beast," which also won him one of his five Grammy Awards. He died of complications arising from AIDS on March 14, 1991.

MUSIC

ALAN MENKEN

Born in New York City on July 22, 1949, Alan Irwin Menken began composing as a child. He initially intended to pursue a career in dentistry, like his father, but in 1971 he graduated with a degree in musicology from New York University's Steinhardt School.

Besides *Little Shop of Horrors* and *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*, his stage musicals include *King David*, with lyrics by Tim Rice; *Newsies*, with lyrics by Jack Feldman; and *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, adapted from the novel by Mordecai Richler. His film musicals include Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast* (both with lyrics by Howard Ashman), *Aladdin* (with Ashman and Tim Rice), *Pocahontas* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (both with Stephen Schwartz). Television credits include many songs for *Sesame Street* and the score for the ABC mini-series *Lincoln*.

Menken has won eight Academy Awards: four for Best Score (*The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin* and *Pocahontas*) and four for Best Song ("Under the Sea," "Beauty and the Beast," "A Whole New World" and "Colors of the Wind"). Winner of the 2012 Tony and Drama Desk Awards for his score for *Newsies*, he also has eleven Grammy Awards (including Song of the Year for "A Whole New World"), seven Golden Globes and an Olivier Award, among many others. In 2008 he was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

THE FORUM

Support for the Forum is generously provided by Kelly & Michael Meighen and The T.R. Meighen Family Foundation



DONNA FEORE
JULY 10



JASON SERMONIA
JULY 19 & 26, AUGUST 8



BROTHERHOOD: THE HIP HOPERA
OCTOBER 22 & 23

CHANGING TRADITIONS IN MUSICAL THEATRE

Chalmers Lounge, Avon Theatre, Wednesday, July 10, 10:45 a.m.–noon. From \$25

Using *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Billy Elliot the Musical* as examples, *New York Times* co-chief theatre critic Jesse Green and director and choreographer Donna Feore discuss where musical theatre has been and where it is going.

SONG AND DANCE: LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Festival Theatre, July 19 and 26 and August 8, 10:30 a.m.–noon. From \$29

Learn and perform step-by-step choreography and music from *Little Shop of Horrors*. Culminates in a Q&A with the artists. These workshops are for all ages and require active participation. Led by company members Starr Domingue and Jason Sermonia, and Education staff.

BROTHERHOOD: THE HIP HOPERA

Studio Theatre, October 22 and 23, various times. From \$25

Sébastien Heins performs his award-winning one-man show about two brothers being torn apart by ambitions, family history and masculinity. Using hip hop and R&B, rap, soul, funk and gospel, Sébastien brings you into an epic story of family and brotherly love.

Contains mature language and subject matter.

STRATFORDFESTIVAL.CA/FORUM

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

BOOK & LYRICS BY **HOWARD ASHMAN** | MUSIC BY **ALAN MENKEN**

BASED ON THE FILM BY **ROGER CORMAN**, SCREENPLAY BY **CHARLES GRIFFITH**

Little Shop of Horrors is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

THE CAST

Seymour Krelborn

André Morin

Audrey

Gabi Epstein

Mr. Mushnik

Steve Ross

Orin, the Dentist, and others

Dan Chameroy

Ronnette

Vanessa Sears

Crystal

Starr Domingue

Chiffon

Camille Eanga-Selenge

The Voice of Audrey II

Matthew G. Brown

Lead Puppeteer for Plant #1
and Plant #3

Jason Sermonia

Plant #4 Puppeteers

Henry Firmston,

Evangelia Kambites,

Jordan Mah, Jason Sermonia

SKID ROW OCCUPANTS

Drug Dealer, Customer

Scott Beaudin

Cop

Matthew G. Brown

Homeless Person, Patient

Henry Firmston

Street Entrepreneur

Evangelia Kambites

Grocer

Jordan Mah

Wino

Marcus Nance

Sailor

Jason Sermonia

Bag Lady, Customer

Blythe Wilson

Swing

Antonette Rudder

UNDERSTUDIES

Gabriel Antonacci Orin,
the Dentist, and others, Sailor,
Puppeteer

Scott Beaudin Seymour Krelborn

Henry Firmston Puppeteer

Mark Harapiak Mr. Mushnik, Cop,
Customer, Drug Dealer

Galen Johnson Homeless Person,
Wino, Patient, Puppeteer

Evangelia Kambites Ronnette,
Chiffon

Jordan Mah Lead Puppeteer

Marcus Nance The Voice of
Audrey II

Antonette Rudder Crystal,
Second Cover Chiffon

Vanessa Sears Audrey

Jason Sermonia Grocer

Blythe Wilson Puppeteer

Little Shop of Horrors
was originally

Directed by **Howard Ashman**
with

Musical Staging by **Edie Cowan**

Puppets originally designed by **Martin P. Robinson**

Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director).

Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City, by the WPA Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization.

ARTISTIC CREDITS

Director **Donna Feore**
Choreographer **Donna Feore**
Music Director **Laura Burton**

Set Designer **Michael Gianfrancesco**
Costume Designer **Dana Osborne**
Lighting Designer **Michael Walton**
Projection Designer **Jamie Nesbitt**
Sound Designer **Peter McBoyle**
Fight Director **Anita Nittoly**
Vocal Arrangements **Robert Billig**
Orchestrations **Robert Merkin**

Producer **David Auster**
Casting Director **Beth Russell**
Creative Planning Director **Jason Miller**

Assistant Director
Stephen Cota
Associate Choreographer
Stephen Cota
Assistant Choreographer
Stephan Dickson
Assistant Set and Projection Designer
Julia Kim
Assistant Costume Designer
Caitlin Luxford
Assistant Lighting Designers
Frank Donato
Logan Raju Cracknell
Associate Sound Designer
Brian Kenny
Associate Fight Director
Geoff Scovell
Dance Captain
Jason Sermonia
Fight Captain
Jordan Mah

Stage Manager
Michael Hart
Assistant Stage Managers
Jacki Brabazon
Sam Hale
Holly Korhonen
Production Assistant
Scarlett Larry
Production Stage Managers
Meghan Callan
Michael Hart
Janine Ralph

Technical Director
Eleanor Creelman

THERE WILL BE ONE
20-MINUTE
INTERVAL

AUDIENCE ALERT
This production uses both herbal and e-cigarettes, as well as haze and smoke effects, gunshots and strobe lights.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to **Kassidy Noble**; **Dr. David Thompson**, MD, Stratford; **Dr. Jennifer Anderson**, MD, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto; **Heather Gillis**, PT, M.Sc. Anat., FCAMPT, **Darcy Trefiak**, PT, B.Sc.PT, FCAMPT, Physiotherapy Alliance, Stratford; **Dr. Simon McBride**, MCISc., MD, London Health Sciences Centre Vocal Function Clinic; **Dr. Brian Hands**, MD, FRCSc., Vox Cura voice care specialists, Toronto; **Dr. John Yoo**, MD, London Health Sciences Centre; **Dr. P. Neilsen**, Goderich; **Dr. Laurel Moore**, MD, **Dr. Sean Blaine**, MD, **Dr. Shawn Edwards**, MD, STAR Family Health Team, Stratford. Pianos tuned and maintained by **Stephenson Concert Group**. Cymbals and drumsticks provided by **Dream Cymbals** and **HeadHunters**.

The services of C.J. Astronomo were made possible through **Theatre Ontario's Professional Theatre Training Program**, funded by the **Ontario Arts Council**; **The George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation**; and the **Ontario Arts Council's Skills and Career Development: Indigenous Arts Professionals and Arts Professionals of Colour** grant.

Cover: **André Morin**. Creative direction by **Punch & Judy Inc.** Photography by **David Cooper**.

MUSIC

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Prologue
Little Shop of Horrors
Skid Row
Da-Doo
Grow for Me
Ya Never Know
Somewhere That's Green
Closed for Renovation
Be a Dentist
Mushnik and Son
Sudden Changes
Git It
Now (It's Just the Gas)
Act I Finale

ACT II

Entr'acte
Call Back in the Morning
Suddenly Seymour
Suppertime
The Meek Shall Inherit
SomineX/Suppertime – Reprise
Somewhere That's Green – Reprise
Finale

ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard
Laura Burton

Keyboard/Associate
Conductor
Charlene Nafziger

Flute/B \flat Clarinet/Bass
Clarinet/Tenor Saxophone
Ian Harper

Flute/E \flat Clarinet/B \flat Clarinet/
Baritone Saxophone
Gary Kidd

Trumpet/Flugelhorn
Mary Jay

Trumpet/Flugelhorn
Philip Seguin

Electric Guitar/Acoustic
Guitars/Mandolin
Dave Thompson

Electric Bass/Orchestra
Supervisor
Michael McClennan

Drum Kit
David Campion

Percussion
Graham Hargrove

Rehearsal Pianist
Charlene Nafziger

Keyboard Programmer
Wayne Gwillim

Associate Keyboard
Programmer
Adam Sakiyama

Music Preparation
Michael McClennan
Janice Owens

Director of Music
Franklin Brasz

Music Administrator
Marilyn Dallman

Administrative Assistant
Janice Owens

BACKSTAGE

Production responsibilities during the performance accomplished by:

Head Stage Carpenter
Paul Hughes

Alternate
Paul Levaque

Head Electrician
Greg Bride

Alternate
Christopher Wylie

Head Property
Val Pugliese

Alternate
Michael Izma

Head Sound
Keith Handegord

Head of Automation
Chris Knarr

Crew
Tom Andrews
Stewart Cappie
Bruno Hacquebard

Dan Hoodless
Nancy McCune
Terence O'Hanley
Hilary Pitman
Andrew Rabbets
Gerald Van Sickle
Michael Watters

Wardrobe Head
Mary-Lou Mason

Wardrobe Attendants
Sheila Filshie
Cvetka Fujs
William C. Kraft
Maxine Tubbe

Swing
Heather Diamond

Wigs and Makeup Show
Head
Teddi Barrett

Wigs and Makeup Crew
Jessica Elsbrie
Julie Scott

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director of Production
Simon Marsden

Production Administrator
Carla Fowler

Administrative Assistant
Cindy Jordan

Associate Technical Director
David Campbell

Metcalf Foundation Intern in
Production Management
C.J. Astronomo

Design Coordinator
Mary-Jo Carter Dodd

Technical Director – Scenic
Construction
Andrew Mestern

Scene Shop Manager
Evan Bonnah-Hawkes

Technical Management
Assistant
Michael Besworth

Transportation
Dirk Newbery
James Thistle

Electronics Technologist
Chris Wheeler

PROPERTIES

Head of Properties
Dona Hrabluk

Lead Builder
Ken Dubblestyne

Assisted by
Eric Ball
Karine Cusson
Michelle Jamieson
Kathryn Kerr
Shirley Lee
Jennifer Macdonald
Nina Mueller
Dylan Mundy
Heather Ruthig
Victoria Spain
Lisa Summers
Katelyn Vere

Properties Buyer
Tracy Fulton

Assistant Properties Buyer
Kathleen Orlando

SCENIC ART

Head Scenic Artist
Duncan Johnstone

Assistant Head Scenic Artist
Daniel McManus

Assisted by
Kira Duff
Kevin Kemp
Lisa Summers
Michael Wharran
Steve Wiseman
Blair Yeomans

SCENIC CARPENTRY

Head Carpenter
Ryan Flanagan
Assistant Head Carpenter
Paul Cooper

Head of Automation
Ian Phillips

Assisted by
Simon Aldridge
David Bedford
Gary Geiger
Paul Hyde
Scott King
Cory Mielke
Stephen Morgan
John Roth
Jody Satchell

Joseph Saunders
Scott Schmidt
Mark Smith
Cliff Tipping

WARDROBE

Head of Wardrobe –
*Private Lives, Henry VIII,
Birds of a Kind*

Michelle Barnier

Head of Wardrobe –
*The Merry Wives of Windsor,
The Neverending Story, Little
Shop of Horrors,
The Crucible*

Elizabeth Copeman

Head of Wardrobe –
*Othello, Billy Elliot the
Musical, Mother's Daughter*
Linda Sparks

Costume Coordinator –
*Nathan the Wise,
The Front Page*
Kimberly Catton

Cutters

Kim Crossley

Luci Pottle

Lela Stairs Murphy

Jennie Wonnacott

First Hands

Wendy Bendle

Monica Berg

Joanne Davies

Patricia Taylor

Sewers

Cindy Brown

Susan E. Dick

Allison Erb

Evelyn Gascho

Sharon Gashgarian

June Gunn

Karen Hancock

Alanna Kitson

Laurie Krempien-Hall

Debbie Kschesinski

Mary-Lou Mason

Magdalene Raycraft

Cynthia E. Rusak

Joan Scheerer

Laura Snowden

Bijoux/Decoration

Rebecca Dillow

Assisted by

Liane Guttadauria

Tami MacDonald

Kathi Posliff

Boots and Shoes

Connie Puetz

Assisted by

Karen Beames

Sarah Cook

Chantelle Laliberte

Dyeing

Sylvia Minarcin

Assisted by

Linda Pinhay

Costume Painting

Lisa Hughes

Millinery

Monica Viani

Assisted by

Thea C. Crawford

Kaz Maxine

Apprentice Milliner

Chantal Laurendeau

Purchasing Coordinator

Penelope Schledewitz

Purchasing Assistant

Erin Michelle Steele

Toronto Wardrobe Buyer

Susan Rome

Wardrobe Apprentice

Erin Lounsbury

Warehouse Supervisor

William Schmuck

Warehouse Assistant

Michael Piscitelli

WIGS AND MAKEUP

Head of Wigs and Makeup

Gerald Altenburg

Construction Crew

Teddi Barrett

Erica Croft

Jessica Elsbrie

Lena Festoso

Tracy Frayne

Dave Kerr

Angela Moncur

Barbara Newbery

Mallory Reeves

Alana Scheel

Julie Scott

Stanley Wickens

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ACTING COMPANY



GABRIEL ANTONACCI



SCOTT BEAUDIN



MATTHEW G. BROWN



DAN CHAMEROY



STARR DOMINGUE

GABRIEL ANTONACCI

2019: Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and understudy in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Sixth season. Stratford: Ed Gammidge in *The Music Man*, Phantom in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Al in *A Chorus Line*, Henrik Egeman in *A Little Night Music*, Rolf Gruber in *The Sound of Music*, Pinball Lad in *Tommy*, and appeared in *Guys and Dolls*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Carousel*. Elsewhere: Johnny alternate in Green Day's *American Idiot* (first U.S. tour); Hank Majewski in *Jersey Boys* (Dancap); Gilbert in *Anne of Green Gables* (Charlottetown). Film/TV: Captain von Trapp in the Disney movie *The Pacifier* starring Vin Diesel. Training: Etobicoke School of the Arts. Online: Twitter/Instagram: @GabrielNacci. Et cetera: Huge thanks to his family, Colin McMurray and Donna Feore. He could not be here without the incredible support of his wife, Robin Calvert. This season is dedicated to his dad, Greg Antonacci.

SCOTT BEAUDIN

2019: Tony Elliot in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Drug Dealer, Customer in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Second season. Scott's Stratford journey began when he played the Artful Dodger alongside Colm Feore in *Oliver!* (2006). Since that performance, other credits include *Oliver!* (Theatre Aquarius), *Forever Plaid* (CAA Theatre), *Rock of Ages* (Stage West Calgary), *Red Rock Diner* (Stage West Calgary) and *The Hockey Sweater: A Musical* (Segal Centre/National Arts Centre), for which he won a BroadwayWorld Award for Best Featured Male (musical). Film credits include *Summerhood*, *Victoria Day* and *The Dark*. Television includes *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Saving Hope*, *Haven*, *Really Me*, *Degrassi* and *My Babysitter's a Vampire*. Scott has voiced dozens of cartoons, including voices on *Peep and the Big Wide World*, *Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends*, *Arthur*, *Franklin*, *6Teen*, *Captain Flamingo* and *Totally Spies*. Much love and thanks to his new wife, Heather, and his terrific family.

MATTHEW G. BROWN

2019: Mr. Braithwaite in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and The Voice of Audrey II, Cop in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Fourth season. Stratford: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Julius Caesar*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Twelfth Night*, *School for Scandal*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Fiddler on the Roof*. Elsewhere: *Calpurnia* (Nightwood); *Sister Act* (Drayton); *Wizard of Oz*, *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang*, *Cinderella: A Ritual Retelling* (YPT); *I Think I Can* (YPT, NAC); *Grey Gardens* (Musical Stage Co.); *Hair* (The Grand); *Jersey Boys* (Dancap, Dodgers). Film/TV (selected): *Gridlocked* (Hackybox Pictures), *The Kennedys* (History Television), *Dark Matter* (SYFY/Space), *Open Heart* (YTV), *Odd Squad* (PBS), *Hailstorm* (CFC), *Instant Star* (CTV), *Mr. D* (CBC). Training: Randolph College for the Performing Arts, The Canadian Film Centre Actors Conservatory. Et cetera: Thank you, God, Mom, cast & crew. Special thanks to Shawn Byfield. Twitter: @Mr_M_G_B.

DAN CHAMEROY

2019: Dad in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Orin the Dentist in *Little Shop of Horrors*. 13th season. Stratford: Frank N. Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Wanderlust*, *Henry V*, *The Winter's Tale*, *A Funny Thing Happened...*, *West Side Story*, *Oklahoma!*, *Pentecost*, *The Tempest*, *Cymbeline*, *Gigi*, *Camelot*. Elsewhere: *Life After* (Musical Stage, Canadian Stage, YST); Toronto and U.S. tour of *Matilda* – Toronto Critics Award (Mirvish/Dodger); *Of Human Bondage*, *Idiot's Delight*, *The Barber of Seville* (Soulpepper); *The Wild Party* (Musical Stage); *Company* (Theatre 20); *The Arsonists*, *Into the Woods* (Canadian Stage); *The Magic Fire*, *High Society* (Shaw); *Beauty and the Beast* – Dora Award, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Les Misérables* (Mirvish); *A Christmas Carol* (Ross Petty Productions). Film/TV: *Hotel Transylvania: The Series*, *Let's Go Luna*, *PURST: Secret Agent Binky*, *Paw Patrol*, *Oh No!* Awards: Dan is a multiple Dora and Canadian Screen Award nominee. "Love to Christine and Olivia."

BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATORY, 2003

STARR DOMINGUE

2019: Crystal in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Stratford debut. Elsewhere: Four seasons at Shaw Festival including Queen Helen, *The Magician's Nephew*; Mrs. Celia Worthington, Sally understudy, *Me and My Girl*; Grace, Minnie understudy, *An Octoroon*. Originated Vonzia in *Oil and Water* (NAC); Lorrell, *Dreamgirls* (Arts Club); Mrs. Cory, *Mary Poppins*, Binti, *Binti's Journey* (YPT); Dynamite, *Hairspray* (Charlottetown Festival, Mirvish); Lorraine, *All Shook Up* (MSMT); Charlaire, *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Canadian Stage); Young Alberta, *Cookin' at the Cookery* (Citadel, ASF); *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* (Harbourfront). Film/TV: *Puppy Master*, *Odd Squad* (TVO); Pearl, *Hairspray* (Newline Cinema); 4Tone, *4Square* (Corus). Choreographer: *Porgy and Bess* (Szeged Festival). Resident Director: *Ain't Misbehavin'* (European/Broadway tours). Training: Sheridan College – Music Theatre Performance. Online: Instagram @starrdomingue, @6love_apparel; Twitter @Starr_Domingue; youtube.com/user/starrdomingue. Et cetera: Luv 2 God, Mom, Fam, SG & KC.

ACTING COMPANY



CAMILLE EANGA-SELENGE



GABI EPSTEIN



HENRY FIRMSTON



MARK HARAPIAK



GALEN JOHNSON

CAMILLE EANGA-SELENGE

2019: Chiffon in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere:** Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* (Ross Petty Panto/Elgin); *The Book of Mormon* (Broadway, Chicago, Melbourne); *Grease* (Irregular Entertainment/Winter Garden); *Ghost: The Musical* (Drayton Entertainment); Felicia in *Queen for a Day: The Musical* (April 30th Entertainment); Little Inez in *Hairspray* (Capitol Theatre). **Film/TV:** *Sleeping Together* (FREEFORM). **Training:** Sheridan College, Musical Theatre Performance. **Online:** @camilove90. **Et cetera:** Camille is delighted to be making her Stratford debut! She sends love to her mom, family and friends, and The Talent House for the incredible support.

GABI EPSTEIN

2019: Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere** (selected): Fanny Brice, *Funny Girl*, *Prom Queen* (Segal); Girl – standby, *Once* (Mirvish); Yitzhak, *Hedwig* (TIFT); Killer Queen, *We Will Rock You* (Magnus); Audrey, *Little Shop* (Rainbow); *To Life* (HGJT); *Fiddler...* (Stage West/Capitol); *Blood Brothers*, *Perfect Wedding* (Drayton); *Edges* (Musical Stage). **Film/TV:** *Quickbooks*. **Training:** B.Music, McGill. **Awards:** Dora: *Once*, Best Ensemble. Nomination: *To Life*, Outstanding Performance in a Musical. **Online:** @gabifayepstein. **Et cetera:** Gabi's CD *Show Off* is available online and in the Theatre Shop. Endless thanks to the T-House gang and my incredibly supportive family and friends. Special shout-outs to Jake, my bro of honour; Jeremy, my hubby (as of September 2!); and especially my parents, Kathy and Ian, for loving and believing in me, and for bringing me to the Stratford Festival every year since I was a kid. Dream big, friends! Xo

HENRY FIRMSTON

2019: Homeless Person, Patient, Puppeteer in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Second season. **Stratford:** *The Music Man* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. **Elsewhere:** Doody in *Grease* (Winter Garden, Toronto); Tom of Warwick in *Camelot* (Drayton Entertainment); Tommy Sloane in *Anne of Green Gables* (Grand Theatre); Riff in *West Side Story* (BMT); *What a Wonderful World* (Victoria Playhouse Petrolia); Playlist Dancer/Singer with Carnival Cruise Lines. Four seasons with The Grand's High School Project, appearing in *Footloose*, *My Fair Lady*, Kyle the UPS Guy in *Legally Blonde* and Gomez in *The Addams Family*. **Training:** Canada's National Ballet School, Dance Steps London, Beal Performing Arts. **Online:** @thefirmstonator. **Et cetera:** Love to Ashley, his parents, and Lucy. Huge thanks to Donna, Franklin and Steve, Bruce and the wonderful people at Talent House, and all the teachers and mentors who have helped along the way.

MARK HARAPIAK

2019: Big Davey in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and understudy in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Seventh season. **Stratford:** *The Music Man*, *Camelot*, *Coriolanus*, *Equus*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Gondollers*, *The Boy Friend*, *Alice Through the Looking-Glass* and *The Winter's Tale*. **Elsewhere:** Pal Joey, *Pygmalion*, *She Loves Me* (Shaw Festival); *Mary Poppins* first national tour (Disney Theatrical); *Man of La Mancha* (Mirvish); *Evita*, *Camelot* (RMT, Theatre Calgary); *The Full Monty*, *Legally Blonde*, *Cabaret*, *The Sound of Music* (Theatre Aquarius); *Cruel Tears*, *McGillcuddy*, *Hippie*, *The Thirteenth One*, *The Ginkgo Tree* (Blyth Festival); *The Last Resort* (Charlottetown Festival); *The 39 Steps* (Orillia Opera House); *Beauty and the Beast*, *Miracle on 34th Street* (Grand Theatre); *Rock of Ages*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Footloose*, *High School Musical*, *Camelot*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Foursome*, *All Shook Up* (Drayton Entertainment); *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (Rose Theatre).

GALEN JOHNSON

2019: Swing in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and understudy in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Fifth season. **Stratford:** *A Chorus Line*, *The Hypochondriac*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Crazy for You*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Tommy*, *42nd Street*, *Pirates of Penzance*. **Elsewhere:** Double J (*Saturday Night Fever*) (North American tour); Gaston (*Beauty and the Beast*), Eddie (*Mamma Mia!*) (Rainbow); *We Will Rock You* (Mirvish); *Siegfried* (COC); *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Camelot* (tours); *Guys and Dolls*, *Evita*, *Pirates*, *Me and My Girl*, *Anne of Green Gables* (Drayton); *Mary Poppins* (Aquarius); Riff (*West Side Story*), *Mamma Mia!*, *Peter Pan*, Gaston understudy (*Beauty and the Beast*) (Neptune); Alec (*Anne and Gilbert*) (Ontario tour); *Houdini* (Saidye Bronfman); *Twist and Shout*, *Pirates* (Cheminus); *Victor/Victoria* (Stage West); *Les Feux Follets* (Charlottetown). **Training:** Canadian College of Performing Arts. **Et cetera:** Galen is a talented drummer and animator. He is also a new dad! This, and everything else, is for you, James.

ACTING COMPANY



EVANGELIA KAMBITES



JORDAN MAH



ANDRÉ MORIN



MARCUS NANCE



STEVE ROSS

EVANGELIA KAMBITES

2019: Street Entrepreneur, Puppeteer in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere:** Gary Coleman in *Avenue Q* (The Arts Club); Dynamite in *Hairspray* (Mayfield Theatre); *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Theatre North West); *The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* (Centaur Theatre/BTW/National Arts Centre); *I Think I'm Fallin' – The Songs of Jani Mitchell* (Belfry Theatre); Lady in Orange in *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf* (Soulpepper); Fate in *Hadestown* (Citadel); *The Secret Chord: A Leonard Cohen Experience* (Soulpepper); *The 27 Club* (Soulpepper); Manon Tremblay in *The Hockey Sweater: A Musical* (National Arts Centre). **Film/TV:** *Minority Report* (Fox); *Heroes Reborn* (NBC); *Incorporated* (Syfy/CBS); *The Boys* (Sony/Amazon). **Training:** Queen's University (BAH); Randolph College. **Awards:** Jessie Award for *Avenue Q*; Sterling Award for *Hairspray*; META Award for *Adventures of a Black Girl*. **Online:** evangeliakambites.com; Twitter/Instagram @ekambites.

JORDAN MAH

2019: Grocer, Puppeteer in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Third season. **Stratford:** *Guys and Dolls*, *HMS Pinafore*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Hypochondriac*. **Elsewhere:** *Anne of Green Gables* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Charlottetown Festival); *Mary Poppins* (YPT); *West Side Story* (Citadel Theatre); *The Nutcracker* and *Shumka at 50!* China tour (Shumka/SPI Productions); *Rent* and *Dogfight* (SAT). **Training:** Grant MacEwan University, Theatre Arts. **Online:** Instagram: @Djmah5. **Et cetera:** Jordan would like to thank everyone at the Talent House, his family, friends and mentors for all the incredible support. "Life is a whirlwind, so spread those wings and fly!"

ANDRÉ MORIN

BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATORY, 2014/15

2019: Seymour Krelborn in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Seventh season. **Stratford:** Ariel in *The Tempest*, Parry in *The Virgin Trial*, Messenger in *Bakkhai*, Edmund in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Peter van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Diggory in *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, King John, Romeo and Juliet. **Elsewhere:** John in *The Lion in Winter* (The Grand); Fenton in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Theatre by the Bay); Henry in *Next to Normal* (Clearwater Theatre). **Training:** George Brown Theatre School, Birmingham Conservatory. **Online:** Twitter: @Andre_P_Morin; Instagram: anmoomba. **Et cetera:** Much love to all my friends and family, and many thanks to Mom, Dad, Alex, Daniel, Grandma, Caroline, Frank and Shari.

MARCUS NANCE

2019: Pit Supervisor in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Wino in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Eighth season. **Stratford:** *The Music Man*, *Guys and Dolls*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Carousel*, *The Sound of Music*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Crazy for You*, *Camelot*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Moby Dick*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *My One and Only*. **Elsewhere:** *Sweeney Todd*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Floyd Collins*, *Pal Joey* (Shaw Festival); *Dracula* (Innerchamber); *Wizard of Oz*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Grand Theatre); *La Bohème*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Broadway); *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, *Mikado* (Drayton); *Evangeline* (Charlottetown); *Kismet*, *Of Thee I Sing* (Encores! N.Y.C.); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (La Jolla); *Four Saints in Three Acts* (Chicago Opera Theater); *Dark Star Requiem* (Luminato); *Porgy and Bess* (Toronto Symphony); *Eisewhereless* (Tapestry). **Film/TV:** *Prodigal Son* (Glorious Films), *The Producers* (Universal), *Beatrice Chancy* (CBC). **Recordings:** *The Voice Next Door*. **Awards:** Metropolitan Opera winner, Dora nominee. **Training:** Fresno State University. **Online:** marcusnance.com.

STEVE ROSS

2019: George in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*. 16th season. **Stratford:** *Music Man*, *Rocky Horror*, *Guys and Dolls*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Hamlet*, *The Alchemist*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Crazy for You*, *Tommy*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *42nd Street*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *The Misanthrope*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Odyssey*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Coriolanus*. **Elsewhere:** *Fleeto, Oh, the Humanity*, *4th Graders* (Tiny Room); *London Road* (Dora Award), *Indian Ink*, *Into the Woods*, *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Canadian Stage); *Assassins* (TIFT/Birdland); *Orson's Shadow* (Pilot Group); *A New Brain* (Musical Stage Company); *Shrek*, *A Christmas Story*, *Christmas Carol* (Grand); *The Producers* (Mirvish, Neptune), *Seussical*, *Sylvia* (Aquarius); *The Three Musketeers* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Citadel); *The Foursome*, *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again* (New Stages); *Three Sisters* (ATF).

ACTING COMPANY



ANTONETTE RUDDER



VANESSA SEARS



JASON SERMONIA



BLYTHE WILSON

ANTONETTE RUDDER

2019: Swing in *Little Shop of Horrors* and member of the Second Track. Stratford debut. **Stratford:** Angela in *Here's What It Takes* (workshop). **Elsewhere:** Princess Buttercup in *Jack and the Beanstalk: The Panto*, Dynamite in *Hairspray*, *Cinderella: The Panto*, Lorraine in *All Shook Up* (Drayton Festival); *Obeah Opera* (Asah Productions); *Soul Sistas* (Mayfield); *Mamma Mia!* (Theatre Aquarius/WCT); *Pure '90s, '80s Solid Gold 2* (Stage West); *She Loves Me*, Chiffon in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Thousand Islands Playhouse); Dionne in *Hair*, Patty Simcox in *Grease*, Sister Hubert in *Nunsense*, Rhoda in *White Christmas* (SLC/Brockville Arts Centre); Tanya in *Bare: The Musical* (Water's Edge Productions). **Film/TV:** *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Fox Television Studios), *People of Earth* (TBS/Slanted Films), *Surviving Evil* (Discovery/Cineflix). **Training:** Musical Theatre Performance at St. Lawrence College. **Online:** Instagram: @Toni_Rudder.

VANESSA SEARS

2019: Mum in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Ronette in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere:** Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins*, Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* (Young People's Theatre); Flaemmchen in *Grand Hotel*, Polly Plummer in *The Magician's Nephew*, Zoe in *An Octoroon* (Shaw Festival); Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Theatre Aquarius); Edwina in *Passing Strange* (Obsidian Theatre Company/The Musical Stage Company); Nicola in *Kinky Boots* (Mirivish Productions); Loretta/LaRain in *Brantwood* (Theatre Sheridan). **Film/TV:** *Suits*, *The Beaverton*. **Training:** High Honours Bachelor of Music Theatre Performance, Sheridan College. **Awards:** Toronto Theatre Critics Award: Best Supporting Actress (*Passing Strange*); Critic's Pick Award: Outstanding Ensemble (*Passing Strange*); Dora Award: Outstanding Ensemble (*The Wizard of Oz*); BroadwayWorld Award: Best Female in a Featured Role (*Kinky Boots*). **Online:** vanessasears.com. **Et cetera:** Huge love to my family, friends, and my agent, Rachel.

JASON SERMONIA

2019: Sailor, Puppeteer in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Ensemble in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Seventh season. **Stratford:** *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Music Man*, *A Chorus Line*, *As You Like It*, *Hypochondriac*, *The Sound of Music*, *Carousel*, *Crazy for You*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Camelot*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Anything Goes*. **Elsewhere:** Revivals of *Miss Saigon* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Broadway); *The Lion King* (Mirivish, Las Vegas); *Dirty Dancing* (Mirivish); *We Will Rock You* (Mirivish, U.S. national tour); *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Mary Poppins* (Drayton). **TV:** 71st & 66th annual Tony Awards; 37th annual Daytime Emmy Awards; *Dancing with the Stars*; *The Marilyn Denis Show*. **Film:** *Honey*; Oscar, Best Picture: *Chicago*. **Awards:** Derek F. Mitchell Artistic Director's Award (2016); Brian Macdonald Choreographer Award (2018). **Online:** Facebook/Instagram: @JasonSermonia. **Et cetera:** Love and many thanks to all my friends, family, T House and beautiful wife Melanie.

BLYTHE WILSON

2019: Mrs. Wilkinson in *Billy Elliot the Musical* and Bag Lady, Customer in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Eighth season. **Stratford:** Eulalie MacKecknie Shinn, *The Music Man*; *Julius Caesar*; Miss Adelaide, *Guys and Dolls*; Laurey, *Oklahoma!*; Nancy, *Oliver!*; Lucy Brown, *The Threepenny Opera*; Dulcine, *The Boy Friend*. **Elsewhere:** Spirit of Christmas Present, *A Christmas Carol* (Grand Theatre); Winifred Banks, *Mary Poppins* (Broadway); Rona Peretti, *25th Annual ... Spelling Bee* (Connecticut Rep); Milady de Winter, *The Three Musketeers* (Chicago Shakespeare); Donna Sheridan, *Mamma Mia!*, Baroness Schraeder, *The Sound of Music*, Antonia, *Man of La Mancha* (Mirivish); Cathy, *The Last Five Years* (Canadian Stage); Narrator, *Joseph...* with Donny Osmond (Chicago Theatre); Eva Peron, *Evita*, Mary, *Mary Poppins* (Theatre Calgary/Citadel Theatre – Betty Mitchell/Sterling Award nominee); Edwin Drood, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Lillian Holiday, *Happy End* (Shaw Festival). **Training:** Vancouver Playhouse Theatre School. **Awards:** 2017 Lindsay Thomas Award.

ARTISTIC COMPANY



JACKI BRABAZON



LAURA BURTON



MEGHAN CALLAN



STEPHEN COTA



LOGAN RAJU CRACKNELL

JACKI BRABAZON

2019: Assistant stage manager of *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Neverending Story*. Fourth season. **Stratford:** Assistant stage manager of *The Comedy of Errors*, *Paradise Lost* (2018), *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Breathing Hole* (2017); assistant stage manager of the Michael Langham Directors' Workshop Presentation (2016); production assistant of *Possible Worlds*, *The Last Wife* (2015). **Elsewhere:** Assistant stage manager credits include CFL 105th Grey Cup (Patrick Roberge Productions), *The Last Wife* (The Belfry Theatre/Great Canadian Theatre Company). Stage manager credits include *Trudeau Stories* (Long Black Car Productions at the Great Canadian Theatre Company); *The Amazing Adventures of Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre* (A Company of Fools). Apprentice stage manager of *The Summoned* (Tarragon Theatre), *The December Man (L'homme de décembre)* (NAC English Theatre). **Training:** University of Ottawa. **Awards:** Jean A. Chalmers Apprentice Achievement Award (2015).

LAURA BURTON

2019: Music director of *Private Lives* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 40th season. **Stratford:** *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Sound of Music*, *Charlie Brown*, *Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*. Composer of numerous productions including *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Memoir and Inherit the Wind*. **Elsewhere:** Musical director: *Rich and Famous* (director John Rando), *A Christmas Carol* (director Carey Perloff) (ACT San Francisco); *Oliver!*, *The Music Man* (Citadel Theatre, director Robin Phillips); *Brent Carver in Concert* (Soulpepper). Composer: *I Am My Own Wife* (NAC); *Don Carlos* (Soulpepper); *Cyrano* (Citadel Theatre); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia). **Awards:** 2014 Tyrone Award and five Guthrie Awards (Stratford Festival), two Sterling Awards (Citadel) and nominated for Music Direction (San Francisco Bay Awards).

MEGHAN CALLAN

2019: Production stage manager of the Festival Theatre and Avon Theatre. 19th season. **Stratford** (selected): *Paradise Lost*, *The Virgin Trial*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Physicists*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2014), *Tommy*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Tempest* (2010). **Elsewhere:** At Soulpepper, Meghan stage-managed *The Virgin Trial* and *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?* Meghan has worked in stage management for the Shaw Festival, Atlantic Theatre Festival, Theatre New Brunswick, NAC, Citadel Theatre, Globe Theatre and Lighthouse Festival Theatre. She has also worked in stage management for corporate clients such as General Motors, Toyota Canada, the Retail Council of Canada and the Canadian International Auto Show. **Training:** BFA, York University. **Awards:** 2017 Tyrone Award, Stratford Festival. **Et cetera:** Much love and thanks to Beatrice, Ella and Peter for their support and for making her so happy.

STEPHEN COTA

2019: Associate choreographer of *Billy Elliot* the Musical and associate choreographer and assistant director of *Little Shop of Horrors*. 14th season. **Stratford:** Choreographer of *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, *The Hypochondriac*, *Cynthia Dale in Concert*, *Outside Looking In*. Assistant director of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Associate choreographer of *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Guys and Dolls*. Assistant choreographer of *A Chorus Line*, *The Sound of Music*. *Crazy for You*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Tommy*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (2013, 2000), *42nd Street*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Evita*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *West Side Story*, *The Music Man*, *Moby Dick*, *Oklahoma!*, *My One and Only*, *Oliver!*, *South Pacific*. **Elsewhere:** Assistant choreographer of *West Side Story* (Vancouver Opera); *White Christmas*, *Annie* (Drayton Entertainment); Mel Brooks's *The Producers* (Canon Theatre). **Et cetera:** Thanks to my family for their constant support, especially my wife, Rachel.

LOGAN RAJU CRACKNELL

2019: Assistant lighting designer of *Private Lives*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Mother's Daughter*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere:** Lighting designer for *GA TING* (Next Stage Festival), *Agit Pop* (Pearle Harbour), *Judas Noir* (BDB Productions/Obsidian Theatre Company), *Everyone Wants a T-Shirt* (Toronto Fringe), *Treasure Island* (Solar Stage), *Walk Unafraid* (Silhouettes Dance Company), *Silk Bath* (Toronto Fringe/Next Stage Festival). Associate lighting designer for *Orpheus+* (Against the Grain Theatre). **Training:** York University. **Online:** loganracknell.wixsite.com/home.

ARTISTIC COMPANY



STEPHAN DICKSON



FRANK DONATO



DONNA FEORE



MICHAEL GIANFRANCESCO

STEPHAN DICKSON

2019: Assistant choreographer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Second season. **Stratford:** Assistant choreographer: *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show*. **Elsewhere:** Choreographer: *The Little Mermaid*, *My Fair Lady*, *Robin Hood the Panto* (Capitol), *Rock of Ages*, *Rumours and Dreams* (SWC), *Fare Trade* (Bell TV), *Odd Squad* (TVO), *Charlie Brown* (Rose), *The Full Monty*, *Peter Pan* (CCMP), *Aleck Bell*, *Tweed – The Musical* (Tweed & Co.), *The Rocky Horror Show* (The LOT), *Hit That Jive Jack* (H&S Foundation). Associate choreographer: *Grand Hotel* (Shanghai), *Forever Plaid* (Rose), *Ragtime* (CCMP). Assistant choreographer: *In the Heights* (Sheridan), *Once on This Island* (Acting Up Stage), *TIFF Thanks You* (Cineplex). **Training:** Randolph Academy, Canadian Dance Company. **Et cetera:** Huge thanks to Donna, Steve, Ann, Franklin, Laura, the cast, and the crew. Also, thanks to Bruce and the T-House team. Love to my family, friends, Kris, Lil L, Big E, and Big Bro Cam.

FRANK DONATO

2019: Assistant lighting designer of *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Neverending Story* and *The Crucible*. Second season. **Stratford:** Assistant lighting designer of *The Comedy of Errors*, *Brontë: The World Without and Paradise Lost*. **Elsewhere:** *The Drowning Girls* (Great Canadian Theatre Company); *Riel* (National Arts Centre/Canadian Opera Company); *Prom Queen: The Musical* (Segal Centre); *Constellations* (Centaur Theatre). Video coordinator of *Out the Window* (Luminato/Theatre Centre). Head of Video for *Le Wild West Show de Gabriel Dumont* (NAC/Persephone Theatre/Théâtre Cercle Molière). **Film/TV:** Assistant lighting designer of the 2017 Governor General's Awards (CBC/NAC). **Training:** National Theatre School, Bishop's University. **Et cetera:** Frank would like to dedicate his work on this season to his first mentor and good friend, Brent Rouleau.

DONNA FEORE

2019: Director and choreographer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 25th season. **Stratford:** Director and choreographer of *The Rocky Horror Show* (longest-running show in the Festival's history) and *The Music Man*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Madwoman of Chailiot*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Sound of Music*, *Crazy for You*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Charlie Brown*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Oklahoma!*, *Oliver!*, *My Fair Lady* (choreographer). **Elsewhere:** Recently, director and choreographer: *The Hockey Sweater: A Musical* (NAC English Theatre, December 2018; world première, Segal Centre, October 2017). Creative producer and director: *Life Reflected*: a multimedia orchestral production (world première, National Arts Centre Orchestra, heading to Paris and Gothenburg, Sweden, in spring 2019). Director: Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (NACO); *Yorkville* (world première, Blyth Festival); *The Very Best of Broadway* with Audra McDonald and Marvin Hamlisch; *Rock 'n' Roll*, *It's a Wonderful Life* (Canadian Stage); *Lecture on the Weather*, *A Soldier's Tale* with F. Murray Abraham (Detroit Symphony Orchestra); *Mozart: A Life in Letters* (Toronto Symphony Orchestra); *Annie Get Your Gun* (Massey Hall). Choreographer: *Siegfried* (Canadian Opera Company/Opéra National de Lyon); *Tosca*, *Red Emma*, *Oedipus Rex* (Dora Award) (COC). **Film/TV:** *Politics Is Cruel*, *Mean Girls*, *Eloise*, *Martin and Lewis*, *Stormy Weather*, *Romeo and Juliette*, *Don Giovanni Unmasked*. **Upcoming:** World première of Steven Page and Daniel MacLvor's new musical, *Here's What It Takes*. **Et cetera:** I wish to express my gratitude to my incredible team of collaborators who inspire me always. Most importantly, I want to thank my family, Colm, Thomas and Anna, Jack and Lisa, for their unconditional love and support.

MICHAEL GIANFRANCESCO

2019: Designer of *The Crucible* and set designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 16th season. **Stratford:** *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Guys and Dolls*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *Hosanna*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *An Ideal Husband* – set; *A Chorus Line*, *Bunny*, *The Sound of Music*, *Christina*, *The Girl King*, *Taking Shakespeare*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Blonde*, *the Brunette* and *the Vengeful Redhead*, *Edward II*, *The Triumph of Love* – set and costumes. **Elsewhere:** Michael recently designed the costumes for *Frame by Frame* with Robert Lepage and Guillaume Côté for The National Ballet of Canada and Ex Machina, the set for the world première of *Hadrian* by Rufus Wainwright and Daniel MacLvor at the Canadian Opera Company, and the costumes for *Ricciardo e Zoraide* at the Rossini Festival in Pesaro, Italy. His work in theatre, opera and ballet has been seen across Canada.

ARTISTIC COMPANY



SAM HALE



MICHAEL HART



BRIAN KENNY



JULIA KIM



HOLLY KORHONEN

SAM HALE

2019: Assistant stage manager of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Stratford debut. **Elsewhere:** *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Picture This*, *Parfumerie*, *Riverboat* (Souleppert); *The Wolves*, *Lemons...*, *52 Pick-Up*, *The Glass Menagerie* (The Howland Company); *Jerusalem*, *Mr. Burns* (Outside the March); *Disgraced* (Mirvish/Citadel/Hope & Hell); *The Realistic Joneses*, *An Enemy of the People* (Tarragon); *Body Politic* (Buddies in Bad Times/lemonTree Creations); *Hedda Gabler* (Necessary Angel/Canadian Stage); *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Talk Is Free); *The 39 Steps* (3P Productions); *My Fair Lady* (Capitol Theatre); *Lear: A Retrospective* (World Stage); *Fall For Dance North* (Sony Centre). Sam has also worked for dance: made in canada, Hot Docs, TIFF and Ryerson University. **Et cetera:** Sam would like to thank his friends, family, mentors and Nic for all their love and support.

MICHAEL HART

2019: Production stage manager of the Avon Theatre and stage manager of *Little Shop of Horrors*. 23rd season. **Stratford:** *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, *Timon of Athens*, *The Adventures of Pericles*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Hay Fever*, *The Tempest* (starring Christopher Plummer), *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *King Lear* (both starring Brian Bedford), *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Fallen Angels*, *A Delicate Balance*, *The Duchess of Malfi*, *The Liar*, *The Swanne* (all three parts), *High-Gravel-Blind*. **Elsewhere:** *Silence* (Grand), *Heisenberg*, *Liv Stein* (Canadian Stage), *Constellations* (Centaur/Canadian Stage), *Body Politic* (Buddies), *The Death of the King* (Modern Times), *The Winter's Tale* (Groundling 2016), *Bombay Black* (Factory), *Manon*, *Sandra* and *the Virgin Mary* (Pleiades), *Saint Carmen of the Main* (NAC/Canadian Stage), *Romeo and Juliet* (NAC), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (NAC/MTC), *Wit* (Centaur), *Real Live Girl* (MTC Warehouse), *Hamlet* (Neptune).

BRIAN KENNY

2019: Associate sound designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Second season. Brian is a sound designer from Mt. Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador. **Stratford:** *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show*. **Elsewhere:** *Once* (Segal Centre); *Between Breaths*, *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams* (Artistic Fraud of Newfoundland); *Tibb's Eve*, *Chapel Arm* (Mindless Theatrics); *Once*, *Mamma Mia!* (Theatre St. John's); *Sherlock*, *A Woman Is A Secret*, *Ballad of the Young Offender* (SideMart Theatrical Grocery). **Training:** The National Theatre School of Canada, Sheridan College, The Banff Centre. **Awards:** Brian was awarded the Tom Patterson Award by the Tyrone Guthrie Awards committee last year.

JULIA KIM

2019: Assistant set and projection designer of *Little Shop of Horrors*, assistant set designer of *Private Lives* and *The Neverending Story*, and assistant projection designer of *Birds of a Kind*. Third season. **Stratford:** Assistant designer of *Julius Caesar*, assistant costume designer of *Treasure Island*. **Elsewhere:** Design: *Cannibal* (Scrap Paper Theatre/Next Stage Festival); *Suitcase* (Theatre Mada); *Judas Noir* (Obsidian Theatre/BDB Productions); *Will You Be My Friend* (Green Light Arts); *One Short Sleeper*, *The Retreating World*, *Hello From Bertha*, *Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen* (Neil Munro Intern Directors Projects, Shaw Festival); *Armband* (Human Body Expression). Set design: *Seussical*, *Grease* (KWMP). Costume design: *Chasing the Path* (Human Body Expression); *The Last Five Years* (Daemon Theatre). **Exhibition:** *Awaken Your Creativity* (Toronto Nuit Blanche). **Training:** Ryerson University. **Awards:** Tanit Mendes Memorial Award, Ryerson University.

HOLLY KORHONEN

2019: Assistant stage manager of *Private Lives* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 18th season. **Stratford:** Assistant stage manager: *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Napoli Millionaire!*, *Timon of Athens*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, *The Lion*, *the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *King Lear*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Charlie Brown*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Ever Yours*, *Oscar*, *Cabaret*, *My One and Only*, *South Pacific*, *Oliver!*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Edward II*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *Anything Goes*, *Henry VI*. Stage manager: Birmingham Conservatory, 2006, 2007. **Awards:** Recipient of the Tanya Award and three Guthrie Awards. **Et cetera:** Holly would like to thank her partner, Steve, and their children, Jennica and Jackson, for all their love and support.

ARTISTIC COMPANY



CAITLIN LUXFORD



PETER McBOYLE



JAMIE NESBITT



ANITA NITTOLY



DANA OSBORNE

CAITLIN LUXFORD

2019: Assistant costume designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 12th season. **Stratford:** Stylist, 2019 Visitor's Guide. Design coordinator for the Birmingham Conservatory final show. Assistant costume designer: *The Music Man*, *HMS Pinafore*, *A Chorus Line*, *Breath of Kings*. Assistant designer: *Timon of Athens* and *The Madwoman of Chaillot*. Six seasons in the wardrobe buyer's office, seamstress, wardrobe apprentice. **Elsewhere:** Member of IATSE Local 822, 13 years. Head of Creative: Canada's Wonderland Haunt event. Design assistant: Theatre Athena. **Training:** Diploma in Technical Production for Theatrical Arts from Sheridan Institute. **Awards:** Sheridan Scholar, Fabricland Creative Design Award. **Et cetera:** Caitlin feels fortunate to continually develop her professional skills within her many roles at the Stratford Festival. Many thanks to her husband, family and loved ones for their constant love and support, both here and above.

PETER McBOYLE

2019: Sound designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. 24th season. **Stratford** (selected): Over 60 productions including *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, *A Chorus Line*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *A Little Night Music*, *Carousel*, *Crazy for You*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Henry V*, *A Word or Two*, *Equus*. **Elsewhere:** Peter has worked at most of the major Canadian theatres and in U.S. cities such as New York, Las Vegas, Boston, Los Angeles, Dallas and Atlanta. His Broadway credits include *Come Fly Away* and *Barymore* and his tours include *Sister Act*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Come Fly Away*, *Legally Blonde* and *West Side Story*. **Training:** Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music (McGill). **Awards:** Suzi (Atlanta), *Come Fly Away*; Dora nomination, *Fire*. **Et cetera:** Thanks to Meghan, Ella and Beatrice for their unending support.

JAMIE NESBITT

2019: Projection designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Birds of a Kind*. Second season. **Stratford:** *The Rocky Horror Show*. **Elsewhere:** Jamie designs across North America and Europe. His résumé includes Shaw Festival, Canadian Stage, NAC, Soulpepper, Vancouver Playhouse, Citadel, Theatre Calgary, Palazzo Circus (Berlin), Calgary Stampede Grandstand Show, Bard on the Beach, Arts Club, Charlottetown Festival, Electric Company, Kidd Pivot (Germany/Canada), Pacific Opera, Opéra de Québec, Company 14 (New York), Vancouver Opera, Why Not, Neptune, The Belfry, Old Trouts, ARC, Cahoots, PTE, Touchstone, Vertigo, Pi Theatre, Theatre Network, Birdland, Rumble Productions, Gateway, Green Thumb, Yukon Arts Centre, and many more. Graduate of Studio 58. **Awards:** Eight Jessie nominations, one Jessie Award, three Critter nominations, two Critter Awards, two Sterling nominations, five Betty nominations, two Betty Mitchell Awards, one Capital Critics Award, 2008 Mayor Arts Award (Vancouver), 2007 Sam Payne Award, 2006 Earl Klein Memorial Scholarship. **Online:** jamienesbitt.com.

ANITA NITTOLY

2019: Fight director for the 2019 season. Fourth season. **Stratford:** 2013: assistant fight director; 2017: associate fight director; 2018: associate fight director. **Elsewhere:** Centaur Theatre (2019 – *The Last Wife*, 2018 – *Successions*, 2017 – *The 39 Steps*), Carousel Players (2019 – *Whole World*), Blyth Festival (2018 season), Outside the March/The Company Theatre (2018 – *Jerusalem*), Canadian Opera Company (2014/15/16). Anita is the stage combat instructor at the National Theatre School in Montréal and teaches workshops year-round across southern Ontario. Anita also works as a stunt performer and stunt actor in the film and TV industry. Selected credits: *Enhanced*, *Teen Titans*, *The Boys*, *Dark Matter*, *KIN*, *Designated Survivor*, *12 Monkeys*, *Murdoch Mysteries*.

DANA OSBORNE

2019: Costume designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Front Page*. 19th season. **Stratford:** Costume designer of 22 productions including *The Music Man*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Guys and Dolls*. Set and costume designer: *Timon of Athens*, *Henry IV, Part 1*. **Elsewhere:** Upcoming and recent credits: *The Penelopiad* (Grand Theatre), *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Citadel); *A Christmas Carol* (Ross Petty); *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Androcles and the Lion* (Shaw); *Bed and Breakfast* (Blyth, GCTC, Arts Club, Belfry, Centaur); *Flight*, *The Barber of Seville* (Pacific Opera/Opéra de Québec); *Art*, *Picture This*, *Father Comes Home From the Wars* parts 1, 2 and 3 (Soulpepper). **Awards:** Two Dora Awards for Costume Design, 2012 recipient of the Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Award in Costume Design. **Online:** danaosborne.ca. Instagram: @danaosbornedesign.

ARTISTIC COMPANY



JANINE RALPH



BETH RUSSELL



GEOFF SCOVELL



MICHAEL WALTON

JANINE RALPH

2019: Production stage manager of the Avon Theatre. 29th season. **Stratford:** Last season Janine was the production stage manager of the Avon Theatre and prior to that production stage manager of the Tom Patterson Theatre. Past Stratford Festival credits include stage manager of a variety of productions at the Festival, Tom Patterson and Avon theatres, and the Masonic Hall. **Elsewhere:** Janine stage-managed at Resorts World Sentosa in Singapore and production-managed for Singapore Repertory Theatre. She has worked on the Asian Games' ceremonies in Qatar; in various theatres in Ontario, including Young People's Theatre; and for CBC TV in Toronto and BBC TV in England.

BETH RUSSELL

2019: Casting director of the Stratford Festival. 11th season. **Elsewhere:** In addition to casting, Beth has been an artists' agent, co-producer of CBC-TV's *Triple Sensation*, Senior Vice President: Casting and Creative Development for Livent, National Casting Director for CBC Radio Drama and Artistic Associate for Toronto Arts Productions (now Canadian Stage). As casting director, Ms Russell has been responsible for Broadway and West End premières of productions including *Parade*, *Ragtime*, *Show Boat* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, as well as productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Show Boat*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Aspects of Love* and *The Phantom of the Opera* in Canada, the United States, Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong.

GEOFF SCOVELL

2019: Associate fight director for the 2019 season. Ninth season. **Stratford:** Associate fight director (selected): *Macbeth*, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *A Little Night Music*, *Breath of Kings: Rebellion and Redemption*, *Hamlet*, *The Physicists*, *Pericles*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Oedipus Rex*, *King Lear*, *Crazy for You*, *King John*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Othello*. **Elsewhere:** Fight director: *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Sweet Charity* (Shaw), *Don Giovanni*, *War and Peace* (COC); *The Godot Cycle* (Yes Let's Go); *Romeo and Juliet* (ShakespeareWorks). **Film/TV:** Stunts (selected): *It: Chapter 2*, *X-Men: Dark Phoenix*, *Schitt's Creek*, *The Boys*, *Wayne*, *What We Do in Shadows*, *Titans*, *Umbrella Academy*, *Save Me*, *The Expanse*, *Designated Survivor*, *Suicide Squad*, *Dark Matter*, *Killjoys*, *12 Monkeys*, *Bitten*, *The Strain*, *Pompeii*, *Robocop*, *Reign*, *Orphan Black*, *Carrie*, *Total Recall*. **Training:** BFA, Ryerson. **Awards:** Paddy Crean. **Online:** @GeoffScovell.

MICHAEL WALTON

2019: Lighting designer of *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Birds of a Kind*. 15th season. **Stratford** (selected): *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Music Man*, *The Tempest*, *Napoli Milionaria!*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The School for Scandal*, *Tartuffe*, *Macbeth*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Hypochondriac*, *Hamlet*, *The Sound of Music*, *Oedipus Rex*, *King Lear*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Othello*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Matchmaker*, *Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*. **Elsewhere:** *A Doll's House Part 2* (RMT/C/Mirvish); *The Full Light of Day* (Electric Company); *Tartuffe* (Canadian Stage/Stratford); *The Humans* (Citadel/Canadian Stage); *A Christmas Carol*, *Enron* (NAC); *Jenufa*, *Maria Stuarda*, *Albert Herring* (Pacific Opera Victoria); *Così Fan Tutte* (Canadian Opera Company); *A Word or Two* with Christopher Plummer (CTG/Stratford, Los Angeles); *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots*, *Sideways* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Julie*, *The Other Place*, *Harper Regan*, *Venus in Fur* (Canadian Stage); *Chimerica* (RMT/C/Canadian Stage).

THE BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATORY FOR CLASSICAL THEATRE

Stephen Ouimette leads this intensive professional training program that nurtures talented young actors for a future in classical theatre.

Selected by audition, participants are usually graduates of an accredited theatre training program who have at least two years' professional experience. Upon completion of the program – which includes, among other activities, classes in voice, movement and text with Festival coaches and distinguished guest instructors – participants may be offered places in the following season's acting company. Twenty-nine members of this season's company are past participants.

The Birmingham Conservatory for Classical Theatre is made possible by the support of the Birmingham family, the Stratford Festival Endowment Foundation and the Department of Canadian Heritage. The 2019 in-season work of Conservatory participants is supported by the Marilyn & Charles Baillie Fund and by John & Therese Gardner.

THE MICHAEL LANGHAM WORKSHOP FOR CLASSICAL DIRECTION

Overseen by Antoni Cimolino, Artistic Director, and Martha Henry, Director of the Michael Langham Workshop, this program offers an unparalleled opportunity for directors in the mid-stages of their careers to develop their craft within the rich artistry of the Stratford Festival. Each participant works as the assistant or associate director on one production in the season, as well as being offered classes focused on the classics. In the fall, selected participants direct a short piece of classical theatre performed for an invited audience.

Participants this season: Rodrigo Bellfuss, Mikaela Davies, Brad Hodder, Ash Knight, Andrew Kushnir, Julia Nish-Lapidus, Jennifer Stewart. Alumni this season: Graham Abbey, Alan Dilworth, Peter Pasyk, Zack Russell, Birgit Schreyer Duarte, Ted Witzel.

We extend our thanks to the Department of Canadian Heritage, the late Johanna Metcalf and the George Cedric Metcalf Foundation and the Philip and Berthe Morton Foundation.

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Photo (from left): Brigit Wilson, Sophia Walker, Geraint Wyn Davies