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Porgy & Bess—an American masterpiece, a global phenomenon.

Porgy and Bess first stretched its legs seventy-six years ago in Boston with the largest all-black cast seen on an American stage. After its premiere at the Colonial Theatre on September 30, 1935, George Gershwin received a fifteen-minute ovation.

When the first national tour launched in 1936, the show ignited social change. After touring the country the opera was scheduled to finish at Washington, D.C.'s National Theatre. Todd Duncan (Porgy) knew that the Theatre had long refused entry to non-white patrons. Anne Brown (Bess) recalled, "As expected we were told that the National Theatre would be a segregated house. Todd and I refused to perform and we were threatened by the Theatre Guild. We cared less. We were adamant." After much heated discussion Duncan and Brown remained steadfast and theatre management conceded. Whites and blacks sat side by side for the first time in the theatre's history.

In March of 1943, at the height of World War II, the Danish Royal Opera premiered the work in Copenhagen. Despite its enthusiastic audiences, the Nazis tried to close the production. The show became a symbol of resistance to the Nazi occupation of Denmark. When the Nazis threatened to bomb the theatre, managers ended the run. Later, amidst a jungle of Cold War hostility, a production of *Porgy and Bess* travelled to the Soviet Union in 1955. Audiences in Moscow adored the production, the first show performed by Americans since the Bolshevik Revolution.

In 1976, the Houston Grand Opera assembled the first production using Gershwin's original score. However, with the show running more than three hours, directors John

DeMain and Jack O'Brien snipped away reprises and short lines and finished with a production that ran two hours and fifty-eight minutes. The show, the only opera to receive a Tony Award, was hailed in the *New York Daily News* as "the most musical, moving, and profoundly beautiful production playing in New York."

Since then, *Porgy and Bess* has been featured by almost every major opera company and, as a concert, symphony orchestra in the world. Many operatic productions have taken experimental approaches to the story, including setting it in Apartheid South Africa, and South Central Los Angeles, and hurricane Katrina-ravaged New Orleans.

Its current incarnation coming to the Detroit Opera House in March has taken a more faithful approach to the original intent of the story, yet has adapted it for the conventions of contemporary musical theatre. "Every so often a project comes along that is so astonishing that one has to drop everything and just say I'm going to do it. That's what I felt when I was asked to do *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*," said Tony Award-winning director Diane Paulus. "The epic sweep of the story, the immense history of the musical itself and the unforgettable Gershwin score, highlighted by 'Summertime,' 'I Got Plenty of Nothing' and 'It Ain't Necessarily So' make this unquestionably one of the greatest American masterpieces."

• *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* at the Detroit Opera House March 4–9. On sale now; please see ad, PAGE 39.



2012 Original Broadway Revival Cast. Photo: Michael J. Lutch



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MAMMA MIA!
CAST



GEORGIA KATE
HAEGE



CHELSEA
WILLIAMS



GABRIELLE
MIRABELLA



CARLY
SAKOLOVE



MICHAEL
COLAVOLPE



MARK A.
HARMON



DON
WINSOR



CHRIS
STEVENS



ANTOINETTE
COMER



KYLE
DUPREE



EMILY
PRICE



NEIL
STARKENBERG



FRANCESCA
AROSTEGUI



KEN
ARPINO



MEGHAN
GLOGOWER



ANDREW J.
KOSLOW



GRACE
LESZYNSKI



DANNY
LOPEZ



REBECCA
MASON-WYGAL



ROYCE JAMES
McINTOSH



TYLER
McKENZIE



ALEX
MENDOZA



BRYNN
SMITH



JOSHUA LaMONTE
SWITZER



BONNE
TOMLINSON



CARLY
WIELSTEIN



JENNIFER
WINGERTER



VINCE
WINGERTER



P. TUCKER
WORLEY



LAUREN
WRIGHT

MAMMA MIA!
CAST

in order of appearance

Sophie SheridanCHELSEA WILLIAMS
 Ali EMILY PRICE
 Lisa ANTOINETTE COMER
 Tanya GABRIELLE MIRABELLA
 Rosie CARLY SAKOLOVE
 Donna Sheridan GEORGIA KATE HAEGE
 Sky CHRIS STEVENS
 Pepper NEIL STARKENBERG
 Eddie KYLE DUPREE
 Harry Bright MARK A. HARMON
 Bill Austin MICHAEL COLAVOLPE
 Sam Carmichael DON WINSOR
 Father Alexandrios ROYCE JAMES McINTOSH

THE ENSEMBLE

FRANCESCA AROSTEGUI, KEN ARPINO, GRACE LESZYNSKI,
 REBECCA MASON-WYGAL, ROYCE JAMES McINTOSH, TYLER MCKENZIE,
 ALEX MENDOZA, BRYNN SMITH, JOSH LaMONTE SWITZER, BONNE TOMLINSON,
 JENNIFER WINGERTER, VINCE WINGERTER, P. TUCKER WORLEY, LAUREN WRIGHT

UNDERSTUDIES

For Sophie Sheridan—Francesca Arostegui, Brynn Smith;
for Ali—Grace Leszynski, Lauren Wright;
for Lisa—Grace Leszynski, Lauren Wright;
for Tanya—Bonne Tomlinson, Jennifer Wingerter;
for Rosie—Bonne Tomlinson, Rebecca Mason-Wygal;
for Donna Sheridan—Rebecca Mason-Wygal, Jennifer Wingerter;
for Sky—Ken Arpino, Neil Starkenberg;
for Pepper—Andrew J. Koslow, P. Tucker Worley;
for Eddie—Tyler McKenzie, Josh LaMonte Switzer;
for Harry Bright—Royce James McIntosh, Alex Mendoza;
for Bill Austin—Royce James McIntosh, Vince Wingerter;
for Sam Carmichael—Alex Mendoza, Vince Wingerter;
for Father Alexandrios—Alex Mendoza, Vince Wingerter

SWINGS

MEGHAN GLOGOWER, ANDREW J. KOSLOW, DANNY LOPEZ, CARLY WIELSTEIN

Dance Captain—Carly Wielstein

THE BAND

Music Director/Keyboard 1—KEVIN CASEY
Associate Music Director/Keyboard 2—ENRICO DE TRIZIO
Guitar 1—DAVID MALACHOWSKI
Guitar 2—PAUL HEANEY
Bass—MARCEL HAMEL
Drums—OSKAR HAGGDAHL



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MAMMA MIA! SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

in alphabetical order

CHIQUITITA
DANCING QUEEN
DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW
GIMME! GIMME! GIMME!
HONEY, HONEY
I DO, I DO, I DO, I DO, I DO
I HAVE A DREAM
KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU
LAY ALL YOUR LOVE ON ME
MAMMA MIA
MONEY, MONEY, MONEY
ONE OF US
OUR LAST SUMMER
SLIPPING THROUGH MY FINGERS
S.O.S.
SUPER TROUPER
TAKE A CHANCE ON ME
THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC
THE NAME OF THE GAME
THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL
UNDER ATTACK
VOULEZ-VOUS

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ACT ONE

The day before the wedding

ACT TWO

The day of the wedding



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WHO'S WHO - MAMMA MIA!

GEORGIA KATE HAEGE (*Donna*) hails from the stunning harbour city of Sydney, Australia, where she studied at the Sydney Conservatorium and earned her Bachelor of Music. Georgia has sung backup for renowned artists including Meat Loaf and La La Brooks (of Phil Spector's The Crystals). Georgia's had several original bands in NYC: currently she fronts/co-writes for disco-pop act Liquid Diet who recently released their EP *Daddy Issues*. Theater highlights: *Empire (Spiegelworld)*, *Lost in Love: The Air Supply Musical*, *Date Me Do Me Dump Me*, *Hell Hole Honeys*, *Europa*, *Save the Robots*, *Lizzie Borden*. Film/TV: *Late Fee* (national release); *American Haunting* (Discovery Network). Georgia can be seen/heard singing the Sleepy's jingle, voicing a national Trojan Condom commercial, and shaking her booty in the Brazil Butt Lift commercial. georgiakatehaege.com.

CHELSEA WILLIAMS (*Sophie*) is so thankful to be a part of this new adventure. Previous credits include The Lyric Stage Company of Boston, Gloucester Stage Company, Berkshire Theatre Group, and *Café Variations*, a collaboration with SITI Company directed by Anne Bogart. B.F.A. Emerson College. Love to family and pals far and wide.

GABRIELLE MIRABELLA (*Tanya*) is a Florida native and graduate from the Manhattan School of Music. National/regional credits include "Annabelle Gurwitch" in *You Say Tomato*, *I Say Shut Up!* and "Velma" in *Hairspray*. For my mamma, "Major" Mirabella, the original Dancing Queen. Love and eternal gratitude to my family.

CARLY SAKOLOVE (*Rosie*). Off Broadway/tour: *NEWSical the Musical* and *Girls Night: the Musical*. Regional: Speakeasy Stage, Florida Studio Theatre. B.F.A. from the Boston Conservatory. Original NYC Cabaret: *I Hear Voices* (Duplex, Joe's Pub) features her Diva impersonations. Viral Youtube video: "Broadway Divas Send in the Clowns." carlysakolove.com. For Mom, Dad, Jillian, Quinn.

MICHAEL COLAVOLPE (*Bill*). National Tour debut. Recent credits: *How to Succeed in Business...* (Bratt), *The Temperamentals* (Harry Hay), *Hairspray* (Edna), *Avenue Q* (Trekkie Monster), *Company* (Harry), *Disney's Finding Nemo: The Musical* (Bruce, Mr. Ray) and *The American Idol Experience* (Judge). All my love to KB, without whom none of this would be possible.

MARK A. HARMON (*Harry*). National tour: Wilbur Turnblad (*Hairspray*). Regional Theater: Felix Turner (*The Normal Heart*), The Professor (*Gilligan's Island the Musical*), Mr. McQueen (*Urinetown*), Yvonne (*Art*), Trevor Graydon (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*), Charles Thompson (*1776*), Ebenezer Scrooge (*A Christmas Carol*), Fredrik Egerman (*A Little Night Music*), Marcus Lycus (*A Funny Thing...Forum*).

DON WINSOR (*Sam*) has performed all over the world in roles such as the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*, Billy Flynn in *Chicago*, Javert in *Les Misérables* and many more. Don would like to thank his family for their love and support. donwinsor.com.

CHRIS STEVENS (*Sky*) is both elated and blessed to be touring with such an amazing group of people. Proud graduate of DeSales University ('11). National Tours: *Cats* (Tugger). Regional: *Cats* (Theatre by the Sea), *The Sound of Music* (Paper Mill Playhouse) *Damn Yankees* (NCT), *1776* (PSF). Many thanks to the cast, crew, and creatives. Love to Mom, Dad, Brett, family and friends. @CJStevens421.

ANTOINETTE COMER (*Lisa*) is absolutely elated to be making her national tour debut with *Mamma Mia!* Favorite credits: *Dreamgirls*, *Hairspray*, *Footloose* and *The Jungle Book*. Many thanks to God, her supportive family, (Mom, Dad, Dominique, Colette and Koby) and every single one of her friends!

KYLE DUPREE (*Eddie*) is honored and excited to be playing the part of Eddie in the National Tour of *Mamma Mia!* Favorite credits: National Tour of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble/Carpet u/s), *Cats* (Mungojerrie), *Dreamgirls* (Ensemble). B.F.A. Jazz Dance: University of the Arts. All my love and gratitude to my family, friends, and B.

EMILY PRICE (*Ali*). So excited to be on tour! Her experience includes: LORT Theatre; *Next to Normal* (Natalie); Human Race Theatre. Regional: *Secret Garden* (Mary Lennox); Adventure Theatre in Maryland. Other: *Anne of Green Gables* (Anne); Leesburg Theatre Co.; *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy); The Alliance Theatre. Love you Mom, Dad, Daniel, Justin, Tim and Carolyn!

NEIL STARKENBERG (*Pepper, u/s Sky*). Theater credits include *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Gideon), *Life Could Be A Dream* (Denny), *Hairspray* (Link), *Showboat*, *Sugar*, *Spamalot*, *The Wedding Singer*. TV: "How I Met Your Mother," "So You Think You Can Dance." Performances with Earth Wind and Fire, Steve Miller Band, and more. B.F.A. Musical Theatre, CSU Fullerton. Love to "the fam."

FRANCESCA AROSTEGUI (*Ensemble, u/s Sophie*) is thrilled to be a part of *Mamma Mia!* Regional: *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), *The Music Man* (Zaneeta), *HONK!* (Penny), and *Legally Blonde* (Kate). B.F.A.: Indiana University. Enormous thanks and endless love to my amazing family and friends. For you, Grandma—thank you for the music!

KEN ARPINO (*Ensemble, u/s Sky*) is thrilled to join the *Mamma Mia!* family! National tours: *Legally Blonde: the Musical!* and *Hairspray*. Most recent credit: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ogunquit Playhouse) starring Clay Aiken. Boston area native; Emerson College graduate; Ken thanks his mom, dad, Dustin, Dave,

WHO'S WHO · MAMMA MIA!

and his fantastic family and friends for all their continued love and support. Follow @kenarpino.

MEGHAN GLOGOWER (*Swing*). National Tour debut! Credits include: *The Nutty Professor* (world premiere); *Hello, Dolly!*; *Annie Get Your Gun*; *Guys and Dolls*; *A Chorus Line*; *Grease*; and *Swing!* among others. A huge thank you to the creative team, casting, my parents, Scott, and Daniel Hoff Agency. B.F.A.: Belmont University. MeghanGlogower.com.

ANDREW J. KOSLOW (*Swing, u/s Pepper*) is thrilled to be making his touring debut with *Mamma Mia!* Regional credits include: *Wizard of Oz*, *Chicago*, *Smoke on the Mountain: Homecoming* (Dennis), *Call Me Madam*, *Sweet Charity*, *Shenandoah* (Henry). University of Oklahoma, B.F.A., Class of 2012. Sending love to Mom, Dad, CJC, MS, and A!

GRACE LESZYNSKI (*Ensemble, u/s Ali, Lisa*) is elated to be making her National Tour debut with *Mamma Mia!* Proud graduate of CAP 21. Favorite credits include: *Into the Woods*, *Footloose*, and *Cinderella*. Grace would like to thank Michael, JDC casting, WLP, NAB, and her supportive family and friends. For Mom and Dad... endless love and gratitude.

DANNY LOPEZ (*Swing*) is beyond thrilled to be making his touring debut with *Mamma Mia!* A CT native, he has performed in many regional theaters around the country. Thank you to JD Casting, WLP, and to my family and friends for their unwavering love and support. Dreams really do come true!

REBECCA MASON-WYGAL (*Ensemble, u/s Donna, Rosie*) is a Los Angeles native, and a graduate of California State University Fullerton. She's worked regionally at A Noise Within, The Durango Melodrama & Vaudeville, and Sierra Repertory, among others, and has toured nationally with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre. Love to Mom, Dad, Brian, and Coeourage Theatre Company!

ROYCE JAMES MCINTOSH (*Ensemble, u/s Bill, Harry*) is very excited to be part of this year's tour of *Mamma Mia!* Past tours include *South Pacific* and the First National Tour of *Elf the Musical*. Favorite roles performed: Emile de Becque (*South Pacific*), The Count (*Marriage of Figaro*), and Fredrick Egerman (*A Little Night Music*). Thanks to God, friends and Mom and Dad.

TYLER MCKENZIE (*Ensemble, u/s Eddie*), a Long Island native, is a recent graduate of Western Carolina University with a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Favorite credits include *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Rent*. Love and thanks to Mom, Dad, C.J., my friends, family, and mentors for their unconditional love and support. tylermckenzie.net. Twitter: @TylerMcKenzie.

ALEX MENDOZA (*Ensemble, u/s Sam, Harry*) is honored to be making his National Tour de-

but in *Mamma Mia!* He was last seen in McCoy/Rigby Entertainment's premiere of *Next to Normal* (Henry) and their *Spring Awakening* (Georg). Other regional credits: *Hair* (Claude), *Happy Days* (Ralph Malph). Alex would like to thank God, his family, and KSR.

BRYNN SMITH (*Ensemble, u/s Sophie*) is thrilled to be on her first national tour, and even more excited that it is *Mamma Mia!* A recent graduate of Abilene Christian University and the Syracuse Tepper Semester, Brynn has been seen on such stages as Flat Rock Playhouse and Casa Manana. She wants to thank her friends and family for all their support, Garrett Long for all her help, and Joy Dewing Casting and the creative team for giving me this opportunity, and God for all His blessings.

JOSHUA LAMONTE SWITZER (*Ensemble, u/s Eddie*) is grateful to be creating onstage, and honored to be involved in the tour. Credits include: "Judas"—*Godspell*, "Roger"—*Rent*, "Riff"—*West Side Story*, and "Pippin"—*Pippin*. Television appearances include: "Arrested Development," "Mike & Molly," and "Bones."

BONNE TOMLINSON (*Ensemble, u/s Tanya, Rosie*). Favorite gigs: dancing with Phish at Madison Square Garden, *Mark Twain's Blues* off-Broadway, and *Avenue Q* commercial. National Tours: *Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Andrews Sisters Tribute*, *Broadway Jr.* Bonne also plays bassoon and works as an audio book narrator. She is currently writing a one-woman show featuring over thirty characters.

CARLY WIELSTEIN (*Swing, Dance Captain*) is thrilled to be a part of this amazing production! Originally a classical ballerina from Northern California, Carly now resides in Los Angeles where she has been seen as a featured dancer for the 64th Creative Arts Emmys and the 64th Primetime Emmys, the world premiere of *Hello! My Baby*, *The S.T.A.G.E. Benefit*, *Spamalot*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Vagina Monologues*, *CASH*, *All Shook Up*, *Rent*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Hairspray*, and *Cats*. Thanks to Dave & Natalie. Carly dedicates this all to her soul sisters, Mom, Dad, Chels, Eric, and the ultimate dream boy, Lance!

JENNIFER WINGERTER (*Ensemble, u/s Donna, Tanya*) is thrilled to be touring with this fabulous company. Favorite credits include: *Oklahoma!* (Ado Annie), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tzeitel), *Me and My Girl* (Sally), *All Shook Up* (Natalie), *Hairspray* (Penny), *42nd Street* (Anytime Annie), *White Christmas* (Judy), and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie). Jennifer loves travel and met her husband as singers with Celebrity Cruise Lines. Thanks always to my family and Vince. jenniferweingarten.com.

VINCE WINGERTER (*Ensemble, u/s Sam, Bill*). Originally from Seattle, Vince is thrilled to be touring with *Mamma Mia!* Favorite roles include: *Me and My Girl* (Bill Snibson), *Sin-*

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gin' in the Rain (Don Lockwood), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (George), *Urinetown* (Bobby), *White Christmas* (Phil Davis) and singing for Celebrity Cruise Lines. Love to Jennifer and family. vincewingerter.com.

P. TUCKER WORLEY (*Ensemble, u/s Pepper*). Recent credits include: *The Comedy of Errors* and *Julius Caesar* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), *Sita Ram* (Lookingglass Theatre and Chicago Children's Choir) and *Legally Blonde* (Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities). Touring credits include *Oliver!* (Networks). Tucker holds a B.F.A. in acting from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. For more, visit ptuckerworley.com. Enjoy the show!

LAUREN WRIGHT (*Ensemble, u/s Ali, Lisa*) is thrilled to be making her national tour debut in *Mamma Mia!* Favorite roles include: Penny (*Hairspray*), Eponine (*Les Misérables*), and Wendy (*Peter Pan*). She is originally from Evansville, IN and a recent graduate of Belmont University. Lots of love to Mom, Dad, Claire, and Nene!

PD SELTZER (*Company Manager*) produced over 35 shows in South Florida including *The Music Man*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Assassins*. Seltzer has company managed national tours of *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Legally Blonde*, *Cats*, *Movin' Out*, *Chicago*, *Aida*, *Blast!*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Music Man*, *Footloose*, *1776*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *Cinderella* and the national and international tours of *The Sound of Music* with Marie Osmond.

Seltzer founded and performed with the Fort Lauderdale Players staging *Bad Seed*, *Mame* and many Gilbert & Sullivan operas. For "Lally."

ALAN D. KNIGHT (*Assistant Stage Manager*) attended Western Michigan University. National Tours: *The Book of Mormon* (1st National & Chicago), *Sister Act the Musical* (1st National). He is thrilled to be joining the *Mamma Mia* Family! Special thanks to my mother, father, Cheryl, and amazing family and friends for supporting my dream!

KEVIN CASEY (*Music Director/Keyboard 1*). When he was 13 years old, Kevin's mother asked him who sang "Fernando." He didn't know. Now, preparing for this tour, he has listened to every Abba song and will be ready the next time his mother gives him a Swedish music quiz. Thanks to Kim, S&S, Bjorn and Benny.

JUDY CRAYMER (*Original Producer/Co-Creator*) graduated from the Guildhall School of Music in 1977 and has since worked extensively in the theatre, film, television and music industries. Judy originated the idea of *Mamma Mia!*, and in 1996 formed Littlestar Services Limited with Benny Andersson, Bjorn Ulvaeus and Richard East to produce the stage musical in London. Since then, she has produced 38 productions of *Mamma Mia!* in 14 languages around the world. In 2002, Judy was presented with a Woman of the Year Award in recognition for her international success with *Mamma Mia!* In the Queen's birthday honours

WHO'S WHO - MAMMA MIA!

list of 2007, she was honored with an MBE for her contribution to the music industry. In 2008, Judy produced *Mamma Mia! The Movie*, starring Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan, which became the highest-grossing musical film worldwide. That same year, she was honoured with the Women in Film ITV Achievement of the Year Award. *Mamma Mia! The Movie* was also nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture Musical or Comedy, a BAFTA for Outstanding British film, and Judy was personally nominated by BAFTA for the Carl Foreman Award for Special Achievement. In 2010, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation presented Judy with its Humanitarian Award for her commitment to raising breast cancer awareness and research funding around the globe with *Mamma Mia!* and through the sale of the specially created Rock Chick Supremo T-shirts. Following a passion for horses and show jumping, Judy was asked to be an ambassador for British show jumping, and is proud to support the British team. Judy is also the producer of *Viva Forever!*, an original musical based on the songs of the Spice Girls.

WORK LIGHT PRODUCTIONS (Producer). Dedicated to creating and producing live entertainment. In addition to *Mamma Mia!*, upcoming productions include the tour of *White Christmas*, the 2013/14 tour of *American Idiot*, and the 2014/15 tours of *Chaplin* and *Nice Work If You Can Get It*. Past Productions include the North American tours of Tony Award winners *In The Heights*, *Avenue Q* and *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Produced *Julie Andrews—The Gift of Music* with performances at The Hollywood Bowl and London's O2 Arena. Creators of four new musicals for young audiences including *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley* and *James and the Giant Peach*. WLP is led by founding partner and President, Stephen Gabriel and Vice President, Nancy Gabriel. General Management, Scott Seay and Aniele Fortin. Production Management, Rhys Williams and Mike East. worklightproductions.com.

BJÖRN ULVAEUS (Music & Lyrics) was born in 1945 in Gothenberg on the west coast of Sweden. After a successful local career in Sweden with a folk group in the mid '60s, he started his collaboration with Benny Andersson. They then went on to form ABBA with Agnetha Faltskog and Anni-Frid Lyngstad. Even during the ABBA years, the idea of writing a musical seemed appealing, and in 1981, Björn and Benny met Tim Rice and co-wrote *Chess* with him, which opened in the West End in 1986. In 1995 Björn and Benny opened a new musical in Sweden called *Kristina Från Duvemåla*, which played for three years in Sweden. In February 2002, the Swedish version of *Chess* opened in Stockholm.

BENNY ANDERSSON (Music & Lyrics). Born in Stockholm on December 16, 1946. Instructed by his father and grandfather, he started to play the accordion at the age of 6, and he has not stopped yet.

CATHERINE JOHNSON (Book). Theater: *Rag Doll*, *Renegades*, *Suspension* (Bristol Old Vic); *Too Much Too Young* (Bristol Old Vic and London Bubble); *Boys Mean Business*, *Dead Sheep*, *Little Baby Nothing* (Bush Theatre, London); *Shang-a-Lang* (Bush Theatre and national tour); and *Mamma Mia!* (worldwide); *Through the Wire* and *A Letter to Lacey* for NT Connections. Creative consultant on ABBA the Museum, Stockholm. Television: "Casualty," "Byker Grove," "Love Hurts," "Gold," "Linda Green." Original screenplays: "Rag Doll" and "Where's Willy?" (HTV) and "Sin Bin" (BBC), the series "Love in the 21st Century" (Channel 4) and "Dappers" (BBC3). Awards: Catherine has won the Bristol Old Vic/HTV Playwrighting Award, Thames Television's Writer-in-Residence Award and Thames Television's Best Play Award and was nominated in 2002 for a Tony Award for Best Musical Book for *Mamma Mia!* Film: Catherine wrote the screenplay for the *Mamma Mia!* movie released July 2008.

PHYLLIDA LLOYD (Director) has directed opera, theater and recently her first film for television. Theater: *Mary Stuart* (Donmar, Apollo and B'way), *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Hysteria*, *Wild East* (Royal Court), *The Threepenny Opera*, *Boston Marriage* (Donmar Warehouse), *The Way of the World*, *Pericles*, *What the Butler Saw*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *The Duchess of Malfi* (Royal National Theatre), *Artists and Admirers*, *The Virtuoso* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Mamma Mia!* (London, Broadway and worldwide), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Globe). Opera: *La Bohème*, *Medea*, *Carmen*, *L'Etoile*, *Gloriana*, *Albert Herring*, *Peter Grimes* (Opera North), *Macbeth* (Paris), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Copenhagen, ENO and Toronto), *The Carmelites*, *The Verdi Requiem*, Wagner's *Ring Cycle* (English Nat'l Opera). Film: *Mamma Mia!* (Universal, Playtone, Littlestar), *The Iron Lady* (Pathé Films), "Gloriana a Film" (TV, Illuminations Films). For "Gloriana" she received an International Emmy, an FIPA d'Or and the Royal Philharmonic Society Award. For *Mary Stuart*, Phyllida was nominated for the Olivier Award for Best Director and won the 2006 South Bank Theatre Award. In 2007, *Peter Grimes* won a South Bank Opera Award. In 2009, she was also honored by the Queen with a CBE for services to drama.

ANTHONY VAN LAAST, MBE (Choreographer). He trained at the London School of Contemporary Dance, later joining the company as performer and choreographer. Theatre includes *Sister Act*; *Bombay Dreams* (London and Broadway, Tony Award nom.); *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (worldwide; Laurence Olivier Award nom., Drama-Logue Award); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (U.K. and U.S. tours); *Song & Dance* (worldwide; Green Room Award, Australia); *The Boy From Oz* (Australia). Direction: Creative Director for *Batman Live* world arena tour. In 1999 Anthony Van Laast

was awarded the MBE for services to dance and choreography. He recently choreographed the new production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* for London's West End and the films *Mamma Mia!* and *Harry Potter and The Half-Blood Prince*.

MARK THOMPSON (Production Designer) has designed many productions for the Royal National Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Company. Broadway: *God of Carnage*, *Bombay Dreams*, *Shadowlands*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Arcadia*, *Art*, *The Blue Room*, *Blast!*, *Follies*, *The Queen of Spades* for the Metropolitan Opera. In London, Mark has worked many times in the West End and at the Almeida, Donmar and Royal Court. He designed the costumes for the film *The Madness of King George* and is the recipient of four Olivier Awards. Most recently: *Piano/Forte* (Royal Court), *The Alchemist* (National Theatre), *Macbeth* (Metropolitan Opera NYC).

HOWARD HARRISON (Lighting Designer). Current/recent: *Mary Poppins* (Tony nom.), *Abigail's Party*, *The Way of the World*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *The Bomb*, *Anna Christie*, *Playboy of the Western World*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Strictly Gershwin* and *Swan Lake* (English National Ballet), *Earthquakes in London*, *Me and My Girl*, *Macbeth* (Tony nom.), Tom Stoppard's *Rock 'n' Roll*, *Creditors*, *King Lear*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Complicit*, *Butley*, *Backbeat*, *Love Story*, *Glegarry Glen Ross*, *Love Song*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Ragtime*, *Donkey's Years* and *Heroes* (all West End); *Love Story*; *The Music Man*; *Hay Fever*; *The Circle*; *In a Dark Dark House*; *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Almeida); *Matthew Bourne's Nutcracker!* and *Edward Scissorhands*. Awarded the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Lighting Designer in 2008.

ANDREW BRUCE (Sound Designer) began his theatre career at Glyndebourne Festival Opera in 1968 and was appointed head of sound at the Royal Opera House in 1971. A year later he co-founded Autograph Sound Recording, a leading British sound design and equipment rental company, now responsible for numerous productions worldwide. He was associate designer on several landmarks of British musical theatre such as *Evita*, *Cats* and *Starlight Express*. Original design: *Song and Dance*, *Abbacadabra*, *Little Me*, *Les Misérables*, *Chess*, *Follies*, *Into the Woods*, *The Card*, *Miss Saigon*, *Children of Eden*, *City of Angels*, *Martin Guerre*, *The Fix*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *The Secret Garden*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Mary Poppins*. In 2009 he designed *Seven Deadly Sins* and *Isadora* for the Royal Ballet and *Mother Courage and Her Children* for the National Theatre.

BOBBY AITKEN (Sound Designer) has been involved with theatre sound for more than 20 years throughout the U.K. and around the world. Sound designer: London 2012 Olympics Opening and Closing ceremonies. Theatre: *Ghost* (London/

Broadway), *Mamma Mia!* (worldwide), *Grease* (London/UK tour), *Dirty Dancing* (worldwide), *Lennon* (Broadway), *We Will Rock You* (worldwide), *Blast!* (London, U.S.), *Return to the Forbidden Planet* (worldwide), *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Which Witch?*, *Metropolis*, Pete Townshend's *The Iron Man*, *In the Midnight Hour*, *High Society*, *Time*, *A Saint She Ain't*, *The Best of Times*, *Soul Train*, *The Fix*, *The Beggar's Opera* and *Bartholomew Fair* (RSC). Opera: *Carmen*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Aida*, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*, *Tosca* and *La Bohème*. Awards: 2005 Helpmann Award for Best Sound Design for the Australian production of *We Will Rock You*. www.aitken.cc

MARTIN KOCH (Musical Supervisor; Additional Material; Arrangements Musical Supervisor). Musical supervision includes *Billy Elliot*, *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*, *Cats*, *Oliver!* Orchestration includes *Mamma Mia!* (Tony nomination), *Just So*, *Moby Dick*, *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, *Billy Elliot* (Tony and Drama Desk Awards), *Bad Girls*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, *Kombat Opera*. Also numerous operas for BBC TV; *Papazzis* and *Cattle Call*, two ballets by Richard Thomas; and *Shoes* at Sadler's Wells. More than 30 albums including *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*, *Oliver!*, *Hey Mr Producer!*, *Mamma Mia!* (Grammy nomination), *Jerry Springer: The Opera*, *Billy Elliot*, *Bad Girls*, *John Barrowman: The Album and Shoes*. Music supervisor for the four London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic ceremonies. Music director and composer for the London 2012 Paralympic Opening Ceremony.

MARTHA BANTA (Resident Director) is the artistic director of the Adirondack Theatre Festival. She served as artistic associate at New York Theatre Workshop and on the production staff at New York City Opera. Credits include directing new works at Clark Theatre, Lincoln Center, NYTW, Soho Rep, EST, New Georges, Cincinnati Playhouse, Portland Stage, Capital Rep., Juilliard. Also, *Rent* in Japan and Germany and *Playhouse Disney Live* in Disneyworld. She has taught at NYU, SUNY Stony Brook and Vassar.

DAVID HOLCENBERG (Associate Music Supervisor). Broadway: *Matilda*, *Ghost*, *The Story of My Life*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Good Vibrations*, *Seussical*, *Titanic*, *Show Boat*. Other music directing credits include *Dessa Rose* and *The Glorious Ones* at Lincoln Center, the U.S. premiere of *Ragtime* (L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award, Distinguished Achievement in Musical Direction) and *The Phantom of the Opera* in Toronto. David's show *Bingo*, written with Michael Heitzman and Ilene Reid, is currently playing around the country.

JANET ROTHERMEL (Associate Choreographer). Broadway: *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Dance Captain). National tours: *Beauty and the Beast* (Enchantress), *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Dance Captain/Supervisor). Television: "Miss USA," "Miss Universe" pageants, Assistant Choreographer; "Carol Burnett Show," Assistant Choreographer.

WHO'S WHO - MAMMA MIA!

JOY DEWING CASTING (*Casting Director*). Broadway: *Soul Doctor, Wonderland*. Off Broadway: *Forever Dusty, Soul Doctor, The Voca People, The Sphinx Winx, Dear Edwina*. Current/recent tours: *Bring it On, Ghost, Mamma Mia!, West Side Story, Catch Me If You Can, In the Heights*. Dance companies: Rasta Thomas, Elizabeth Streb.

ALLIED LIVE (*Marketing and Press*) is a full-service marketing and advertising agency representing Broadway shows, national tours, performing arts institutions and experiential entertainment entities. Current clients include: *Blue Man Group, The Book of Mormon, A Christmas Story, Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella, Elf, Ghost, Kinky Boots, Mamma Mia!, Motown, Once, Peter and the Starcatcher, Stomp, We Will Rock You, West Side Story* and *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*.

TECHNICAL THEATER SOLUTIONS, LLC (TTS) is based in Charleston, SC and provides technical direction and production supervision for the live entertainment industry. Clients include Spoleto Festival USA, Mabou Mines, Disney Cruise Line, Inc., and Work Light Productions. Recent touring credits include *American Idiot, In the Heights, Traces USA, and Avenue Q*. TTS is headed by Rhys Williams (President) and Mike East (Vice President). technicaltheatersolutions.com.

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Clemson University—Lillian Harder, Woody Moore, David Hartmann

Mamma Mia! was originally produced in London by Littlestar Services Limited on April 6, 1999.

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War Horse's Spectacular Journey

Tony-Award winning stage spectacle moves families, audience members to tears.



War Horse, the astounding theatrical experience coming to the Fisher Theatre December 17, 2013–January 5, 2014 exerts its pull from the moment the title character, Joey, first trots on stage as a foal, petted by his owner and best friend, 15-year-old Albert. The audience gasps, aware that Joey is a puppet, not a real horse, but captivated by the way he shudders and whinnies at Albert's loving touch. Joey's lifelike eyes, shining and reflective, draw us into the soul of his journey; as the evening progresses, and

Albert sets out to rescue Joey after he has been sold to the English cavalry, we find ourselves carried along and hoping for Joey to make it home.

It's that kind of emotional power that has made *War Horse* an international phenomenon, sweeping up audiences and awards on both sides of the Atlantic and even inspiring an Oscar-nominated film directed by Steven Spielberg. *War Horse* won five 2011 Tony Awards (including Best Play) for its New York premiere plus a Special Tony Award for Handspring Puppet Company for creating the eleven puppets at the heart of the show.

"One of the things we like to imagine," observes Basil Jones, who runs Handspring with co-founder Adrian Kohler, "is people in the audience nudging the person next to them, saying, 'did you see that?'"

Set during the First World War, *War Horse* combines a powerful story with thrilling stagecraft and music. In addition, it showcases what may be the most inventive use of puppetry ever seen on stage. Soon after meeting him as a young horse, we watch in amazement as an adult Joey, seven feet tall, materializes before our eyes. Two puppet masters working inside Joey's frame (built of light, malleable cane) raise and lower his torso, letting out



Top: John Milosich, Nick LaMedica, Laurabeth Brea, Catherine Gowll and the US National Tour of *War Horse*. Above: Albert and Joey. Andrew Veenstra (Albert) with Jon Riddleberger, Patrick Osteen, Jessica Krueger (Joey). Photos © Brinkhoff/Mögenburg.

forceful breaths, while a third manipulates his ears, lifting and pulling them back to register tender shades of emotion. Spielberg's film version of *War Horse* employed real horses, but these onstage creations fully personalize equine ideals of courage, strength and loyalty in ways that reinforce the themes of the story.

"Spielberg made a terrific film," enthuses Michael Morpurgo, upon whose beloved novel *War Horse* is based, "but cinema has its limitations. It isn't live, and that's the difference. What's amazing about the stage show is that, whether it's the music, design, or lighting, the puppets, the quality of acting or direction, it's ingenious and unique. It's a theatrical event."

During World War I, more than one million horses were conscripted by the British military alone; of these, only 62,000 returned. As Joey is forced into battle, serving in both the British and German armies, we are moved by his bravery and the trust he places in those who exploit his strength. His innocence makes him seem above the fighting: in *War Horse*, animals behave with a dignity that humans do not always achieve. Still, Joey is unprepared for the true brutality of 20th century warfare. In a brilliant scene that defines the excitement of Act Two, he faces a new kind of foe: a massive tank rolling his way, prepared to flatten everything in its path. The scenic design is so visceral that we are rushed into battle alongside Joey, enveloped in the sound and smell of combat. Joey rears on his hind legs as the tank pitches toward him and the stage goes black.

"The First World War is emblematic," suggests Mervyn Millar, *War Horse's* puppetry director, "in the way the possibilities of destruction changed. You see Joey standing, looking at the tank, which advances without logic, without thought. Joey tries to work out what it means, what it wants, and it doesn't want or mean anything. It just destroys."

Joey's plight resonates with anyone who has ever loved an animal or taken a pet into the family. As Albert continues his search, we are reminded of the ways in which animals remain with us through many stages of our lives, giving much and asking for little.

"People emotionally invest in animals," Millar believes. "I think everyone can empathize with Joey."

Joey as a foal. Andrew Veenstra, Catherine Gowll, Nick LaMedica, Laurabeth Brea.



Determined to save his friend, Albert runs away from home with the hope of getting close to the front. But in trying to rescue one family member, he hurts another, leaving behind a mother anxious with worry. *War Horse's* relevance comes from our awareness that, nearly a century after the start of the First World War, families are still being separated by armed conflict.

"We talk a lot about the history of the war," remarks Chris Harper, producer for the National Theatre of Great Britain (which first staged *War Horse* in London), "but at the heart of the show it's just a family, struggling to deal with life. The thing that's exciting about *War Horse* is that it appeals to lots of generations. We see grandparents bringing their kids, wanting to explain the history from their own personal journeys with World War II or more recent conflicts. It's a production that brings the family together."

Will Albert find Joey in time? As *War Horse* reaches its beautiful climax, the hopes of parents, children, and beloved friends—both onstage and off—merge into a shared experience, as tissues are drawn from pockets and eyes glisten with tears.

"We get people coming back again and again," Harper explains, "and they always have the same reaction. It awakens something in you. *War Horse* makes grown people cry."

By David Freedland.

• *War Horse* at the Fisher Theatre Dec. 17–Jan. 5. On sale now; please see ad, PAGE 6.

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Photos by Turner House, Jr., John Daughtry, Litwin

American Idiot returns to rock Detroit



Thomas Hettrick (Tunny), Alex Nee (Johnny) and Casey O'Farrell (Will) in *American Idiot*. Photo by John Daughtry.

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Not since The Who's *Tommy* back in 1993 has there been a Broadway show with the pedigree of *American Idiot*, the punk-popera staging of Green Day's epic concept album that will play at the Detroit Opera House January 31–February 2, 2014.

Michael Mayer, *American Idiot*'s director and co-writer (with Billie Joe Armstrong and the rest of Green Day), won a 2008 Tony for *Spring Awakening*. Though his previous tuners have included *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Triumph of Love*, the director is sufficiently au courant that Green Day's album bowled him over. Part of it was timing; *American Idiot* came out just months before Bush's 2004 reelection, turning its defiant howl against the "redneck agenda" (as one lyric goes) into a prophetic yawp.

"I thought, my God," Mayer recalls, "these punks from Oakland are talking about what it's like to live in Bush's America right now. And the rage and the love in equal measure throughout the album I just found incredibly complicated and dazzling—and tuneful." But theatrical? Armstrong's earnest, anguished lyrics loosely sketched the emotional journey of an aimless antihero ("Jesus of Suburbia") through a dystopian cityscape ("Boulevard of Broken Dreams"), where he falls under the thrall of a charismatic drug dealer ("St. Jimmy") and a fiery, idealistic girlfriend ("She's a Rebel," "Extraordinary Girl"), then loses them both and returns to the comfortable oblivion of the suburbs ("Homecoming," "Whatsurname").

"The project's conceit was that I would take the record and basically write story onto it and from inside it," Mayer says. "The amount of freedom I had to dream and imagine was unprecedented for me." In addition to the album's Jesus-Jimmy-Whatsurname triangle, Mayer layered on another trio. Johnny

now has two suburban pals: Will, who stays home against his wishes; and Tunny, who enlists to fight in Iraq. Though Mayer added little dialogue to Armstrong's lyrics, he hopes that by sharing words among a dozen performers, he's created a kind of found-text libretto for a multipronged narrative that entwines city, suburb and battlefield.

"I had great anxiety about the liberties we were taking, dramatically as well as emotionally," Mayer recalls. "I kept thinking we would cross a line that would be intolerable, but instead Billie Joe kept urging me to go further, which was encouraging—and terrifying." He adds that he found it gratifying, yet surreal, to talk with the songwriter about characters he had originated for a wholly different medium.

What does this fable—set "in the recent past"—have to say to Obama's America? "I wish the state of our union didn't still feel as resonant as it does with the show," says Mayer with a shudder. "I think it's really good at this moment not to forget how our country got this way and to maintain a healthy amount of anger about it."

It's not Green Day's style, though, to sulk; its bleakest tunes often chime brightly in major keys. That puts *American Idiot* in lofty company, Mayer says. "Even the most tragic opera you go to see at the Met is stirring and rousing, and the music is gorgeous to sing," he asserts. "It inspires the performers to great heights of expression, and to the joy of performing. And I think all that's in here."

Rob Weinert-Kendt, *Time Out New York*, reprinted by permission.

• *American Idiot* at the Detroit Opera House for three days only Jan. 31–Feb. 2, 2014. Tickets on sale Dec. 1; please see ad, PAGE 22.

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Featuring
Eileen Patterson, Jack Boice
Alexis Field, Tiffany Dissette, Sheila O'Connor
Nick Semar, BJ Gruber, Caroline Reade, Chris Sams

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50 SHADES! THE MUSICAL
CAST OF CHARACTERS

Eileen Patterson	Anastasia Steele
Jack Boice	Christian Grey
Sheila O' Connor	Carol
Alexis Field	Bev/Katherine
Tiffany Dissette	Pam
Nick Semar	Jose
Caroline Reade	Inner Goddess/Dancer
BJ Gruber	Elliott Grey/Dancer
Chris Sams	Taylor/Dancer



MUSICAL NUMBERS

OPEN YOUR BOOK
THERE'S A HOLE INSIDE OF ME
COULD THIS BE THE ONE?
MI AMOR
FOLLOW HIM
I DON'T MAKE LOVE
RED ROOM
JUST LIKE ANY OTHER COUPLE
50 SHADES!
HOW MUCH CAN I TAKE?
HOLE INSIDE OF ME REPRISE

BAND

Daniel Reitz—Piano, Christopher Ditton—Bass, Douglas Levin—Drums

WHO'S WHO · 50 SHADES! THE MUSICAL

EILEEN PATTERSON (*Anastasia Steele*) is thrilled to finally be out on the road and especially with a show as ridiculous as *50 Shades!* Her parents are so proud. Education/Training: University of Scranton, AMDA. Other credits include Disney Cruise Line, *The Sound of Music* (Westchester B'way Theatre), *Central Avenue Breakdown* (NYMF 2011). Eileen thanks all her friends and family for their unwavering support, especially Michael and her parents, Pat and Jim. Love you!

JACK BOICE (*Christian Grey*) Is thrilled to be joining the cast of *50 Shades! the Musical*. A graduate of Fordham University; Favorite credits include Impresario Charles in the International Tour of Phantom of The Opera (Indonesia) And Flanagan's Wake (original member of the NYC/off-broadway cast). Many Thanks to Al and Andrew for the opportunity and to Holly Buczek at Joy Dewing Casting. He would like to thank His Parents, Family and Friends for their continued love and support; Shannon Keyes for her undying love and God for His Many Gifts. jackboice.com.

ALEXIS FIELD (*Bev/Katherine*) is "titillated" to join the cast of *50 Shades!* Favorite credits include *The Spitfire Grill* (Percy), *Speech & Debate* (Diwata), and most recently Heidi in *[Title of Show]*. Alexis made her off-Broadway debut in *Angelina Ballerina the Musical* and produced her own show *The 411 with Alexis* this past year. Proud Graduate of Webster Conservatory. Oh So Grateful! AlexisField.yolasite.com.

SHEILA O'CONNOR (*Carol*), born in Chicago, studied at both the British American Dramatic Academy and the Second City Conservatory. She once played an alien prize fighter and a lesbian suffragette (not at the same time). She would like to dedicate her work on this show to her family, friends, and to the funniest "gals" she has ever known, Katie and Meghan. sheilaoc-actress.com.

TIFFANY DISSETTE (*Pam*) received her BFA in Musical Theatre from Western Michigan University. She has recently worked as lead singer on cruise ships for Norwegian Cruise Line and Holland America Cruises. Favorite credits: Maria (*West Side Story*), Miss Sandra (*All Shook Up*), Grizabella (*Cats*), and Sandy (*Grease*). Thanks to family and friends for their constant support through my zany adventures. tiffanydissette.com.

NICK SEMAR (*Jose, w/s Christian Grey*) got his BFA in Theater Performance from Missouri State University. He has also studied at the iO training center in Chicago. He is an ensemble member of ComedySportz Chicago and the improvised musical *Baby Wants Candy*, with whom he went to the Edinburgh Fringe in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Nick would like to thank his parents for their love and support. @NickSemar.

BJ GRUBER (*Elliott Grey/Dancer, w/s Jose*) is ecstatic to join the cast of *50 Shades!* for their second leg! Favorite regional credits include Chad in *All Shook Up*, Matthew in *Altar Boyz*, Kyle in *Le-*

gally Blonde and Dwayne in *9 to 5*. He would like to thank his Mom, Dad, Katie, and Lisa Price of Price Group for their love and support!

CAROLINE READE (*Inner Goddess/Female Dancer, Swing*), a graduate of Fordham University with the Alvin Ailey School's BFA in dance program, Carolina has performed with the Eastern CT Ballet, Annabella Gonzalez Dance Theater, and Ballet Hispanico's ensemble. Musical credits include *Evita*, *The Producers*, *Home for the Holidays*, *Giffords Circus*, *Yasmine! A Musical*. UK tour, *La Revolucion*, and *Moctezuma*. She has performed in "Canto Flamenco" choreographed by Melinda Marquez and a solo "Flamenco Nuevo" in the Provincetown Dance Festival. TV/Film credits include *Friends with Kids*, *The Reflection*, *Beautiful Girls*, "Law & Order SVU," "Gossip Girl," and "Pan Am." Caroline has commercial, music video, and modeling experience. @L1naBaller1na.

CHRIS SAMS (*Taylor/Dancer*), a native Houston, Texan, is thrilled to let it all hang out in this outstanding production. Veteran of the road, Chris has appeared in the national touring productions of *Smokey Joe's Cafe*—Ken Ard; *Will Rogers Follies*—Wrangler/Soloist; *The Color Purple*—Grady/Buster; and most recently *Rock of Ages*—Mayor/Ja'Keith. Many thanks to the ever supportive Lowery-Hart family, and to Mr. T.J. Fabian for making me a we. I love you all.

CHRISTOPHER DITTON (*Bass*) is a Chicago-based musician, songwriter, and teacher. He has played bass, drums, and guitar in hundreds of improvised musicals with the group Baby Wants Candy. He currently plays bass with Psalm One's backing group, Sexy Decoy, who recently played two showcases at SXSW in Austin, TX. Christopher also donned silver makeup to play drums and percussion as a Silverguy in Lookingglass Theater's production of *Hephaestus*.

DOUGLAS LEVIN (*Drums*) is a Columbia College graduate. He has toured and recorded extensively with artists ranging from Deep Elm recording artist Lewis to the Platters, the Drifters, the Coasters, Matthew Schaeffer, Burning Bright, Red Letter Kill and Pinch. Doug currently plays with Baby Wants Candy and Live Band Karaoke.

DANIEL REITZ (*Piano, Musical Director*) is thrilled to be performing with *50 Shades!* He has a degree in music composition from Syracuse University, where he was founder and music director of the comedy group Zamboni Revolution. Since moving to NYC, he has performed with Baby Wants Candy and *The Made-Up Musical*, and was music director of *Gay Bomb! The Musical*. He teaches at the Bank Street School for Children and maintains a busy schedule as a jazz trombonist.

ANDREW ASNES (*Executive Producer*) is an entrepreneur and theatrical producer. For Broadway he has been a producer of *The Color Purple Musical*, *Legally Blonde the Musical*, *Superior*

WHO'S WHO • 50 SHADES! THE MUSICAL

Donuts, and *All My Sons*, as well as producing tours and international productions of *The Color Purple Musical* and *Legally Blonde the Musical*. His production company financed the Original Cast Album of *Legally Blonde the Musical*. Previously Mr. Asnes was a principal dancer with The Paul Taylor Dance Company, Twyla Tharp Dance and performed in the Broadway productions of *Contact*, *Jumpers* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* as well as in several television programs and films. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College. Andrew is the Founder of TheaterAdvisor.com.

MARSHALL CORDELL (*Producer*) has invested in a wide range of film and live theater projects including comedienne Sarah Silverman's 2006 film *Jesus Is Magic* and Director Morgan Spurlock's 2008 film *What Would Jesus Buy* along with hit Broadway shows *Spamalot* and *Addams Family*. Marshall has produced over 100 shows at the popular Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland including *Jim Henson's The Muppets R Rated* and Nancy Cartwright's *My Life as a 10-Year-Old Boy*.

ALBERT SAMUELS (*Director, Producer, Writer*) is a founding member of Baby Wants Candy, toured with Second City's National Touring Company and co-wrote and performed in two critically acclaimed reviews on Second City's Mainstage. He co-created and starred in the NBC Comedy "Sports Action Team" and the comedy "The Venue," which won Best Pilot in the Comedy Central Pilot Competition. Thanks to Emily.

EMILY DOREZAS (*Writer, Producer, Touring Director*) is executive producer of Baby Wants Candy and Spark Creative. She was a producer/writer for Second City's Business Theater. Emily has performed stand up comedy across the U.S. She's appeared on "Tosh.0," "Stand Up Live," and "Sports Action Team." Emily thanks Al, her dad Steve, mom Alice, Terrie, John, Grandma Mimi, Nathan, Stacy, Dre and Dylan. Also Mr. Ritz, for taking her on an eighth grade class trip to NYC to see SNL rehearsal and first Broadway show. Twitter @Emdorezas.

ASHLEY WARD (*Writer, Lyrics, Music*), originally from Conyers, GA. She is a member of the critically acclaimed Baby Wants Candy and performs with them around the country and internationally. Additionally she is a proud Striking Viking Story Pirate and a Jeopardy! champion. Ashley has a degree in Musical Theater from Webster University St. Louis. Ashley recently appeared in the NYTVF selections "Actualized" and "Sweet Misery." She is in the upcoming feature film *Breakup at a Wedding*.

AMANDA BLAKE DAVIS (*Writer, Lyrics, Music*) is an actress and writer living in Los Angeles. She is a veteran of The Second City in Chicago, where she wrote and performed in five original revues. Shows include *Campaign Supernova* and *Studs Terkel's Not Working*, for which she won a

Jeff Award for Best Actress in a Revue. She also co-wrote the original musical *Broads on Boards* (Annoyance Theater, Chicago). She improvises regularly with Baby Wants Candy and Virgin Daiquiri.

JODY SHELTON (*Writer, Music, Lyrics*) was a musical director of the Second City National Touring Company. He also performs with the renowned musical improv ensemble Baby Wants Candy. Jody has released three critically acclaimed solo albums. Most recently he launched his latest recording project, *Daughter & Son*. Jody has also served as musical director for *Cuts—An Uplifting Musical*, Nicole Parker's *Suitcase Full Of Lies*, Colleen McHugh's *Calendar Girl*.

DAN WESSELS (*Writer, Music, Lyrics*) is a Los Angeles-based composer, songwriter and teacher. As a music director with Baby Wants Candy, he's improvised hundreds of musicals in Chicago, around the US and in the UK. He currently works as resident composer and music director for LA's 30 Minute Musical, which produces new musicals every other month, and as music director for The Second City Hollywood. Other credits: Story Pirates LA, Second City Theatricals on Norwegian Cruise Lines. danwessels.com.

JOANNA GREER (*Choreographer*). Joanna is a Musical Theater Performance graduate from Columbia College Chicago. As a Director-Choreographer, Artistic Director and Teaching Artist she has had the pleasure of working with numerous companies such as TADA! (Drama Desk Award), The American Ballroom Theater (featured in the award winning documentary *Mad Hot Ballroom*), YANY, and The Steppenwolf Theatre Company. Joanna is also the cofounder of Kinetic Dance Theater, KineticDanceTheater.org, a NYC-based dance theater collective.

BRAD LANDERS (*Associate Choreographer*) holds a BA in musical theater performance/speech from Wagner College, Staten Island, NY. He traversed north and central South America for three years with the tour of *Cats* as dance captain/swing. Brad most recently worked with STREB dance co. for the London 2012 Cultural Olympic festival. As a choreographer, Brad has worked with the Scissor Sisters ("Let's Have a Kiki"), Rachel Lorin (Oxygen's "Next Big Thing"), Chrissi Poland, and Dana Moore. thebradlanders.com.

ROB LINDLEY (*Associate Director*) is a Chicago-based actor, director, and singer. Rob recently directed *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* for Porchlight Music Theatre. Rob has appeared in productions at Goodman Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, Asolo Rep, and the Ravinia Festival. Rob won a Jeff Award for his performance in *Oh Coward!* (Writers' Theatre) and has performed with Baby Wants Candy in Chicago and New York.

MITRA JOUHARI (*Lighting Design*) is ecstatic to continue working with the wonderful *50 Shades! The Musical*. Credits include 8th Floor

Improv (Player), Flight (Writer/Director), *Spring Awakening* (Ilse). Big thanks to Dad, Mom, Nadja, Arya, BWC loves, Chelsea, John, 8th Floor family, Nicole, Granny, Pappaw, Poppy, and Tay. Class of 2015 at Ohio State University.

KATIE RINGWOOD (*Stage Manager*) is excited to be a part of the *50 Shades!* tour. She is a Philadelphia-based stage manager where she has worked with companies such as the Walnut Street Theatre, Arden Theatre Company, Delaware Theatre Company and Drexel University to name a few. Much love and thanks to Beaner, Joey and the wonderful people in my life.

JIM HARRISON (*Company Manager*) has spent the last ten years cross-crossing North America with the First National tours of Disney's *The Lion King*, *9 to 5 The Musical*, *The Addams Family* and *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*, as well as productions of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, *Late Nite Catechism* and *Tony n' Tina's Wedding*. Thanks to everyone helping to keep art a live experience, and to all the names you've just read.

ACT 5 ENTERTAINMENT (*General Management*). With over 40 years combined experience managing and creating productions in association with the world's foremost entertainment brands, Randy Bloom and Eric Eislund have overseen over 40 theatrical and arena tours across 35 different countries in 17 languages with over 3,000 performances in just the past 5 years. Randy and Eric are thrilled to be working with the talented team of producers and cast of *50 Shades! The Musical*.

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La Musique • hotelstregisdetroit.com • PAGE 31
New Center, 3071 W Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202. (313) 873-3000. Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$\$, Amenities: GPRV. Eat. Play. Stay. Park and dine at La Musique in the historic St. Regis Hotel and walk to the Fisher Theatre. Contemporary American Cuisine.

Maccabees at Midtown • PAGE 31
Midtown, 5057 Woodward Ave., Detroit MI 48202. (313) 831-9311. Type of cuisine: American bistro, Price: \$\$, Amenities: GRSV. In midtown near the DIA. Park at the Fisher Theatre and we will pick you up for dinner and take you back in time for the show!

Mario's • mariosdetroit.com • PAGE 35
Midtown, 4222 Second St., Detroit, MI 48201. (313) 832-1616. Type of cuisine: Italian, Price: \$\$\$, Amenities: GPRSV. Complimentary shuttle to & from the Fisher Theatre. Show your tickets and receive 10% off food on your performance date. Afterglow specials too! Party with the people who perform.

Mercury Burger Bar • mercuryburgerbar.com • PAGE 35
Corktown, 2163 Michigan Ave. Detroit MI. 48216, (313) 964-5000. Type of cuisine: American, Price: \$. Classic American burger bar, gourmet burgers, hot dogs, grilled bologna, tater tots, Guernsey dairy milk shakes, Michigan craft beers, full bar.

Morton's The Steakhouse • mortons.com/troy • PAGE 31
888 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084. (248) 404-9845. Type of cuisine: Steakhouse & Seafood, Price: \$\$\$, Amenities: RV. Morton's The Steakhouse offers the finest quality foods, featuring USDA Prime, aged beef, fresh seafood, decadent desserts and award-winning wines.



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Ottava Via • ottavavia.com • PAGE 35
 Corktown, 1400 Michigan Ave. Detroit MI. 48216,
 (313) 962-5500. Type of cuisine: Casual/Rustic Italian,
 Price: \$\$, Amenities: FR. *Stone fired pizza, small plates,
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The Rattlesnake Club • rattlesnakedetroit.com • PAGE 30
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PRELUDES & ENCORES from page 32

Joe Vicari Restaurant Group • PAGE 33
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The Whitney • thewhitney.com • PAGE 2
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Elves talk shop

Buddy the elf and his pals from the North Pole are coming to the Detroit Opera House with *Elf* December 3–15. The show is a musical adaptation of the already-classic 2003 Will Ferrell movie about a human who grew up in the North Pole and travels to New York City to find his father.

We recently caught up with some elves to answer a few burning questions. As you may know, they're a little busy this time of year, so they worked together on the answers.

Q: Are there any special tooth-brushing techniques when you live in a world of candy canes and cocoa?

A: It's important to brush for a substantial amount of time. Try singing "The 12 Days of Christmas" to yourself before you finish.

Q: What's your favorite movie, other than *Elf*?

A: *It's a Wonderful Life* and *White Christmas* play on loop in the workshop break room, but on the weekends, we go for *Jaws II*, *Citizen Kane* or *Mean Girls*.

Q: How many toys can the average elf make in a day? What's the secret to making a toy so quickly?

A: 30,000, if everything goes smoothly. The trick is our tiny hands. They're nimble.

Q: What subjects did you study in school?

A: Origins of Infantile Diversions (Toy History), Confectionary Craftsmanship (Candy Making), Polar Ecosystems and Doomsday Preparedness (Global Warming), Projectile Accuracy With Sphericalized Snow (Snowball Fights).

Q: How did you come to realize that Buddy was a little bit "different"?

A: When his voice changed. Then the growth spurt happened. Junior high answered a lot of questions.

Elf insights brought to you by actors Elizabeth Burton, Mara Gabrielle, Paul Ianniello, Emily Larger, Nick Lorenzini, Lauren Palmeri, Shaun Repetto, Angelica Richie, Dennis Setteducati.

Branden Largent, TwinCities.com, 12/03/2012

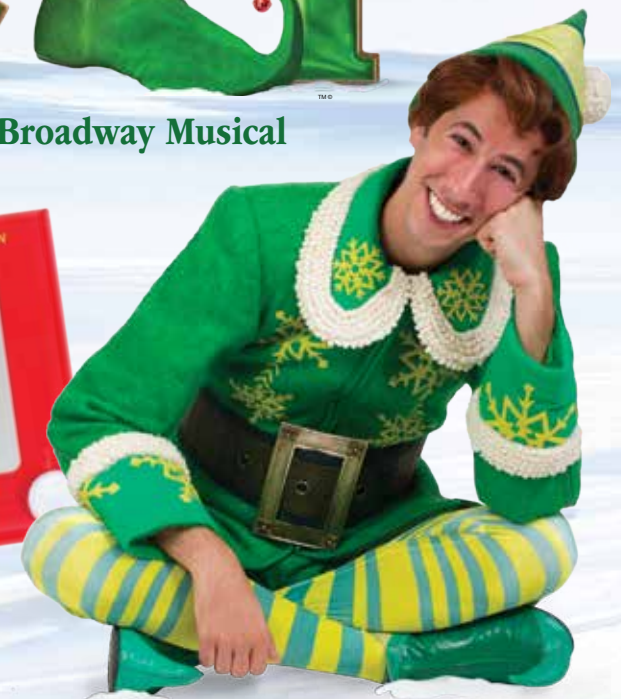
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