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March 2018 Volume 15, No. 5



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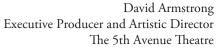
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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTORS







John Langs Artistic Director ACT – A Contemporary Theatre

The Ride of a Lifetime

This production of *Ride the Cyclone* is the eighth annual collaboration between The 5th Avenue Theatre and ACT. This partnership continues to be one of the most unique ever undertaken between two non-profit theater companies, and it demonstrates how much can be gained when arts organizations work together creatively. By co-producing a musical each season, both organizations are able to fulfill important aspects of our individual artistic missions that would be difficult to accomplish outside of this partnership.

We are especially thrilled to again be co-producing a new musical. There is no more rewarding or challenging work a theater company can undertake than the nurturing, development and production of new work. The journey that new musicals take to our stages, however, can vary wildly.

We have been tracking the progress of *Ride the Cyclone* since its initial production in Victoria, BC in 2011 and on through acclaimed and popular productions in Toronto, Chicago and New York. Even with all of that success, the writers and director felt that there was still more work to be done in order to realize the full, unique vision that they had for this project. The show's authors have been in residence with us in Seattle throughout the rehearsal process working closely with the creative team and cast. As a result, at least one third of the show's script and score have been newly created for this production in addition to countless small but crucial tweaks and refinements.

Ride the Cyclone was conceived in part as an exploration of the reactions we feel to a mass tragedy—not of one life interrupted, but of many lives cut off tragically early. Sadly, this is a topic that is all too worthy and necessary to investigate artistically because whether through accidents, acts of nature or deliberate acts of man, this is a situation we all face with alarming frequency. The power of musical theater—in particular, of a new musical like Ride the Cyclone—is that it can provide us with avenues to process these overwhelming emotions we experience as a society without argument, confrontation or shame. As we watch the characters' stories unfold, we experience catharsis. We are invited to laugh, to cry, to reflect, to grow. And without needing to say a word, we've shared those moments with everyone sitting around us and we all walk away a little changed, hopefully for the better.

ACT and The 5th are very proud to provide a vital artistic home where this kind of work can be productively undertaken.

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BERNADINE C. GRIFFIN Managing Director

BILL BERRY Producing Artistic Director

ACT — A Contemporary Theatre

IOHN LANGS Artistic Director BECKY WITMER Managing Director

present



BROOKE MAXWELL & JACOB RICHMOND

Starring

LILLIAN CASTILLO KARL HAMILTON **CONNOR RUSSELL EMILY ROHM** ADAM STANDLEY TIFFANY TATREAU KHOLBY WARDELL

Scenic Design

Costume Design

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Projections Designer

SCOTT DAVIS

THERESA HAM

GREGORY HOFMANN CHRISTOPHER WALKER

MIKE TUTAJ

Associate Director & Choreographer

Associate Music Director

Associate Scenic Designer Associate Sound Designer Production Stage Manager

ERICKA MAC

MICHAEL MATLOCK

BRENDAN BOSTON BRENDAN PATRICK HOGAN

RACHEL BURY

Creative Consultants

RICK BOYNTON & ALAN SCHMUCKLER

Music Direction by

DOUG PECK

Directed & Choreographed by

RACHEL ROCKWELL

Ride the Cyclone is produced by special arrangement with Alchemation, Hot Feat Ltd and It's A Ride LLC.

Ride the Cyclone was first produced by Atomic Vaudeville, Victoria BC Canada. Britt Small and Treena Stubel, Artistic Producers.

U.S. Premiere on October 7, 2015 at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Rick Boynton, Creative Producer; Barbara Gaines, Artistic Director; Criss Henderson, Executive Director New York Premiere on December 1, 2016 at MCC Theater. Robert LuPone, Bernard Telsey & William Cantler, Artistic Directors; Blake West, Executive Director.

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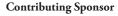
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CAST & ORCHESTRA

Constance Blackwood	LILLIAN CASTILLO [*]
The Amazing Karnak	
Jane Doe	EMILY ROHM*
Ricky Potts	
Mischa Bachinski	ADAM STANDLEY*
Ocean O'Connell Rosenberg	TIFFANY TATREAU*
Noel Gruber	KHOLBY WARDELL*

DANCE CAPTAIN

LILLIAN CASTILLO*

UNDERSTUDIES

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

Men's Understudy: NICHOLAS TARABINI
Ladies' Understudy: CHELSEA LEVALLEY

STAGE MANAGEMENT

Production Stage Manager: RACHEL BURY*
Assistant Stage Managers: RACHAEL DORMAN* (March 10 – April 29); ANNE L. HITT* (May 1-20)
Production Assistant/Script Wrangler: KELLY MCGEE

ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard: MICHAEL MATLOCK Guitar: JUSTIN DAVIS Cello/Bass: SPENCER HOVESKELAND Drums: CHRIS MONROE

ADDITIONAL MUSIC STAFF

Copyist: ANDREW GRIFFIN Keyboard Programmer: DAVE PASCAL Music Apprentice: ELISA MONEY

CREATIVE CONSULTANTS

RICK BOYNTON & ALAN SCHMUCKLER

ASSISTANTS

Assistant Costume Designer: NICHOLAS HARTMAN
Assistant Lighting Designer: LILY MCLEOD



Please turn off your cell phones and pagers prior to the beginning of the performance.



*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

"Dream of Life"	Jane Doo
"Waiting for the Drop"	Ensemble
"Sailing Through Space"	Ensemble
"What the World Needs	
"Noel's Lament"	
"This Song is Awesome"	Mischa Bachinski and Ensemble
"Talia"	Mischa Bachinski and Ensemble
"Space Aged Bachelor Man"	
"The Ballad of Jane Doe"	Jane Doe and Ensemble
"The New Birthday Song"	Ensemble
"Sugarcloud"	
"Be Safe, Be Good"	Ensemble
"Sailing Through Space" (Reprise)	Ensemble
"It's Just a Ride"	Ensemble

SETTING

Present. A dilapidated warehouse.

RIDE THE CYCLONE WILL BE PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION.

PATRON INFORMATION • ACT

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

In the event of an emergency, please wait for an announcement for further instructions. Ushers will be available for assistance.

Emergency Number

The theatre's emergency number in the Union lobby is 206.292.7667. Leave your exact seat location with your emergency contact in case they need to reach you.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is NOT allowed in any part of the theatre or within 25 feet of the entrance.

Firearms Policy

No firearms of any kind are allowed in any part of the theatre.

Food

Food is not allowed in the theatre. Tuxedos & Tennis Shoes is the exclusive caterer of ACT.

Accessibility

ACT offers the Figaro MobiTxt® Closed Captioning System for audience members who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (HH). This system is offered at all performances for each production. Devices can be requested upon arrival at the theatre. ACT is also equipped with the Williams Sound® Audio Equipment, which amplifies stage sounds with the aid of headsets (ask staff for assistance). ASL interpreted performances for the Mainstage Season are offered at least once per play (check the website or contact the Ticket Office for ASL dates). Wheelchair seating is also available.

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Call 206.292.7676 between 12:00pm and 6:00pm, Tues–Sun.

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directed by
John Langs

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THE ROLLER COASTER PLOT

By ALBERT EVANS, 5th Avenue Theatre Artistic Associate

Life is a roller coaster: the grinding climb to the top, the ups and downs along the way, the heart-pounding anticipation and sudden accelerated terror.

It's a familiar metaphor, so useful that it's often extended to the sub-adventures of life: love affairs, money making, child rearing—you name it, it's like a roller coaster.

It also conveniently provides a diagram useful for dramatic plot construction.

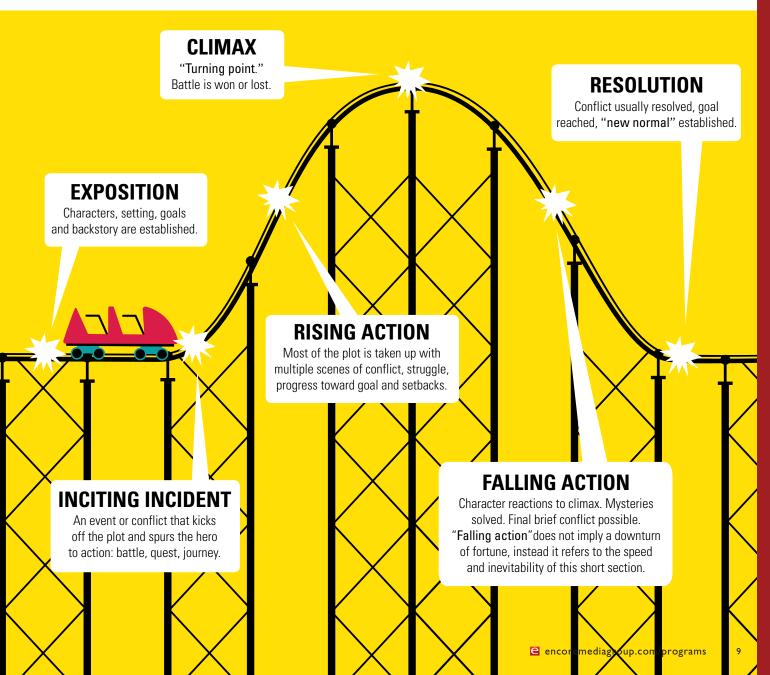
Since the days of Aristotle, playwrights were taught to outline a plot as a pyramid: the hero struggles up one side (rising action), achieves his or her goal (climax) and quickly descends the other side (falling action).

At the beginning of the plot, before the rising action, is a short stretch of exposition, where characters and setting are introduced.

After the falling action, loose ends are tied up and a "new normal" is established. Academics call this the dénouement—normal people call it the resolution.

The problem with the plot pyramid is that it's too simple.

The sudden popularity of the amusement park roller coaster in the 1880s gave playwrights a new way to visualize a plot, one that incorporates the many struggles, setbacks and surprises of real life. It also reminds the writer that the audience, not just the hero, is along for the ride.



FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT:

THE HISTORY OF RIDE THE CYCLONE

By **TRACY HYLAND**, ACT Theatre Education and Engagement Manager

The thrill of *Ride the Cyclone* onstage is equally matched by the story of how this new musical came to be. From a small fringe theater production in Victoria, BC to a recent Off-Broadway run, *Cyclone* has enjoyed several iterations across the continent before experiencing its West Coast premiere in Seattle.

The beginnings of *Cyclone* date back to 2001. When musician Brooke Maxwell's early ambition for jazz music morphed into an interest in Victoria's local theater scene, he met Jacob Richmond (Founding Director of Atomic Vaudeville) and began writing music for its cabarets. As Maxwell remembers, "After about 30 tunes for these cabarets, Jacob decided he wanted to write a full-on musical [together], and we began *Ride the Cyclone*."

A writing session in 2008 led to a workshop in the basement of a Ukrainian church. "It was such a rush hearing those songs for the first time, gathered around the piano!" Maxwell recalls. The first staged production occurred the following year at Metro Studios in Victoria. "Every level of its development was new to me at the time," Maxwell admits. "I knew nothing. I remember my first tech rehearsal, trying to understand the protocol for speaking, wondering if I'd ever get to be in a theater that would have more than two headset mics, and if I'd ever get to wear one?"

Audience buzz for *Cyclone* inspired a remount shortly after the first run. Actor Kholby Wardell*, who has played the character of Noel since the first workshop, remembers that in this remounted version, Richmond and Maxwell added lots of new material, stretching the show to two full acts. Although *Ride the Cyclone* has since been pared down again to one act, Wardell notes, "some of the scenes and ideas of the piece have roots in that longer version...it was definitely a fruitful experiment."

After a few more performances in Western Canada in smaller venues, *Ride the Cyclone* made its way to Toronto in 2010, where it received rave reviews, sparking a Canadian tour in 2011 and again in 2013. "In every city or town," Wardell says, "there have been many repeat audience members, some coming to the show as many as fourteen times in one run. Cyclonics, or Uraniacs as they used to be known, feel an intrinsic connection to



Cyclone. It has a loving and enthusiastic base. That's been a wonderful thing to be a part of for so long."

While the show was in Edmonton, Alberta, Tony® Award-winning producer Kevin McCollum encouraged Rachel Rockwell to see it. Rockwell admits, "I was so surprised by the show's audacity, wit and humanity. I was very excited when [McCollum] asked me to direct and choreograph the first US production."

For the next two years, *Cyclone* was workshopped at Chicago Shakespeare Theater with a new artistic team. "Starting out with a small theater company... where three people did **everything**, and moving to an incredibly supported environment like Chicago Shakes was mind blowing," Maxwell admits. "The creative support was amazing as we worked to further develop the story line and characters into the narrative arc. An incredible experience."

When asked what it was like to step in as the new director and choreographer, Rockwell says, "I feel tremendous respect for and gratitude to Atomic Vaudeville...They laid such a beautiful foundation for the show. Joining a pre-existing







PHOTOS BY: LIZ LAUREN FROM THE CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTION

collaboration is always a bit like marrying into a family and bringing your own recipes to the family Thanksgiving. You just hope there's room at the table for everyone and that they decide that your pie is a welcome addition to the buffet! Brooke and Jacob have always been fun, generous collaborators. The three of us have wildly different ways of approaching the work, which I think ultimately makes the show stronger."

Rachel "was an amazing shepherd," Wardell notes. "She took over from the superlative work Britt Small (co-director of the original production) had done, and then guided it through many changes." With the support of McCullom, Rockwell and her creative team, Wardell believes that Richmond and Maxwell were able to explore the emotional heart of *Ride the Cyclone* "with more ease, clarity, simplicity and beauty during their time in Chicago."

"I have a wonderful team of collaborators," Rockwell points out. "Mike Tutaj, Theresa Hamm, Greg Hofmann, Doug Peck, Rick Boynton and Ericka Mac....I have shared this journey from the beginning. I think we challenge each other, and have been able to hone a unique voice and style for the production. A very important aspect of my job is keeping an

eye on scale. This show is very delicate, and it is best when it doesn't stray too far from its origins in the Ukrainian church basement where it began. I love 'slick,' but not for this piece."

Under Rockwell's direction, the show has enjoyed a run at Chicago Shakespeare Theater (2015) and the MCC Theatre in NYC (2016). For Seattle audiences, it's exciting to note that Maxwell and Richmond have recently collaborated on more new material with Rockwell. "There is a lot that is new for the Seattle production!" Rockwell exclaims. "There has been a good deal of work on the book and I think we have three, maybe four new songs, including a new opening to the show. The writers and I are really excited to premiere this new version in a great theater town like Seattle, which is just a stone's throw from their creative home in Victoria."

"We think of Seattle as Victoria-South!" Brooke laughs. "It's a West Coast show, born and raised, and I have a feeling that people here will really connect with it."

Enjoy the ride!

^{*}Kholby Wardell's interview originally appeared in Canadian Theatre Review, Vol. 171. (2017)

WHO'S WHO



LILLIAN CASTILLO

(Constance Blackwood) is stoked to make her 5th Avenue Theatre and ACT Theatre debut. MCC: Ride the Cyclone. Chicago Shakespeare Theater: The Taming of the Shrew, Ride the

Cyclone, Shakespeare's Greatest Hits and Seussical. Marriott Theatre: Mamma Mial, Sister Act, Man of La Mancha and She Loves Me. Drury Lane Theatre: Hairspray, Sleeping Beauty, West Side Story. Milwaukee Rep: Why Do Fools Fall in Love. Paramount Theatre: In the Heights. Arkansas Rep: Hairspray and Glorious!. Phoenix Theatre: Hairspray. Utah Shakespeare Festival: Macbeth, School for Wives and Private Lives. She would like to thank her husband, family and Stewart Talent for their support.



KARL HAMILTON

(The Amazing Karnak) makes his Seattle debut. Off-Broadway credits: Ride the Cyclone at the MCC Theatre. Regional credits: Asolo Repertory Theatre (Sarasota, FL); Peninsula Players

Theatre (Fish Creek, WI); Timber Lake Playhouse (Mt. Carroll, IL). Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Court Theatre, Marriott Lincolnshire, Drury Lane Oakbrook, Ravinia Festival, Chicago Children's Theatre, Broadway Playhouse, Porchlight Music Theatre, Mercury Theatre, Theatre at the Center, Congo Square and First Folio Theatre. For the last decade, he has remained a proud and outspoken member of the Actors' Equity Association. Hamilton is married to actress Elizabeth Haley.



EMILY ROHM

(Jane Doe) is honored to be making her West Coast debut with The 5th and ACT. Rohm played the role of Jane Doe in the Off-Broadway production of *Ride the Cyclone* at

MCC Theatre where she earned a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for her performance. She also originated the role in the Chicago production of *Ride the Cyclone* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Other favorite roles include *Mary Poppins* (Paramount

Theatre), Arminy in *Carousel* (Lyric Opera), Marian Paroo in *The Music Man*, Jane Ashton in *Brigadoon* (Goodman Theatre), Belle in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* (Drury Lane Oakbrook) and Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd* (Paramount Theatre). She is also the owner of Röhm, a clothing design label that specializes in handmade clothing and bridal garments.



CONNOR RUSSELL

(Ricky Potts) National
Tour/The 5th:
Flounder in Disney's
The Little Mermaid.
Regional: Disney's
Aladdin, A Chorus Line,
Hairspray Anniversary
Concert, The Music

Man (5th Avenue Theatre); Quentin in October Sky (The Old Globe); Idaho! The Comedy Musical (The Smith Center); Beatsville (Asolo Rep); A Christmas Carol (Pittsburgh CLO); White Christmas (Arkansas Rep); High School Musical (Seattle Children's Theatre) and Gypsy (Capital Repertory Theatre). Select film: Paul in The Hinterlands (IAWTV Award nomination for Best Leading Actor), Brand Upon the Brain (Toronto Film Festival/New York Film Festival), Truth Slash Fiction (SeriesFest and ITVFest Winner). B.F.A. from Point Park University. Instagram/Twitter: @mrconnorrussell.



ADAM STANDLEY

(Mischa Bachinski) is a Core Company Member of ACT Theatre, a founding member of The Satori Group and a carpenter with LCM Builders. He has performed at The

5th in How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; at ACT Theatre in The Legend of Georgia McBride, Tribes (Gregory Award), Stupid F*cking Bird (Gregory Award Nomination) and Mr. Burns: a post electric play; at INTIMAN in Angels in America, Part 1 and 2; and numerous Satori Group works. Deep thanks to John Langs for his leadership and heart. Standley is in love with a woman named Amanda who is in love with a dog named Bogie who is in love with Standley.



TIFFANY TATREAU

(Ocean O'Connell Rosenberg) is elated to be making her 5th Avenue Theatre and ACT Theatre debut with this incredible team. Off Broadway: Ride the Cyclone

(Ocean). Regional: *Rock of Ages* (Regina), *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie), *Sister Act* (Mary Robert), *Ride the Cyclone* (Ocean), *Bat Boy* (Shelley), *Spring Awakening* (Anna) and more. She earned her BFA in Musical Theatre from Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts. Many thanks to Stewart Talent and her ever-present family and friends for their constant and crucial support on the ride. Follow her @tifftates or through her website: tiffanytatreau.com.



KHOLBY WARDELL

(Noel Gruber) is making his 5th Avenue Theatre and ACT Theatre debut. Wardell has played Noel in every production of Ride the Cyclone in Canada and the U.S. Favorite

theater credits include: Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Freddie in *My Fair Lady*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre); Lance in *500 Words* (Green Thumb Theatre) and Bing Crosby, Socksboots and Self in *The Lost Spirit of Christmas* (Terrible Adults). Next up, Wardell can be seen playing Tobias in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with BBRT in Victoria.



LEVALLEY (*Ladies' Understudy*) is thrilled to be here! Regional:

CHELSEA

The 5th Avenue Theatre/ACT (Assassins), The 5th Avenue Theatre (Carousel), Seattle

Repertory Theatre/La Jolla Playhouse (*Come From Away*), ACTLab (*Buzzer*), Village Theatre (original cast of *A Proper Place*), Seattle Shakespeare (*Medea*), Taproot (original cast of *Persuasion*, *Big Fish*), Intiman (original cast of *Stu for Silverton*), Hangar Theater and Seattle Children's Theatre. With over 30 regional credits, LeValley is a bi-coastal director, playwright and award-winning actor. Her curriculum using social justice theater is

WHO'S WHO

presented at conferences across the country. B.F.A. Elon University. Next Up: San Antonio Playhouse (Katherine in Newsies). Jeremiah 29:11. ChelseaLeValley.com.



NICHOLAS TARABINI (Men's Understudy) is so thrilled to take this crazy journey with you! Past 5th Avenue Theatre credits include Paint Your Wagon, Mercer Girls, The Sound of

Music. Regional: Paint Your Wagon (Ordway). Seattle: American Idiot, Peter and the Starcatcher (ArtsWest); Into the Woods (Village Theatre); Next to Normal, Legally Blonde (Second Story Repertory Theatre); Fiddler on the Roof (Seattle Musical Theatre). All his love to Mom, Dad and Mat.

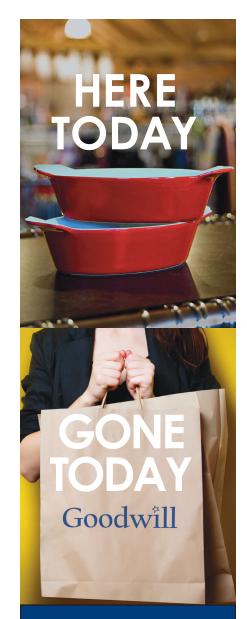
BROOKE MAXWELL (Music & Lyrics) is a freelance musician, composer and educator based in Victoria, BC, Canada. In addition to Ride the Cyclone, he has underscored and done sound design for several local and national works, including Gruff (Puente Theatre); And Slowly Beauty (Belfry Theatre, National Arts Centre, Tarragon Theatre); A Tender Thing (Belfry Theatre); The Glass Menagerie, Long Days' Journey into Night (Bluebridge Theatre); Joan (Theatre SKAM); Busted Up (Open Pit Theatre). He would like to thank Jacob Richmond and Atomic Vaudeville for their inspiration, Kevin McCollum and Alchemation for their support, Jessica for her love and encouragement, and his parents for forcing him to stay in piano lessons. BrookeMaxwell.com.

JACOB RICHMOND (Book, Music & Lyrics) is an award-winning playwright whose works have been performed in theaters throughout North America and internationally. These works include The Qualities of Zero (Montreal Critics Circle Award, Best Text; Toronto Dora Mavor Moore nomination, Best Text); The Last Vaudeville; The Tragical Comedy of Punch & Judy and Legoland (New York Frigid Festival, Best Production, Summerworks Festival, Best Text, multiple fringe festivals across Canada, Best Text). He is also recipient of CBC Radio One Award for best radio comedy for his radio play From Canada to Canada. The Co-Founder and Co-Artistic director of Atomic Vaudeville (a cabaret-based theater company based in Victoria, BC), which has sought to create raw theatrical events that represent the modern era through

how it's actually experienced: a barrage of styles, opinions, songs, genres and acts that create a central theme rather than a linear story. He is also a director and actor.

RACHEL ROCKWELL (Director/ Choreographer) is a Chicago-based director/ choreographer making her Seattle debut. Some of her recent credits include: Shakespeare in Love at Asolo Repertory Theatre; Ride the Cyclone at MCC (Joe A. Calloway Award for Choreography, Lortel and Drama League nominated); October Sky at the Old Globe (Craig Noel Award for Best Musical); World Premiere of Something Wicked This Way Comes at Delaware Theatre Company; and World Premiere of Diary of a Wimpy Kid for the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis. Other directing/choreographing credits include: Ride the Cyclone at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre (Jeff Award for Best Director); Brigadoon at Goodman Theatre (Jeff Award for Best Musical and Best Choreography); Billy Elliot (Jeff Award for Best Choreography); Ragtime at Drury Lane Theatre (Jeff Award for Best Musical and Best Director) and Enron at Timeline Theatre Company (Jeff Award nomination for Best Play). Special thanks to Ericka Mac.

DOUG PECK (Musical Director) is a Los Angeles-based musical director, pianist, conductor, orchestrator, arranger, vocal teacher/coach and educator. He has appeared in concert with artists like Renee Fleming, Michelle Williams, Lupe Fiasco, Jessie Mueller, Shemekia Copeland, John Prine, Andre DeShields, Heather Headley, Sylvia McNair and George Hearn. Career highlights include conducting the original full orchestration of Carousel at the Glimmerglass Festival and creating new Indian-jazz fusion arrangements and orchestrations for the stage version of Disney's The Jungle Book, seen in Chicago and Boston. He has won six Joseph Jefferson Awards for his musical direction, as well as two After Dark Awards, the Guy Adkins Award and the Sarah Siddons Award. He also served as musical supervisor for the Off-Broadway production of Ride the Cyclone and is co-creator of the Goodman Theatre's unique free musical theater program for talented high school students who would not otherwise have access to conservatory training. DougPeckMusic.com.



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WHO'S WHO

SCOTT DAVIS (Scenic Designer)
Off-Broadway credits: Ride the Cyclone at

MCC, Othello: The Remix at The Westside Theater. International credits include: Shakespeare's Globe, Unicorn Theatre (London); The Market Theatre (South Africa); The Neuss (Germany); Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre (Poland); The Cultch (Vancouver); DUCTAC (Dubai); Bruce Mason Centre (New Zealand) and The Edinburgh Festival (Scotland). Regional credits include: Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Steppenwolf, Court Theatre, Writers Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Signature Theatre, Walnut Street Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, Utah Shakespeare, Getty Villa Outdoor Theater, Paramount Theatre, Victory Gardens, Drury Lane, Northlight Theatre, American Theater Company, Marriott Theatre, Griffin Theatre Company, Windy City Playhouse, Steep Theatre, Clarice Smith PAC, Dallas Theatre Center and Mercury Theater. Davis serves as adjunct faculty at Columbia College having received his MFA from Northwestern University. scottadamdavis.com.

THERESA HAM (Costume Designer) is a Chicago-based costume designer. Off-Broadway: Ride the Cyclone (MCC Theatre). Recent Chicago credits: Ragtime (Marriott Theatre); The Little Mermaid, Sweeney Todd, Jesus Christ Superstar (Paramount Theatre); Rock of Ages (Drury Lane Theatre); The Audience (TimeLine Theatre); Ride the Cyclone (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre); Assembled Parties (Raven Theatre). Regionally: Something Wicked This Way Comes (DTC) and Carmen (Finger Lakes Opera). Her work has been seen at DePaul Opera Theatre, Lyric Opera Chicago and Northlight Theatre. She is also an Artistic Associate with Bohemian Theatre Ensemble and Stage Left Theatre. Upcoming: The Beauty Queen of Leenane (Northlight Theatre) and Once (Paramount Theatre). Ham is an adjunct faculty member at Wilbur Wright College. She has received two Joseph Jefferson Awards for Outstanding Costume Design. Ham holds an MFA in Costume Design from Illinois State University.

GREGORY HOFMANN (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be making his 5th Avenue Theatre debut. Selected credits include: Off Broadway: Ride the Cyclone (Lucille Lortel Award Nominee, MCC Theater). Regional: Love's Labour's Lost, Ride the Cyclone, Road Show (Chicago Shakespeare); ELF, Jesus Christ Superstar (Jeff Award Nominee), Oklahoma!,

Tommy (Jeff Award Recipient), Mary Poppins, Annie, 42nd Street (Paramount Theatre); Rock of Ages, The Game's Afoot, Les Miserables (Jeff Award Nominee), Oliver! (Drury Lane); Outside Mullingar, Mr. Burns, Silent Sky, Sons of the Prophet, 44 Plays for 44 Presidents (Forward Theater Company). Hofmann has also designed over 50 productions for Cedar Fair amusement parks, including Cedar Point's Luminosity.

CHRISTOPHER WALKER (Sound

Designer) is very pleased to be returning to The 5th and ACT this season. In Seattle, he's worked at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and Intiman, and has been the resident sound designer at Seattle Children's Theatre since 2002. Previously he spent seven years as resident sound designer for the American Repertory Theatre in Boston. He's designed in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Phoenix, Houston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington D.C. and New York. Internationally, he's designed in Taiwan, Singapore and Moscow. Commercially, he's composed for Intel and Starbucks. He holds a B.A. in Classical Piano Performance from Cornish College.

MIKE TUTAJ (*Projection Designer*) joins The 5th and ACT for the first time with this production. He designed projections for previous iterations of *Ride the Cyclone* at MCC and Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. Based in Chicago, Tutaj has designed projections for theater and live performance for over 15 years. He is the recipient of five Joseph Jefferson Awards and received the Michael Maggio Emerging Designer Award in 2012. He is an artistic associate with TimeLine Theatre, and teaches projection design at Columbia College Chicago. MikeTutaj.com.

MICHAEL MATLOCK (Associate Music Director) was last heard at ACT playing for Assassins. Other credits include: Holiday Inn, Ragtime, Waterfall (The 5th); Singin' in the Rain, String (Village Theatre); and Persuasion (Taproot). He is also an arranger and composer. Most recent composition credit: The World Is Too Big for the TangleTown Trio. Thanks to his family, and as always, to Suzie and RJ. KeyofW.com.

ERICKA MAC (Associate Director/ Choreographer) Associate Director/ Choreographer for Ride the Cyclone (MCC Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre); Diary of a Wimpy Kid (Children's Theatre Company); The Little Mermaid, Madagascar (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre); Alice's Rock and Roll Adventures (Chicago Children's Theatre) and The Polar Express (Warner Bros./Rail Events). Choreography credits include: Mamma Mia! (Jeff nomination for Best Choreography, Marriott Theatre); Parade (Writer's Theatre). Mac has performed in Chicago for 18 years at theaters like Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Writer's Theatre and the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

BRENDAN BOSTON (Associate Scenic Designer) is a New York-based scenic designer originally from Chicago. Select design credits include: Chris Gethard: Career Suicide (Off-Broadway, directed by Kimberly Senior); Terror (Miami New Drama, directed by Gregory Mosher); Describe the Night (NYU, by Rajiv Joseph). Associate design credits include: Semiramide (Royal Opera House); Der Rosenkavalier (Metropolitan Opera); M. Butterfly (Broadway) and The Twilight Zone (Almeida Theatre). He earned his MFA from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. brendanbostondesign.com.

BRENDAN PATRICK HOGAN

(Associate Sound Designer) Hogan's work combines practices in composition, sound and media design for the performing and visual arts, as well as electronics, programming and show control systems for live and installation/immersive performance events. He is a three-time winner of the Gregory Award for Outstanding Sound/Music Design, and a three-time winner of Best Musical Score at the Seattle 48-Hour Film Festival.

NICHOLAS HARTMAN (Assistant Costume Designer) has spent the past 15 years living in sunny southwest Florida at Venice Theatre as resident designer/shop manager. He had previously been the resident designer/ shop manager with the Manatee Players at Riverfront Theatre in Bradenton, FL., as well as resident designer for RWS & Associates in NYC. Hartman has an A.A. from International Fine Arts College in Miami, FL as well as a B.F.A. from Illinois State University. He holds numerous awards in costume design and construction at national and state levels, including National Outstanding Best Costume Designer at the AACT. NicholasHartmanCostumes.com.

RACHEL BURY (Production Stage Manager) Broadway: Scandalous. National Tour: The Little Mermaid. ACT/The 5th: Assassins. Over 30 5th Avenue Theatre mainstage productions, workshops and special projects; selected favorites: Ragtime, Romy and Michele's High School Reunion, NextFest, Paint Your Wagon, Waterfall, Jasper in Deadland, Come From Away, A Christmas Story, Spamalot, Secondhand Lions, Hairspray in Concert, Oklahoma! and Aladdin. Other credits: Ordway, Seattle Rep, Village Theatre, ArtsWest, Intiman, Shakespeare Santa Cruz. Proud Equity member.

RACHAEL DORMAN (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to work on her first show at ACT. Most recently she has been an ASM at The 5th Avenue Theatre on Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn and The Secret Garden. Last season she worked on Well at Seattle Repertory Theatre and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe at Seattle Children's Theatre. Some of her favorite shows include Paint Your Wagon, A Christmas Story, Luna Gale and Equivocation. Much love to her family, Frobie and Kelly.

ANNE L. HITT (Associate Stage Manager) is delighted to be a part of the Ride the Cyclone team! Hitt is a proud AEA/AGMA member and most recently worked at Village Theatre (Disney's Newsies). Other regional theater credits include: Seattle Opera (An American Dream and Intiman Theatre (Barbecue), The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts (Merrily We Roll Along), The Geffen Playhouse (Barbecue and In & Of Itself), The Ahmanson (An Act of God) and The Mark Taper Forum (appropriate, Bent and The Price). Hitt has an MFA in stage management from UC Irvine and is also the founder of SM Boot Camp. AnneHitt.com.

RICK BOYNTON (Creative Consultant) is Creative Producer at Chicago Shakespeare Theater where he led the development for Ride the Cyclone's American premiere. At CST, he focuses on artistic planning and production and the development of new work. His projects include: Sense and Sensibility (CST, The Old Globe); Othello: The Remix (CST, Edinburgh, NYC) and Funk It Up About Nothin', as well as A Flea in Her Ear (CST, Williamstown Theatre Festival); The Three Musketeers (CST, London); The Book of Joseph; The Emperor's New Clothes; The Adventures of Pinocchio (CST, London) and Murder for Two (CST, New York, national tour). He is

the former Artistic Director of The Marriott Theatre, former Casting Director at Jane Alderman Casting and a multiple Joseph Jefferson Award-winning actor. Boynton has lectured as his alma mater, Northwestern University, and is the past board president of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

ALAN SCHMUCKLER (Creative

Consultant) is a musical theater artist whose work includes writing, performing and music directing. In addition to work for the live stage, Schmuckler has also created work for television, podcasts and digital formats. His work has been performed across the US and internationally. With Rachel Rockwell and Kevin McCollum: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (co-music and lyrics with Michael Mahler, book by Kevin Del Aguila). Winner, 2018 Kleban Prize in Musical Theater; 2017 Webby Award; 2017 Sarah Lawrence International Audio Fiction Award. Schmuckler is a three-time Jeff nominee and his work is published by R&H. Proud graduate, Northwestern University. He lives in New York. More at alanschmuckler.com.

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("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers. Equity seeks to foster the art of live theater as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks.

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Directors: Mike Tutaj & Rachel Rockwell Featuring: Jana Ross as Talia & Adam Standley as Mischa

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JANE DOE FILM

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The Director and Choreographer are members of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.



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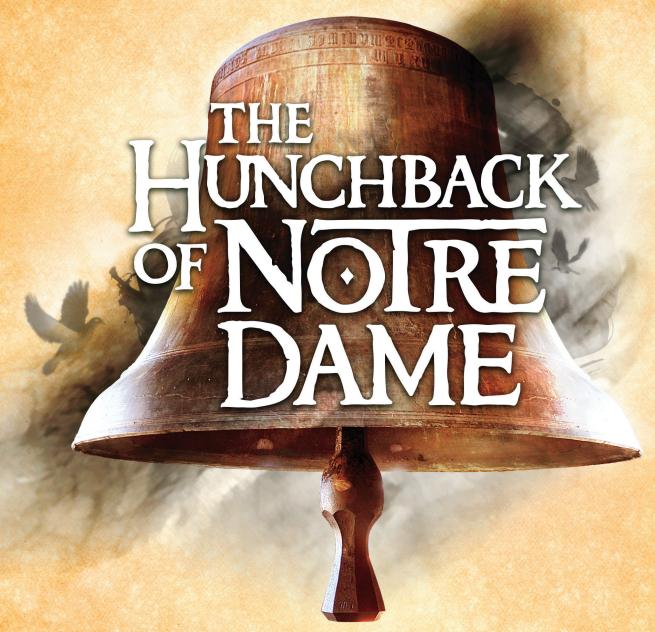


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- The 5th is committed to achieving the highest standards of artistic excellence by employing world-class performers and creative artists, utilizing full live orchestras and staging exceptional and imaginative productions. The 5th places a special emphasis on employing our amazing community of Puget Sound-based artists and technicians.
- We are nationally renowned for our production and development of new musicals. Since 2001, The 5th has premiered 18 new works, nine of which have subsequently opened on Broadway. They include Disney's Aladdin, First Date, A Christmas Story, Scandalous, Shrek, Catch Me If You Can, The Wedding Singer and Best Musical Tony Award®-winners, Hairspray and Memphis.
- We are equally acclaimed for our vibrant new productions of musicals from the "Golden Age of Broadway" and contemporary classics. These signature revivals enthrall fans of these enduring works and introduce these great shows to new generations of musical theater lovers.
- Our celebrated educational programs served nearly 75,000 young people last season through a host of projects including our Adventure Musical Theater Touring Company, The 5th Avenue Awards and the unique Rising Star Project. For adults, we offer free-to-the-public events such as the popular Spotlight Night series and pre-performance Show Talks with Albert Evans.
- We are the largest arts employer in the Pacific Northwest with more than 800 actors, singers, dancers, musicians, creative artists, theatrical technicians and arts professionals working for us each season.
- As a non-profit theater company supported by the community, we enjoy the patronage of more than 20,000 season subscribers (one of the largest theater subscriptions in America). Each year, approximately 300,000 audience members attend our performances.

OUR HISTORIC THEATER

The 5th Avenue Theatre's breathtaking design was inspired by ancient Imperial China's most stunning architectural achievements, including the magnificent Forbidden City. Built in 1926 for vaudeville and silent pictures, The 5th Avenue Theatre reigned for decades as Seattle's favorite movie palace. In 1979, 43 companies and community leaders formed the non-profit 5th Avenue Theatre Association and restored the theater to its original splendor. The 5th Avenue Theatre re-opened in 1980 as Seattle's premier home for musical theater.

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[†] Denotes staff member has worked at ACT for 10 years or more

The 5th Avenue Theatre



DAVID ARMSTRONG

(Executive Producer and Artistic Director) Since his appointment in 2000, Armstrong has guided The 5th to a position as one of the nation's leading musical theater companies, acclaimed for both its development and

production of new works and its innovative stagings of classic musicals. As a director, he has created memorable 5th Avenue productions of Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn; The Secret Garden; Paint Your Wagon; Jacques Brel is Alive...; A Room with a View; Oliver!; Candide; Hello, Dolly!; Sweeney Todd; White Christmas; HAIR; Mame; A Little Night Music; Anything Goes; Company; The Rocky Horror Show; Pippin; Vanities; Yankee Doodle Dandy! and Saving Aimee, which he later directed on Broadway where it was renamed Scandalous. Prior to The 5th, Mr. Armstrong spent 20 years as a freelance director, choreographer and librettist. His work has been seen in New York and at many leading regional theaters including DC's Shakespeare Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, Ordway Center, Ford's Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse, Paper Mill Playhouse, and from 1990 to 1995 he served as Artistic Director of the Cohoes Music Hall in upstate New York. Armstrong has written the books for the musicals The Wonder Years (winner of seven Los Angeles Drama-Logue Awards), Gold Rush, A Christmas Carol and Yankee Doodle Dandy! In 2016, The Puget Sound Business Journal named Armstrong as one of their Business of Pride Outstanding Voices.



BERNADINE (BERNIE) C. GRIFFIN (Managing Director) first joined The 5th Avenue Theatre in 2002 as director of theater advancement and development. She was appointed managing director in January 2010 and is responsible for the

administrative, marketing, fundraising, information services and facility operations, as well as oversight of all activities related to the Board of Directors and external affairs. During her tenure, The 5th Avenue Theatre has grown from a \$10 million to a \$25 million organization. She brings to her position 35 years of fundraising and arts management experience. Prior to The 5th, she served as director of development for the prestigious Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles, as well as for The Laguna Playhouse in Laguna Beach, California. Before moving to California, she served at the Seattle Symphony where she is proud to have been part of the team that built Benaroya Hall. In addition to the Symphony, Griffin worked for the Tony Award-winning Seattle Repertory Theatre, as well as Tony Randall's National Actors Theatre in New York. She began her career at the University of Denver. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Martin's College in Lacey, Washington and is proud to have been born and raised in Walla Walla, Washington. She is a member of Theater Communications Group, the National Alliance for Musical Theatre, Seattle Rotary #4. She is a board member of the Downtown Seattle Association and Visit Seattle. She has also served as a grants panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts. Griffin was named one of the Puget Sound Business Journal's 2013 Women of Influence. She is married to award-winning actor Seán G. Griffin.



BILL BERRY (Producing Artistic Director) served as The 5th's associate producing artistic director and casting director from 2002 through 2009. During that time, he directed productions of West Side Story (Seattle Times Footlight Award),

Wonderful Town (Seattle Times Footlight Award), Wizard of Oz and Smokey Joe's Café. In 2014, he made his Broadway debut as the director of the hit musical First Date at the Longacre Theatre. Berry's directing work has been seen at theaters across the country, most recently at Florida's Asolo Repertory Theatre, where he directed the new musical, Beatsville. Berry also recently directed a critically acclaimed production of On the Town at New Jersey's Paper Mill Playhouse. Directing highlights include Cabaret performed at The 5th Avenue Theatre, St. Paul's Ordway Center (Ivey Award), San Jose's American Musical Theatre and Houston's Theatre Under the Stars, as well as the smash hits Mamma Mia!, The Pajama Game, How to Succeed..., Little Shop of Horrors, First Date, RENT, The Music Man and Rodgers & Hammerstein's Carousel at The 5th. From 2002 to 2009, he served as the producing director for The 5th Avenue Theatre's education and outreach programs. During that time he significantly expanded the scope and impact of these initiatives, including spearheading the creation of Fridays at The 5th and The 5th Avenue Awards, honoring excellence in high school musical theater, as well as substantially increasing the reach of the Adventure Musical Theater Touring Company throughout the Northwest. These programs combined now serve nearly 75,000 students annually. He also initiated the Show Talk series, which seeks to deepen the theater-going experience. Prior to his work at The 5th Avenue Theatre, Berry was a freelance theater artist based in New York City.

ACT – A Contemporary Theatre



JOHN LANGS (Artistic Director) John has been delighted to serve ACT as Artistic Director since 2016, and previously as Associate Artistic Director for three years. Before ACT, John's freelance career afforded him the opportunity to work with many prestigious theatre companies across the country. He has directed productions at Playwrights Horizons NY, Ensemble Studio Theater NY, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Lookingglass Theater Company in Chicago, Circle X in Los Angeles, The Resident

Ensemble, New Century Theatre Company, Washington Ensemble Theatre, and Seattle Shakespeare Company. John received his directing degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. John received the first annual Seattle Gregory Award honoring excellence in direction for The Adding Machine. Recent Seattle credits include Mary's Wedding (NCTC), The Three Sisters (The Seagull Project), and Othello (Seattle Shakespeare Company). As a dedicated fan of original work, John has shepherded over a dozen projects to their premieres.



BECKY WITMER (Managing Director) has been with ACT since 2011, serving as the General Manager (2014-2015) and also the Director of Marketing and Communications (2011-2014). Becky began her career in arts management through marketing and communications. She was the Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Intiman Theatre (2008-2011) and Opera Colorado (2006-2008). She was the Associate Director of Marketing with Central City Opera (2002-2005). Becky is an advisory board

member for TeenTix, and a founding cochair of the Cultural Resource Collective. She is a graduate of the Leadership Tomorrow program.

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Head Electrician Stephen A. Graham

Assistant Electrician Noel Clayton, Nate Redford

Key Electricians Mary Heffernan Conventional Programmer

Sound

Karen Marta Katz Head Sound Engineer

James Rudy

Assistant Sound Engineer Kelly Mickelson

Key Sound Engineer

Props

Diana I. Gervais Production Property Master Catherine Case Lutes Assistant Property Manager

Tristan E. Hansen Creative Property Master

Ariana Donofrio Prop Builder/Artisan

Costumes & Wardrobe

Christopher Moad

Costume Shop Manager Rachel Wilkie

Costume & Wardrobe Assistant

Marlys McDonald Wardrobe Master

Randy Werdal

Assistant Wardrobe Master Gillian Paulson

Head Draper

Elizabeth Titus Baker Head Cutter/Tailor

Shellie Moomey

Cutter/Draper Jeanna Gomez

Master Crafts Robin Montero, Holly Steucke

Staff First Hand

Hair & Make-up

Mary Jones Head Hair and Make-up

Heather Sincic

Assistant Hair and Make-up Jason Goldsberry

Assistant Hair and Make-up

Service

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