

NORTHERN
STAGE

CHANGING LIVES, ONE STORY AT A TIME...



venus rising

CAROL DUNNE - PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
IRENE GREEN - MANAGING DIRECTOR

2018 SEASON 2019

THE NORTHERN STAGE PRODUCTION OF



Written by **Marisa Smith**

Directed by **Jess Chayes**

Scenic Designer
Reid Thompson[†]

Costume Designer
Barbara A. Bell[†]

Lighting Designer
Jennifer Reiser[†]

Sound Designer
Ben Montmagny

Production Stage Manager
Brian R. Sekinger^{*}

Assistant Stage Manager
Kyla Mermejo-Varga

Assistant Scenic Designer
Hector Figueroa

CAST

Cora Diane J. Findlay*
Julie Laurel Casillo*^
Winslow Kenneth Kimmins*
Grace Laurie Wells*

^ Thanks to Penny & Stuart Johnson for supporting Laurel Casillo's residency at Northern Stage.

Special Thanks to Weston Playhouse, Peregrine Whittlesey, Hermitage Artists Retreat on Manasota Key, Florida, and Marble House Project in Dorset, Vermont.



ALICE PECK DAY
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
A Dartmouth-Hitchcock Affiliate
Season Underwriter



LIFESTYLES



* Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



† Member of United Scenic Artists, Designers in LORT Theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

Audience members may take photos in the theater before and after the performance and during intermission, if no actors are present on stage. If you post photos on social media or elsewhere, you must credit the designers (scenic, costume, lighting) listed above. Photos are strictly prohibited during the performance. All video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited at all times.



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ABOUT THE COMPANY

BARBARA A. BELL (Costume Designer) Designs include *Disgraced* (Northern Stage); *Saintliness of Margery Kempe* (Duke Theatre); *A Thousand Pines* (Westport Country Playhouse); *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Child's Christmas in Wales* (Irish Repertory); *The Show-Off* (Peccadillo Theatre); *Heartbreak House* (Gingold Theatrical/Lion Theatre); *Doctor's Dilemma* (Peterborough Players); *Taste of Honey*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Vieux Carre* (43 shows @ Pearl Theatre & recipient of Princess Grace Award); Theresa Rebeck's *Way of the World*, *Outside Mullingar* (Dorset Theatre Festival); *Widowers' Houses* (TACT); *Soldier* (HERE); *Trip to Bountiful*, *The Seafarer*, *Boston Marriage* (Capital Repertory); *Clybourne Park* (Barrington Stage); *Tenderly*, *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Weston Playhouse). barbarabellcostumedesign.com



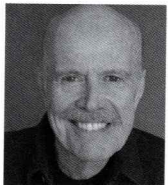
LAUREL CASILLO (Julie) is happy to be back at Northern Stage! Broadway: *Act One* (Lincoln Center Theater). Regional: *Elevada* (Yale Rep, nominee Outstanding Actress in a Play, Connecticut Critics Circle), *A Christmas Story* (St. Louis Rep), *Our Town* (Triad Stage), *Mutual Philanthropy* (NJ Rep), *Mama's Boy* (George Street Playhouse, Good Theater), *Mad Love* (Northern Stage), *Talley's Folly* (Hangar Theatre), *The Rainmaker* (Good Theater, winner Best Actress Broadway World Maine 2015), *Miracle on South Division Street*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *A Shayna Maidel* (Chenango River), *Black Comedy* (Shadowland Theater). More credits and info at laurelcasillo.com.

JESS CHAYES (Director) is the BOLD Associate Artistic Director at Northern Stage and a founding Co-Artistic Director of The Assembly, with whom she has co-created and directed ten original productions. Recent directing includes productions with The Warehouse Theatre (Greenville, SC), The Juilliard School, Dutch Kills, Lesser America, New Georges, and new work development with The Vineyard Theatre, The Atlantic Theater, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and The Playwrights Center, among others. New York Theater Workshop *Usual Suspect*, 2018 Audrey Resident with New Georges, alum of The Civilians R&D Group and the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab. Broadway associate directing credits: *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Snow Geese*, *Misery*. Recipient of the 2017 Lucille Lortel Award.

HECTOR FIGUEROA (Assistant Scenic Designer) Originally from Los Angeles, he's excited to see what Northern Stage and Vermont have in store for the future. Some recent work include scenic design and technical direction of *Strength of this Nation*, *Polygon*, and *Pacific Overtures*. His focus is fixed on the interaction between people and their environment, and he's eager to see the worlds that will come to fruition at Northern Stage.



DIANE J. FINDLAY (Cora) Broadway: *Fish in The Dark*, *Hello Dolly*, *Concert of Tales Of The City*. Encores: *70 Girls 70*, *Follies*. Off-Broadway: *Minnie's Boys*, *Flamingo Court*, *Gay Divorce*. National Tours: *Sister Act*, *Promises Promises*, *42nd Street*. Regional: *Steel Magnolias*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *The Full Monty*, *A Little Night Music*, *Dear World*, *Mame*. Pilots: *The Other Two*, *The Good Cop*, *Friends Of The People*, *Law & Order*. Findlay is the recipient of The Las Vegas Female Performer Of The Year Award for *Hallelujah Hollywood*, S.F. Bay Theatre Circle Award Nominee for *Tales of The City*, LA Critics Circle Award nominee for *Sister Act*.



KENNETH KIMMINS (Winslow) Broadway: *The Music Man*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *The Magic Show*, *The Fig Leaves are Falling*, *Status Quo Vadis*, *Company* (NY and London). Off-Broadway: *The Fantastiks*, *Adaption/Next*, *All My Sons*, *Impressions on Love*, *Nasty Rumors and Final Remarks*, *Some of Our Parts*. Tours: First national company of *Cactus Flower*. Los Angeles: *12 Angry Men*, *The Normal Heart*. Northern Stage: *12 Angry Men*, *White Christmas*, *Betrayal* (Director). He has appeared in and directed numerous plays at St Michael's Playhouse. He's currently working on a forthcoming production of *Synchronicity*, co-written with his wife, Lisa Raggio.

KYLA MERMEJO-VARGA (Assistant Stage Manager) BA in theater from Dartmouth College, 2017. At Dartmouth Kyla was a props designer, spotlight operator, scene shop assistant, and stage manager. Favorite Dartmouth stage management credits include *Chicago*, *Cotton Patch Gospel*, and *The Baltimore Waltz*. She also worked at the New London Barn Playhouse for two

ABOUT THE COMPANY

summers, first as their children's series Stage Manager and then as their Stage Management Intern. Favorite Barn credits include *Newsies* (ASM), *Sylvia* (ASM), *The 61st Annual Strawhat Revue*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Northern Stage assistant stage management credits include *Oslo* and *Dear Elizabeth*.

BEN MONTMAGNY (Sound Designer) Resident Sound Engineer at Northern Stage and Resident Sound Engineer/Designer at the New London Barn Playhouse (NLBP). His designs for NLBP's 2017 productions of *The Secret Garden* and *West Side Story*, as well as his designs for 2016's *Shrek* and *Brigadoon*, were nominated for NH Theatre Awards. He has designed numerous Northern Stage productions, including *Orwell in America*, which transferred to 59E59 Theaters in 2016.

JENNIFER REISER (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be back at Northern Stage where she designed *Oslo*, *Dear Elizabeth*, and *Blithe Spirit*. Recent credits: world premieres of *MASC* and *GAY GUERRILLA* with MADBOOTS DANCE (The Joyce Theater); *Wild Honey*, *The Hairy Ape* (THEATREWORKS); *Baskerville* (Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center); *West Side Story*, *The 39 Steps*, *Gypsy* (New London Barn Playhouse); *The Late Wedding*, *1001* (Columbia University); *Reread Another* (Target Margin Theater). She was the assistant lighting designer on the Broadway productions of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *Waitress*, and *Side Show*. Upcoming: *Rusalka* (Madison Opera). B.A. Dartmouth College, M.F.A. NYU-Tisch

BRIAN R. SEKINGER (Production Stage Manager) Regional: Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical*, *Dear Elizabeth*, *Oslo*, *Noises Off*, *Disgraced*, Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *A Christmas Carol* (Northern Stage); Disney's *Newsies*, *Little Women*, *On Golden Pond*, *West Side Story*, *Godspell*, *How to Succeed...*, *Crazy For You* (New London Barn Playhouse); *Mary Stuart*, *Othello* (Folger Shakespeare); *Stoop Stories* (Studio Theatre); August Wilson's *20th Century* (Kennedy Center). NYC: *Cleopatra: The New Pop Experience* (Theater for the New City); *Daddy Long Legs* (Davenport Theatricals), *Claudio Quest* (NYMF); *Zombies on Broadway* (RKO Stage), *Sheila's Day* (Lincoln Center Education); *Jasper in Deadland* (Prospect Theater); *The (*) Inn* (Target Margin). MFA: Carnegie Mellon University.

MARISA SMITH (Playwright) Full-length plays include *Sex and Other Disturbances* (Edgerton winner, Portland Stage Company, 2018 & semi-finalist, The Bridge Initiative), *Saving Kitty* (Elliot Norton Award-winner for Jennifer Coolidge, Best Actress, The Nora Theater Company), *Mad Love*, (O'Neill semi-finalist, Clauder winner/Kilroy list, premiered at Northern Stage, also an audio drama titled *The Defenestrator*, produced by Wondery). Marisa's 10-Minute plays have been produced in the Boston Marathon of 10-Minute Plays and at Barrington Stage and New Jersey Repertory, among others, and include Heideman finalist *Total Expression*. Screenplays: *Second Wind* and *Surprise Engagement* for Andrew Silver Productions.

REID THOMPSON (Scenic Designer) NY: *Too Heavy For Your Pocket* (Roundabout and Alliance); *Wilder Gone* (Clubbed Thumb); *A Delicate Ship* (Playwright's Realm); *Selkie* (Dutch Kills); *House Rules*, *Among The Dead* (Ma-Yi); *Empathitrax* (Colt Coeur); *Half Moon Bay* (Lesser America). Other credits: *Fun Home* (Virginia Stage), *A Doll's House, Part 2* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Gloria*, *Disgraced* (Asolo Rep); *Up & Away* (PCLO), Yale Rep, Berkshire Theater Festival, Barrington Stage, Princeton. Upcoming: *Something Clean* (Roundabout); *Fruiting Bodies* (Ma-Yi); *La Susanna* (Heartbeat Opera; Kennedy Center and BAM). MFA: Yale School of Drama. Member of Wingspace and USA-829. reidthompsondesign.com



Laurie Wells (Grace) Broadway/National Tours: *Mamma Mia!* (Donna), *An American in Paris*, *Swing!* Off-Broadway/Select Regional: *Lend Me A Tenor* (Maria, RTC), *Trip Of Love* (Angela, Stage 42), *Our Sinatra* (54 Below), *An American in Paris* (Milo, Ogunquit Playhouse), *The Full Monty* (Vicki, Maine State/Fulton Theatre), *Women in Jeopardy* (Liz, Geva Theatre, Cape Playhouse), *The Addams Family* (Alice, Ogunquit), *Sing For Your Shakespeare* (Westport Playhouse), *Always, Rachel* (Rachel Carson, NYMF), *City of Angels* (Bobbi/Gabby, Goodspeed), *42nd Street* (Dorothy, Goodspeed and Riverside Theatre), *Ragtime* (Mother, Hangar Theatre), *Pure Country* (Harley, Casa Manana), *Dames at Sea* (Mona, Bay Street Theatre). Thanks to DGRW and Paul Fouquet casting at Elissa Myers lauriewells.net.