Dracula

A feminist revenge fantasy

2022-2023 SEASON
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2022/2023
40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

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THE UMBRELLA STAGE COMPANY PRESENTS

Based on the novel by Bram Stoker
By Kate Hamill
Directed by Michelle Aguillon

Original Music Composed by Valerie Forgione
Stage Managed by Sydney Boncoddó

Assistant Stage Managed by Johnny Penney and Jingwen Zhang
Scenic Design by Melody Hsu

Lighting Design by SeifAllah Sallotto-Cristobal
Sound Design by James Cannon

Costume Design by Anna Silva
Properties and Set Dressing by Sarajane Morse Mullins

Technical Direction by Al Forgione

This show is sponsored by Wilson and Jennifer Schünemann

Assistive Listening Devices are available at this performance. If you would like to inquire about using one, ask an usher or a member of house management.

Originally produced by Classic Stage Company; John Doyle, Artistic Director
Presented by special arrangement with TRW Plays.
Welcome to The Umbrella Stage Company’s 2022/2023 season.

We are beyond happy to be bringing live theater to the region. While the pandemic took its toll on all of us, The Umbrella has remained strong and is committed to continuing to produce bold, daring, and innovative work.

The pandemic has forced many of us to reconsider how we work, what we produce, and what that impact has on our community. During your visit to The Umbrella, I encourage you to spend some time in our Gallery, wander through the three floors of artist studios, and peek into our classrooms. I hope that tonight’s performance will leave you wanting to not only come back for more theater, but also to sign up for an art class, come to a gallery opening or concert or film, visit us at Winter Market and Open Studios, engage with our Arts & Environment program, tour our outdoors public art installations, or become a volunteer.

There are so many ways you can participate in the Arts at The Umbrella. We look forward to seeing more of you.

Enjoy the show!

Jerry Wedge, Executive Director
Actors’ Equity Association (“Equity”), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving 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.

Equity is governed by its own members through an elected Council, representing principal actors, chorus actors and stage managers living in three regions: Eastern, Central and Western. Members at large participate in Equity’s governance through a system of regional Boards and Committees. Equity has 28 designated area liaison cities with over 100 members each.

* Appearing through an Agreement between this theater and Actor’s Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Cast

Dr. George Seward...............Dominic Carter*
Lucy Westenra....................Gabrielle Hatcher
Dr. Van Helsing....................Maria Hendricks
Marilla/Maid........................Bowen Huang
Renfield................................Sara Jones
Jonathan Harker....................Joseph Jude
Swing...................................Quinton Kappel
Mina Harker.........................Lisa San Pascual*
Drusilla/Merchant/Miller........Emily Sheeran
Count Dracula......................Dustin Teuber

* Appearing through an Agreement between this theater and Actor’s Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
Dear Friends,

Welcome! I am so excited to kick off another fantastic season of theater here in the heart of historic Concord. The first production of the year always feels like a back-to-school moment for us, and we can’t wait to share what we have in store for you this season.

The lineup this year is designed to give audiences a reason to return to the theater. Throughout the year, you can expect some beloved stories ready to be re-told, and some familiar narratives presented in a new and exciting way.

First up is Kate Hamill’s deliciously clever adaptation of Dracula. Through her own unique lens, Hamill has been revisiting the classics and re-introducing them to today’s audiences. Hailed as one of the best playwrights in the country and one of the most produced voices in America, her work turns history on its head and forces us to re-examine stories we thought we knew.

Later this fall, Julia Deter (Hedwig and the Angry Inch, The Old Man and The Old Moon) returns to The Umbrella to direct a new production of RENT. Michelle Aguillon also joins us again this season in March to helm our World Premiere of Hortense Gerardo’s Middleton Heights. The season will close with The Color Purple, directed by BW Gonzales who appeared in last season’s acclaimed production of The Colored Museum.

Stay tuned throughout the year as we also have a few surprises in store! To stay up to date, don’t forget to subscribe to our newsletter, follow us on social media, and consider becoming a subscriber to be the first to find out about all the exciting updates.

As always, thank you for your support and for joining us for this performance.

Enjoy the show!

Brian Boruta
Producing Artistic Director, The Umbrella Stage Company
Dominic Carter* (Dr. George Seward) is blessed and honored to be performing in Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really. He was last seen in The Umbrella Stage’s Fences, in which he played Gabriel. Among other credits, he has also played Rashad in The Light, Sebastian in Twelfth Night (Lyric Stage); Michael in The Greater Good (Company One); Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, The Mountaintop, Katherine Girard in Mothers and Sons, Old Lady in Violet (Lexington Players). (Justin-Understudy in BLKS (SpeakEasy Stage Company); Angel in Jesus Hopped The A-Train, Henry Brown in RACE by David Mamet (Hovey Players). Dominic is a graduate of The Atlantic Acting School and the winner of 2021 AACT National Theater Best Actor.

Gabrielle Hatcher (Lucy Westenra) is thrilled to be working with The Umbrella for the very first time. She was last seen in The Asian American Playwright Collective’s Playfest 4. She recently designed hair for Sense and Sensibility at Concord Players, for which she won a DASH award, and designed sets for Pillowman at Hovey Players. Other credits include Stop Kiss and Some Girls at Hovey Players, The 48 Hour Film Project, and the National Film Challenge.

Maria Hendricks EMC (Dr. Van Helsing) is thrilled to be on the actual Umbrella stage after a pandemic Zoom performance of Elegant Storm and a staged reading of Clean House in the gallery. OFF BROADWAY: Ruby Sales in Six Nights in the Black Belt (Negro Ensemble Co.); Church Soloist in 6 Nights (Theatre at St. Clements). REGIONAL: Celebrating Native Joy (The Oklahoma Cycle-Oglala Lakota Arts in South Dakota); Emily Penrose in Lifespan of a Fact (Vermont Stage); Mother (Elliot Norton Award Nomination) in Passing Strange (Moonbox Productions); Alsoomse in I Am This Place (Plays in Place); Nana Helen in The Arboretum Experience (American Repertory Theater); Sipu in
DIRECTOR’S NOTE:

When Brian Boruta, the Director of Performing Arts, sent me Kate Hamill’s script, just the title alone grabbed me. It didn’t say Dracula, it said Dracula, a feminist revenge fantasy, really. My eyes bugged out. My heart skipped a beat. It was a thrilling moment. I was already a fan of Kate Hamill’s having seen her adaptation of Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice and having directed her adaptation of Sense and Sensibility last year. But an adaptation of Bram Stoker’s Dracula? Wow.

As I read through the script, I saw what I have seen every day for years: toxic masculinity, mansplaining, sexism, sexual harassment, the patriarchal narrative. She was directly addressing the #MeToo movement. But the script was also delicious and made me laugh out loud numerous times. It was fun, fearless, and fast-paced!

Hamill’s adaptation has called out all this bad male behavior. She also made Stoker’s female-identifying characters central to the plot. They possess or discover self-empowerment; we see Elinor-and-Marianne-Dashwood/Thelma-and Louise-sisterhood, there’s triumphant high-fives, and very dark, terrifying humor (just my cup of tea). And then, to top it all off, Hamill has made Stoker’s traditionally male characters, Van Helsing and Renfield, female to boot!

Given the multiple locations and quick transitions between scenes from Dracula’s castle in Transylvania, to the English seacoast town of Whitby, to an asylum, then a crypt, a church, etc., staging in The Umbrella’s Black Box theater was a very exciting challenge (also my cup of tea). Our nimble cast, our design and production teams helped ensure that the play always moved along with “speed of thought,” as per the playwright.

I am thrilled to have been given the opportunity to direct this adaptation. Big heartfelt thanks to Brian and The Umbrella, our amazing designers, our hard-working crew, and our talented, fun cast. And thanks to you, our audience, for joining us! Tarps up in the splash zone!

Michelle Aguillon
Listen to Sipu (New Repertory Theatre); Sister Hubert in Nunsense (The Palace Theatre); Carlota in Dead Man’s Cell Phone (Saco River Theatre); Radio 1 in Caroline, or Change (Moonbox Productions/BCA); Church Lady in Between Riverside & Crazy (Virginia Repertory Theatre); Mathilde in Clean House (Threshold Stage Co. of Maine); La Llorona in La Llorona (Fresh Ink). @mariahendricks888 (she/her/hers)

Bowen Huang (Marilla/Maid) is very excited to join The Umbrella this fall! Emerson College BFA ’24 Musical Theater. Regional Credits: Xanadu (Muse). Emerson College credits: Musical Theater Against the Grain’s Rock of Ages (Mayor); Emerson Dance Company (Dancer). Blue Note Shanghai: Musical Theater Cabaret, Soloist. Much love to family and friends for all the support<3. IG: @on_bw

Sara Jones (Renfield) has embodied roles that run the gamut--from various characters in a professional children’s production of Huck Finn to The Pilot in Grounded. She has worked in theaters across the world from Zeitgeist Theatre in Boston, MA to The English Theatre in Frankfurt, Germany. She is a former ensemble member of the classical theater company Shakespeare Frankfurt where she performed the roles of Desdemona in Othello, Witch (and others) in Macbeth, Mayor Stockman in An Enemy of the People, Olivia in Twelfth Night and Titania in A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Sara’s most notable performances were The Pilot in George Brandt’s one woman tour de force, Grounded, Veronica in the Tony Award-winning play God of Carnage, Ann Deever in All My Sons, and Mademoiselle de Tourvel in Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Sara has a B.A. in Theatre from Denison University in Ohio, has trained with The London Meisner Company and studied Screen Acting at LAMDA in London. www.sarabishopjones.com
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Joseph Jude (Jonathan Harker) is humbled to make his onstage debut at The Umbrella after being featured in *Middleton Heights* during the Concord Festival of Authors. LA-born/Boston-bred, Jude’s stage credits include The Playwright in *Vietgone* (Company One), Bobbie in *Song of Morning* (Boston Theater Marathon), Riff in *West Side Story* (Moonstruck Theater), Ram in *Heathers* (Footlight Club), Favorite Son in *American Idiot*, and the titular *Wedding Singer* (Phoenix Playmakers), with voice credits including Speakeasy Stage, Fresh Ink, New Rep, Central Square, Liberty Mutual, and Chuang Stage. Jude is a songwriter (FuzzKill), musician (Theater Offensive), composer (Harvard University), and stagehand (ART) who holds a BS Biology/Musical Theater (Emmanuel College) and an MS Speech Language Pathology with a concentration in Voice Disorders (MGH Institute of Health Professions). Much love to this incredible team, and special thanks to Meesh, Brian, KB, and his cat, Munchkin de Milo. IG:@heyjudetorres

Quinton Kappel (Swing) is thrilled to be sinking his teeth into *Dracula*. Among other credits, he has appeared as Max in *Bent* (The Umbrella Stage); Stanley in *One Man Two Guvnors* (TCAN); Nicky in *Avenue Q* (The Umbrella Stage); Hamlet in *Hamlet* (Ghost Light Players); and was last seen in the Boston Theater Marathon this past summer. A stage actor with a growing portfolio of voicework for video games and other narrative media, he can be heard as the voice of Gandalf in Warner Brothers’ *The Hobbit* Pinball Machine and the Narrator of *Colapesce: An Audio Adventure* (Trinacria Theatre Company), which he wrote, edited, and directed. He works as a filmmaker and storyteller throughout New England and his short film *A. Jacks* was recently recognized with Best Adaptation and Best Cinematography in the festival circuit. He is represented by Andrew Wilson Agency and is currently pursuing his MFA in Film at Emerson College. QuintonKappel.com
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Lisa San Pascual* (Mina Harker) is thrilled to be making her Umbrella Stage debut. Lisa was last seen as Hermia in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Boston Theater Company) and Olivia in *Twelfth Night Musical* (Eastern Nazarene College Theater for Social Justice). Lisa has performed in radio plays, virtual productions such as Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* and Clara in *Pygmalion*, and independent feature films and web series such as *Dominos* and Daisy/Quake in *Avengers: World*. Lisa wants to thank Brian and Michelle for this opportunity, and Fred for teaching her how “the penny drops.” Much love and gratitude to her husband Andy for his support and for his partnership in smashing the patriarchy.

Emily Sheeran (Drusilla/Merchant/Miller) is ecstatic to be returning to the stage in *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really!* They last performed as Imogen in Shakespeare’s *Cymbeline* (McGill University English Department). Previous roles also include Bérenger in *Rhinoceros* (McGill Players’ Theatre), Amanda in *Moon Over the Brewery* (ACME Theater - DASH Award Winner), Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* (METG Best Actress), and Robin in *The Woodsman* (Hovey Players - DASH Award Winner). They will also be playing Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* at Actorsingers in November. Thanks to the cast and crew for making this production such a wonderful experience, as well as family and friends for their support.

Dustin Teuber (Count Dracula) is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Dracula* and to play the king of vampires himself. Dustin is lucky to be with this all-star cast and to be directed by Michelle Aguillon. Other credits include Mr. Darcy in Kate Hamill’s *Pride and Prejudice* (NH Theater Project), Dave Lester in *Black Super Hero Magic Mama* (Company One), Marco in *View from the Bridge* (The Umbrella Stage Company),
Pino in Hortense Gerardo’s *Scentsation*, and Dracula once before at The Company Theater. Thanks for coming out to see our production!

**Brian Boruta** *(Producer, Director)* This is Brian’s 45th production with The Umbrella and his 42nd as the Director of Performing Arts, during which time he has earned Best Production nominations for *Glengarry Glen Ross, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Red, Angels in America, Equus* and *Bonnie & Clyde*; a DASH Award for Best Play for *True West* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, and Best Musical for *Parade* and *Big Fish*. Umbrella directing credits include: *Parade* (Dash Award for Best Director of a Musical) *Big Fish* (DASH Nom.), *Hair, Evita, Side Show, Next to Normal, The Rocky Horror Show*. Elsewhere: *Sweeney Todd, Legally Blonde, Godspell, Seussical the Musical, The Actor’s Nightmare, Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You*. Favorite on-stage credits include Billy Lawlor in *42nd Street* (DASH Nom.), Judas/John the Baptist in *Godspell*, Cosmo Brown in *Singin’ in the Rain*, Austin in *True West*, and Greg in *A Chorus Line*. As a designer and educator, Brian has worked with numerous college, high school and community groups including Merrimack College, Goddard College, Framingham State University, The Performing Arts Center of MetroWest, Brookline, Chelsea and Wellesley Public School. His solo piece, *UnMasqued*, has been workshopped and performed at the Wheeler Theater in Port Townsend, WA. Brian holds a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College and was named the recipient of the 2014 Framingham State University Young Alumni Achievement Award for his work in the performing arts.
The Concord Players
2022-2023 Season

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November
4-19, 2022
Directed by Andrew Rhodes

The 39 Steps
by Patrick Barlow

INDECENT
אינדיקנט
by Paula Vogel

February
10-25, 2023
Directed by Shira Gitlin

INDECENT

April 28 -
May 13, 2023
Directed by Katie Swimm

LITTLE
WOMEN
the Broadway Musical

Book by Allan Knee
Music by Jason Howland
Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein
Michelle M. Aguillon (Director) Umbrella: Fences, Disgraced, To Kill a Mockingbird, True West. Others: The Piano Lesson, Rapture Blister Burn (Vokes), Hold These Truths (Hope Summer Rep), Sylvia, Passion (Theater Uncorked, DASH Winner 2022), Asian-American Playwright Collective PlayFest (Starlight), The Walking Plays (Lyric), Boston Resilience Project Plays: East Boston, Nos Vemos (Speakeasy), Augusta and Noble (Emerson), Vietgone (Company One), Proof (Central Square), Clybourne Park, Terra Nova, Of Mice and Men (Quannapowitt), Sense and Sensibility (Concord Players), Rabbit Hole (EMACTfest Winner 2014), Marjorie Prime, Pillowman, Kimberly Akimbo, Looking for Normal, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and G.R. Point (Hovey, IRNE Winner 2004). Michelle is the Executive Director of the Creative Arts School in Reading. She is a proud board member at EMACT and StageSource. In March 2023, Michelle directs the world premiere of Middleton Heights by Hortense Gerardo at The Umbrella. (she/her/hers)

Kate Hamill (Playwright) is a playwright and actor based in NYC. For the last three seasons she has been included on the most produced playwright list in American Theatre Magazine. Her most recent work includes the virtual production of Badass Galboss Power Hour for Primary Stages; Dracula at Classic Stage Company; the New York premiere of Little Women by Primary Stages (commissioned and received its world premiere at The Jungle Theater in Minneapolis); and Mansfield Park which was commissioned by and debuted at Northlight Theater. This past season she debuted Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson-#2B at Kansas City Rep and Emma at The Guthrie. Kate’s adaptation of Jane Austen’s Sense & Sensibility (in which she originated the role of Marianne Dashwood) had its world premiere off-Broadway, produced by Bedlam. Sense & Sensibility was named one of the “Top Ten Plays of 2014” by both Ben Brantley of the New York Times and by the Huffington Post, which called it “the greatest stage adaptation of
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this novel in history.” It reopened in New York in January of 2016 at the Gym at Judson where it ran for almost 300 performances. Sense & Sensibility had its regional debut in spring 2015 at Dallas Theater Center. It has been produced at the Folger Theatre in Washington DC (four Helen Hayes awards), The Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis and theaters around the country. Her adaptation of Vanity Fair debuted at The Pearl Theater in 2017 with an extended run and was seen in a co-production between Shakespeare Theater in DC and American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. Her adaptation of Pride and Prejudice started at Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival in a production that moved to Primary Stages, in an extended production. Pride and Prejudice received an Off Broadway Alliance nomination for Best Unique Theatrical Experience. The play was also seen at WaterTower Theater in Addison, TX and Seattle Rep and has now been licensed nationwide. She is currently working on an adaptations of The Odyssey which will be produced by ART, as well as several new original plays, including The Piper (2019 O’Neill NPC finalist; PlayPenn selection) and The Prostitute Play (developed at Cygnet Theater). www.katehamill.com.

Sydney Boncoddo (Stage Manager) was last seen at The Umbrella as the Stage Manager of Fences and The Joy Luck Club in 2019, and Disgraced in 2018. She has also Stage Managed at other theaters in the area, including for American Buffalo, Black Comedy and Coyote on a Fence at Acme Theater and Rocket Man, Oscar & Felix and The Pillowman (NH Community Theater award for Excellence in Stage Management) at Hovey Players. She is grateful to be back at The Umbrella for this exciting new production. Her hometown is Carlisle, MA and she currently lives in Boxborough, MA.

James Cannon (Sound Designer) is a freelance audio engineer, sound designer, composer, and music producer from Chicago, IL, and currently based in Watertown, MA. Recent theatrical credits include: The View Upstairs (Speakeasy Stage), Well, Straight White Men (Hovey Players), The Rocky Horror Show, Passing Strange (Moonbox Productions), The Last Wide Open, The Old Man & The Old Moon, Head Over Heels, The
SeifAllah Salotto-Cristobal (Lighting Designer) is excited to be back at The Umbrella Stage Company for his 10th season. He has been telling stories using light and video for the past 17 years. He holds a Master of Fine Arts in Design from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a focus on Lighting and Projection Design. His career has taken him across the country and has allowed him to design for many companies in Opera, Dance, and Theater including most recently at Opera Maine (Portland, ME), Portland Stage Company (Portland, ME), Portland Theater Festival (Portland, ME), Brown/Trinity Rep MFA Program (Providence, RI), Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts (Warsaw, IN), and Theater at Monmouth (Monmouth, ME). He currently serves as the Assistant Professor of Lighting Design at the University of Southern Maine where he brings his knowledge and experience to help shape the next generation of theater professionals, focusing on developing complete storytelling. www.seif.design

Erin Field (Sound Board Operator) is an interdisciplinary theater artist based out of Boston, Massachusetts. She recently graduated from Suffolk University with a BA in Theatre Arts with a focus in stage management, playwriting, directing and sound design. This is her first production with The Umbrella Stage Co. Recent credits include Matilda (Break A Leg Theater Works), Maytag Virgin (Hovey Players) and Fall Showcase 2021 (Suffolk University). (she/her/hers)

Sarah Flanagan (Fight Director) is a freelance Fight Director and Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors. She has trained here in the states, as well as with the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat, Stage Combat Deutschland, and the Historical European Martial Arts Alliance. Every summer, Sarah coordinates the National Stage Combat Workshop—the biggest workshop of its kind. Sarah works primarily on the East Coast; trusty dog and a bag full of...
swords in tow. They choreograph for plays, musicals, and ballets, and have begun branching into film. When not on the road, you’re likely to find them out on the Charles in their kayak, or up a tree with a book. Fights By Flanagan is available for Fight Direction, Movement Direction, Stage Combat Classes, and Weapons Rentals. Recent productions include As You Like It (Louisville Ballet); Shrike, and Truth or Consequences (Fresh Ink); Romeo and Juliet (Ole Miss); and Boom (Wellesley Repertory Theatre). (she/they)

Valerie Forgione (Music Composer) has been composing music for independent theater and film for over a decade. She has received three DASH awards, including one for 29 Short Pieces for Solo Cello, written exclusively for The Mai at AFD. Her work has been featured on prime time television and in film, advertisements, podcasts, and video games. She is also comfortable on stage, having appeared as Mary Magdalene in Boston Rock’s Jesus Christ Superstar, Bitsy Mae in Sordid Lives, and most recently in Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Romeo & Juliet at QP. The singer and multi-instrumentalist remains active in the local music scene and fronts the Boston-based band, Lovina Falls. www.lovinafalls.com, @lovinafalls

Melody (Yu-Hsuan) Hsu (Scenic Design) is a multidisciplinary artist from Taiwan. She graduated from Emerson College with a BFA in Design/Technology and a MA in Media Design. Her recent works include scenic and costume design for Hold These Truths (Hope Repertory Theatre) and production design for Space Girl by Frances Forever. Beyond her work in theater and film, Melody is a socially engaged civic designer. Most recently, she was a summer fellow with the Boston Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics, leading collaborations with governmental and community stakeholders to generate momentum for creativity and a sense of community. Melody continues to dedicate her time to delivering multimedia experiences for equity as she curates work that strives to express, educate, and entertain.
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TheUmbrellaStage.org | 978.371.0820
Kayleigh Kane *(Intimacy Director)* is a Boston-based theatrical intimacy professional and multi-disciplinary artist. She’s received training from Intimacy Directors and Choreographers, Theatrical Intimacy Education, National Society of Intimacy Professionals, and more. Recent intimacy direction credits include *The Moors* at Entropy Theatre, *Marriage or MADE* at Harvard University, and *Head Over Heels* here at The Umbrella Stage Company. In addition to designing movement and intimacy for scripted theater, Kayleigh teaches and performs at ImprovBoston, where she enjoys helping people of all backgrounds unlock their creativity through improvisation. In everything she does, Kayleigh is a joyful believer in pushing the boundaries of the art form while supporting the boundaries of the artists. Learn more at kayleighkane.com.

Sarajane Morse Mullins *(Props Master)* is a Boston-based actor and theater artist. Previous Umbrella credits for properties and set dressings include *Tuck Everlasting*, *42nd Street*, *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Dash Nomination), and *Joy Luck Club*. Past appearances on The Umbrella stage include Lucille in *Parade* (Dash Nomination), Blanche Barrow in *Bonnie and Clyde* (Arts Impulse nomination, DASH nomination), and ensemble roles in *Tuck Everlasting*, *Big Fish* and *Evita*. SJ holds a BFA in Theater Arts from Boston University and trained abroad with the London Academy of Music and Drama. She has appeared at The Huntington Theater Company, Greater Boston Stage Company, Turtle Lane Playhouse, and over 50 productions in the Midwest. She annually adjudicates for the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild. More at www.officiallysarajane.com

Johnny Penney *(Assistant Stage Manager)* has worked as a fly captain and stage carpenter at The Umbrella since its production of *42nd Street* in 2019. He most recently was assistant stage manager on The Umbrella’s production of *The Last Wide Open* and *The Old Man and The Old Moon*. He has also worked as a crew chief for the Opera Institute’s production of *The Cunning Little Vixen* and as fly captain/stage operations staff member for several seasons at The Glimmerglass Festival.
ABOUT THE UMBRELLA

OUR MISSION
The Umbrella enriches lives and builds a vibrant and inclusive community through the arts. We promote creativity, learning, personal growth, and cultural exchange through accessible arts education programs, performing and visual arts presentations, and community collaborations.

OUR HISTORY
Land Acknowledgement: Related to our mission of enriching lives and building a vibrant, inclusive community through the arts, we would like to acknowledge that the land we use for classes and events—the land on which The Umbrella is built here in the Musketaquid area—are the original homelands of the Nipmuc and Massachusett peoples. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory, and we honor and respect the many diverse Indigenous peoples still connected to this land on which we gather.

The Building: Built as a high school in 1929 and the town’s first steelbeamed structure, Emerson School has long been an important historic and architectural landmark in downtown Concord. The building served as a public school for more than five decades before it was deemed obsolete and insufficient for a growing student population.

The Organization: In the early 1980’s, a group of Concord volunteers and visionaries realized that the aging Emerson School building, slated for demolition, could be saved and converted into a community arts center. So, in 1982, The Umbrella’s founders obtained tax-exempt status as a private non-profit organization and developed a detailed multi-use proposal for the building, which the Board of Selectmen approved in 1983. This agreement retains the spirit of the original deed, which states that the land will be used for education, and is still in place today. The Town of Concord retains ownership of the building, which it leases to The Umbrella Arts Center, which in turn is responsible for programming, operating, building maintenance, and capital improvement costs.

The Umbrella, Inc. is a qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
Anna Silva (Costume Design) has been costuming in and around the Boston area for the better part of 20 years. *Disgraced* at The Umbrella, *Titanic* at North Shore Music Theater, and *Piano Lesson* at Vokes Players are some of her most recent work. She is thrilled to be back at The Umbrella with this amazing cast and crew.

Sara Valentine (Dialect Coach) is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine where she directs for the department main stage and teaches classes in acting, voice and speech, and public speaking. Her voice training and teaching is based after the Roy Hart voice approach, having studied with teachers of the Centre Artistique International Roy Hart (CAIRN) since 2005. Sara is a member of CenteredHeartCollective.com in Maine where she leads the workshops “Expressed Voice, Empowered Self”. She holds an MFA in Acting from the University of Delaware Professional Theatre Training Program. She is co-creator of the weekly astrology podcast SisterStargazers.com and the YouTube series Taphotopia.com.

Jingwen Zhang (Assistant Stage Manager) graduated from Emerson College, Theater BFA. A bilingual artist working internationally. Currently working in Boston as a freelance director, playwright, and stage manager. Directed *The Orphan of Zhao: A Modern Adaptation* in Chuang Stage, *Love, and Everything Related* (Online theater). Worked as the stage manager in *A Deal, Ghost of Keelung* with Chuang Stage, and *The Flight of a Legless Bird* in Beijing Prism Theater Festival. Also served as assistant stage manager in *The Colored Museum* with The Umbrella Stage Company and worked as the production assistant for *Much Ado About Nothing* at Commonwealth Shakespeare Company.
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Director.......................................................... Michelle Aguillon
Music Composer............................................... Valerie Forgione
Stage Manager............................................... Sydney Boncoddo
Assistant Stage Managers................................. Johnny Penney  
                                           Jingwen Zhang
Scenic Design.................................................... Melody Hsu
Lighting Design............................. SeifAllah Sallotto-Cristobal
Sound Design.............................................. James Cannon
Costume Design.............................................. Anna Silva
Properties and Set Dressing.................. Sarajane Morse Mullins
Technical Director........................................... Al Forgione
Intimacy Director............................................... Kayleigh Kane
Fight Director............................................... Sarah Flanagan
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