A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN

WRITTEN BY EUGENE O’NEILL
DIRECTED BY WILLIAM BROWN

Featuring Jim DeVita*, Eric Parks*, Cage Sebastian Pierre, A.C. Smith* and Bethany Thomas*.

Scenic Designer: Todd Rosenthal, USA
Costume Designer: Rachel Anne Healy, USA
Lighting Designer: Jesse Klug, USA
Sound Designer: Andrew Hansen
Properties Master: Scott Dickens
Casting Director: Geoff Button
Dramaturg: Regina Victor
Violence & Intimacy Director: Elizabeth Laidlaw
Production Stage Manager: David Castelanos*

*Denotes Members of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers

Use of cameras, video recorders, audio recorders and/or any other type of recording device during a performance is strictly prohibited.

Additional support for A Moon for the Misbegotten provided by the Director’s Society Sponsors.

A Moon for the Misbegotten is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

Use of cameras, video recorders, audio recorders and/or any other type of recording device during a performance is strictly prohibited.
CAST

James Tyrone, Jr. ................................................................. Jim DeVita*
T. Stedman Harder .............................................................. Eric Parks*
Mike Hogan ................................................................. Cage Sebastian Pierre
Phil Hogan ................................................................. A.C. Smith*
Josie Hogan ................................................................. Bethany Thomas*

UNDERSTUDIES

Mike Hogan ................................................................. Terry Bell
T. Stedman Harder .............................................................. Ty Fanning
James Tyrone, Jr. .............................................................. Eric Parks*
Phil Hogan ................................................................. André Teamer*
Josie Hogan ................................................................. Demetria Thomas*

SETTING

The Hogan Farm, Connecticut
1923

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director ................................................................. William Brown, SDC
Production Stage Manager .................................................... David Castellanos*
Scenic Designer ................................................................. Todd Rosenthal, USA
Costume Designer ................................................................. Rachel Anne Healy, USA
Lighting Designer ................................................................. Jesse Klug, USA
Sound Designer ................................................................. Andrew Hansen
Properties Master ................................................................. Scott Dickens
Casting Director ................................................................. Geoff Dickens
Dramaturg ................................................................. Regina Victor
Violence & Intimacy Director ........................................................... Elizabeth Laidlaw
Assistant Director ................................................................. Karen Janes Woditsch
Assistant Stage Manager ........................................................... Janelle Boudreau
Deck Crew ................................................................. Vanessa Gomez
Light Board Programmers ........................................................... Jack Horwitch, William Murphy
Light Board Operator ................................................................. Karen M. Thompson
Scene Shop/Scenic Construction .................................................. Means of Production
Draper ................................................................. Emily Waecker
Wig and Hair Design ................................................................. Penny Lane Studios
Costume Shopper, Painter, Dyer ........................................................... Katie Friedman
Stitcher ................................................................. Janelle Mano
Technical Supervisor ................................................................. Adam Veness
Wardrobe Supervisor ................................................................. Jane Heuer
Costume Supervisor ................................................................. Emily Waecker
Master Electrician ................................................................. Simon Robinson
Sound Engineer ................................................................. Amanda Hosking

SPECIAL THANKS

Sarah Heberlein, Lurvey Landscape Supply, David Olshansky and Roberta Olshansky.

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_The Pirates of Penzance_
June 2018

Cole Porter’s
_Anthing Goes_
August 2018

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_Come Rain or Come Shine_
starring Angela Ingersoll
October 2018

Stephen Sondheim’s
_Into the Woods_
December 2018

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Writers Theatre is thrilled to welcome back ComEd as its Official Lighting Sponsor for the 2017/18 Season. ComEd is a longtime supporter of the arts in Chicagoland, and Writers Theatre is honored to partner with a company that acknowledges the power of theatre to contribute to the health and vitality of our community by bringing us together. ComEd previously served as Official Lighting Sponsor for the 25th Anniversary Season, the 2015/16 Season, and for The Diary of Anne Frank and Doubt: A Parable during the 2014/15 Season. Writers Theatre is extremely grateful to once again have ComEd’s partnership.
SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT:
THE ELIZABETH F. CHENEY FOUNDATION

Writers Theatre is pleased and honored to recognize The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation for its instrumental and ongoing support this year for the production of A Moon for the Misbegotten. The Foundation has been generously providing funding to Writers Theatre for more than a decade, underwriting such productions as The Scene, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody, Marjorie Prime, The Diary of Anne Frank, Isaac’s Eye, The Dance of Death, Port Authority, The Letters, Heartbreak House and A Streetcar Named Desire, among many others. Writers Theatre is profoundly grateful to the Foundation for its years of partnership including this year’s substantial investment. Thank you!

The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation
FOUNDATION SUPPORT

WRITERS THEATRE SALUTES
CONSOLIDATED ELECTRONIC WIRE & CABLE
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Writers Theatre is pleased to recognize Consolidated Electronic Wire & Cable, Corporate Sponsor of A Moon for the Misbegotten. Consolidated Electronic Wire & Cable is a returning supporter of Writers Theatre, having previously sponsored Parade, Company, Doubt: A Parable, The Dance of Death, and Yellow Moon, among others. Writers Theatre is extremely grateful to have Consolidated’s renewed partnership in support of A Moon for the Misbegotten.
A tale of family, prejudice, desire, and the Cubs with echoes of A Streetcar Named Desire.

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A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN

Jim DeVita (James Tyrone, Jr.) makes his Writers Theatre debut. DeVita, a native of Long Island, NY, is an author, actor and theatre director. Jim is primarily based in Wisconsin where he has been a core-company member of American Players Theater (APT) for twenty-three years. Some directing credits include Richard III, Romeo and Juliet, Gift of the Magi, The Desert Queen and Cyrano de Bergerac. Recent acting credits Eddie in A View from the Bridge (APT), Poet in An Iliad (Milwaukee Repertory, APT) and Valmont in Dangerous Liaisons (ACT, Seattle). Along with his novels, A Winsome Murder, The Silenced and Blue, Jim has also worked extensively as a playwright. Some of his plays include Learning to Stay, Christmas in Babylon, Gift of the Magi (musical adaptation), In Acting Shakespeare, The Desert Queen (the life of Gertrude Bell), Dickens in America and a new adaptation of Cyrano de Bergerac. Jim has also worked for many years as a playwright for young audiences. His work has been acknowledged with The Distinguished Play Award from The American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE), The Intellectual Freedom Award and The AATE honored his body of work with the Charlotte B. Chorpenning Award. Jim’s education began as a first mate on the charter boat JIB VII out of Captree Boat Basin, NY. He then studied theatre at Suffolk County Community College, Long Island, and at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He also attended Madison Area Technical College where he was licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician. Jim is a member of The Dramatists Guild, Actors’ Equity Association and a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship for Fiction.

Eric Parks (T. Stedman Harder, u/s James Tyrone, Jr.) returns to Writers Theatre where he previously appeared in As You Like It. He also Assistant Directed Company and Doubt. He has worked in Chicago at the Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Northlight Theatre and Drury Lane Oakbrook. Regionally, he has worked with American Players Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Syracuse Stage, Nebraska Shakespeare Festival and the Utah Shakespearean Festival. Eric holds a BFA from Pacific Lutheran University and an MFA from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Cage Sebastian Pierre (Mike Hogan) makes his Writers Theatre debut. Other Chicago credits include Short Shakes! Romeo and Juliet at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. His upcoming credits include Macbeth at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Regional credits include American Players Theatre. Mr. Pierre received his BFA from the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theatre BFA Actor Training Program.
A.M. Smith (Phil Hogan) returns to Writers Theatre, where he previously appeared in *East Texas Hot Links*. In Chicago, Smith considers the Court Theatre to be his home where he has worked for the past eight years or so in productions ranging from Moliere to the great August Wilson and a host of other classic works. Smith received the Joseph Jefferson Award for his portrayal of Troy Maxson in Court Theatre’s production of *Fences*. Regional credits include Clarence Brown Theatre (Knoxville, TN), Portland Stage Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre Center, Peninsula Players Theatre and The Black Rep, where he has been a company member for 21 years and is a nine-time Woodie King, Jr. Award winner. Broadway National tour credits include *The Piano Lesson* directed by Lloyd Richards. Off-Broadway credits include the title role in *Jelly Belly* (Audelco Award Nomination—New Federal Theatre). Smith has appeared in film, television, radio, voice-over, commercials and in *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines.

Bethany Thomas (Josie Hogan) returns to Writers Theatre where she previously appeared in *She Loves Me*. A Chicago-based actor and singer, her credits include *Marry Me A Little, Into The Woods, Nine, In Trousers* (Porchlight Music Theatre), *The Tempest* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), *Porgy and Bess* (Court Theatre), *Hairspray, Charlotte’s Web* (Drury Lane Oakbrook), *Hair* (Paramount Theatre), *Fiorello!* (TimeLine Theatre), also work with Second City, About Face Theatre, The Inconvenience, Theo Ubique, Congo Square, Theatre at the Center, Marriott Lincolnshire, Hell In A Handbag and American Theater Company. Regional credits include *Iphigenia In Aulis* (Getty Villa), *The Color Purple, Ain’t Misbehavin’, Ragtime, Man Of La Mancha, A Christmas Carol* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Geva Theatre). Bethany appeared in the second seasons of *Empire* (FOX) and *You’re So Talented* (OpenTV). She is the proud recipient of a Joseph Jefferson Award, an After Dark Award and a Black Theatre Alliance Award. As a singer/songwriter, Bethany is a regular contributor at Salonathon and The Paper Machete, and has done several performance residencies at The Hideout and Steppenwolf’s LookOut series. She’s done concerts for WBEZ, WFMT, WTTW and the Chicago Humanities Festival, and was a featured local artist in Renee Fleming’s Chicago Voices Project at the Lyric Opera. Most recently, she’s been touring the country as one quarter of the alt-country project Jon Langford’s *Four Lost Souls* (self-titled album out on Bloodshot Records), and she released an EP of her own music called *First*. Bethany is represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent. Cheers to Bill and Geoff for the great honor. Love you, Mom. bethanythomasmusic.com.

Terry Bell (u/s Mike Hogan) makes his Writers Theatre debut. Terry’s previous theatre credits include *Puff: Believe It Or Not* (Remy Bumppo Theatre Company), *Sylvester: Or the Wicked Uncle* (Lifeline Theatre), *The My Way Residential* (Irish Theatre of Chicago),
**A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN PROFILES**

*The Snowy Day and Other Stories* (Emerald City Theatre) and *Cymbeline* (Strawdog Theatre), to name a few. Terry has also worked on commercials for companies like Target and Pizza Hut, done voice-overs for Best Buy and Magnolia, worked on numerous independent films and done print-ads for companies such as Opti-Free. He is proudly represented by Gray Talent Group.

**Ty Fanning (u/s T. Stedman Harder)**

makes his Writers Theatre debut. Ty was most recently seen in the 2017 season at American Players Theatre in *Three Sisters, A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Other credits include Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, The Road Theatre Company where he is a Company Member, The Sherry, Door Shakespeare, Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, Muse of Fire, Blue Line Shakespeare Festival and unMasqued Theatre. Film/TV credits include *Home Run, Hollis, Dancing in the Chamber, Nora* and Bob Dylan’s *Like a Rolling Stone* music video. He received his BFA in Acting from Oklahoma City University.

**André Teamer (u/s Phil Hogan)**


**Demetria Thomas (u/s Josie Hogan)**

makes her Writers Theatre debut. Demetria earned her Bachelor’s degree in Theatre from Grand Valley State University, and her MFA from the University of Houston. After completing a turn as a Journeyman at The Warehouse Theatre in Greenville, SC, Demetria relocated to Chicago. Chicago credits include *Tawanda in Live Bait’s production of Love Child, Cass in Stage Left’s production of Burying the Bones and Erica in MPAACT’s The Divine Order of Becoming*, for which she received a Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Actress. Regional credits include Eunice in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (American Players Theatre), *Doubt* (New Stage Theater), *Medea* (Warehouse Theatre), Mistress Ford in *Merry Wives of Windsor, Phoebe in As You Like It* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival) and *Helena in Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival). Demetria is represented by Paonessa Talent in Chicago.
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William Brown (Director) returns to Writers Theatre, where he previously directed Company, Doubt: A Parable, Port Authority, The Liar, A Little Night Music, Heartbreak House, Do the Hustle, Old Glory, As You Like It, Another Part of the Forest, Arms and the Man, Our Town, Rocket to the Moon, Misalliance, Incident at Vichy and The Glass Menagerie. He also appeared as an actor in Bus Stop, Nixon’s Nixon, Candida, Private Lives, Dear Master and Butley. Bill has directed 17 productions at American Players Theatre in Spring Green, WI, including Three Sisters, King Lear, Travesties, The Importance of Being Earnest, All My Sons, Troilus and Cressida, The Critic, Hay Fever, The Comedy of Errors, Night of the Iguana, Antony and Cleopatra, All’s Well That Ends Well, You Never Can Tell and The Matchmaker. He directed and wrote (with Doug Frew) To Master the Art for TimeLine Theatre, where he is an Associate Artist and most recently directed the world premiere of Susan Felder’s Wasteland. He has directed four plays at Northlight, including his own adaptation with music of She Stoops to Conquer. He directed Skylight at Court Theatre and at Indiana Rep, Around the World in Eighty Days and Fallen Angels. Recently he directed Singin' in the Rain at Marriott Lincolnshire. He is the Associate Artistic Director of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, where he has directed and performed since 1980. He regularly teaches and directs at universities across the country, most recently University of Houston, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Northwestern University. As an actor Brown has appeared in over a hundred productions. He appeared as Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol at Goodman Theatre, where he also appeared in Light up the Sky, Sunday in the Park with George, The Misanthrope and Wings. At Court Theatre, he appeared as Falstaff in Henry IV, Jack in The Importance of Being Earnest and Almady in The Play’s The Thing. He created the role of Jody in Steven Dietz’s Lonely Planet (Northlight Theatre). Brown received a Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Director for The Liar (Writers Theatre) and a Best Actor award for his portrayal of Henry Kissinger in Nixon’s Nixon (Writers Theatre). He received a 2010 Spirit of Diversity Award from Actors’ Equity Association and was named Chicagoan of the Year for Theatre by the Chicago Tribune in 2003. williambrowndirector.com
David Castellanos (Production Stage Manager) returns for his 17th season with Writers Theatre—the longest he has worked at any institution. Some of David's favorite WT productions have been Crime and Punishment, A Minister's Wife, Our Town and The Old Man and The Old Moon. Castellanos began his training at The Theatre School at DePaul University and graduated with a B.F.A. in Production Stage Management. David worked at several small theaters in Chicago and around the country before returning home. He worked for three seasons at Northlight Theatre and four seasons at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. David also teaches at the University of Illinois at Chicago’s theatre program. David is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association.

Todd Rosenthal (Scenic Designer) returns to Writers Theatre, where he previously designed Company. Broadway credits include August: Osage County (2008 Tony Award for Best Scenic Design), The Motherf*cker with the Hat (2011 Outer Critic’s Circle Nomination and Tony Nomination for Best Scenic Design), Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (2013 Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play), Of Mice and Men (filmed by National Theatre Live), This is Our Youth and Fish in the Dark. Upcoming Broadway includes Straight White Men. Select Off-Broadway includes Red Light Winter (Barrow Street Theatre), Domesticated (Lincoln Center Theatre), Close Up Space (Manhattan Theatre Club) and The Qualms (Playwrights Horizons). Set designer for six years for Big Apple Circus. International credits August: Osage Country...
County (London & Australia), The Beauty Queen of Leenane (Ireland), Madama Butterfly (Irish National Opera) and Nice Fish (London’s West End). Regional work includes Steppenwolf (30 productions), Goodman Theatre (artistic partner), Guthrie Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, American Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage, Alliance Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Lyric Opera of Chicago and many others. Museum exhibitions include “Mythbusters: The Explosive Exhibition” and “The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes.” He has received many other accolades including the Laurence Olivier Award, the Helen Hayes Award, the Ovation Award, the Joseph Jefferson Award, the Bay Area Theater Critics Circle Award and the Michael Merritt Award for Excellence in Design and Collaboration. He has been nominated for four American Theater Wing Henry Hewes Design Awards for best set design. Todd is a full-time Professor at Northwestern University and a graduate of the Yale Drama School.

Jesse Klug (Lighting Designer) returns to Writers Theatre where he previously designed Julius Caesar, Company, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody, Days Like Today, A Little Night Music, Travels with My Aunt, Oh Coward!, Heartbreak House and The Liar. Off-Broadway credits include The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity (Lortel, Hewes nominations), The Screwtape Letters (Off-Broadway and National Tour), Romulus and The Hunchback Variations. Regional credits include the Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Marriott Theatre Lincolnshire, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Indiana Repertory Theatre, American Players Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, Paramount Theatre Aurora, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Victory Gardens Theater, Geffen Playhouse, The Old Globe, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Court Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Northlight Theatre and Virginia Stage Company. International credits include Edinburgh Fringe Festival, INFANT, Market Theatre of South Africa, Sydney Fringe Festival, as well as others on five different continents. Awards include Joseph Jefferson, After Dark and Broadwayworld.com. jessekluglightingdesign.com

Rachel Anne Healy (Costume Designer) returns to Writers Theatre where she previously designed Company, Arcadia, Doubt: A Parable, The Liar, Yellow Moon, The Letters, A Little Night Music, Heartbreak House, Do the Hustle, Oh Coward!, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, A Minister’s Wife, Old Glory, The Maids, As You Like It, The Turn of the Screw, Bach at Leipzig, Another Part of the Forest, The Uneasy Chair, Arms and the Man, Our Town, The Subject Was Roses, Seagull, The Doctor’s Dilemma, Benefactors, My Own Stranger, Crime and Punishment, Rough Crossing, Rocket to the Moon and Misalliance. Based in Chicago, Ms. Healy’s costume designs have been seen on numerous stages including Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Chicago Children’s Theatre, Court Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, American Theater Company, Next Theatre Company and Remy Bumppo Theatre Company. Regionally, she has designed with the Alliance Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, First Stage Children’s Theatre of Milwaukee, American Players Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company and Delaware Theatre Company. Ms. Healy is also a professor at Loyola University Chicago, teaching costume design and rendering techniques to theatre designers. rahealy.com
A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN

PROGRAM

A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN PROFILES

Andrew Hansen (Sound Designer) returns to Writers Theatre, where he previously designed The Mystery of Love & Sex, Doubt: A Parable, Port Authority, The Liar, A Little Night Music, Heartbreak House, Do the Hustle, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Old Glory, As You Like It, Bach at Leipzig, Another Part of the Forest, Bus Stop, Arms and the Man, Our Town, Rocket to the Moon and Misalliance. Andrew Hansen is an Associate Artist at TimeLine Theatre where credits include The Audience, In The Next Room (or The Vibrator Play), The History Boys and To Master the Art. Regionally he has worked with American Players Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre and Montana Shakespeare In The Parks.

Regina Victor (Dramaturg) makes their Writers Theatre debut. Regina is a non-binary femme of color (pronouns are they/she/he) born and raised in Oakland California, now residing in Chicago. They consider civic engagement, mentorship and social justice to be the core of their artistic practice. In Spring 2017 Regina Victor co-produced and facilitated a panel on Cultivating Critics of Color at Chicago Dramatists, and has co-founded Rescripted, an artist-led online journal for criticism and essays with Katherine O’Keefe (www.rescripted.org). A producer, dramaturg, director, writer and performer, Regina has worked with Steppenwolf Theatre Company, California Shakespeare Theater, Walkabout Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, About Face (AIDSONstage), Shattered Globe Theatre, African American Shakespeare Company, Chicago Dramatists and more. They are currently serving as the Steppenwolf Multicultural Fellow and Artistic Apprentice in the Artistic Department for the 2017/18 Season. You can catch Regina next as a dramaturg on Strawdog’s Damascus, a political thriller by Ben Fisher. Stay up to date at reginavictor.com.

Elizabeth Laidlaw (Violence & Intimacy Director) returns to Writers Theatre, where she previously performed in The Maids. Appeared in The U.N. Inspector (Next Theatre). Chicago stage credits include: The Two Noble Kinsmen, Kabuki Lady Macbeth, As You Like It, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Thyestes, Phedre, Life Is a Dream (Court Theatre), work with Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, About Face Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, The Journeymen, Pegasus Players, Strawdog Theatre Company, among many others. Regional credits include: The Birthday Party (American Repertory Theater), Mrs. Warren’s Profession and A Servant of Two Masters (Irish Classical Theatre Company). Feature films include: Eastern College, Dimension and Three Days. She is the founder and artistic director of Lakeside Shakespeare Theatre, directing or acting in every production since its inception in 2003. She received her BFA from Illinois Wesleyan University and completed post-graduate training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art of London, UK. Thank you and love to her husband, Gilbert Langlois and their son, Owen. elizabethlaidlaw.com

Karen Janes Woditsch (Assistant Director) returns to Writers Theatre, where she previously assistant directed Arcadia. She has also previously appeared as a performer in The Importance of Being Earnest, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody, Doubt: A Parable, Do the Hustle, Yellow Moon, Heartbreak House, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, The Beats, Blake, Butley, Candida, The Doctor's Dilemma, Fallen Angels, In the Heart of Winter ‘93 - ‘96, Love & Lunacy,
Othello (After Dark Award - Outstanding Performance), A Phoenix too Frequent, A Play on Words, Rocket to the Moon, The Seagull and Spite for Spite. Chicago credits include Harvey, M. Butterfly (Court Theatre), Romeo and Juliet, Taming of the Shrew, Measure for Measure (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Domesticated (Steppenwolf Theatre Company), Rapture, Blister, Burn, A Christmas Carol, Crumbs from the Table of Joy (Goodman Theatre), To Master the Art (TimeLine Theatre Company and Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, Joseph Jefferson Award nomination - Actress in a Principal Role) and many others. Regional credits include nine seasons with Peninsula Players Theatre, and a summer with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks. TV credits include Patriot (Amazon), Chicago P.D., Crisis (NBC) and Runner (ABC). Film credits include Bad Johnson and American Fable. wojanes.wix.com/karen-janes-woditsch.

Janelle Boudreau (Assistant Stage Manager) returns to Writers Theatre, where she previously assistant stage managed The Importance of Being Earnest, The Mystery of Love & Sex, The Scene, The Hunter and The Bear, Julius Caesar, Company and Arcadia. Other credits include Red Kite, Brown Box tour (Chicago Children’s Theatre), Christina, The Girl King (Cor Theatre), The Tempest, Short Shakespeare! Macbeth (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Abraham Lincoln Was a Fa**ot (About Face Theatre) and Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play (Theater Wit).

Eugene O’Neill (Playwright) began writing for the stage early in the 20th century; the American theatre was dominated by vaudeville and romantic melodramas. Influenced by Strindberg, Ibsen and other European playwrights, O’Neill vowed to create a theatre in America, stripped of false sentimentality, which would explore the deepest stirrings of the human spirit. In 1914, he wrote: “I want to be an artist or nothing.” During the 1920s, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for three of his plays—Beyond the Horizon, Anna Christie and Strange Interlude. Other popular successes, including The Emperor Jones, The Hairy Ape, Desire Under the Elms, The Great God Brown and Mourning Becomes Electra, brought him international acclaim. In 1936, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature—the only American playwright to be so honored. O’Neill experimented with new dramatic techniques and dared tackle such controversial issues as interracial marriage, the equality of the sexes, the power of the unconscious mind, and the hold of materialism on the American soul. In each of his plays, he sought to reveal the mysterious forces “behind life” which shape human destiny. Three of his final works, written at Tao House, tower over the others: The Iceman Cometh, Long Day’s Journey into Night and A Moon for the Misbegotten. These autobiographical plays portray, with “faithful realism,” the haunting figures of his father, mother and brother who loom in the background of most of his other plays. He was awarded a fourth Pulitzer Prize, posthumously, in 1956 for Long Day’s Journey into Night. In a career which spanned three decades, Eugene O’Neill changed the American theatre forever.

Michael Halberstam (Artistic Director) is the co-founder of Writers Theatre. He has directed over thirty-five productions for the company, including Not About Heroes (starring Nicholas Pennell), Private Lives, Look Back In Anger, Candida, The Father, Crime and Punishment, Benefactors, The Seagull, The Duchess of Malfi, Othello, The
**Savannah Disputation**, the world premiere musical *A Minister’s Wife*, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, She Loves Me, The Real Thing, Hamlet, Sweet Charity, Days Like Today, Isaac's Eye, Arcadia, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody (which he co-directed with Stuart Carden), Julius Caesar (which he co-adapted and directed with Scott Parkinson) and The Importance of Being Earnest. Halberstam has appeared in numerous Writers Theatre productions, including Richard II (title role), Loot and Misalliance. Previously, he spent two years at The Stratford Festival in Ontario and performed in Timon of Athens, The Knight of the Burning Pestle (title role), Much Ado About Nothing and As You Like It.

Halberstam’s other Chicago acting credentials include productions with Wisdom Bridge Theater, Court Theatre and Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Elsewhere he directed The Gamester (Northlight Theatre), A Man for All Seasons (Peninsula Players Theatre), Hamlet (Illinois Shakespeare Festival), Candida (Jean Cocteau Repertory in New York), Ten Little Indians (Drury Lane Theatre), a highly acclaimed revival of Crime and Punishment, which Writers Theatre produced off-Broadway at 59E59 Theaters in New York City, Enchanted April and State of the Union (Milwaukee Repertory Theater). In 2011 he directed A Minister’s Wife at Lincoln Center Theater, and also directed the west coast premiere at San Jose Repertory Theatre in 2013. His forays into opera have included The Rape of Lucretia (Chicago Opera Theater), Francesca da Rimini featuring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Christoph Eschenbach and Le Freyshutz, a Berlioz adaptation of the Weber opera conducted by Christoph Eschenbach in its North American Premiere (Ravinia Festival). He spent two and a half years teaching Shakespeare at The Theatre School at DePaul University and has received awards for excellence in theater management and artistic achievement from The Chicago Drama League, The Arts & Business Council, Chicago Lawyers for the Creative Arts and The Chicago Associates of the Stratford Festival. He also received the 2010 Zelda Fichandler Award, the 2013 Artistic Achievement Award from the League of Chicago Theatres, was named Chicago Tribune’s 2013 "Chicagooan of the Year" for Theater; received the 2016 Award of Honor for Outstanding Contributions to the Field from the Illinois Theatre Association; a special award for 2016 from the Joseph Jefferson Award Committee for outstanding theatrical accomplishments and contributions to Chicagoland theatre for the past 25 years; and a distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Illinois. He currently serves on the board of the Arts Club of Chicago.

**Kathryn M. Lipuma (Executive Director)** has served as the Executive Director of Writers Theatre since March 2007 where she is responsible for overseeing all management, administration and operations for the company. Most recently, she led the planning and construction of Writers Theatre’s new state-of-the-art theater complex, designed by internationally renowned architect and MacArthur Fellow and "Genius" grant recipient Jeanne Gang of Studio Gang Architects, which opened in February 2016. Prior to Writers, Lipuma spent nine seasons as Executive Director at the Tony Award-winning Signature Theatre Company in New York. At Signature, she produced award-winning revivals of Horton Foote’s The Trip to...
Bountiful, August Wilson’s Seven Guitars and Lanford Wilson’s Burn This and worked with such acclaimed writers as Edward Albee, Lee Blessing, Horton Foote, Maria Irene Fornés, John Guare, Bill Irwin, Romulus Linney, Paula Vogel, August Wilson and Lanford Wilson. During her tenure, the organization enjoyed consistent growth and recognition as well as the launch of Signature Theatre Company’s successful $15 Ticket Program. Prior to her time at Signature, she spent six years with Chicago’s Goodman Theatre. Until the 2017-18 season, Lipuma served as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the League of Chicago Theatres, an alliance representing more than 200 Chicago-area theater companies and producers. She is currently the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre and serves as a member of the Arts and Culture subcommittee of The Chicago Network, an organization of 400 leading women of Chicago business, professional, cultural, nonprofit and educational communities. She is also the co-creator of DoNorth, an umbrella organization joining four cultural neighbors—Chicago Botanic Garden, Kohl Children’s Museum, Ravinia and Writers Theatre—to attract new audiences to the cultural, environmental and community activities of the North Shore. She is a graduate of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.
Writers Theatre’s education programs reach 11,500 students a year throughout Chicagoland. Our programs include Write On!, a customizable artist-in-residence program that pairs teaching artists with schools and community organizations to explore performance and text with a focus on encouraging young people to find their creative voices; The Novel Series, a cutting-edge theatre and literary arts curriculum designed to allow students to explore literature and the art of bringing text to life; The MLK Project: The Fight for Civil Rights, a touring performance written by Yolanda Androzzo that chronicles a student’s journey as she learns about the Civil Rights Movement; a student matinee series; ACTIVATE, a wrap-around in-school residency in conjunction with matinees, designed to deepen students’ experience with plays on our stages; and the WT Youth Council, an artistic leadership advisory board for motivated, passionate high school students interested in hands-on, in-depth exposure to arts administration.

Our audience engagement programming includes: Sunday Spotlight, featuring an expert in a field relating to the themes or setting of our productions; From Page to Stage, a public collaboration between Writers Theatre and select North Shore libraries and community partners that explores the literary and theatrical themes of our stage productions; The Making of... series that provides access to the process behind crafting our productions; Pre-Show Conversation: Up Close, pre-show discussion designed to provide context for the production; and Post-Show Conversation: The Word and The Artist, a facilitated post-show discussion of the play. All of these events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit writerstheatre.org/events.

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Photo of Michael Aaron Pogue and Bryce Gangel by Joe Mazza.
WRITERS THEATRE MISSION STATEMENT

Writers Theatre was founded to explore productions in which the word on the page and the artists that bring the word to life hold primary importance. Central to this mission are three important core values: **valuing text**, both classic and contemporary, as the fundamental source of inspiration; **creating deliberately intimate performances** where audiences are face-to-face with powerful stories; and **honoring the time and commitment of our artists** by remaining at the forefront of industry compensation. With a reputation for consistent artistic excellence, innovative educational programming and strong ties to our community, Writers Theatre has built an award-winning repertoire and today, serves as a vital and highly-regarded company in the Chicago theatre community.

WRITERS THEATRE HISTORY

In 1992, Writers Theatre was founded in order to create an environment where the written word and the nurturing of artists were the foundation of all productions. We opened our first venue that year in the anteroom of a newly opened bookstore in Glencoe on the North Shore of Chicago. The limited space available gave way to a new aesthetic that has been a company hallmark ever since—intimacy.

Under the artistic leadership of Founding Artistic Director Michael Halberstam, who continues in that role to this day, WT became a welcome addition to the already vibrant Chicago arts community. The Theatre quickly garnered significant critical acclaim and established a reputation as a home for world-class art and artists, opening a second performance space in 2003. Our inviting 108-seat Tudor Court space continued the company’s trademark level of intimacy while allowing for a new scale of production and affording the opportunity to expand audiences, programming and educational outreach.

Acclaimed by *The Wall Street Journal* as “America’s number one theatre company” in 2016, Writers has offered more than 100 productions, including 26 world premieres. We have garnered numerous awards and accolades, including 133 Joseph Jefferson Award nominations and 26 Awards, as well as multiple citations of Artistic Director Michael Halberstam for excellence and contributions to the field, including The 2010 Zelda Fichandler Award and the 2013 “Chicagoan of the Year in Theater” Award from the Chicago Tribune. In 2007, Writers debuted nationally with a New York premiere of *Crime and Punishment*, followed in 2011 by a Lincoln Center Theater production of *A Minister’s Wife*—the musical adaptation of George Bernard Shaw’s *Candida*, conceived and directed by Halberstam.

In February 2016, Writers Theatre opened a new, state-of-the-art facility. This established the company’s first permanent home in a new theatre center in downtown Glencoe, designed by the award-winning, internationally renowned Studio Gang Architects, led by Founder and Design Principal Jeanne Gang, FAIA, in collaboration with Theatre Consultant Auerbach Pollock Friedlander. The new facility has allowed the Theatre to continue to grow to accommodate its audience, while maintaining its trademark intimacy. The new facility resonates with and complements the Theatre’s neighboring Glencoe community, adding tremendous value to Chicagoland and helping to establish the North Shore as a premier cultural destination.
ABOUT THE WOMAN’S LIBRARY CLUB OF GLENCOE

The Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe shares the space at the theatre center holding meetings, luncheons, book clubs, bridge and other events at the building.

- The Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe, a 501(c)(3) organization, was incorporated on April 18, 1872. The WLC owns the land on which the WT theatre center sits and has provided use of the land to WT without charge.
- WLC is the third oldest woman’s club in Illinois for philanthropic, educational and social endeavors. The WLC book collection was donated to Glencoe to form the nucleus of the original library for Glencoe. WLC’s first building was used as a library until the current Glencoe Public Library was built.
- WLC members meet regularly to pursue the Club’s philanthropic, intellectual and social activities. For a full list of WLC activities and a current calendar, check wlcglencoe.com.
- Club members also staff the North Shore Exchange (an upscale consignment shop). This 501(c)(3) shop is a charitable arm of WLC and is located at 372 Hazel Avenue in Glencoe, 847-835-0026.

Membership in the Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe is open to all women interested in furthering the club’s goals. The current membership consists of over 120 women living in 10 area suburbs. If you are interested in becoming a member, pick up an application in the Writers Theatre lobby, email wlcglencoe@gmail.com or visit the website at wlcglencoe.com.

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For WLC news, activities, and events calendar, visit [www.wlcglencoe.org](http://www.wlcglencoe.org)
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