PROUDLY PRESENTS
THE MIDWEST PREMIERE OF

COSMOLOGIES

WRITTEN BY ENSEMBLE MEMBER David Rabe
DIRECTED BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Michael Patrick Thornton

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Grace Bolander

COSTUME DESIGNER
** Izumi Inaba

PROPERTIES DESIGNER
Reagan James

SCENIC CO-DESIGNER
** Courtney O’Neill

SCENIC CO-DESIGNER
Angela McIlvain

SCENIC ARTIST
Natalie Santoro

ORIGINAL MUSIC & SOUND DESIGNER
** Christopher Kriz

LIGHTING DESIGNER
** Charles Cooper

MASTER ELECTRICIAN
Joseph Clavell

FIGHT DIRECTOR, SAFD
John Tovar

STAGE MANAGER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
* Sarah Luse

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Lindy Forman

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
David Preis

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers
** Member of United Scenic Artists • Local USA 829 • IATSE

October 19 – December 9, 2018

The Gift Theatre Company
4802 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630
(773) 283-7071 | www.thegifttheatre.org
“Come Closer.”

The Gift Theatre Company

FEATURING (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Convict ...........................................................................................................................................  *+ John Kelly Connolly
Richard ..........................................................................................................................................  *+ James D. Farruggio
Milt / Priest .....................................................................................................................................  + Gregory Fenner
Cop 1 ...............................................................................................................................................  + Martel Manning
Eric ....................................................................................................................................................  + Kenny Mihlfried
Teddy ..................................................................................................................................................  *+ Darci Nalepa
Cop 2 ..................................................................................................................................................  + Hannah Toriumi

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers

+Indicates Gift Ensemble Member

UNDERSTUDIES

Convict / Richard .................................................................................................................................. Joshua K. Harris
Teddy .................................................................................................................................................... Emma Palizza
Eric / Milt / Priest ................................................................................................................................. Stephen Rosenberger
Cop 1 and Cop 2 .................................................................................................................................. Max Thomas

Understudies do not substitute for listed players unless an announcement is made at the time of the performance.

SHOW INFORMATION

ACT ONE
TIME: Dusk  PLACE: Hotel

ACT TWO
TIME: Night  PLACE: Hotel

The play runs approximately 2 hours 45 minutes.
There will be one 15 minute intermission.

As a courtesy to the actors and fellow audience members, please turn off your cell phone!
Please do not text during the performance.
The use of recording devices is strictly prohibited.
Cosmologies is made possible with the support, enthusiasm and more than generous contributions of the following individuals and organizations:

**Susanna and Frank Ernst**  
*For making their Airbnb available to David Rabe, our playwright’s home away from home throughout the rehearsal process*

**Gannon Graphics, Inc.**  
**Jason Merel**  
*For his time, energy and carpentry skills*

**Fischman Public House & Bottle Shop**  
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Wednesday, November 14, 6–10 PM
American Writers Museum, 180 N Michigan Ave

The Gift Theatre Company
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We’d like you to meet Gerrie and Tom Ryan who have been strong supporters of The Gift for years.

“The Gift Theatre continues to challenge us with new, interesting work, which gives us great discussions after plays! It is a privilege to be subscribers.”

~ Gerrie and Tom Ryan, Gift Subscribers and Donors

As an Individual Production Sponsor, you are given complete access to the entire Gift process. From first rehearsal to closing night, you become a part of the production. Without the support of patrons like Gerrie and Tom our shows would not be possible. We thank Gerrie and Tom and all our production sponsors supporting live theater in Jefferson Park.

To learn more about supporting The Gift and production sponsorships opportunities please contact John at:

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j.gawlik@thegifttheatre.org
PRODUCTION SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

GREG AND ANNE TAUBENECK have joined The Gift as Individual Production Sponsors on three productions including: GOOD FOR OTTO, A LIFE EXTRA ORDINARY and PILGRIMS.

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Without the support of patrons like Greg and Anne our shows would not be possible. We thank Greg and Anne and all our production sponsors supporting live theater in Jefferson Park.

"At The Gift you're up close, really close, with some of the best actors in Chicago. Or anywhere. The plays are always smart and provocative and you talk about them for a long time afterward. The Gift is actually a gift to Chicago. We are thrilled to support them!"

GREG AND ANNE TAUBENECK
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Associate Artistic Director ............................................................................................... Paul D’Addario
Associate Artistic Director / Casting Director ................................................................. Emjoy Gavino
Managing Director ............................................................................................................ John Gawlik
Audience Services / House Manager ................................................................................ Rita Thornton
Marketing Director / Photographer .................................................................................. Claire Demos
Technical Director ............................................................................................................ David Preis
Production Manager ......................................................................................................... Sarah Luse
Publicist ............................................................................................................................... David Rosenberg Public Relations
House Management/Box Office Assistants ................................................................. Chika Ike, Alexandra Main
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Footlights Program Coordinator ...................................................................................... Alexandra Main
Production Assistant ........................................................................................................ Frank Thornton
giftED. Director ................................................................................................................ Jay Worthingon
giftED. Consultant ............................................................................................................. Lindsey Barlag Thornton
Natural Gas Artistic Director ............................................................................................ Kieran Fitzgerald
giftLIT. Director ................................................................................................................ Maggie Gawlik
4802 New Play Development Director ............................................................................ Chika Ike
Interns ..................................................................................................................................... Sal D’Anca, Olivia Fergus-Brummer

THE GIFT ENSEMBLE


NATURAL GAS ENSEMBLE

Kieran Fitzgerald, Ed Flynn, James Kozyra, Joey Lesiak, Kirby Longbrake, Eric Muller, Carly Olson, John Pantlind, Michael Patrick Thornton and Kyle Zornes

giftED. ALUMNI

Jacopo De Marinis, Owen O’Malley, Declan Schliesmann and Symone Rodriguez
Corbett Baratta, Francesca Plantz and Pat Weber

THE GIFT’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Gale (Chair), Paul Botts, Lori Dimun, Bryan Dowling, Danielle Gallet, Shanna Karamaniolas, Sharon Martwick, Naveed Moosa, Darci Nalepa, William Patrick Nedved, Jeff Perry, Kat Rothstein, Michael Patrick Thornton, Rita Thornton, and Shannon Wallace
John Kelly Connolly (Convict) is a prisoner of The Gift Theatre. Most recently he was forced to be Claudius in Hamlet. His offense was (?) rank - it smelted to heaven. Maybe you’ve seen this caged bird in A Life Extra Ordinary, The Lonesome West, White People, Broadsword, as Ace in The Royal Society of Antarctica or as Timothy in Good for Otto. I received extra bread rations for that last one. He tries to be good, but he is shipped off to Provisions Theatre (Bonhoeff-fer’s Cost) or the Griffin Theatre (Flare Path and Golden Boy), just to name a few. He has friends and family on the outside who are forced to buy tickets just to see him. If they are reading this, he loves you and please send poster of Rita Hayworth. When out for good behavior he enjoys eating pizza and reading books on time travel. But you already knew that, because you read it in the past. Lights out.

James D. Farruggio (Richard) Previous plays include Blind Date, A View from the Bridge (The Goodman); Of Mice and Men (Milwaukee Rep); Wolf at the End of the Block, Between You, Me and the Lampshade (Teatro Vista); Of Mice and Men and To Kill a Mockingbird (Steppenwolf for Young Adults); Show Boat (The Lyric Opera of Chicago); Bethany; Streamers; Stop/Kiss; The Ruby Sunrise; Suicide, Incorporated; Northwest Highway, Oh, The Humanity (and other exclamation); Almost Maine, Vigils, and Broadword as well as Ten.2012, Ten.2013, and Ten.2014 (The Gift Theatre); The Kentucky Cycle (Infamous Commonwealth Theatre); Stage Door (Griffin Theatre). Film and Television credits: APB, Batman Dark Knight, The Beast, Prison Break, Crisis, Chicago PD and Hugh Hefner in The Playboy Club.

Gregory Fenner (Milt / Priest) is thrilled to return to The Gift where he is a recent ensemble member. Previous Gift credits include Richard III, Hang Man, and Hamlet. Other credits include Megastasis (Eclipse Theatre-Jeff Nominated); A Small Oak Tree Runs Red (Congo Square Theatre); 10 out of 12 (Theater Wit); Love and Information (Remy Bumppo Theatre); Native Son (Court Theatre, u/s); Angels in America: Parts I & II and Six Degrees of Separation (Stray Dog Theatre); The Whipping Man (New Jewish Theatre); and the one-man, 40 character comedy Fully Committed (Stray Dog Theatre-St. Louis Theatre Circle Award for Best Leading Actor in a Comedy). TV credits include The Chi (SHOWTIME), Empire (FOX), and Chicago Fire (NBC). He is graduate from the Second City conservatory and is proudly represented by Paonessa Talent.

Martel Manning (Cop 1) is so happy to bring this play to life with this ensemble. Credits with The Gift include Hamlet, Hang Man, Richard III, and The Grapes of Wrath. Other Chicago Credits: Fallen Angels and Pirandello’s Henry V (Remy Bumppo), Cymbeline (Strawdog Theatre Company), Her Majesty’s Will and Miss Bunce’s Book (Lifeline Theatre). Regional credits include Romeo and Juliet (Juliet’s Journey) (Oregon Shakespeare Festival - School Visit Program), Still Dance the Stars (New Light Theatre Project co-production with Chicago Dramatists), and an acting internship with the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Martel received his MFA from the University of Houston and is also an ensemble member Lifeline Theatre.
Kenny Mihlfried *(Eric)* happily returns to the Gift stage, where some of his favorite roles have been Jerome in *Good for Otto*; Betty/Edward in *Cloud 9*; Douglas Eden in *Absolute Hell*; Dr Spivey in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*; Sigmund Freud/St Thomas in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*; and Richie in *Streamers* (all productions of The Gift Theatre Company). Other projects include an album of songs, *The Other Kenny: Hindsight*, to be released by the end of 2018, or sooner if certain stars align. Kenny had a telescope once. He is not sure where it is now.

Darci Nalepa *(Teddy)* is excited and grateful to be teaming up with her artistic family again on *Cosmologies* after working with David and Michael on the World Premiere, *Good for Otto*. As a proud ensemble member of The Gift, she has appeared on stage here in *A Swell in the Ground, A Life Extra Ordinary, Othello, Thinner Than Water, and Dirty*. Other Chicago credits include: *Cry It Out* (Northlight Theatre); *My Wonderful Birthday Suit* (Children's Theatre); *Queen* (Victory Gardens Theater); *Kill Floor* (American Theatre Company); *Yankee Tavern* (American Blues Theater); *Northanger Abbey* (Remy Bumppo); *The Drunken City* (Steppenwolf Theatre – Next Up). Darci appeared in Stephen Cone’s Independent Feature Film, *Henry Gamble's Birthday Party*. Television Credits include *Patriot, Shameless, Chicago Fire* and *The Onion*. She is the co-creator of the forthcoming Web series *The Force*. Darci is a graduate of The School at Steppenwolf where she now proudly works as an Instructor as well as at Black Box Acting. She is represented by Gray Talent Group. “Thanks to my new hubby. Always.”

Hannah Toriumi *(Cop)* is so grateful to be a part of this whimsical production of *Cosmologies*. Hannah last appeared at The Gift in *Hamlet* as Rosencrantz, *They Are Decided* as a part of the 2016 TEN festival and as Prince Edward in *Richard III*. Other Chicago credits include: *The Pavilion* (Open Door Theater); *The Firebirds Take the Field* (Rivendell Theatre); *The Making of a Modern Folk Hero* (The Other Theatre Co.); *Hundred Flowers Project* (Silk Road Rising); *The Father* (Rendition Theatre). Film and television credits include: NBC’s *Chicago PD*; #WhoKilledHeather? The web series; *Robot vs. Verses*. Other credits include: *Liturgy of Laughs: A Spiritual Hour* (The Second City). Hannah is a graduate of North Central College and the School at Steppenwolf and is represented by Gray Talent.

Joshua K. Harris *(Understudy Convict / Richardson)* is pleased as punch to work with The Gift Theatre. He has previously worked with other Chicago companies, including Akvavit Theatre and Metropolis Performing Arts Centre. Hi Marsha!

Emma Palizza *(Understudy Teddy)* is thrilled to be a part of *Cosmologies*! Chicago credits include: *Birdland* (u/s performed at Steep Theatre) Northern Michigan Trust as a part of Ten 2018 (The Gift), *Musical Therapy* and Chiara Atik’s *Women* (Death & Pretzels) & *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (Ghostlight Ensemble). Represented by Actors Talent Group, Emma holds a BFA from Stephen F. Austin State University and is a proud School at Steppenwolf graduate. As always thank you
to her husband Charlie and two cat-children Thomas & Roland for their continued support and love. www.emmapalizza.com

Stephen Rosenberger (Understudy Eric / Milt / Priest) is so excited to be working with The Gift for the first time! He is a native of Houston, Texas. Chicago credits include Filament Theatre and City Lit Theater. Regional credits include WaterTower Theatre (Dallas), Stage West and Trinity Shakespeare Festival (Fort Worth). Stephen has also done voiceover work for FUNimation Productions. He is a proud graduate of the School at Steppenwolf. Represented by Big Mouth Talent.

Max Thomas (Understudy Cop 1 and Cop 2) is an actor and comic. His Chicago credits include Othello (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); Without Trace and LAWD the CVS Is Burning (MPAACT Theatre); and Prelude to Dream (The March Civil Rights Project sponsored by Goodman Theatre). International credits include A Midsummer’s Night Dream, Twelfth Night, The Strip and Thoughts of a Colored Man (British American Drama Academy). Film and Television credits include: Autumn Daze (Film), Chicago P.D. (NBC), Hot Date (POP-TV), Underemployed (MTV) and Dixmoo Five (NBC). He received acting training from The School at Steppenwolf and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He received classical acting training from the British American Drama Academy at Magdalen College University of Oxford. He is also a standup, improv, and sketch comic. He is a Second City Training Center Conservatory Graduate and a Second City NBC Universal Bob Curry Fellow. He has performed at The Second City NBC Universal Comedy Festival, The Second City Hollywood Improv Festival, The Comedy Store North Hollywood, Zanies, Jokes & Notes, Laugh Factory, the Revival Comedy Club and more.

David Rabe (Playwright) was born in Dubuque, Iowa, where he lived through his college years, studying creative writing under Reverend Ray Roseliep, a renowned poet. After the army and a gloriously productive period at Villanova University where a number of his early plays were written and performed, his first professional productions were in New York, a Vietnam Quartet starting in 1971: The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel, Sticks and Bones, The Orphan and Streamers. All were produced by Joseph Papp to whom he owes a complex and absolute debt. In the Boom Room followed, as did Goose and Tom, Hurlburly, Those the River Keeps, A Question of Mercy, The Dog Problem, The Black Monk adapted from Chekov, An Early History of Fire and Good for Otto, which in 2015 gave him his first experience of Chicago theater with The Gift, followed by Visiting Edna at Steppenwolf. Four of his plays have received Tony nominations, and Sticks and Bones, for which the actors requested combat pay, won in 1972. He has received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award, and an Obie award; the Drama Desk, John Gassner Outer Critics, the New York Drama Critics Circle awards, and three times won the Elizabeth Hull-Kate Warriner Drama Guild Award. Screenplays are I’m Dancing as Fast as I Can, Casualties of War and Hurlburly. His fiction includes the book of stories A Primitve Heart, and the novels Recital of the Dog, Dinosaurs on the Roof and Girl by the Road at Night. He has three children, Jason, Lily and Michael.

Michael Patrick Thornton (Director) is Co-Founder and Artistic Director of The Gift, where previous directing credits include: world premiere of Gift ensemble member David Rabe’s Good For Otto; world premiere of Claire Kiechel’s Pilgrims (co-directed with Jessica Thebus), War of the Worlds (75th Anniversary Production), the Chicago Pre-
miere of ensemble member Will Eno’s Oh, The Humanity (and other exclamations), Prairie View, Night & Her Stars, Stop/Kiss, Santa’s Great American Depression Holiday Show! America, White People, Three Sisters, Long Day’s Journey Into Night, Hurlyburly (Joseph Jefferson Award: Actor in a Leading Role), A Young Man In Pieces, Language Of Angels, County Fair and Orestes 2.0. Elsewhere: Of Mice and Men (Steppenwolf), the world premieres of Sean Graney’s IS NUR B1UDS7REEM… and Mark Harvey Levine’s LA BAM (Collaboraction) and Picasso At The Lapin Agile (Noble Fool). Michael was a very grateful assistant director on Steppenwolf’s Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning August: Osage County. A Joseph Jefferson Award-winning actor for Solo Performance in Conor McPherson’s The Good Thief (The Gift) Michael was nominated for a Best Actor Jeff Award (Suicide, Incorporated) and Best Director Jeff Award (Good for Otto).

**Grace Bolander (Assistant Director)** is thrilled to work with The Gift Theatre for the first time. Grace is primarily an actor and is the Marketing Director for The Passage Theatre. Chicago acting credits include Secondhand Time (Trap Door Theatre); understudy for Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea, and Cassandra in a workshop of Oresteia (First Floor Theatre). Credits from her hometown of Columbus, Ohio include Hamlet and Romeo and Juliet (Actors’ Theatre of Columbus). Grace received her BA in Theatre and Performance Studies from the University of Chicago last Spring. Special thanks to MPT, Mom and Dad, and Jerry.

**Courtney O’Neill (Scenic Co-Designer)** is delighted to return to The Gift for her 10th show, having most recently designed The Grapes of Wrath and Good for Otto. Chicago credits include Father Comes Home from the Wars, Parts 1, 2 & 3 (Goodman Theatre); Plantation!, Moby Dick, The Little Prince (Lookingglass Theatre Company); The Burn, The Burials, The Compass, Life and Limb, Of Mice and Men (Steppenwolf Theatre); Five Guys Named Moe, Harvey, Waiting for Godot (Court Theatre); Julius Caesar (Writers Theatre); You Can’t take it With You (Northlight Theatre); W;t, Oedipus, Our Town, The Bald Soprano, Mud (The Hypocrites/Jeff Award for Mud); among others. Broadway: Fish in the Dark (Associate Designer); This is Our Youth (Associate Designer); Of Mice and Men (Assistant Designer). Regional: Arena Stage, Alliance Theatre, Baltimore Center Stage, Children’s Theatre Company, Kansas City Repertory, Marin Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Round House Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Virginia Stage Company. Courtney is the recipient of the 2017 Michael Maggio Emerging Designer Award. She holds an MFA from Northwestern, a BFA from DePaul University, and currently teaches at both institutions. courtneyoneill.com

**Angela McIlvain (Scenic Co-Designer)** is thrilled to work with The Gift Theatre for the first time. Recent theatre collaborators include Emerald City Theatre, Broadway in Chicago, Piven Theatre Workshop, Cloudgate Theatre, Free Street Theatre, The Theatre School, and Chicago Dramatists. In addition to scenic design, Angela designs and fabricates puppets and props, and contributes to art departments for film. She holds a BFA in Scenic Design from The Theatre School at DePaul.

**Natalie Santoro (Scenic Artist)** is an actor, scenic artist, and fine artist currently working from Chicago. Recently she has painted for Griffin, Jackalope, Mercury, Redtwist, Rivendell, Northbrook Theater, Harper College, amongst others. As an actor, she just completed the School at Steppenwolf and will be understudying Chris in Cardboard Piano at Timeline Theater in the spring and is represented by Big Mouth Talent. She is also the cofounder of Asterisk Arts Collective, which aims to integrate the artistic disciplines and support local artists. For her full resume, portfolio, and upcoming news visit nataliesantoro.com.
Charles Cooper (Lighting Designer) is excited to be again working at The Gift, where his previous credits include Good for Otto and The Grapes of Wrath. Recent: Boeing, Boeing (Indiana Repertory Theatre); Woody Sez and Gutenbergr! The Musical (Milwaukee Rep); A Wrinkle in Time (First Stage Children’s Theatre); Slowgirl (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre); Old Jews Telling Jokes (Chicago Company); Bye Bye Birdie, Hairspray, Curtains, and Sleeping Beauty (Drury Lane); Salvage, The Bridges of Madison County, Dial, Sunday in the Park with George, Dial M for Murder, The Mystery of Irma Vep, Chicago, A Few Good Men and Around the World in 80 Days (Peninsula Players); Cal in Camo and Dry Land (Rivendell Theatre); The Clean House and Creditors (Remy Bumppo); The Tall Girls, The Rose Tattoo, Mill Fire (Jeff Nomination) and Orpheus Descending (Shattered Globe); Love, Loss and What I Wore (Asolo Rep, Philadelphia Theatre Co, San Jose Rep, Broadway in Chicago, first national tour and second national tour); Do the Hustle and Old Glory (Writers’ Theatre); Of Mice and Men and First Look Repertory of New Work (Steppenwolf Theatre); Eclipsed and She Stoops to Conquer (Northlight Theatre); and 16 productions for TimeLine Theatre where he is an Associate Artist. Charles has been nominated for 7 Joseph Jefferson Awards, winning one in 2016 for Murder Ballad at Bailiwick Chicago. He Lives in Oak Park, IL with his wife, Angela, and his children, Ethan and Gavin. Member: United Scenic Artists. Cooperportfolio.com.

Joseph Clavell (Master Electrician) is a freelance lighting designer and theatre electrician in Chicago. Most recently Joe has been working in Vermont as Master Electrician for the Dorset Theatre Festival. He is a recent graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul University.

Izumi Inaba (Costume Designer) is delighted to be back at the Gift. Her previous credits include Broadsword and Pilgrims. Her recent Chicago credit includes Smart People (Writers); Damascus (Strawdog); Tilikum (Sideshow); Linda (Steep); Borealis (House); Frankenstein (Lifeline). Izumi is a resident designer at Albany Park Theater Project and a member of United Scenic Artists USA Local 829. M.F.A. in Stage Design, Northwestern University.

You are cordially invited to join local writers, actors and musicians for an evening of stories, wine and entertainment in the grand tradition of a Parisian salon.

For details, go to www.thegifttheatre.org or call 773.283.7071
Christopher Kriz (Original Music and Sound Design) is an award-winning composer and sound designer. Previously at The Gift: The Grapes of Wrath (Jeff Award), Good for Otto, Pilgrims, A Life Extra Ordinary, and many others. Chicago: Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, Steppenwolf, Chicago Symphony, Victory Gardens, Court, Northlight, Timeline, Remy Bumppo, The Gift, American Blues, About Face, Shattered Globe, Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, and dozens of others. Regional: Seattle Repertory, Kansas City Repertory, Peninsula Players. Kriz has been honored with 14 Jeff Nominations and 3 Jeff Awards and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. Kriz’s new musical, Shrew’d was recently premiered at First Folio Theatre. To hear more of his work, please visit www.christopherkriz.com.

Reagan James (Properties Designer) is a properties designer, actor and stage manager from Anchorage, Alaska that transplanted to Chicago three years ago. She loves being able to collaborate with new artists on new work development. Props Design is always an exciting challenge and Cosmologies has absolutely lived up to that standard. Previously her favorite shows that she has prop designed have been No Exit and Big River. She hopes you let loose, enjoy and expand your mind into the cosmos.

John Tovar, SAFD (Fight and Intimacy Choreographer) is thrilled to be back working with this amazing group of artists at The Gift. This is John's 14th production with The Gift and he couldn’t be more proud of this new opportunity. He has choreographed for numerous companies throughout Chicagoland including Steppenwolf, Lookingglass, Drury Lane Oakbrook, Route 66, About Face, and Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. More notably, John received an Equity Jeff Award for his fight work in The Opponent at A Red Orchid. Regionally, John has been in-
involved in productions at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare St. Louis, Indiana Repertory, Arkansas Shakespeare and others. John is a Fight Director and Certified Teacher through the Society of American Fight Directors. He also received his MFA in Directing through Illinois State University, where he is now on faculty teaching Acting, Directing and Stage Combat.

Sarah Luse (Production and Stage Manager) always enjoys stage managing at The Gift! Some favorite Gift credits include The Lonesome West, Thinner Than Water, Wt, TEN, Bethany, Richard III and Pilgrims. A few other favorite Chicago credits include Completeness, Thom Pain (based on nothing), Bad Jews, and The Antelope Party (Theater Wit), Bonhoeffer’s Cost and Redeemed: The Fall and Rise of Chuck Colson (Provision Theatre), and The Temperamentals (About Face Theatre). Regionally Sarah has worked as part of the stage management team with the Michigan Shakespeare Festival for their 2014 and 2018 seasons. She has also been the production manager at The Gift for the last three seasons.

Lindy Forman (Assistant Stage Manager) is a new Chicago resident from California who is excited to jump into the professional theatrical scene. Cosmologies is Lindy’s first time Assistant Stage Managing for an Equity company. She received her BA in Musical Theatre from CSU Chico and worked as a stage manager while she was there. Favorite credits include Fiddler on the Roof (Sierra School of Performing Arts), The Will Rogers Follies, Antigone, and As It Is In Heaven (CSU Chico), The Opera Gala (Chico School of the Arts), plus numerous dance and other live performance events. She is thrilled to be making magic happen with The Gift Theatre.
David Preis (Technical Director) has contributed his woodworking, general handyman, and all-around technical expertise to The Gift since 2002, becoming Technical Director in 2006. He has worked as a luthier for over 35 years – making cellos and basses for Englehardt-Link based in Elk Grove Village. David studied theatre and design at Illinois Wesleyan and has worked as the sound engineer for “The Night Crawler,” a Chicago area blues band. Throughout the years, he has designed, built, and/or coordinated lighting, set, and sound for a number of Chicago area productions including critically acclaimed productions of Tango and Josephine, The Mouse Singer both at Chicago Actors Ensemble, Brick/Walls Open Spaces for Shakti Dance Company, Crying Woolf at Zebra Crossing Theatre, and Light Up the Sky at Gurnee Theatre Company.

Emjoy Gavino (Associate Artistic Director and Casting Director) Chicago acting credits include Court, Northlight, Steppenwolf, Victory Gardens, Remy Bumppo, Paramount, Broadway Playhouse, Lookingglass, The Neo-Futurists, The Goodman and Second City Theatricals. Regional credits: Repertory Actors Theatre, Village Theatre and 5th Avenue Theater. Film/TV: Chicago Med, Empire, Chicago Fire, Mob Doctor, Boss, and Freudian Slip. Emjoy is a company member and teaching artist with Barrel of Monkeys, an ensemble member of Remy Bumppo and is the founder and producer of The Chicago Inclusion Project. She has been a consultant for casting several projects in the Chicago area since 2012.

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The Gift Theatre is tremendously appreciative of all the support we need and receive. We humbly thank the benefactors below for their generous gifts. This list reflects gifts made from January 1, 2016 thru September 1, 2018. A special thanks goes out to our 2018 Season Subscribers – both new and renewing - we couldn’t do it without you!

Every effort is made to ensure that the information included in our program is correct. If you have a question or wish to revise your listing in any way, please call 773-283-7071.

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- Patrick & Kim Weber
- Kathy & Terry Xaverius

**$501-$1,000**
- Anonymous (1)
- Paul Adelstein
- Kimberly Baratta
- Karen Callaway
- Bruce & Lauri Davidson
- Thomas Doyle
- Catherine Dunlap
- Timothy Fox
- Jim & Pat Johnson
- Dennis & Joan Klug
- Jeffrey & Linda Kroll
- Bruce & Mary Leep
- Steve O’Brien
- Gary & Elizabeth Potts
- Justin Roberts
- Mary Ann Thebus
- David Westby

**$251-$500**
- Anonymous (1)
- Allstate The Giving Campaign
- Dr. Geraldine Balut Coleman
- Roland Batten
- Nancy Bellerw
- Perry & Michelle Browder
- Penny Brown
- Rainee Denham
- Brother Konrad Diebold
- Anthony & Bonnie Dimun
- Kenneth East
- Donald & Jenny Faliszek
- Mark & Lynn Fitzgerald
- Dr. Harvey Freed
- Lloyd Fry Foundation
- Marjorie Halperin
- Larry & Judy Hicks
- Mark Hudson
- Richard Hudson
- Tom & Maryann Keifer
- Keith & Kathleen Kemp
- Jean Marie & Robert Koon
- Suzy Krueckeberg
- Linda Legner
- Michael & Sharyl Mackey
- Dan & Cathy McHugh
- Laura Miller
- Patrick & Eileen Mullane
- Ron & Karen Payne
- Kristen Prinz
- Alexander Ramos
- Justin Roberts
- Frank & Karen Schneider
- Joe & Connal Small
- Mark Tinker
- Mark & Mary Winter
- Kim Wyatt
- Christine Ye

**$101-$250**
- Anonymous (1)
- Peggy Bagley
- Gary & Judy Becker
- Susan Benner
- Mike & Mary Beazanson
- John & Jennifer Boylan
- Alan Brody
- Erika Bruhn
- Janet Burroway
- Kathleen Coyle
- Gerson Ecker
- Carla & Len Feinkind
- Cynthia Frost
- Deborah Garber
- Lawrence Garcia
- Mary Grimm
- Maureen Hegarty
- Georgia Hendrix
- Charles Hoffman
- Mark Hudson
- Tom & Suzy Jackson
- Jeffrey Jones
- Jean Kummerer
- Brian & Kathleen Laffey
- Larry & Ellen Lehnert
- Ted & Maureen Lucore
- Morgan Maher
18  The Gift Theatre Company

THANKS FOR GIVING US A HAND IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!

Eric Markowitz & Karla Zimmermann
Anne Matheny
Clark Maxfield
Laura Michelini
Michael & Sharon Muryn
Mike & Nance Nalepa
Margaret O’Farrell
Kevin & Carmel O’Malley
Michael Petersen
Plymouth Tube Co. - Matching funds
Karen Ptak
Patrick Quinn - Matching gift program
Jill & Paul Ready
Natalie Reff
Lester Rogalski
Helen Schmit
Paul & Eileen Schoaff - In memory of Carol Cyganowski
Eva Skowronska
Cynthia Stengel
Martha Trueheart
Cecilia Tynus
Anne Volz
Al & Lorraine Weber
Jan Willer

$51 - $100
Anonymous (1)
John Balbach
Barbara Billhardt & John Palmer
David Brummer
Debra Campbell
Thom Cox
Julie Daraska Scheurich
Patricia Donegan
Dr. J. V. Figueredo
Fleischer Family Legacy Fund
Norma Gulyas
Ashlee Hardgrave
Vera Kelly
Elizabeth Kennedy
Jane & Paul Klenck
Mitchelle Kmiec
Elizabeth & Wayne Kozikowski
Betty Krist
Ted Lowitz
Kathleen Makuh
Dan McKearnan
Pat Mikos
Jen and Peter Moore
Margaret Moore
George Motto
Helen Murray
Sylvia Ortiz
Patti Paul
Ron & Karen Payne
Joann Poplar
David Rigg
Joanna Salicete-Fleming
Paul & Eileen Schoaff
Brian Sherman
Doug & Lynn Soat
Patricia Sprinkle
Carol Stukey
Donna Thorman
Timothy Thurlow
Virginia Wantroba
Rosemary Whiteside

$0-$50
John Adams
Carolyn Bavaro
Robert Blythe
Janet Bulin
Michaelyn Corbett
Nicholas Davio
Stephanie Devincenitis
Anne-Marie Douglas
Linda Forman
James Frederick
Laurie Gates
Tom & Bonnie Graham
Ellen Harmon
Steve & Anne Hasselbeck
Laure Heffernan
Anita Hollander
Steven Kaiser
Patricia Kallio
Susan Knisely
Richard Landgraff
Barbara McDonagh
Bill & Donna McGough
Eileen McNulty
Henrettia Means Nelson
Kathy & Terry Metzger
Laura Beth Miller
Joseph Mullane
Erika Napoletano
Michael & Kathleen Nash
Susan Noel
William & Kathleen Norris
Mike & Julie Nussbaum
Ed O’Connell
Janis Olausson
Jody Preston
Rhonda Purwin
Jamal Rogers
Timothy Rottman
Ronald Russell
Emily Schacher
Hedwig Schellbach
Justine Serino
Michael & Careen Smundra
Gerta Sorensen
Lisa Stringer
Katherine Tynus
Marcia Wilson
Denise Wojcik
Laurel Wooton
Joe Zarrow
Christine Zynda

In-Kind
Donald Elmi
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Schwartz Schwartz
Shannon Walker
The Gift Ensemble

To our beloved friend & fellow ensemble member...
Sheldon Patinkin

WE MISS YOU...
Last November, The Gift lost one of our most passionate and passionately generous supporters. Carol Cyganowski was and will always be an angel to all of us at The Gift. As a subscriber, Carol was at every production and it was a joy to hear her refreshingly wry, wonderful, spot-on critiques. And as a Production Sponsor, Carol got to be in the room with one of her theatrical heroes, David Rabe, as The Gift rehearsed and premiered his new play *Good for Otto*, a production that quite literally could not happen without the generosity of the Cyganowskis.

The best way we at The Gift can honor Carol’s memory is to continue to seek out great, daring writing for the American Theatre and to present it with only the highest of aesthetic values. This memorial fund will allow us to do precisely that for next season and the seasons to come.

We’ll miss you, Carol.

Thank you for giving us a kick in the pants when we needed it.
Thank you for believing in us.
Thank you for your tremendous gift.

If you would like to send a check please make it out to The Gift Theatre and send it to:

The Gift Theatre
ATTN: The Carol Klimick Cyganowski Gift Legacy Fund
5344 W. Lawrence
Chicago, IL 60630

NOTE: All donors will receive an e-mail with the Gift Theater’s Tax ID for your records. Please call the box office at 773-283-7071 for detailed instructions on how to make your gift to The Gift possible. Thank you!

“Acting is a particularly thankless art. It dies with the actor. Nothing survives him but the reviews, which do not usually do him justice anyway, whether he is good or bad.

So the only source of satisfaction left to him is the audience’s reactions... The actor, in this special process of discipline and self-sacrifice, self-penetration and molding, is not afraid to go beyond all normally acceptable limits...

The actor makes a total gift of himself.”

—Jerzy Grotowski, Towards A Poor Theatre
WHAT’S UP NEXT IN 2019 AT THE GIFT THEATRE

DOUBT: A PARABLE
Written by John Patrick Shanley
Directed by Ensemble Member John Gawlik

Featuring Ensemble Members:
Jennifer Glasse, Mary Ann Thebus and Michael Patrick Thornton

At Steppenwolf Theatre
March 3 – March 31, 2019

SHOW NUMBER TWO?
Not sure yet. A couple of exciting possibilities under consideration!

Please Stay Tuned!

July 21 – August 18, 2019

WOLF PLAY
Written by Hansol Jung

Stay Tuned for More Details!

October 27 – November 24, 2019

SUBSCRIBE NOW
TO THE 2019 SEASON