Nick Sandys, Producing Artistic Director presents

THE FATHER

by Florian Zeller
translated by Christopher Hampton

Directed by
Kay Martinovich, SDC

Stage Manager
Tina M. Jach*

Scenic Designer
Yu Shibagaki, USA
Lighting Designer
Brandon Wardell, USA
Costume Designer
Jeremy W. Floyd

Sound Designer & Original Music
Christopher Kriz, USA
Properties Designer
Jamie Karas

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Originally produced on Broadway by the Manhattan Theatre Club (Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director; Barry Grove, Executive Producer) by special arrangement with Theatre Royal Bath, at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre on March 22, 2016.

Le Père, in its original French production was first presented at the Théâtre Hébertot, Paris, on September 30th, 2012, directed by Ladislas Chollat, starring Robert Hirsch and Isabelle Gélinas. This production was revived on January 17th, 2015.


Theater Wit | 1229 W. Belmont Ave Chicago, IL | Box Office: 773.975.8150
CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

André .................................................................................. David Darlow*+
Laura ................................................................................. Alys Dickerson*
Anne .................................................................................. Linda Gillum*+
Pierre .................................................................................. Anish Jethmalani*
Woman .............................................................................. Laura Resinger
Man .................................................................................... Bobby Wilhelmson

Understudies
Kylie Anderson [Laura]; Don Bender [André]; Ashlea Woodley [Anne, Woman];
Elohim Peña [Pierre, Man]

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director ........................................................................... Kay Martinovich*
Stage Manager ................................................................. Tina M. Jach*
Scenic Designer ............................................................... Yu Shibagaki
Lighting Designer ............................................................ Brandon Wardell
Costume Designer ............................................................ Jeremy W. Floyd
Sound Designer and Original Music ................................ Christopher Kriz^
Properties Designer ......................................................... Jamie Karas
Scenic Artist ........................................................................ Elyse Balogh
Dramaturg .......................................................................... Robert Schneider
Assistant Director .............................................................. Eileen Vorbach
Production Manager ........................................................ Ellen Willett^
Technical Director ............................................................ Joe Schermoly^
Assistant Stage Manager ................................................... Kaitlyn Broyles
Assistant Costume Designer .............................................. Elizabeth Galba
Wardrobe Supervisor ........................................................... Stefani Azores-Gococo
Master Electrician ............................................................ David Goodman-Edberg

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

+ Denotes Remy Bumppo Core Ensemble Member
^ Denotes Remy Bumppo Associate Artist
* Denotes member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers

Remy Bumppo is a professional theater company operating under an agreement between the Producers Association of Chicago Theaters and Actors’ Equity Association.

Designers identified by USA are members of United Scenic Artists, IATSE Local 829, AFL-CIO

Remy Bumppo is a member of the League of Chicago Theatres
As I watch the snow blowing outside my window on a cold January afternoon, a surge of reflection rushes over me. The holidays over, the New Year has begun. What will 2019 bring for my family and me? While I am excited about what the future holds, this occasion calls for a looking back to the past…in the present moment of today. Thinking about The Father, I ruminate on my relationship with my own parents, my beloved mother who passed away four years ago and my upstanding father now departed nearly twenty years. To say they were supportive of me is an understatement; to say I wish they were still here, even more so. Nostalgic as I am in this moment, I do have recollections of times both awful and awe-some. Yet memory – like time – fades…and so for me, mostly pleasant reminiscences remain...

In The Father, Andre, the play’s titular character and his adult daughter, Anne, must navigate their changing relationship as they move into a new territory called “aging.” Florian Zeller’s play engages with many things including loss, what it means to remember, and most crucially, the notion of perception – and the ever-shifting ways we think we know something, or someone. The challenges of growing older alongside a parent overlap with the pain of no longer seeming to be you anymore. Called a “new form of thriller,” the play takes the audience on a multifaceted journey of pathos and laughter along with a bit of intrigue and suspense.

Art is at its best, as we know, a unique experience for each observer. And I hope the same will be true for you while watching this play. I’m drawn to The Father for many reasons, but mostly for the way it unfolds in front of an audience, allowing each person to perceive the goings-on from their own perspective. A good number of us will have an experience of aging, whether with a loved one or by our own years – so here’s to those folks who meet the later stages of life with vitality, humor, and grace.

Rage on!
THE CAST

DAVID DARLOW (André) is a Remy Bumppo Core Ensemble member where he has appeared in Puff: Believe It or Not, Pygmalion, Love and Information, Heroes, Night and Day, Our Class, Both Your Houses, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Best Man, Power, Humble Boy, No Man’s Land, Hapgood, Road to Mecca, Man and Superman, Money, Major Barbara (After Dark Award). In Chicago he has appeared in Enemy of the People, Uncle Vanya, Camino Real, A Life in the Theatre, As You Like It, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Passion, The Misanthrope (Goodman); Indecent (Victory Gardens); Tug of War, Julius Caesar, Othello, Timon of Athens, As You Like It (Chicago Shakespeare); The Real Thing, Betrayal (Northlight); Cyrano, Three Hotels, The Heiress (Apple Tree); Endgame (Jeff Award, American Theater Company); Nathan the Wise (Chicago Festival of the Arts); Passion with Patty LuPone and Audra McDonald (Ravinia Festival). Regional theatre includes Arena Stage, Washington D.C., South Coast Rep, Barter Theatre, Seattle Rep. Film credits include: True Nature, Were the World Mine, No God, No Master, Let’s Go to Prison, The Weatherman, Road to Perdition, The Fugitive, Hoodlum, High Fidelity and Ride with the Devil. His television credits include: Empire, Chicago Fire, Betrayal, Barney Miller, Barnaby Jones, Early Edition, Prison Break, and several movies of the week.

ALYS DICKERSON (Laura) is thrilled to work with Remy Bumppo for the first time. Chicago credits include Everybody (Brown Paper Box Co); Fear and Misery in the Third Reich (Haven); I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change (Quest Theatre Ensemble); Ubu Roi, The Melancholy Play (Organic Theatre Company). Other credits include The Tempest, Pericles, Prince of Tyre (Notre Dame Shakespeare); Spring Awakening (Kentucky Conservatory Theatre); History of Cardenio (HoosierBard Productions). She also appears online in Velvet (OpenTV). Alys is proudly represented by Shirley Hamilton.

LINDA GILLUM (Anne) is a Remy Bumppo Core Ensemble member and has performed in 22 productions including The Skin of Our Teeth, Holiday, Some Americans Abroad, The Real Thing, Night and Day and Our Class. In Chicago, Linda has worked with A Red Orchid, Court, Defiant, Mercury, Next, Roadworks, Steppenwolf and Theatre at the Center. TV Credits include Chicago Fire, Chicago PD, Prison Break and Early Edition. Linda earned a BFA in Theatre from the University of Oklahoma and an MFA in Acting from University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. She is an adjunct professor at DePaul and an acting instructor at Acting Studio Chicago as well as at Remy Bumppo where she is also the Casting Director. Linda is represented by Stewart Talent.

ANISH JETHMALANI (Pierre) is excited to work with Remy Bumppo again after appearing in Great Expectations. Chicago credits include Wit and 10 seasons of A Christmas Carol (Goodman); Water by the Spoonful, Titus Andronicus, Mary Stuart, The Invention of Love, Life’s a Dream (Court); Romeo and Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare); Blood & Gifts, Inana, A Disappearing Number, In the Next Room or The Vibrator Play (Timeline); Rightlynd, Homeland Security (Victory Gardens); Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo, Around the World in 80 Days, Sita Ram (Lookingglass); The Caretaker, To the Green Fields Beyond (Writers); Citizens of
the World (Steppenwolf); Hatfield & McCoy (The House); The Room (A Red Orchid); The Man Who Murdered Sherlock Holmes (Mercury); Omnium Gatherum, The Millionaireass, Return to Haifa (Next); Twelfth Night (First Folio); Indian Ink, The Sign of the Four (Apple Tree); Merchant on Venice (Silk Road Rising); and The Age of Cynicism or Karaoke Night at the Hog (Chicago Dramatists). He also appeared in Henry VIII and Much Ado About Nothing (Oregon Shakespeare Festival). Film and TV credits include Batman vs. Superman, Empire, Chicago Med, APB, Boss, Leverage, and Early Edition. Anish is also a company member at Timeline.

LAURA RESINGER
(Woman) is excited to work with Remy Bumppo again, having understudied in Great Expectations. Chicago credits include Christina, the Girl King (Cor Theatre); A Dickens Carol (Oak Park Festival); Damascus (Strawdog, u/s); and will soon appear in Two Days in Court (City Lit). She also appeared in Into the Breeches (Shakespeare Festival St. Louis). Laura holds an MFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University and is a proud member of the Birch House Residency.

BOBBY WILHELMSON
(Man) is thrilled to work with Remy Bumppo for the first time. Chicago credits include The Doppelganger (Steppenwolf u/s); Not One Batu (Nothing Without a Company); and The Scientific Method (Rivendell u/s). Other credits include Tecumseh (Tecumseh Outdoor Drama); The Wizard of Oz and Aladdin (Hampstead Stage Company). Thank you to my family, Leche, and wife, Jessi.

PRODUCTION PROFILES

FLORIAN ZELLER (Playwright) is a French novelist and playwright. His work has been translated into several languages. Florian Zeller wrote his first novel “Neiges Artificielles (Artificial Snow)” when he was 22 years old. He has written five acclaimed novels and eleven plays, including L’Autre (2004), Le Manège (2005), Si Tu Mourais (2006, Prix Jeune Théâtre of the Académie française), Elle T’attend (2008), La Mère (2010, Molière Award), La Vérit (2011), Le Père (2012), Une Heure de Tranquillité (2013), Le Mensonge (2015, Théâtre Edouard VII, starring Pierre Arditi), L’Envers du Décor (2016), and Avant de S’envoler (2016). He won the prestigious Prix Interallié in 2004 for his novel “La Fascination du Pire (Fascination of Evil)” and several Molière Awards (highest theatrical honor) for his plays La Mère (The Mother) and Le Père (The Father). Florian Zeller has fast become one of France’s most well-known contemporary playwrights with many of his plays produced internationally. The Father was the 2014 winner of 3 Molière Awards (Best Play, Best Actor [Robert Hirsch] and Best Actress [Isabelle Gélinas]) and won the Prix du Brigadier in 2015. Une Heure de Tranquillité (A Bit of Peace and Quiet) starring Fabrice Luchini became a movie directed by Patrice Leconte. Most of Florian Zeller plays are being optioned and performed all over the world. His plays The Mother, The Father, and The Truth have been translated by Christopher Hampton. The play The Father was nominated for Best New Play at the 2016 Olivier Awards and Kenneth Cranham won for Best Actor in a Play. It also received two nominations for the 2016 Tony Awards: Best Play and Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role.
in a Play. Frank Langella was awarded for his performance. Florian Zeller lives in Paris. He is married to the actress and sculptor Marine Delterme.

CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON (Translator)  
Christopher Hampton’s plays and musicals have so far garnered four Tony Awards, three Olivier Awards, four Evening Standard Awards, and the New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award; prizes for his film and television work include an Oscar, two BAFTAs, a Writers’ Guild of America Award, the Prix Italia, a Special Jury Award at the Cannes Film Festival, Hollywood Screenwriter of the Year, and The Collateral Award at the Venice Film Festival for Best Literary Adaptation. Original plays: 
/Appomattox, The Talking Cure, White Chameleon, Tales from Hollywood, Treats, Savages, The Philanthropist, Total Eclipse, and When Did You Last See My Mother? Adaptations from novels: Youth Without God (Horváth), Embers (Márai), and Les Liaisons Dangereuses (Laclos) which Remy Bumppo produced in 2010. Musicals: 

KAY MARTINOVICH (Director) is thrilled to be working with Remy Bumppo for the first time. Other Chicago credits include 
Naked (Jeff nominated), La Bête (Jeff Award), Polaroid Stories, Bremen Freedom (Trap Door Theatre); The Mai, By the Bog of Cats, Bailegangaire, Pentecost, Two By Friel: The Walta Game and The Bear (Irish Repertory of Chicago); Deirdre of the Sorrows (City Lit); Down Range (Genesis); Anything of Value (RIPPED at American Blues); Winsor McCay (TEN at The Gift); Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Buffalo Theatre Ensemble); The Last Good Moment of Lily Baker, Cementville (Mary-Archie); Old Times (Circle Theatre); Film Flam, Glamour (Live Bait Theatre); Anastasia Krupnik (Lifeline); and numerous productions at Northern Illinois University. Other credits include The Secret Garden (Center for the Arts, Bartlesville, Oklahoma); Lend Me A Tenor, Last of the Red Hot Lovers (Mitchell Opera House, Indiana); Keeper of the Light, A Martin County Hornpipe, and On the Velvet (Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua, Bayfield, Wisconsin).

TINA M. JACH (Stage Manager) is excited to be working on her first show with Remy Bumppo. Chicago credits include Crime and Punishment, How to Use a Knife, For Peter Pan on her 70th Birthday, Marvin’s Room (Shattered Globe); Fade (Teatro Vista & Victory Gardens); Confessions of a P. I. M. P. (Grippo Stage Company, Inc.); Jabari Dreams of Freedom (Chicago Children’s Theater); Race (Goodman); Signs Of Life (Virginia S. Criste Producer); Elegy (The Elergy Project); BREACH: a manifesto on race in America through the eyes of a black girl recovering from self hate, Hand to God, The House That Will Not Stand, Never the Sinner, The Gospel of Lovingkindness, In The Next Room or the Vibrator Play, Eurydice,
IGNITION Festival, The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity, Anna in the Tropics, and Knock Me a Kiss (Victory Gardens). Ms. Jach holds an MFA in Stage Management from Rutgers University.

YU SHIBAGAKI (Scenic Designer) last worked with Remy Bumppo on Both Your Houses. Chicago credits include HeLa, Truth and Reconciliation, Antigonick (Sideshow); Mansfield Park (Northlight); Witch, Vietgone (Writers); Fun Home, The House That Will Not Stand, Mojada, Appropriate (Victory Gardens); Welcome to Jesus, Mercy Strain, Let Me Down Easy (American Theatre Company); Fear and Misery in Third Reich (Haven). Other credits include Engaging Shaw, The Maids, The Island, The Year of Magical Thinking (American Players Theatre); and I come from Arizona (Children’s Theatre Company, Minneapolis); Antarctica, WI (First Stage). You can see more about her work at www.yushibagaki.com

BRANDON WARDELL (Lighting Designer) is working with Remy Bumppo for the first time. Chicago credits include The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Steppenwolf); Birdland, Lela & Co., Earthquakes in London (Steep), Cardboard Piano, The Vibrator Play (Timeline); Men On Boats (American Theatre Company); Becky Shaw (Windy City Playhouse); Titanic, London Wall, Men Should Weep, Bat Boy (Griffin). Other credits include The Game of Love and Chance (American Players Theatre); and Million Dollar Quartet (Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival). Brandon is an Artistic Associate at Steep Theatre Co. and Griffin Theatre Co., and a Company Member of Adventure Stage Chicago. Brandon earned his MFA from Northwestern University and is a professor of lighting design at Northern Illinois University.

JEREMY W. FLOYD (Costume Designer) is excited to work with Remy Bumppo again having designed for Our Class and Creditors. Chicago credits include The Explorers Club, End Days (Windy City); Word Play Gala (Writers); Three Sisters, Coriolanus (The Hypocrites); Grease, A Chorus Line (Paramount); Short Shakes! Macbeth, Murder for Two (Chicago Shakespeare); Becky Shaw, The Mandrake (A Red Orchid); and The Hot Mikado (Drury Lane). Other credits include Julius Caesar (Montana Shakespeare in the Park); The Tempest, Henry IV, Richard III, Hamlet (Notre Dame Shakespeare); Gut Bucket Blues (True Colors); and Harriet Jacobs (Kansas City Rep). Jeremy is a professor of costume design at Northern Illinois University. Find more about his work at www.jeremywfloyd.com

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ (Original Music and Sound Design) is very happy to be back at Remy Bumppo after composing and

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Share your experience!

Whether you’re snapping a picture of your playbill or taking a selfie before the show, be sure to use the hashtag #TheFatherChi in your posts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

@remybumppo
designing for Frankenstein, hang, Born Yesterday, The Life Of Galileo, Pygmalion, Fallen Angels, The Clean House, and Creditors. Chicago credits include The Santaland Diaries, The Magic Play, Carlyle (Goodman), Constellations, Monster (Steppenwolf), Red Velvet (Chicago Shakespeare), Savior (Chicago Symphony Orchestra), Mary’s Wedding, Shrew’d!, Silent Sky, Captain Blood (First Folio), Roz and Ray, Hand To God, The House That Will Not Stand (Victory Gardens), Paradise Blue, Sunset Baby (Timeline), Time Is On Our Side, Significant Other, Bright Half Life (About Face), Cosmologies, Pilgrims, A Life Extra Ordinary, Good For Otto (The Gift); and The Columnist (American Blues). Winner of 4 Joseph Jefferson Awards with a total of 18 nominations, Kriz is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. To hear more of his work, please visit christopherkriz.com

JAMIE KARAS (Properties Designer) previously worked with Remy Bumppo on Born Yesterday and Puff. Chicago credits include The Hero’s Wife (16th Street); Dada Woof Papa Hot, Bull in a China Shop (About Face); Innovation Nation Live!, Titanic the Musical (Griffin); Girl Found (Idle Muse); Flies! The Musical (Pride Films and Plays); A Year With Frog and Toad, Footloose, The Aristocat Kids, Legally Blonde Jr, Seussical the Musical (Wilmette Center for the Arts); Wolf At The End Of The Block, In The Time Of The Butterflies (Teatro Vista); Becky Shaw, Bootycandy, Apartment 3A, This, and The Explorer’s Club (Windy City Playhouse); Tall Girls (Shattered Globe); We’re Gonna Be Okay, Welcome to Jesus, Men On Boats (American Theatre Company); The Nutcracker, Death And Harry Houdini (House); Get It All Back (Sideshow); The Invisible Hand, Bobbie Clearly, The Cheats (Steep); Into the Woods, Gypsy, Peter Pan, Mame (Music Theater Works). She also worked on The Music Man and The Magic Flute (Ashlawn Opera, Charlottesville VA). Jamie is the Prop Shop Supervisor at Loyola University of Chicago.

KAITLYN BROYLES (Assistant Stage Manager) worked with Remy Bumppo on The Skin of Our Teeth. Chicago credits include The Antelope Party (Theater Wit); The Lady with All The Answers, Ghost (Theater At The Center). Other credits include Guys and Dolls, Annie, Hair, Anything Goes, Spamatlo, Oklahoma!, Charlotte’s Web (McLeod Summer Playhouse).

ELLEN WILLETT (Production Manager) is honored to be working with Remy Bumppo again this season. She regularly works with the talented folks at Steep, The Inconvenience, Strawdog, A Red Orchid, and Sideshow making theatre and events. For fun, she serves on the board of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), fosters coonhounds, and takes any opportunity to sail on the lake.

NICK SANDYS (Producing Artistic Director) became the Artistic Director of Remy Bumppo Theatre Company in 2012, having been an ensemble member since 2002. He has directed Puff: Believe It or Not, Great Expectations, Pirandello’s Henry IV, The Life of Galileo, Travesties (Jeff Nomination 2015), Our Class (Jeff Nomination 2014), Seascape, Fiction, American Ethnic, and 365Days/365Plays. His acting credits include Frankenstein, Pygmalion, An Inspector Calls, The Goat Or Who Is Sylvia? (Jeff Nomination 2011), Les Liaisons Dangereuses (Jeff Nomination 2010), The Real Thing (Jeff Nomination 2007), Tartuffe, Arcadia, Money, The Secret Rapture (After Dark Award 2003), No Man’s Land, and Hapgood. Other directing credits include: Strauss’ Elektra (Lyric Opera of Chicago / Houston Grand Opera); The Merry Wives of Windsor, Romeo & Juliet, Macbeth (First Folio—artistic associate); Bedroom Farce (Eclipse); Twelfth Night (Noble Fool)
The Father

PRODUCTION PROFILES cont.

Theatricals). Other recent acting credits include The Man Who Murdered Sherlock Holmes (Jeff Nomination 2016 - The Mercury); Captain Blood, Turn Of The Screw, Blithe Spirit, (First Folio Theatre); Tempest, Much Ado About Nothing (Notre Dame Shakespeare); Camelot, My Fair Lady (Light Opera Works); and has performed at many Chicago theaters as well as regionally and Off-Broadway. Nick is also a certified Fight Director with The Society of American Fight Directors, his Jeff Award-winning choreography appearing at The Metropolitan Opera, in Steppenwolf’s Tony-winning Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, as well as at Goodman (over 25 productions), Lyric Opera (over 50 productions), and many others, including The Theatre School at DePaul University (adjunct since 1995). He holds MAs in English Literature from both Cambridge University and Loyola University Chicago, has received 15 Joseph Jefferson Nominations, and is the recipient of a 2011 Achievement Award from The Meier Charitable Foundation of the Arts. He is also a 2018 APA Audie Award Finalist and a 2018 Audiofile Earphones Winner for his narration of Bram Stoker’s Dracula for Amazon Classics.

FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Perhaps it is not surprising that my own father first tipped me off about this remarkable script having just seen the original English production of this award-winning French play. My father, who in truly British style rarely enthuses, was clearly impressed by this young playwright and his astonishingly original and moving “mystery” about familial tensions and the indignities of aging. Or perhaps the strong impression was because this was what my father experiences for some part of every day.

For me, it is the playwright’s unique marriage of subject and form that makes this work so compelling. Zeller creates a theatrical puzzle-box of time and memory that pulls us into Andre’s story, and creates a startling metaphor for the non-verifiable nature of existence. In our cultural moment, when facts are no longer “facts” and truth is always out of reach, we may find ourselves sharing Andre’s experience. In that way, we are all fathers and/or children. We are all aging. And we all have to confront the “unknowable” in the everyday. Reality is like a lost watch—you can never be sure of the time.

– Nick Sandys

POP QUIZ

ARE YOU...
an extrovert?
good at connecting with others?
genuine and honest?
a good communicator?

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smile and laugh easily?
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Founded in 1996, Remy Bumppo Theatre Company produces theatre that thrills the ear, stirs the heart, feeds the mind, and sparks a conversation.

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BLOOMSDAY
by Steven Dietz
May 16 - June 16, 2019
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Remy Bumppo Theatre Company relies on the generous support of philanthropic organizations and audience members like you to provide over 60% of our annual budget. We are profoundly grateful to the following individuals and institutions whose generosity over the past twelve months has provided the financial foundation for Remy Bumppo’s mainstage productions and community engagement programs like the Between the Lines literary lectures, Studio Bumppo classes and Remy Bumppo Field Guides.

**THE PRODUCERS CIRCLE**

Remy Bumppo Theatre Company extends a very special thank you to this season’s sponsoring producers, who play a meaningful role in the sustenance and advancement of Remy Bumppo’s productions. Supporters who give a dedicated gift of $2,500 or more are eligible to enjoy the Producers Circle distinction and accompanying special benefits.

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Laura S. Cook
Isabel and Robert Curley
Mary Egleston
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Koval Oat Whiskey, Koval Ginger, Sparkling Limonata, Fresh Squeezed Lemon

**EAU DE CLARE**
North Shore #6 Gin, Cava, Fresh Lime

**HEAVY SUNSHINE**
Amaro, Koval Ginger, Orange Juice, Orange Bitters

**REBECCA’S FLORAPOLITAN**
Belvedere Citrus Vodka, Combier Triple Sec, Sparkling Aranciata Rossa

**CIRUS SUNRISE**
1921 Silver Tequila, Rouge Cherry Liqueuer, Sparkling Clementine, Rose’s Lime

**WICKED JAIQUIRI**
Shipwreck Spiced Rum, Combier Triple Sec, Fresh Lime, Pineapple Juice

Libations or concessions purchased at the bar are always allowed in the theater.