Cold Town/Hotline

A Chicago Holiday Story

Written & Directed by Eli Newell

Scenic Design
Milo Bue

Lighting Design
Seth Torres

Costume Design
Gianna Charron

Sound Design & Original Composition
Eric Backus

Dramaturg
Larkin Sackett

Casting Director
Lynn Baber, CSA

Stage Manager
Megan Gray

Artistic Producer
Cole von Glahn

Cold Town/Hotline was commissioned, developed, and first produced by Raven Theatre Company. CTHL is sponsored by Stephen Johnson, Susan Schaalman Youdonvin, Charlie Shulkin, and Michael Zedek.

Raven Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American Theatre.
CAST

Sheila ....................................................................................................................................... Robin Margolis
Betty ...................................................................................................................................... Jeanne T. Arrigo
Annie ........................................................................................................................................ Caroline Chu
Larry ........................................................................................................................................ Dennis Garcia
Bruce ........................................................................................................................................... Sam Linda
Sherman ...................................................................................................................................... Jonah Kaufman

Setting:
North Side of Chicago

Time:
December 18-25, 1983

Cold Town/Hotline will be performed without an intermission.

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director .................................................................................................................... Nick Peebles
Scenic Artist ............................................................................................................................. Eileen Rozycki
Assistant Director .............................................................................................................. Harley Kirchhoff
Assistant Stage Manager ................................................................................................. Michelle Housh
Master Electrician ................................................................................................................ Liz Gomez

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Artistic Director ............................................................................................................................ Cody Estle
General Manager .................................................................................................................. Stephen Johnson
Artistic Producer .................................................................................................................. Cole von Glahn
Development Manager ......................................................................................................... Dana Besmanoff
Audience Services Manager ............................................................................................... Michael Allen
Public Relations ..................................................................................................................... David Rosenberg
Education Director ................................................................................................................ Mechelle Moe
Education Manager ............................................................................................................... Dana Murphy
Front of House ........................................................................................................................ Morgan Araujo, Max Colvill, Chris Farrell, Jr, Larkin Sackett, Tyler Sapp
Artistic Producing Intern ................................................................................................ Morgan Wrigley
Arts Administration Intern ................................................................................................ Tyler Sapp
Ushering Services ..................................................................................................................... The Saints

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WHO’S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

JEANNE T. ARRIGO
(Betty) Recent credits include Once (Paramount Theatre); Eastland (Lookingglass Theatre); and understudying the last three TracyLets plays at Steppenwolf (Mary Page Marlowe, Linda Vista, The Minutes). Recently, she wrapped the local independent feature film, For Prophet. Television work includes Chicago Fire, Med and PD. She holds B.A. in Theatre and Psychology from Coe College, and an M.ED. in School Psychology from Loyola. Exclusively represented by Gray Talent. As always, so much love to Brett! www.jeannetarrigo.com.

CAROLINE CHU
(Annie) is thrilled to be working with Raven for the first time. Select Chicago credits: And Then There Were None (Drury Lane), Short Shakespeare! Macbeth (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), peerless (First Floor Theater). International: Richard III, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Love’s Labors Lost (Prague Shakespeare Company). Caroline is a proud company member at First Floor Theater and received her B.A. from Northwestern in June. She is represented by Stewart Talent. Much love to my family.

DENNIS GARCIA
(Larry) was recently seen in the stage reading of Los Tequileros at 16th Street Theater. Recent credits: Richard, Dick, Jane And Sally (2018 LTC Carnival), How To Use A Knife (Shattered Globe) FADE u/s (Teatro Vista & Victory Gardens). Los Angeles: U Don’t Know Me (CASA 0101), Proof (Circus Theatricals), A Christmas Carol (South Coast Repertory). Film & Television credits: Chicago PD, MD, FIRE (NBC), Mind of Mencia (Comedy Central) Soul Sessions (nGage Productions) and the award winning short film Barrio Boy (Cautious Films). Dennis holds a BA from Columbia College.

JONAH KAUFMAN
(Sherman) is in fifth grade at Science & Arts Academy. His theatrical credits include Prague Shakespeare Company’s Midsummer Night’s Dream, a recurring role in Chicago’s Artistic Home’s Miracle on 34th Street and a member of Lookingglass Theatre’s Young Ensemble (2nd year). A piano student since age 4, Jonah performs locally in orchestral concerts and debuts in Vienna this summer, performing at the Beethoven Museum as part of the 250th anniversary celebration of Beethoven’s birth.

SAM LINDA
(Bruce) is a Senior at Northwestern University and is thrilled to be working with Raven Theatre and the team of Cold Town/Hotline. Recent credits include The Comedy of Errors (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, SITP) and Reflections on Fire (Cabinet of Curiosity, Ritual Apprentice). Many thanks to his teachers for challenging him and filling his heart daily, his friends for their unwavering support, and his family for all of the above and more.

ROBIN MARGOLIS
(Stella) last appeared as Suzanne Bonaly in the workshop production of Curves & Edges with Interrobang/Three
WHO’S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW CONT.

Things Productions. Favorite roles include Hildegart in Teatro Vista’s *Aurora’s Motive*, Thea in Circle Theatre’s *Hedda Gabler*, Lydia Lubey in *All My Sons* and Liza in *Bondagers* both with Shattered Globe Theatre. Other Chicago theaters she has worked with include Redtwist, Artemisia, The Arc, AstonRep, National Pastime and Piven Theater. Robin holds an MFA in Acting from Catholic University.

**ELI NEWELL** (Director/Playwright) returns to Raven Theatre after directing several readings and assistant directing productions of *The Gentleman Caller* and *The Undeniable Sound of Right Now*. Last Fall, he co-directed the world premiere of *Masque Macabre* at Strawdog Theatre Company. Next, he will direct Chicago Shakespeare Theater’s *Short Shakespeare!* *The Comedy of Errors*, which tours the Chicago schools after its residency in the Yard. Newell has been proud to assist on Chicago productions at Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Northlight Theatre, Windy City Playhouse, Emerald City Theatre, Haven Theatre and Strawdog Theatre Company. His Minneapolis credits include: Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Children’s Theatre Company and the Playwrights’ Center. Newell holds a B.A. from Northwestern University. Special thanks to Cody Estle and Lia Gore for their dedicated support of this project.

**MILO BUE** (Scenic Design) is excited to be returning to Raven Theatre. Design credits include, *dirty butterfly* (The Blind Owl/ Theatre on the Lake), *Wolf at the End of the Block* (Teatro Vista), *Pinocchio* (Neverbird/ Chicago Children Theatre), and *Franklinland* (Jackalope Theatre). Milo is an associate designer with Jeffrey D. Kmiec. Associate design credits include *Indecent* (Victory Gardens Theatre), *Matilda* (Drury Lane Theatre), and *How I Learned to Drive* (Raven Theatre). www.milobuedesign.com

**GIANNA CHARRON** (Costume Designer) is a recent graduate from the University of Cincinnati. Though her degree is in fashion design, she discovered her love for costume design while interning with Strawdog Theatre last year. She worked as the costume and production assistant on *Masque Macabre*, *The Revolutionists*, and *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. She is also currently working on *Death Tax* at Redtwist Theatre. Gianna is now excited to call Chicago home and looks forward to working in this amazing city.

**MEGAN GRAY** (Stage Manager) is proud to have worked with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, The Royal George, Adventure Stage Chicago, Redtwist Theatre, Bros do Prose, Mercury Theatre, Strawdog Theatre Company, Black Ensemble Theater, and Halcyon Theatre. An aspiring director and proud theatre educator, other regional theatres Megan has worked at include First Stage Theatre Academy, The Bloomingtom Playwright’s Project, The Jacob’s School of Music, Utah Festival Opera, and an Artistic Direction Apprenticeship at Magic Theatre. www.megan-gray.com.

**MICHELLE HOUSH** (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited for her first show at Raven Theatre. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin Parkside with a degree in Theatre Arts and a concentration in Stage Management. Her most recent

**ERIC BACKUS** (Sound Design & Composition) returns to Raven after working on *Sundown, Yellow Moon, The Undeniable Sound of Right Now, Nice Girl, and The Assembled Parties*. He has worked Off-Broadway, regionally, and throughout Chicago. Recent Chicago credits include *Wolf Play* (Gift Theatre), *Something Clean* (Sideshow/Rivendell), *The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey* (American Blues Theater), and *Mike Pence Sex Dream* (First Floor Theater). To hear his music, please visit ericbackus.com.
show was Stage Managing Back in the Day: An 80’s House Music Dancesical at UrbanTheatre Company. She recently finished Internships for Production Management and Company Management.

**HARLEY KIRCHHOFF** (Assistant Director) could not be more thrilled to be part of this Raven team! A current senior at Northwestern University her past directing credits include You On the Moors Now, Constellations, and World Famous Deli (2019 Agnes Nixon Festival). Her first AD gig of her LIFE was Eli’s Hansel and Gretel and she feels so very lucky to be at his side once again! Much love to all involved in this special process!

**LARKIN SACKETT** (Dramaturg) is from Oregon and is currently based in Chicago. She has worked with such companies as Third Rail Repertory Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Artist Repertory Theater (Portland, OR), CoHo Theater, New York Stage and Film, and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Production Dramaturg: Penelope; The Aliens; Crooked; That Hopey Changey Thing; Collapse; The Last of the Boys. Development Dramaturg: Disgusting Temptations; may:fly; and, and, and Isabella Bootlegs, Transfers, and Orpheus in the Berkshires.

**SETH TORRES** (Lighting Designer) is very excited to make his Raven Theatre debut with Cold Town/Hotline. Chicago credits include Haven Theatre's Directors Haven. Previously, Seth was a member of the Professional Training Company at Actors Theatre in Louisville and an Assistant Lighting Designer at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Seth is a graduate of Northwestern University.

**COLE VON GLAHN** (Artistic Producer) is a Chicago-based director and producer. Recently, he directed the Chicago premiere of I'm Gonna Pray For You So Hard with First Floor Theater – where he is a company member. Cole co-wrote, produced, and directed the upcoming podcast: Leylines. He has assistant directing credits at numerous theaters including Cleveland Play House, Marin Theatre Company, American Theatre Company and Griffin Theatre. He holds degrees in Drama and Sociology from Tufts University.

**CODY ESTLE** (Artistic Director) became the Artistic Director at Raven Theatre in November 2017 where he had previously served as the Associate Artistic Director. His directing credits include Sundown, Yellow Moon, How I Learned To Drive, The Gentleman Caller (2019 Jeff Award winning new play by Philip Dawkins), The Assembled Parties, A Loss of Roses (named by Chicago Tribune honorable mention as one of the Year’s Best in 2016), Dividing the Estate, Vieux Carré (named by Chicago Tribune as one of the Year’s Best in 2014), Good Boys and True, Brighton Beach Memoirs, Boy Gets Girl and Dating Walter Dante at Raven Theatre; Damascus at Strawdog Theatre; Five Mile Lake at Shattered Globe Theatre; By the Water (named by Chicago Sun-Times honorable mention as one of the Top Theatre Productions of 2017) at Northlight Theatre; American Hero at First Floor Theatre; Scarcity at Redtwist Theatre; The Seagull and Watch on the Rhine at The Artistic Home; Don't Go Gentle at Haven Theatre; Uncle Bob at Mary-Arrchie Theatre and Hospitality Suite at Citadel Theatre. He's had the pleasure of assistant directing at Steppenwolf Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Goodspeed Musicals, Court Theatre and Writers Theatre. Estle is a proud member of SDC and an alumnus of Columbia College Chicago.
After 36 years, we would be remiss not to recognize that Raven is an essential part of the Chicago theatre community, and that we have a legacy to protect.

We are fortunate that some generous benefactors have chosen to intertwine Raven’s legacy with their own. Their membership in the NEST EGG SOCIETY indicates they are including Raven in their estate plans. These individuals share a vision: for Raven to continue making theatre for generations to come.

If you have already arranged a planned gift to Raven, we would like to honor your support. If you wish, you may share your intentions with Raven’s development staff, who will recognize your contribution at your discretion.

We can also provide assistance if you are still considering a gift. There is no minimum contribution, and anybody can join the NEST EGG SOCIETY. Please do not hesitate to connect with us at (773) 338-2177 as you take steps to preserve your legacy.

We are grateful for the following individuals who have already made this commitment to Raven:

John Clum & Walter Melion
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Raven Theatre is in its 37th year of providing revivals of classic modern dramas and thought-provoking new works to the Northside Chicago community as well as theatrical education to the children and schools in its surrounding neighborhoods. Founded in 1983, it moved into its current home in 2002 with its 85-seat East Stage and its 56-seat Schwartz Stage. Its programming includes:

**Season Subscription Series** – Raven offers four productions in its season subscription series, three in the East Stage and one in the Schwartz Stage, focusing on revivals of works primarily from the late 19th century to the present and including both Chicago and world premieres.

**Education Program** – Raven provides teaching artists to its neighborhood schools for in-school theatrical residencies, a field trip program for elementary school students, a Saturday series of classes for children, and a robust children’s theatrical summer camp program.

With its efforts in its community, in its neighborhood schools, and on the stage, Raven plays an important part in the city’s cultural landscape.

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