

CONSTELLATION
THEATRE
COMPANY SEASON 17



★ DESPERATE ★ MEASURES ★



FEB 15 - MAR 17

WELCOME TO *DESPERATE MEASURES!*

This show is loosely inspired by William Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. Debuted in London in 1604, this play never neatly fit into the genre of comedy, tragedy, or history. Instead, *Measure for Measure* has long been considered a "problem play." The term originated in the 1860's, and refers to a script that explores conflicting points of view around contemporary social issues: the subordination of women; attitudes towards sex work; subjugation based on race, ethnicity, or nationality; and the tensions between law and justice, order and nature.

The award-winning 2017 musical *Desperate Measures*, on the other hand, is a comedy through and through. It features female characters with agency, smarts, creativity, bravery, and dimension... or as much of those things as you can get in a very silly musical. Set in this semi-fantastical "Wild West," in the territory of Arizona sometime around the 1890's, *Desperate Measures* tells the story of a cast of familiar and archetypal characters. There is a hot-headed, gun-slinging cowboy; a cunning sheriff chasing justice; a drunk Catholic priest who is questioning his faith; and a rigid governor determined to crack down on shoot-outs at the saloon. Not included are any archetypal or caricatured Native Americans – thank goodness. That said, *Desperate Measures* makes no mention at all of the Indigenous people that were an essential and historical part of the population on the land that would become the state of Arizona.

Sometimes, even well-intentioned attempts to challenge an audience to engage with conflicting points of views on social issues or painful histories of violence can objectify identities and reduce history, creating a limited, subjective conversation. And yet, erasing any mention of a community in settings in which it is historically present and remains present, does not feel like a solution either. Every play has its problems, and *Desperate Measures* is no different.

We hope this production delights and entertains you. We also invite you to use the QR code below to visit our website and check out what we as a company have learned thus far about Native communities in the territory of Arizona. Keep exploring by visiting the National Museum of the American Indian, a space equipped to capture the experiences of Native communities better than the characters or settings you encounter today.

ENJOY THE SHOW!



**CONSTELLATION
THEATRE
COMPANY**



Inspired by Shakespeare's *Measure For Measure*

Book and Lyrics by Peter Kellogg, Music by David Friedman
Orchestrations by David Hancock Turner
Vocal Arrangements by David Friedman

New York Off-Broadway production produced by Pat Addiss,
Mary Cossette, Willette Klausner

World Premiere Production Presented by The York Theater Company,
James Morgan, Producing Artistic Director, Evans Haile, Executive Director

Originally Presented in the New York Musical Theater Festival,
Isaac Robert Hurwitz, Executive Director and Producer

Desperate Measures is presented by special arrangement with
Broadway Licensing, LLC. (www.broadwaylicensing.com)

NOTE TO AUDIENCE: The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is
a violation of United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.

WRITER & LYRICIST + COMPOSER

Peter Kellogg, (Writer and Lyricist) has two Tony nominations for book and lyrics to a musical of *Anna Karenina* (composer Dan Levine), which toured in Japan and was broadcast on Japanese Public TV in 2006. With David Friedman, he created *Desperate Measures* which won 2018 Drama Desk Awards for Best Music and Best Lyrics, as well as The Outer Critics Circle and off-Broadway Alliance Awards for Best Musical. CD available on Amazon. Also with David, *Chasing Nicolette* (based on the French romance, *Aucassin and Nicolette*), produced at Westport Playhouse, the Prince in Philadelphia and Village Theatre in Seattle; and *Stunt Girl*, based on the life of Nellie Bly, New York City's first female reporter, which premiered at Village Theatre. With composer Steve Weiner, he has written a 10-person musical based on the Sheridan play, *The Rivals*, which premiered at Bristol Riverside Theatre last fall.

David Friedman, (Composer) In addition to *Desperate Measures*, (2018 Drama Desk Best Music Award), David has written 4 other musicals with Peter Kellogg: *Nicolette & Aucassin*, *Nellie Bly*, *Money Talks*, and *Lincoln in Love*; *King Island Christmas* (with Deborah Brevoort - 50+ productions worldwide); *Koga* (with Philip Kholos) a web series for children about using martial arts and kindness to solve every day problems, and is currently collaborating with Elizabeth Dewberry on a musical about *Temple Grandin*. David has written songs for everyone from Disney to Diana Ross, produced all the late/great Nancy LaMott's CD's and wrote many of her best known songs, conducted and vocal arranged 6 musicals on Broadway and numerous Disney Animated Films (*Beauty & The Beast*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*) wrote songs for *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, *Aladdin and the King of Thieves*, *Bambi II* and *Trick*, scored 3 television series, performed his revue *Listen To My Heart - The Songs of David Friedman* Off Broadway, all over America and abroad, and cowrote 100 songs (with Kathie Lee Gifford) for the Today Show's *Everyone Has a Story* Segment. David is a best-selling metaphysics author with 5 books including *The Thought Exchange*, and *We Can Be Kind - Healing Our World One Kindness at a Time*, based on his song of the same name. For more information, go to www.MIDDERMusic.com.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Johnny Blood	Ensemble
God Moves in a Mysterious Way	Father Morse
Johnny Blood [Reprise]	Johnny
That's Just How It Is	Sheriff
Someday They Will Thank Me	Governor
Look in Your Heart	Susanna, Governor
It's Good To Be Alive	Johnny
It Doesn't Hurt To Try	Johnny, Susanna, Sheriff, Father Morse
It's Getting Hot in Here	Bella
The Way That You Feel	Susanna, Bella, Sheriff
Stop There	Sheriff
In the Dark	Ensemble

ACT II

What a Night	Governor
About Last Night	Susanna, Governor
Stop There [Reprise]	Sheriff
Just For You	Bella, Johnny
Just For You [Reprise]	Bella, Johnny
What is This Feeling	Susanna
What a Day	Governor
Someday They Will Thank Me [Reprise]	Governor
Life Takes You by Surprise	Ensemble
It's Good to be Alive [Reprise]	Johnny
It's a Beautiful Day	Bella, Susanna
Finale	Ensemble

i RUN TIME: 2 HOURS & 10 MINUTES, ONE INTERMISSION

For the safety of the performers, we kindly ask that you do not take photographs, video, or audio recording during the show. Please silence all electronic devices.

CAST

in alphabetical order

Rebecca Ballinger Susanna
Tyler Dobies* Sheriff Martin Green
Bobby Libby Father Morse
Nina-Sophia Pacheco Bella Rose
Hunter Ringsmith* Johnny Blood
Greg Watkins Governor Von Richterhenkenpflichtgetrubler

UNDERSTUDIES

in alphabetical order

Henry Kristian Cox US Johnny Blood / US Sheriff
Julia Link US Susanna / Bella Rose
Joshua Simon US Governor / US Father Morse

CREATIVE TEAM

Allison Arkell Stockman Director
Refiye Tappan Music Director
Nikki Mirza Choreographer
Samuel Klaas Scenic Designer
Jeannette Christensen^ Costume Designer
E-hui Lighting Designer
Kevin Lee Alexander^ Sound Designer
Amy Kellett Props Designer
Jenny Male Intimacy and Fight Director
Jenna Berk Dialect Coach
Jenna Keefer Production Stage Manager

MUSICIANS

Refiye Tappan Piano / Conductor
Perry Cowdery Acoustic & Electric Guitar, Mandolin, Banjo
Jason Labrador Violin, Mandolin
Joanna Smith Double Bass

PRODUCTION TEAM

Dianna Garten Assistant Director
Michael Tsaltas Technical Director
Suzy Alden Associate Choreographer
Stella Monshaw Associate Music Director
Luís Ramon Córdovez Assistant Stage Manager
Natasha Sánchez Assistant Stage Manager
Cidney Forkpah Assistant Costume Designer
Yaritzza Pacheco Scenic Charge Artist
Ben Harvey Head Electrician
Malory Hartman Light Board Programmer
Sam Linc Light Board Operator
Lorenzo Miguel Light Board Operator (Sub)
Dazinsky Muscadin Light Board Operator (Sub)
Gordon Nimmo-Smith Audio Engineer
Courtney Naughton Audio 1 / Mixer
Alyssa Foy Audio 2
Rukiya Henry-Fields Wardrobe

Carpenters	Scenic Artists	Electricians
Yilana Chicas	Suzy Alden	Sydney Bronaugh
Ben Harvey	Caroline Austin	Kyra Conkright
Cassie Medinets	Aidan Galbraith	Ashakilah Fenn
Justin Metcalf-Burton	Karis Sneed	Malory Hartman
Jack Moxley	Sound Technicians	Elizabeth Hinshaw
Bria Mukes		Dazinsky Muscadin
Spencer Munshi	Garrett Parker	Jozef Orisich
David Phillip	Reed Simiele	Michell Robinson
Reed Simiele	Iona Tangri	Reed Simiele
		Averie Thompson



*Member, Actors' Equity Association



^Represented by Local USA 829

CONSTELLATION LEADERSHIP & STAFF



Allison Arkell Stockman [she/her] (Founding Artistic Director) won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Director of

a Musical (Helen Production) in 2016 for her work on *Avenue Q*. She has directed 33 Constellation productions including *The School for Lies*, *Incognito*, *Mysticism & Music*, *Children of Medea*, *The White Snake*, *Master and Margarita*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *The Wild Party*, *The Arabian Nights*, *Urinetown*, *Journey to the West*, *The Fire and The Rain*, *ABSOLUTELY! {perhaps}*, *The Love of the Nightingale*, *36 Views*, *Gilgamesh*, *Taking Steps*, *Metamorphoses*, *The Ramayana*, *The Green Bird*, *Women Beware Women*, *Three Sisters*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *A Dream Play*. Allison has directed readings and workshops for Theater J and the Kennedy Center. A Drama League Directing Fellow and a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab, Allison holds an MFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon School of Drama and a BA in Comparative Religion from Princeton.

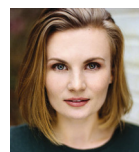


Anderson Wells [they/them] (Managing Director) has been working as a performer, producer, teacher, and administrator

in the DC theatre scene since 2013. Prior to joining the Constellation team, they spent several years as Studio Acting Conservatory's Education Manager. They have also worked with Arena Stage, Arts on the Horizon, Brave Spirits Theatre, Encore Stage and Studio, The Hub, The Klunch, Pinky Swear Productions, Rep Stage, Silver Spring Stage, Solas Nua, Studio Theatre, Treehouse for Creative Kids, and The Welders. Anderson is also the Founding Artistic Director of Highball Productions. They can be found performing across the country as their drag persona, Vagenesis. As a drag artist, they have won multiple titles including becoming the first ever National Bearded Empress.

Nick Martin, Associate Artistic Director
Samuel Klaas, Production Manager
Emma Wesslund, Development Manager
Julia Rabson Harris, Patron Services Manager
Michael Tsaltas, Technical Director

CAST



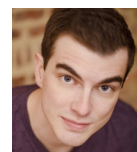
Rebecca Ballinger (Susanna) is stoked to be back with Constellation after understudying *Melancholy Play* and *The*

Caucasian Chalk Circle. Other credits include Solas Nua: *The Honey Trap* (Helen Hayes Nomination: Outstanding Supporting Performer), *The Playboy of the Western World*; Keegan Theatre: *The Outsider* (Helen Hayes Award: Outstanding Ensemble), *Shakespeare in Love*; 1st Stage: *A Civil War Christmas*, *The Member of the Wedding*; NextStop Theatre: *The 39 Steps*, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, *Beehive*; Adventure Theatre: *Make Way for Ducklings*. Becca has a BA in Theatre from the University of Maryland. RebeccaBallinger.com



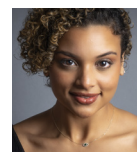
Tyler Dobies (Sheriff Martin Green) is an artist from the Pacific Northwest. Constellation debut! DC: Imagination Stage:

Nate the Great; Monumental Theatre Company; *tick, tick...BOOM!* (Helen Hayes Nom.). NEW YORK/NATIONAL TOUR: TheaterWorksUSA: *Junie B's Essential Survival Guide to School*; CultureLabLIC: *Show Me Eternity*; Pan Asian Repertory Theatre: *We Must See These Things*. SELECTED REGIONAL: Village Theatre: *Songs for a New World*; Seattle Repertory Theatre: *Here Lies Love*; Showtunes Theatre Company: *The Bridges of Madison County*; Tacoma Musical Playhouse: *Elephant & Piggie's We Are in a Play!* Hear Tyler on the podcast *E-Ticket to Broadway* bringing a special mouse to life. NYU. tylerdobies.com



Bobby Libby (Father Morse) is so excited to return to Constellation, after understudying for *Urinetown*. Other local credits include

NextStop Theatre: *Ride the Cyclone*, *Nat Turner in Jerusalem*, *Ordinary Days*, *Assassins*, [title of show], *City of Angels*, *Godspell*; Creative Cauldron: *Ichabod*, *Into the Woods*; Adventure Theatre: *Jumanji*, *Caps for Sale*; Stillpointe Theatre: *Nevermore*, *Grey Gardens*. Bobby has a BS in Theatre from Towson University. Love and thanks to Abbie and thank YOU for supporting live theatre!



Nina-Sophia Pacheco (Bella Rose) "It's a Beautiful Day" for Nina-Sophia Pacheco as she is back for a return performance with Constellation Theatre

Company after *Once on This Island*. DC Credits Include: Round House Theatre: *Hot Little Slice*; Signature Theatre: *WHICH WAY TO THE STAGE*; Providence Players: *Playing Juliet/Casting Othello*; St. Mark's Players: *Evita*, *Gypsy*. Nina currently serves in the U.S. Air National Guard as a lead vocalist with the Band of the South in Tennessee. Film and television credits include *Artisans Air* documentary series, *Marvelous Miss Maisel*, *Madam Secretary*. She is the founder of SloanRex Productions, and under the artist name SloanRex, she writes and performs her own music. In addition, she hosts the podcast "Things I've Learned Along the Way," which is available on all major streaming platforms. [@sloanrex](https://www.instagram.com/sloanrex)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

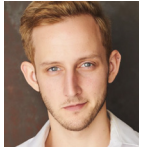
Scott Chatham
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Robert Bacon
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Erin D. Drake
Matt Haynie
Debodhonyaa Sengupta
Allison Arkell Stockman
Keiko K. Takagi
Anderson Wells
Rew Zukosky



Hunter Ringsmith (Johnny Blood) is over the moon to be joining Constellation Theatre for the first time. DC credits include

Shakespeare Theatre Company: *King Lear*; Washington Stage Guild: *Major Barbara*; Folger Theatre: *Midsummer Night's Dream*. NYC: The Public Theater: *The Tempest*. Regional credits include work at Bridge Street Theatre, New Swan Shakespeare Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, Theatre SilCo, Red House Arts Center, Hope Summer Rep, and The Dallas Theatre Center. Film work includes Netflix's *Rustin*. He has an MFA from the University of California, Irvine and a BFA from Southern Methodist University. hunterringsmith.com
Instagram: [@hringsmith](https://www.instagram.com/hringsmith)



Greg Watkins (Governor Von Richterhenkenpflichtgetruber) is thrilled to return to Constellation Theatre Company after having

performed as Chief Minister Zoser in *Aida* (2018). Other credits include *Jubilee* (Arena Stage/Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Rock of Ages* (Workhouse Arts Center); *Dreamgirls* (Toby's Dinner Theater); *Sister Act* (Arts Centric); *King Lear* (WSC Avant Bard); *Beyond the Mask* (PBS Documentary). He is a graduate of Howard University (B.M, Music Education), American University (M.Ed, Policy & Leadership), Helen Hayes Award Winner (*Legally Blonde*, 2019, Keegan Theatre), Helen Hayes Award Nominee (*Gospel at Colonus*, 2017, WSC Avant Bard), Capital Fringe Festival Best Musical Awardee (*The Poet Warriors*, 2010) and two-time Dr. Quincy Jones Award Winner.



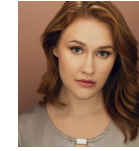
Audrey Baker (US Susanna/US Bella Rose) is thrilled to make her debut at Constellation Theatre Company and join the

talented cast of *Desperate Measures*. Other local productions include Workhouse Arts Center: *The Who's Tommy*, *Urinetown*, *Xanadu*; Little Theatre of Alexandria: *Bright Star*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. A San Francisco native, Audrey graduated from UC Berkeley and performed in regional theater throughout the Bay Area, favorite roles including Kate Monster/Lucy in *Avenue Q* and Muriel in *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*.



Henry Kristian Cox (US Johnny Blood / US Sheriff) is a D.C. based actor, writer, and musician. Henry is delighted to be making his Constellation

Theatre Company debut in *Desperate Measures*. Recent stage highlights include Great Lakes Center for the Arts: *Godspell*; Monumental Theatre Company: *tick, tick ... BOOM!*; LDK Productions: *Radio 930*. Henry holds a BM from Catholic University.



Julia Link (US Susanna/US Bella Rose) First show at Constellation! Other favorite credits include Adventure Theatre: *Junie B. Jones*;

Keegan Theatre: *Seussical* (Helen Hayes Nom, Outstanding Ensemble); Maryland Renaissance Festival: *Richard III*; Grassroots Shakespeare Company: *Much Ado About Nothing*; Arlington Players: *Almost, Maine*; Wildwood Theatre: *The Lightning Thief*; Catholic University: *A Little Night Music*, *The Wolves*, *Legally Blonde*. Julia plays Lady Macbeth, Banquo, and Macduff as an active company member of Drunk Shakespeare DC. Love to Mom, Dad, Will, Molly, and fur babies! [@itsjulialink](https://www.instagram.com/itsjulialink)



Joshua Simon (US Governor / US Father Morse) is thrilled to be returning to Constellation, where he understudied for *The Wild Party* in 2017.

Washington area credits include Rorshach Theatre: *The Toxic Avenger*; Creative Cauldron: *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Helen Hayes Nomination); Adventure Theatre: *James and the Giant Peach* (Helen Hayes Award), *Big River*; Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Ragtime*; Mystery Barn: *Murder at Hidden Valley Ranch*; 1st Stage: *Floyd Collins*, *A Civil War Christmas*; and many others. Joshua earned his BFA in Theatre from New York University.

CREATIVE TEAM



Allison Arkell Stockman (Director) See bio under Constellation Leadership & Staff (page 8).



Refiye Tappan (Music Director/Conductor/Keys) is delighted to return to Constellation! D.C. Area Credits: Constellation:

Once On This Island (MD/Keys 1/ Conductor - HH nomination 2023). Mosaic Theatre Company: *Max & Willy's Last Laugh* (Associate MD to John McDaniel). Keegan Theatre: *Seussical* (Associate MD). Creative Cauldron - *On Air* (MD/Keys - HH nomination 2020); *Always...Patsy Cline '21, '22* (MD/Keys). Other Regional credits: Virginia Stage Company: *A Merry Christmas Carol '21, '22, '23* (MD/Keys/Arranger/ Actor); *Fiddler on the Roof* (Associate MD/ Keys/Conductor); *Henry V* (MD/Keys/ Arranger); Zeider's Theater: *Fountain of You* (Associate MD). Virginia Opera-VA Arts Fest: *The Sound of Music*. Education: Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, U.K.; University of Reading, U.K. refiyemusic.com



Nikki Mirza (Choreographer) [she/her] is delighted to return to Constellation Theatre Company after having Assistant Directed

The School for Lies. Local credits include Olney Theatre Center: *Ink* (Choreographer, AD - Helen Hayes Nom. Best Choreo), *Dance Nation* (Choreographer, AD); NextStop Theatre Company: *Every Brilliant Thing* (Director), *Matilda* (Choreographer); 1st Stage: *Secret Things* (Choreographer, AD);

Theater J: *Tiny Lights* (Performer). She has worked regionally at La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego Rep, Weathervane Playhouse, Creede Repertory Theatre, Goodspeed Opera House, and Legoland California Resort. She is also a 2024 Kennedy Center Local Artist in Residence. Upcoming - La Jolla Playhouse: *Abeba in the Tall Grass* (Director) and Theater J: *Hester Street* (Choreographer, AD) nikkimirza.com



Samuel Klaas (Scenic Designer) is thrilled to design for Constellation Theatre Company for the first time after being the Production

Manager for the past two seasons. Recent design credits include GALA Hispanic Theatre: *La Valentiá* (scenic design); The Black Repertory Theatre of Kansas City: *Pass Over* (lighting design); UMKC Division of Opera: *Cosí fan tutte* (scenic design); UMKC Division of Theatre: *Everybody* (scenic and lighting design). Samuel holds an MFA from the University of Missouri – Kansas City in Theatre Design and Technology and a BA in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin – Platteville. samuelklaas.wixsite.com/theatre



Jeannette Christensen (Costume Designer) is a Baltimore-based costume designer, illustrator, and fashion stylist. She has

most notably designed costumes for the Broadway national tour of *On Your Feet! The Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan* 2022-2024 and the world premier in Spanish with Gala Hispanic Theater (Helen Hayes Award - Outstanding Costume Design). She has designed for The Kennedy Center,

American Players Theater, Oklahoma City Rep, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Theatre Festival, Folger Theater, Gala Hispanic Theatre, and Olney Theater Center. She has been an associate designer with The Muny, Round House Theatre, Wolf Trap Opera, and Studio Theatre. She has worked as a costume designer/mentor with Arizona State University, University of Maryland, Bowie State University, American University, and George Washington University. Education: BA in Design & Production from Arizona State University, MFA in Design from the University of Maryland. Find more of her work at jchristensendesign.com.



E-hui (Lighting Designer) is delighted to be back at Constellation and collaborating with this team that's amazing beyond

any measure, desperate or otherwise! Previous local design credits include Arts on the Horizon: *Sailing on String, Outside the Lines*; Nu Sass Productions: *Marx in Soho, The Ugly One*; Mosaic Theater Company: *The Real Americans, Draw the Circle*; Pointless Theatre Company: *.dOt :: a RotoPlastic Ballet, A Very Pointless Holiday Spectacular*; Theatre Prometheus: *14*; Perisphere Theater: *Tartuffe*; Ally Theatre Company: *Clover*; The Welders: *To Tell My Story*; Avant Bard Theatre: *TAME.*; and Source Festival 2017. Portfolio: E-hui.info



Kevin Lee Alexander (Sound Designer) is excited to join Constellation Theatre on this production of *Desperate Measures*. Recent regional credits include 1st Stage Theater: *Quilters*; Imagination Stage/Childsplay Theatre: *Hula*

Hoopin' Queen; NextStop Theatre: *In the Heights*; First Stage Milwaukee: *Bob Marley's Three Little Birds*; Kennedy Center's Theatre for Young Audiences: *Acoustic Rooster's Barnyard Boogie*; Constellation Theatre: *Once on This Island*; New Repertory Theatre: *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical* and *Oliver*; Adventure Theatre MTC: *Huckleberry Finn's Big River*; and Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: *Bright Star*. Kevin holds a Master of Science in Entertainment Business from Full Sail University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Maryland. He is also a member of IATSE Local USA 829.



Amy Kellett (Props Designer) [she/her] is excited to be back working with Constellation. Previous shows with them include *Orlando, Moon Man*

Walk and *Once On This Island*. She has also designed props regionally for productions at Studio Theatre, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Rep Stage, 1st Stage, Theater Alliance, Kennedy Center TYA, NextStop Theatre Company, ArtsCentric, Pointless Theatre Company, Gala Hispanic Theatre, The Hub Theatre, Synetic Theater, and YPT. Some of the other hats Amy wears include being a puppeteer/puppet builder and a scenic charge.

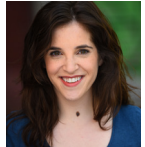


Jenny Male (Fight & Intimacy Director) [she/her] is happy to be working at CTC again after having choreographed fights and intimacy for

Moon Man Walk, The 39 Steps, and *Once On This Island*. Other local choreography credits include such theatres as Rep Stage, Ford's Theatre, Studio Theatre, Arena Stage, Olney Theatre, Factory 449, Washington

MUSICIANS

Stage Guild, Adventure Theatre, Imagination Stage, Maryland Opera Studio, and Maryland Lyric Opera. Jenna is Associate Professor of Theatre at Howard Community College and has an MFA in Theatre Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Jenna Berk (Dialect Coach) is delighted to be working with Constellation Theatre Company again after having coached *Little Shop of Horrors* and performed in *Avenue Q*, *Urinetown*, and *The Skin of Our Teeth*. Other local coaching credits include Rorschach Theatre: *Neverwhere*; Flying V Theatre: *Lobster Alice*; HB Woodlawn Secondary Program: *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Steel Magnolias*; Yorktown High School: *The Play That Goes Wrong*. She has worked as an actor and teaching artist across the DC metro area for over a decade. Jenna has a BA in Drama and English from UVA and a BA (Honours) from LAMDA.



Jenna Keefer (Production Stage Manager) is excited to be back for her second production at Constellation Theatre Company! Select theatre credits include: DC AREA: Compagnia de' Colombari: *REVELATION*; Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics: *Little Amal at the Capitol*; Constellation Theatre Company: *Incognito*; Taffety Punk Theatre Company: *La Salpêtrière*. BALTIMORE: Baltimore Center Stage: *The Medicine Show*, *Our Town*; The Peabody Institute: *Cendrillon*. REGIONAL: Olney Theatre Center: *A Christmas Carol*; Hope Repertory Theatre: *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Jenna also worked as the Associate Production Manager at Hope Repertory Theatre for the last two seasons. EDUCATION: BFA Stage Management-University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.



Refiye Tappan (Piano / Conductor) See bio under Creative Team (page 11).



Perry Cowdery (Guitar) is a musician and teacher from the DMV area. They moved to Chicago in 2012, graduating from Columbia College with a B.A. in Composition. With over 15 years of experience playing a diverse range of music and theater in DC and Chicago, they've played in many incredible productions including several Chicago Jeff Award Best Musical winners. Recently, Perry spent two seasons with The Oregon Shakespeare Festival in their productions of *Once On this Island*, *Revenge Song*, *RENT*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Perry would like to sincerely thank their friends and family, and sarcastically thank the haters. perrycowdery.com



Jason Labrador (Violin) is thrilled to be making his debut at Constellation Theater Company! Jason is a vocalist and violinist

most recently seen performing in the opera choruses of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Turandot*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *Otello* with Maryland Lyric Opera. Some other theater credits include *Road Show*, *Aida*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Love Sick*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *Ring of Fire*, *La Revoltosa* and many others. Jason is also the Associate Concertmaster of Piedmont Symphony in Warrenton, VA. He currently sings with the choir Grace Episcopal Church in the Plains. Jason resides in Winchester, VA with his partner Kyle and their 7 cats. Jason would like to thank CTC for the opportunity!



Joanna Smith (Double Bass) is delighted to join the team for her first show at Constellation Theatre. She has been playing upright

and electric bass professionally for the past decade, but has been playing in pit orchestras since she was in high school. Now local to Fredericksburg, VA, she can be seen playing with various groups in styles ranging from jazz to bluegrass and rock. She received her BA in Music from the University of Mary Washington in 2012. She'd like to thank her husband and parents for all the love and support in her musical journey. joannasmithbass.com

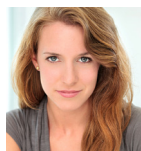
PRODUCTION TEAM



Dianna Garten (Assistant Director) is thrilled to be working on her first production with Constellation Theatre Company. Recently settled in DC, Dianna has worked extensively in NYC as a director and educator. She has worked with students from age 8 to 21 to devise over 30 original shows written by students. Past directorial work includes T Squared Productions: *Gidion's Knot and Absolutely, Probably, Unless* (Edinburgh Fringe); Daytime Players: *I Am Cecil and Who Am I?*; Self Produced: *A Fatima and Spinoza's Ethics*, as well as numerous staged readings. Dianna received her M.A. From CUNY and her B.F.A from NYU. diannagarten.com



Michael Tsaltas (Technical Director) [he/him] is a carpenter, welder, electrician, rigger, and an all-around theatre technician. He grew up and went to school in Knoxville Tennessee (GO VOLS) where he learned to create and produce art. In 2018 he joined the apprentice program at Olney Theatre Center and has since worked at many local theatre companies such as: Round House Theatre, Imagination Stage, Studio Theatre, Spooky Action Theatre, Capital Fringe Festival, and many I.A.T.S.E. jobs. He is usually found building in the shop, listening to punk rock or 80's bops

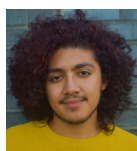


Suzy Alden (Associate Choreographer) is grateful to be joining the Constellation family with this production and working with a mixture of familiar and new artists. In addition to having choreographed with several professional and educational theaters, Suzy works as a performer, puppeteer,

educator, and scenic artist across the DMV and beyond. Next up she'll be choreographing *Singin' in the Rain* with South County High School. Enjoy this romp through a Shakespeare-esque Wild West! suzyalden.com Instagram: [@soossieq](https://www.instagram.com/soossieq)



Stella Monshaw (Associate Music Director) is a pianist, music director, piano teacher, and music arranger. She works as a freelance collaborative pianist specializing in musical theater, and holds a Master's degree in Collaborative Piano from Louisiana State University. Stella has been the pianist for over 40 theater productions, including award-winning productions of *Les Misérables*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Parade*, and *Phantom of the Opera*. Her varied roles in these productions include pit pianist, music director, keyboard programmer, rehearsal pianist, and audition pianist. Stella recently moved to the DC area and is very excited to be working with Constellation Theatre Company!



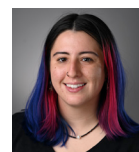
Luis Ramon Córdovez (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Puerto Rican/Taíno Stage Manager and Actor based in DC, who is very excited to be back at Constellation this season! They are overjoyed to get the chance to work with collaborators new and old on a wild western! They would also like to dedicate a few words to one of their greatest supporters: Nanichi' Cameron, uara' da eracra, roco zi da asu. Previous stage management credits include *Hula Hoopin Queen* with Imagination Stage (PSM); *Tick Tick Boom* with Monumental Theater Company (PSM); *Acoustic Rooster's Barnyard Boogie: starring Indigo Blume* at Kennedy Center TYA (ASM).



Natasha Sánchez (Assistant Stage Manager) is well pleased to saddle up once more with Constellation Theatre Company for *Desperate Measures!* Originally from Southern California, she has enjoyed a vibrantly multifaceted artistic lifestyle as an operatic performer and advocate for musical outreach, in addition to her current parallel passion for Stage Management. Her most recent favorite collaborations include: Constellation Theatre Company: *The School for Lies*; Ford's Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*; Rorschach Theatre: *Night of the Living Dead*, *Angel Number Nine*; Theatre Washington: Theatre Week Kickoff 2023! She would like to dedicate her joy of this production to her father, who loves old-timey Westerns.



Sidney Forkpah (Assistant Costume Designer) Chosen credits include: *Quilters* (1st Stage) *Bathing in Moonlight*, *Kumanana!*, *Revoltosa*, (Gala Hispanic Theatre) *Diagnosed* (Creative Cauldron); Associate costume designer: *Look Both Ways* (Theatre Alliance and The Kennedy Center) the national tour of *On Your Feet!*, *On Your Feet! En Español* (Gala Hispanic Theatre), *Show Way* (The Kennedy Center), *Our Verse in Time to Come* (Folger Theatre), *The Piano Lesson* (Prince George's Community College), *Julius Caesar and The Cherry Orchard* (STC's The Academy for Classical Acting). Wardrobe Associate for *The Winter's Tale*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Saint Joan*, *Sense & Sensibility*, and *Nell Gwynn* (Folger Theatre).



Yaritza Pacheco (Scenic Charge Artist) is excited to be returning to Constellation Theatre Company again after painting the set of *Orlando*.

She is a Mexican-American multidisciplinary artist and designer from the DC area. Their scenic painting credits include Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company: *My Mama and the Full Scale Invasion*, *Public Obscenities*, *The Sensational Sea Mink-ettes*; GALA Hispanic Theatre: *La Valentia* and *Principe y Príncipe*; Imagination Stage: *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *P.Nokio*, *Corduroy*; Monumental Theatre Company: *Spring Awakening*, *Head Over Heels*, *Daddy Long Legs*. She is currently adjunct faculty at George Mason University teaching the next generation of scenic artists. Yaritza's dedication and talent have been recently recognized with Outstanding Scenic Design (Helen) award for her work on *tick, tick...BOOM!* at Monumental Theatre Company. Yaritza has a B.S. in Theatre and Studio Art from Radford University. [@yesterdayspresent](https://www.instagram.com/yesterdayspresent)



Malory Hartman (Light Board Programmer) is happy to be back at Constellation Theatre. Previous programming credits include *Once on this Island* (Constellation Theatre), *The Prom* (UMD TDPS), and *Sweeney Todd* (Des Moines Metro Opera), *Little Shop of Horrors* (UMD TDPS). Malory is an EOS and Hog 4 programmer, lighting designer, and master electrician. She has a B.A. in Theatre from the University of Maryland.

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Sam Linc (Light Board Programmer) Previous Constellation Theatre Company credits include: *Once On This Island* (Light Board Operator). D.C. credits include: ATMTC credits include: *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* (Stage Manager); *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Stage Manager); The Keegan Theatre: *Seussical* (Stage Manager); *Push The Button* (Stage Manager); *The Boiler Room Series Push The Button* (Stage Manager). They have their B.A in theatre from The University of Maryland.



Courtney Naughton (A1/Mixer) is thrilled to return to CTC after serving as sound board operator for *Orlando*. They are a New England transplant and are a self-described theatre generalist with a background in lighting, sound, scenic, props, ASMin, performance, and voice acting. They were one of Imagination Stage's 2022-23 production apprentices and have worked with Imagination Stage on *A Year with Frog and Toad* (alt A1/A2), *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* (deck captain), *Nate the Great* (deck), *The Hula Hoopin' Queen* (A1/A2), and *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed* (deck). Upcoming work includes props design for Imagination Stage's spring student shows.



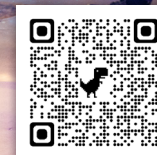
Rukiya Henry-Fields (Wardrobe Supervisor) is excited to join Constellation Theatre Company again this season! She has previously worked with us as wardrobe supervisor for shows such as *Once On This Island* and *School For Lies*. She has also worked as wardrobe on a variety of productions in DC, Maryland, and New York City such as Gala Hispanic Theatre: *Jardín Salvaje, Principe y Principe, and Kumanana!*; Round House Theatre: *The Mountaintop*; Olney Theatre Center: *Fiddler On The Roof*; Shakespeare Theatre Company: *As You Like It*; and Signature Theatre Company NYC: *Pay The Writer*, and *20 Seconds*.

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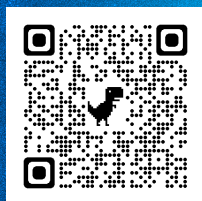
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