

BASIL BIGGS



BY ANNA DEAVERE SMITH, DIRECTED BY LEONARD FOGLIA



Basil and Mary Jackson Biggs | Provided by the Biggs descendants / Adams County Historical Society



Anna Deavere Smith and Joshua Roman (photo credit Diana Walker)

The Wilma Theatre (265 S. Broad St.)

June 26, 7:00PM | June 27, 2:00PM | June 27, 7:00PM | June 28, 2:00PM

In honor of the nation's 250th anniversary, eminent playwright, actor and professor, Anna Deavere Smith has written an original play for ArtPhilly's *What Now: 2026* Festival.

The *Basil Biggs* workshop production traces the life of Smith's great, great, grandfather, a farmer, veterinarian and prominent Gettysburg figure. Biggs received a contract to disinter and rebury the Union dead following the battle of Gettysburg - the bloodiest of the Civil War. Though a prominent figure in his community, it appears that Biggs did not read or write. Smith uses available archival material to imagine how the Biggs family and their friends met the challenges of a tumultuous and transformative time. Directed by Leonard Foglia, and in collaboration with designer Ann Hould-

Ward, The *Basil Biggs* workshop production is emblematic of Smith's longstanding mission, which is to integrate historical fact and artistic imagination to weave individual stories into cohesive reflections which celebrate American resilience and inspire discussion. Biggs is produced by Bruce Cohen in conjunction with theater artists LaNeshe Miller-White and Zuhairah McGill and historian Andrew Dalton, President & CEO of Gettysburg History. Also featured is original music composed by Edward W. Hardy.



Anna Deavere Smith
PLAYWRIGHT

Anna Deavere Smith is credited with creating a new form of theater. Her plays address contemporary issues from multiple points of view and are composed of interview excerpts.

President Obama awarded Smith the National Endowment for the Humanities Medal. Her other honors include a MacArthur Fellowship, the George Polk Award in Journalism, and the Dean's Medal from the Stanford University School of Medicine. She was runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize, is the recipient of two Tony nominations and several Obie Awards. She was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in 2021 and was inducted onto the "Playwrights' Sidewalk" in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre in May 2020.

She delivered the 2015 Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities at the Kennedy Center, and served as the 2024 A.W. Mellon Lecturer in Fine Arts at the National Gallery of Art. Plays and filmed versions of them include *Fires in the Mirror*, *Twilight: Los Angeles*,



Leonard Foglia
DIRECTOR

Leonard Foglia is a theater and opera director as well as a librettist.

For Broadway he directed: *Master Class* with Zoe Caldwell, Patti LuPone and Audra McDonald, *Wait Until Dark* with Marisa Tomei and Quentin Tarantino, *Thurgood* with Laurence Fishburne (filmed for HBO), *The People in the Picture*, *On Golden Pond* with James Earl Jones, *The Gin Game* with Cecily Tyson and Mr. Jones.

Off-Broadway: Anna Deavere Smith's *Notes from The Field* (filmed for HBO) and *Let Me Down Easy* (filmed for PBS). Laurence Fishburnes' *Like They Do In The Movies* at The Perelman Performing Arts Center in NYC. *One Touch of Venus*, *Ecores!* New York City Center. Jon Tolins' *If Memory Serves*, Calvin Trillin's *About Alice*. Terrence McNally's *The Stendhal Syndrome* with Richard Thomas and Isabella Rossellini.

He directed the world premiere of the operas of Joby Talbot and Gene Schere's *The Diving bell and the Butterfly* (Dallas Opera),

Let Me Down Easy, and *Notes from the Field*. Her play *This Ghost of Slavery*, written for *The Atlantic*, was only the second play the magazine has published in its 168-year history.

Her television and film acting credits include *Inventing Anna*, *The West Wing*, *Nurse Jackie*, *black-ish*, *Philadelphia*, *The American President*, *Rachel Getting Married*, *For the People*, *Pendulum*, (upcoming) and *The Boroughs* (for Fall 2026).

She was the librettist for composer Daniel Bernard Roumain's *The Walkers* at the Chicago Lyric Opera directed by Yuval Sharon. She was librettist for Judith Jamison's ballet *Hymn* performed by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. She is currently librettist for Joel Thompson's opera adaptation of Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, now in development at the Houston Grand Opera.

She has written essays and op-eds for the *New York Review of Books*, the *New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, among others.

Smith is currently University Professor at NYU. She was Eastman Professor at Oxford in Fall 2023. She holds several honorary doctorates, including those from Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Spelman College, Juilliard, and Oxford. She attributes her on the faculty of the Stanford University Drama Department as a crucial turning point in her career.

Jake Heggie and Gene Schere's *Moby Dick*, (Metropolitan Opera, Dallas Opera, San Francisco Opera etc. - filmed for PBS), Talbot and Schere's *Everest* (Dallas Opera, Kansas City Opera, The Barbican - London.); Jennifer Higdon and Gene Schere's *Cold Mountain* (Santa Fe Opera, etc.); Jake Heggie and Heather McDonald's *The End of the Affair* (Houston Grand Opera, etc.); Heggie and Schere's *Three Decembers* (HGO, etc.); Heggie and Schere's *It's a Wonderful Life* (HGO, etc.); Iain Bell and Mark Cambell's *Stonewall* (New York City Opera). His production of Jake Heggie's and Terrence McNally's *Dead Man Walking* was produced by New York City Opera and continues to be seen across the US and has played Teatro Real in Madrid and The Barbican in London.

As an opera librettist, he wrote and directed *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna/To Cross the Face of the Moon* with composer José "Pepe" Martinez which premiered at Houston Grand Opera, *A Coffin in Egypt* with composer Ricky Ian Gordon which also premiered at HGO, *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina/The Past Is Never Finished*, with composer Martinez which premiered at Lyric Opera of Chicago; *El Milagro Del Recuerdo / The Miracle of Remembering* with composer Javier Martinez which premiered at HGO. His three "mariachi operas" have played all across the US and on three continents.

He is a visiting instructor at the Yale School of Drama.



Bruce Cohen
PRODUCER

Bruce Cohen is an Oscar and Tony-winning, Emmy-nominated producer of film, television, theater and live events. He is currently serving on the No Kings national engagement team and the steering committee for Jane Fonda's Committee for the First Amendment. He received the 2023 National Medal of Arts from President Biden, for whom he served as co-chair of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, along with Lady Gaga. He won an Academy Award for Best

Picture for *American Beauty* and earned additional Best Picture nominations for *MILK* and *Silver Linings Playbook*. His recent film and television projects as a producer are *Ex-Husbands*, *Blink Twice*, *The Great Lillian Hall* and *Rustin*. He was Emmy nominated for producing the 83RD ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS, Executive Produced *Broadway At The White House* for First Lady Michelle Obama and *Pushing Daisies*. He produced both the feature film and Broadway musical versions of *Big Fish*, won the Tony for Best Play for co-producing *The Inheritance* and was Tony nominated for co-producing *Slave Play* and *Gypsy* starring Audra McDonald. As a career producer, he is a member of the Producers United operating committee and he is a board member of the Gilbert Baker Foundation and Broadway Inspirational Voices. A graduate of Yale University, he began his film career as the DGA Trainee on Steven Spielberg's *The Color Purple* and lives in New York City with his husband and daughter.



Ann Hould-Ward
CO-COSTUME DESIGNER

Ms. Hould-Ward's Broadway credits include: *The Color Purple*, *The Visit*, *The People in the Picture*, *A Free Man of Color* (Drama Desk nomination), *A Catered Affair* (Drama Desk nomination); *Company*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Tony Award; American Theatre Wing's Design Award; Ovation Award; Oliver nomination, Best Costume Design), *Into the Woods* (Tony, Drama Desk nominations; Outer Critics Circle nomination, L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award), *Falsettos*, and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Tony, Drama Desk Nominations).

She has designed costumes for numerous dances created by the Lubovitch company, including *Elemental Brubeck*, *Jangle*, the company's co-production of *Othello*, *A Dance in Three Acts*, and Lubovitch's dance based on *The Bronze Horseman* at the Mikhailovsky Ballet in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her work began with Lar in 1986 on *Into The Woods*.

Her costume designs can be seen in the following operas and ballet companies: Peter Grimes at the Metropolitan Opera, *Westside Story* at the Salzburg Festival in Austria, *The Most Happy Fella* at the New York City Opera, *Mahagonny* (Los Angeles Opera), *Regina* (Miami Opera), *Amelia* (Seattle Opera), Alvin Ailey Dance, the American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, and at the Norwegian National Ballet.

Internationally, Ms. Hould-Ward's work can be seen for *The Prince of Egypt* (West End), *Dear World* (West End), *Schuh Des Mantu* (Germany), and *Imagine This* (West End). She has designed 23 companies of *Beauty and the Beast* world wide. And designed the Ringling Brother's *Barnum and Bailey Circus* in 2001 and

2003. Ms. Hould-Ward has designed 100's of regional theater shows, her work also includes HBO's production of *Notes from the Field* with Anna Deveare-Smith along with various other film and tv projects. Hould-Wards collaborations with Deveare-Smith extend over almost 25 years.

Ann was the US Representative for the International Design Quadrennial in Prague and a Recipient of the Fashion Institute of Technology's Patricia Zipprodt Award.



Christopher Vergara
CO-COSTUME DESIGNER

Christopher Vergara (Co-Costume Designer) is a queer Panamanian American activist, educator, and designer. His work focuses on culturally responsive design, storytelling, and social justice.

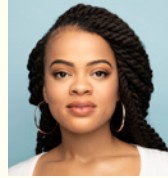
Christopher has worked on Broadway, off-Broadway, regionally, and internationally. Select credits include *The Public*, *Roundabout*, HBO/Max, *Boundless Theater*, New York City Center, and Lincoln Center in NYC; *Barrington Stage*, *Alley Theatre*, *The Old Globe*, *Miami New Drama*, and *Two River Theater* regionally; *Shinjuku Bunka Center* (Tokyo), *National Theatre* (London), *Vin Pearl* (Phú Quốc), *Théâtre du Châtelet* (Paris), and the *Felsenreitschule* (Salzburg) internationally. He is a member of USA-829, *Wingspace*, and *La Gente: the Latiné Theatre Network*. Follow him at @cavergaradesign and visit christophervergara.com.

CAST



John Clarence Stewart
BASIL BIGGS

John Clarence Stewart is an actor, creator, and producer whose work spans film, television, and theater. On screen, John currently stars in the series regular role of “Anthony Thorne” on BRILLIANT MINDS for NBC/Universal. He was featured in the scene-stealing role of “Big Teak” during the second season of the Starz series P-VALLEY, starred in NBC’s ZOEY’S EXTRAORDINARY PLAYLIST, and appeared on the Netflix anthology series WHAT/IF opposite Renee Zellweger. On stage, Stewart starred in a solo performance at 54 Below in which Broadway World called him, “the most authentic, the most genuine, the most sincere person an audience could ever hope to find on a stage.” In 2023, Stewart debuted his self-written and performed one-man show SOFT AS IT BEGAN in the Stripped Bare Arts incubator project with Synchronicity Theater in Atlanta.



Kalyne Coleman*
MARY BIGGS

Kalyne Coleman was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia. She is a graduate of the Brown University Trinity Rep MFA in Acting Program and a University of Pennsylvania alum. TV credits include Grace, Interview With A Vampire (AMC), So Help Me Todd (CBS), Evil (CBS), and most recently, Chicago Med (NBC). Off-Broadway credits include Four, What To Send Up When It Goes Down (BAM), Lorraine Hansberry & Nikki Giovanni, Lessons in Survival (Vineyard Theater); and Leigh, America v. 2.1 The Sad Demise and Eventual Extinction of the American Negro (Barrington Stage). Kalyne made her Broadway debut in Jaja’s African Hair Braiding, written by Jocelyn Bioh and directed by Whitney White.



Laëtitia Hollard
HANNAH BIGGS

Laëtitia Hollard can currently be seen in “The Pitt” on HBO, where she plays recent grad nurse Emma Nolan. She also stars as the lead in Trauma, a new feature film directed by Larry Fessenden.

She grew up in the theatre performing with American Players Theatre, Capital City Theatre, Theater LILA, and Children’s Theater of Madison.

Laëtitia is a recent BFA grad from The Juilliard school.



Robby Clater*
CALVIN BIGGS

Robby Clater is thrilled to share the stage with this wonderful company! Much love to my Philly friends and family.

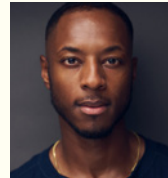
REGIONAL: Dreamgirls (MUNY), A Christmas Carol (People’s Light), Mrs. Dalloway (Cincinnati Shakespeare Company)

BROADWAY/NYC: Pretty Woman The Musical (Broadway, OBC), Pretty Perfect Lives (The Flea), Connected (59E59) TV/FILM: Almost Family (Fox) As We See It (Amazon Prime).



Sumaya Bouhbal*
CECILIA BIGGS

Sumaya Bouhbal is an actor from New York City. She embarked on her performing arts career in 2009. Since then, Sumaya landed the role of Trina on “Blue Bloods”, and guest starred in “Law & Order: SVU” and “New Amsterdam”. She played Nokey in Anna Deavere Smith’s “This Ghost of Slavery” workshop at the Museum of Modern Art directed by Kamilah Forbes. She performed in “Primer for a Failed Superpower,” a concert artistically directed by Rachel Chavkin. Sumaya also played in “Runaways,” directed by Sam Pinkleton, at New York City Center and the Public Theater Gala at the Delacorte Theater. When she was 8 years old, she starred as Jessa in Paula Vogel’s “A Civil War Christmas,” directed by Tina Landau, at the New York Theatre Workshop. Outside of acting, she is known for her music which she releases under the artist name “Sumaya Nazar”. Bouhbal recently graduated from New York University as an MLK Honors Scholar with a BFA from the Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music at Tisch School of the Arts.



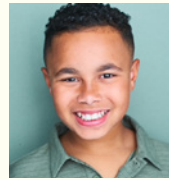
Doron JéPaul*
JUPITER

Doron JéPaul is a New York-based actor and Creative Architect whose Broadway credits include Our Town (dir. Kenny Leon), The Piano Lesson (dir. Latanya Richardson-Jackson), and To Kill a Mockingbird (dir. Bartlett Sher). His theatre work spans productions at the National Black Theatre, New York Stage and Film, the Lark, SPACE on Ryder Farm, and the Guthrie Theatre, among others. A graduate of NYU’s Graduate Acting Program, Doron is also the founder of Thermostat Media, a film and media production company dedicated to stories that shift the creative climate and not merely reflect it. He is grateful to be in the room.



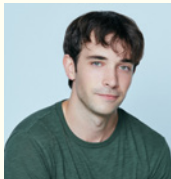
Vida Sophia Stephens
TIBBY / YOUNG HANNAH / AMY BIGGS

VIDA SOPHIA is thrilled to take the stage at the Wilma Theatre in The Basil Biggs Project. A natural storyteller and competitive gymnast, Vida Sophia brings her vibrant energy to multiple roles in this production. She was recently honored on the national stage as the 2026 IMTA Child Actor of the Year in Los Angeles. Vida Sophia is incredibly grateful to the creative team, cast, and crew for this inspiring collaboration, and she sends her deepest gratitude to everyone who continues to love, guide, and support her on this incredible journey. Enjoy the show!



Jaxson Fortunato
YOUNG CALVIN / WILLIAM BIGGS

Jaxson Fortunato is a 12 year old actor, singer, dancer, and pianist. He has performed in numerous local theatre productions with the Pennsylvania Youth Theatre, most recently as Jojo in Seussical. He was recently accepted into the Musical Theatre Conservatory with the Papermill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ where he will train this summer. In addition to performing, he trains in ballet, tap, and Jazz and has studied piano since age 5. Thank you to the cast and crew for this amazing experience.



Jake Horowitz*
NED BIDDLE

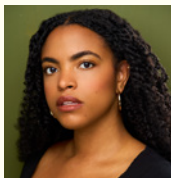
Off-Broadway includes Dutch Masters (Partial Comfort Productions), A Midsummer Night's Dream, King Lear (Theatre for a New Audience), Our Town (Barrow Street Theatre), and The Sensuality Party (The New Group). Regional: Hester Street (Theater J), Romeo and Juliet (Dallas Theater Center), King Richard II (The Old Globe). He stars in the upcoming Andrew Patterson film The Rivals of Amziah King, as well as the Peacock series John Wayne Gacy: Devil in Disguise. Other film credits include The Vast of Night and Bones and All directed by Luca Guadagnino. Training: Juilliard.



Ken Marks*
BENJAMIN BIDDLE/SAM WEAVER

Ken has been an actor in and around NYC for over 40 years, from off-Broadway to Broadway, around the country and back again. He is especially delighted to return to Philadelphia, having been seen a few years back in THE 217 BOXES OF DR. HENRY ANONYMOUS, at the Painted Bride Arts Center. He is both delighted and grateful to be collaborating and working with Anna Deveare-Smith.

Ken lives in Brooklyn, NY with his wife, Laura, a couple of kiddies, and their dog Rosie, who runs the place.



Savannah Lee Birdsong*
ANNA BUTLER/MIGNON

Savannah Lee Birdsong is thrilled to be joining the cast of Basil Biggs! Credits include: Little Shop of Horrors (Off-Broadway) The Bakers Wife (Off-Broadway), Pittsburgh CLO; Kinky Boots, Sister Act, The Color Purple. Endless thanks to her team at Vision and her team at Innovative. CMU '24.



Edward W. Hardy
CUFFY (VIOLINIST)

Dr. Edward W. Hardy is a Black and Puerto Rican composer, violinist, and actor whose work bridges theatre and live music performance. Best known for bringing the solo violin to the Off-Broadway stage in The Woodsman (59E59 Theaters, Ars Nova), Hardy served as violinist and composer for the Obie Award-winning production, praised by The New York Times for "composing the omnipresent music and playing the violin superbly."

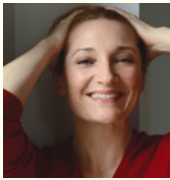
A versatile theatrical performer, Hardy's stage credits include Beautiful Dreamer (Young Solomon Northup/Violinist), Three Sisters (Russian Soldier, Beggar/Violinist), Blues for an Alabama Sky (Actor/Violinist), Joe Turner's Come and Gone (Violinist/Composer), and Mother Courage and Her Children (Onstage Violinist/Violist/Co-Composer). Hardy also served as an onstage violinist and composer for The Pearl Diver, Lake of Sorrows, and A Brooklyn Boy, and as composer for Master and Margarita and Trojan Women.

Beyond theatre, Hardy has performed nationally and internationally as a soloist and collaborative artist, appearing at Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, and Lincoln Center. A DownBeat Award-winning artist, Hardy holds degrees from SUNY Purchase College (BM), Queens College (MM), and the University of Northern Colorado (DA).



Kristolyn Lloyd*
LUCINDA

KRISTOLYN LLOYD (she/her) Grammy and Emmy Award Winning Actress. Acting credits include Broadway: Liberation, 1776, Dear Evan Hansen Off-Broadway: Liberation (Roundabout), Blue Ridge (Atlantic), Paradise Blue, Confederates (The Signature Theatre), Hamlet (The Public Theatre), Invisible Thread and Dear Ecan Hansen (Second Stage Theatre), Heathers: The Musical (New World Stages). TV includes: "Random Acts of Flyness" (HBO), "Elementary", "Madam Secretary", "Kevin Can Wait" (CBS), "ER", "Chicago Med" (NBC), "Lie to Me" (FOX) Films: Mr. Crockett (Hulu) @kristolynlloyd



Francesca Faridany*
SARAH CLAY

Recent credits: Titus Andronicus (Off-broadway), The Off Weeks (upcoming on Apple TV), Hershey (fall of 2026), The Empress (RSC, UK). Broadway: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time (2015 Best Play TONY), Macbeth, Man and Boy, The 39 Steps, The Homecoming. Off-Broadway: Vladimir (MTC), The Half-life of Marie Curie (Audible), This Day Forward, The NY Idea, Orlando, The Stronger. Regional highlights: Strange Interlude (Shakespeare Theatre - Helen Hayes Award), Her own adaptation of Arthur Schnitzler's Fräulein Else (Sundance Theater Lab and regionally), Agamemnon (Getty Villa), collaborations with director Stephen Wadsworth, including: As You Like It, Don Juan, The Oresteia, Design For Living, The Game of Love and Chance. FILM: Hershey (Fall 2026), The Moment, She Came to Me, False Positive, Black Panther, Love After Love, The Audition, Closing Night, Conceiving Ada. TV: Not Suitable for Work, Girls on the Bus, The Blacklist, Hunters, Bull, Manifest, FBI, Homeland, The Menendez Murders, Falling Water, Law&Order;SVU, E.R., Deadline. Training: The Drama Centre, London.



Victor Williams*
JOHN FISHER

Victor Williams was last seen on stage in the Primary Stages production on AMERIKIN by Chisa Hutchinson (director Jade King Carroll). Other theater credits include IN THE SOUTHERN BREEZE (Rattlestick Theatre), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Classical Theatre of Harlem), COST OF LIVING (New York City Center Stage) and TOUGH TITTY (La Mama). Film: "THE HOME" (Roadside Attractions), "THE BEST YOU CAN" (Netflix), "NOVEMBER CRIMINALS" (Sony Pictures). TV: "THE AFFAIR" (Showtime), SNEAKY PETE (Amazon), THE SINNER (USA), JUSTIFIED: CITY PRIMEVAL (FX), "THE GOOD LORD BIRD" (Showtime) and "KING OF QUEENS" (CBS).



Dax Richardson*
MOUSE

Dax Richardson began his acting journey at the renowned Hedgerow Theatre, where he honed his craft and laid the foundation for an impressive start to his career. His passion for the stage led him to perform in August Wilson's King Hedley II at The Arden Theatre, his favorite venue in Philadelphia. This performance solidified his reputation as a dynamic and versatile actor, with a *Barrymore nomination for best supporting actor capable of bringing complex characters to life.

Richardson has been compared to a young Jeffrey Wright, known for his alluring charm, sharp wit, and the ability to portray danger and intensity with ease.

Trained in the Meisner technique and deeply influenced by the teachings of Stella Adler, Richardson brings a thoughtful and meticulous approach to his roles. He draws inspiration from legendary actors such as Marlon Brando, Denzel Washington, and Tom Hardy, incorporating elements of their performances into his own work.

A cinephile at heart, Richardson's love for cinema was ignited by the films of Stanley Kubrick. However, he remains grounded in the belief that great acting originates in the theater. This blend of cinematic appreciation and theatrical rigor makes him a compelling presence in both mediums, marking him as a rising talent in the world of acting. Dax currently trains in Hell's Kitchen with renowned acting teacher John Dapolito.

Previous work:

- King Hedley II-Arden Theater*
- My General Tubman- Arden Theater
- Flyin' West- Quintessence Theater Group
- Camille- Quintessence Theater Group
- Last Days of Judas Iscariot- Ademide Theater Group



Eric Crist
MALE ENSEMBLE

Eric Crist is honored to see this production from original workshop to initial performance. Film/Web: The Woman in the Room (Best Actor-Short, First Glance Philadelphia), Plant Based, Certifiable; Local: Sweeney Todd (Judge), Ragtime (Willie), God of Carnage (Michael), Eurydice (Father). Many thanks to Anna, Leonard, and the amazing cast and crew for bringing this story to life.



Patrick Voss Davis
MALE ENSEMBLE

Patrick Voss Davis (Multiple Roles, Ensemble) is an actor and director. Off Broadway: When We Were Young and Unafraid (Paul), Trouble With Dead Boyfriends (Zach). TV/Film: Netflix's Sirens (Eddy), FBI, Law & Order. BFA Carnegie Mellon University, '20. When not on stage, Patrick directs plays with The Fricks Theater Company in Brooklyn. He loves his family, incredible partner, friends, and the Yankees. @_pavda_

CREATIVE TEAM

Amanda Harris GENERAL MANAGER

Amanda Harris (General Manager) is often found behind the scenes as a Stage and Company Manager for large scale productions in theatre and circus. Some favorite credits include: Production Stage Manager - 11,000 Strings (Park Avenue Armory), Choir of Man, After Midnight (Norwegian Cruise Lines); Stage Manager- 'Twas the Night Before..., Crystal, and LUZIA (Cirque du Soleil); Assistant Stage Manager- 47 Ronin - Chushingura (Ameratu Za Studio), Assistant Company Manager- ILLINOISE, The Rite of Spring; common ground[s], Shall We Gather at the River (Park Avenue Armory).

Amanda is so grateful for the opportunity to help bring Basil Biggs to the stage.

Norman Anthony Small* STAGE MANAGEMENT

Norman Anthony Small (Production Stage Manager) Broadway: The Shark Is Broken, Leopoldstadt, American Buffalo. Off-Broadway: Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole (New York Theatre Workshop); Good Bones, Sally & Tom (The Public Theater); Where We Stand (WP Theater); Halfway Bitches Go Straight to Heaven (Atlantic Theater Company). Regional: Sizwe Banzi Is Dead, Crumbs From The Table of Joy, Ella - A Musical Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, EMERGENCY (Crossroads Theatre Company); Appropriate (The Old Globe); The Year of Magical Thinking, Fires in the Mirror (Long Wharf Theatre); Fires in the Mirror, A Play for the Living in a Time of Extinction, Where We Stand (Baltimore Center Stage); Measure for Measure, Art (Shakespeare & Company). Tour: RE-CONSTRUCTING (UTR Festival/Carolina Performing Arts/Hopkins Center for the Arts); Twisted Melodies (Baltimore Center Stage/Apollo Theater); Water +/- (NPR). Education: Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Media Management, Metropolitan College of New York; Bachelor of Music (BM) in Music Engineering Technology, University of Miami. Faculty: Adjunct Professor of Stage Management at Fordham University. Award: Charlie Blackwell Symposium Scholarship for Stage Managers of Color.

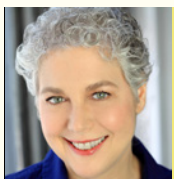
Amelia McGinnis* STAGE MANAGEMENT

Amelia McGinnis (Assistant Stage Manager) specializes in stage managing new works and musical productions. Recent credits include Broadway: Liberation. Off-Broadway: My Joy is Heavy, Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole (NYTW), Liberation (Roundabout Theatre Company), Let's Love (Atlantic Theater Company), Richard III (Public Theater), HYPROV (Daryl Roth Theatre). Regional: Golem Owned a Tropical Smoothie (The Tank), Master Class (Bay Street Theater), The Poisoner (La Mama Experimental Theatre), The Year of Magical Thinking (Long Wharf Theatre). MFA: Columbia University. In loving memory and dedicated to dad.



Aaliyah Carter ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Aaliyah Carter is an African American and Hispanic director, dramaturg, and actor. Born in California and raised in Texas, her work is shaped by a diverse cultural background and a passion for storytelling. She is a first-year Master of Theatre Arts candidate at Baylor University, where she earned her BFA in Theatre Performance in 2025. Soli Deo Gloria @aaliyahcarterr



Amy Stoller DIALECT DESIGNER

Amy Stoller is delighted to be reunited with Anna Deavere Smith, Leonard Foglia, and Ann Hould-Ward. Previous projects with Ms. Smith include Notes from the Field (stage, screen); Let Me Down Easy (stage, screen, audiobook), Love All, On Grace, Watching Wilson and Watson, Talking About Race, and YoungArts Master-Class (on HBO). Also by Anna Deavere Smith: a five-actor revival of Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992 (American Repertory Theater) and a live-streamed production of Fires in the Mirror (Theatrical Outfit) starring January LaVoy. Starting July, dramaturgy for La Femme Theatre Productions' off-Broadway revival of Wendy Wasser-

stein's An American Daughter. Dialect design and dramaturgy for 40+ shows at Off-Broadway's Mint Theater Co., most recently Crooked Cross and Garside's Career; Phyl and The Fanatics are coming this fall and winter. Broadway: Beautiful: The Carole King Musical. Film/TV ranges from Zola and Selma to Dora the Explorer. Amy received the League of Professional Theatre Women's 2023 Ruth Morley Design Award for outstanding work in theatrical design; the award was presented by Anna Deavere Smith. www.stollersystem.com

Kathy Fabian
PROPS SUPERVISOR

Kathy Fabian, Props Designer: Recent Broadway credits: Fallen Angels, Beaches, Call Me Izzy, Boop! The Musical, The Hills of California, The Heart of Rock and Roll, The Wiz, I Need That, Purlie Victorious, Camelot, Pictures from Home, Between Riverside and Crazy, A Beautiful Noise, The Piano Lesson, POTUS, American Buffalo, Clyde's, The Rose Tattoo, A Christmas Carol and, All My Sons. Other Broadway credits: Pretty Woman, The King and I, An American in Paris, Kinky Boots and Fiddler on the Roof. Off-Broadway: The Baker's Wife, Masquerade, and Night of the Iguana. TV projects include creations for "Fosse/Verdon", "Samantha Bee", "Sesame Street" and "Annie: Live!

ADDITIONAL CREDITS:

Props Supervisor - Cailey Harwood-Smitth, Propstar LLC
Propstar Production Manager - Ry Pepper
Specialty Props by John Estep, Propstar LLC

Sordelet Inc.
FIGHT DIRECTORS

Sordelet Inc. - Christian Kelly-Sordelet, Rick Sordelet, (Co- Fight Directors) Christian Rick and Collin Kelly-Sordelet created Sordelet Inc., a Native-owned action movement company with 35+ years experience. Sordelet Inc has 88 Broadway productions to their credit, including The Lion King, Stranger Things and The Lost Boys. Rick and Christian won the 2025 Drama Desk Award for best Fight Direction for Pirates! National Tour Tina the musical currently running plus 53 first-class productions worldwide. They did the fights for Moby Dick the opera at the MET and choreographed the sword fights for Good Luck Babe, Chappel Roan's VMA debut as well as numerous films, operas, live events, and loads of television productions. They teach at William Esper Studio, HB Studio, CUNY Harlem, Montclair State, and 22 years at Yale School of Drama. Rick is a board member for Red Bull Theater. They also run Sordelet INK with author David Blixt, an e-publishing company for the emerging writer, visit www.SordeletInk.com to learn more. Also visit www.SordeletInk.com and www.sordeletinc.com. Follow on IG @Sordeletinc

Alyssandra Docherty
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Alyssandra Docherty is a three-time Barrymore Award-winning lighting designer originally from Vernon, NJ. After graduating from DeSales University, she trained at Goodspeed Musicals in Connecticut before moving to Philadelphia. Select Recent Theatre: Same Team, Inis Nua, Sherlock: The Great Detective, Beautiful: The Carole King Story, Walnut Street Theatre; Here You Come Again (Goodspeed Musicals, Delaware Theatre Company); The Stinky Cheese Man..., Intimate Apparel, Once On This Island, What the Constitution Means to Me (Arden Theatre Company); The Chequerboard Watch, Tuesdays With Morrie, Always... Patsy Cline, Peter and the Starcatcher, Noises Off, Man of La Mancha (Delaware Theatre Company); The Flatlanders (Delaware Theatre Company, 1812 Productions); A Sherlock Carol (Westport Country Playhouse); The 39 Steps (Virginia Stage Company); Primary Trust, The Garbologists, Sweat (Philadelphia Theatre Company); The Woman in Black (Florida Repertory Theatre); The Play That Goes Wrong (1812 Productions). Additionally, has traveled to stages in Belarus, Mexico, Bermuda, Serbia, Italy, and all across the USA with Koresh Dance Company, BalletX, SHARP Dance Company, and Brian Sanders' JUNK. Aly is a proud member of IATSE Local USA829. www.alyssandradocherty.com

Yumin Oh
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR

Yumin Oh is excited to join the wonderful team of Basil Biggs as script supervisor. She is a Seoul and New York based director, dramaturg, and project manager with a background in Performance Studies, whose work explores collaborative processes that engage space, sound, and collective remembrance.

Her most recent credits include The Cherry Orchard by Simon Stone (assistant director) and Singing Lessons (Dramaturg).

Damien Figueras
SOUND DESIGNER

Damien Figueras is an 8-time Barrymore nominated artist. Recent credits include: Party Face (Off-Broadway, NY City Center), Penelope (Theatre Horizon/PSF), Wishing to Grow Up Brightly (Theatre Horizon), Falsettos (Arden Theatre Company), The Chequerboard Watch (Delaware Theatre Company), Iphigenia in Splott (Inis Nua Theatre), Cabaret (Bristol Riverside), Nichos (Esperanza Arts Center), Beehive (Walnut Street Theatre), The Play That Goes Wrong (1812 Productions), Winter Wonderettes (Gulfshore Playhouse), A Hit Dog Will Holler (Azuka Theatre), Kiss (Wilma Theatre), Topdog/Underdog (Passage Theatre). In addition to his design work, Damien is on the Board of Directors for Curio Theatre and a Founding Company Member of Apartment 20 Theatre. As always, he would like to dedicate his work to the memory of his mother. www.DFigueras.com

Casting
Tara Rubin, Frankie Ramirez (The TRC Company)

Music Director
Allen René Louis

Assistant to Producer
Lauren Owen

Associate Prop Supervisor
John Estep

Props Production Manager
Ry Pepper

Props Rehearsal Coordinator
Cailey Harwood-Smith

Props Studio Supervisor
Elizabeth Schiavo

Costumes Coordinator
Anna Sorrentino, Leigh Paradise

Hair Consultant
Antoinette Wade

Makeup Artist
Leola Brown

NYC PA and Child Guardian
Portia Lundie

Philadelphia Child Guardian
Molly McCaffrey

*** Members of Actors' Equity Association.**

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COMMISSIONED BY:

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