



# it's alive, IT'S ALIVE!

Written by John Fleck

Directed by David Schweizer

Starring **John Fleck\***

with **Kyle G. Fuller** and **Tomoko Karina**

Upright Bass **John Snow\***

Piano **Scott Roberts**

COSTUME DESIGNERS  
Ann Closs-Farley

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
Katelan Braymer

SOUND DESIGNER  
Christopher Moscatiello

STAGE MANAGER  
Jacob Price

**SPECIAL THANKS:** Alley Mills and the Odyssey Theatre staff: Beth Hogan, Danny Felix, Rob Fox and Katy Yates

*it's alive, IT'S ALIVE!* runs from February 19 to March 20, 2022

Play runtime is approximately sixty-five minutes and will be performed without an intermission.



The Odyssey is supported in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs, and Los Angeles County Arts Commission

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



*"This production is being presented under the auspices of the Actors' Equity Association Los Angeles Self-Produced Project Code. \* Members of Actors Equity*

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## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Last fall JOHN and I mounted a workshop of “it’s alive, IT’S ALIVE” at the ODYSSEY to explore the ramifications of doing an eclectic, nutty, theatrical event dealing with the whole COVID phenomenon. What kind of crazy idea was THAT? Would audiences even come? Would they be amused, on some level maybe even RELIEVED to be able to laugh at the rigors of life during these last few years?

Well, the results were very encouraging. Audiences did indeed FLOCK TO US and were genuinely responsive with a sense of a huge RELIEF OF TENSION.

JOHN and I have worked together on somewhat provocative theater pieces for more than thirty-five years now. In our early days our “mixed media” shows- using the primitive analog technology which was available- were arduous to construct but often contained some genuine magic in the telling. A piece called “BLESS-ED ARE ALL THE LITTLE FISHES”, which I directed, was the cause of JOHN being denied an NEA grant for offensive content and triggered a lawsuit in which he and three other performance artists became nationally known as the NEA FOUR for fighting censorship.

Happily, we are not fighting censorship now. The ODYSSEY has encouraged us to come out swinging if we want to. And JOHN’s talents as a “balls out” comedic, yet uniquely compelling performer/writer have been given free rein here to tell the story he wants to tell. And I am his devoted facilitator.

The fact that we continue to present a COVID comedy after so many months of the pandemic dragging on is not accidental. We feel like SPIRITS NEED TO BE RAISED, and taboos confronted! JOHN and I have always felt like that when we make theater.

In this case, we are using a bare bones open stage- the very opposite of the elaborate multi-media tech that we have often featured. This "FULL PRODUCTION" very intentionally resembles the VIBE of our workshop of last fall in that we are in a continual process of searching, channeling, exploring to get to the heart of our “take” on this toxic, highly precarious moment.

We thank you for joining us on the SEARCH!

We are DELIGHTED to be able to keep it rolling.....

*always love, D. (David Schweizer, director, on behalf of me and JOHNNY)*

### **DAVID SCHWEIZER**

*Director*

David recently returned to the LA theater community to direct *In Circles* at the Odyssey Theatre. He has directed many memorable and rewarding shows in Los Angeles during the 1980’s and 90’s including *The Waiting Room* (Mark Taper Forum) *He Hunts*, *Sugar Plum Fairy* (Geffen Playhouse), *Marlane Meyer’s Kingfish* and his own-devised *Joni Mitchell Project* at LATC, *Peer Gynt*, *Salome* and *Broadway* at the Actor’s Gang, and *Plato’s Symposium* with his own Modern Artists Company. David also directed and developed original theater and performance work by such crucial local artists as John Fleck, Sandra Tsing Loh, Ann Magnuson, Michael Sargent and Justin Tanner. More recently, back in NYC, he directed the OBIE award-winning *And God Created Great Whales* by Rinde Eckert, *Wintertime* by Charles Mee, Jr. and *The Fat Lady Sings* by Jean- Claude van Italie. His many new opera world premieres include *The Mines of Sulphur* at New York City Opera, *Elizabeth Cree* at Philadelphia Opera and *Emperor Of Atlantis* (New York Times ten-best list) at Boston Lyric Opera. He maintains a creative presence in the southland by directing often at Long Beach Opera, including recently *As One*, *Hydrogen Jukebox* and Leonard Bernstein’s *Candide*.



## **JOHN FLECK**

*Writer, Performer*

John is a performance artist and actor whose work has spanned performance spaces, museums, theater, television, and film. In 1990 Fleck and three other performance artists were branded the NEA-4 when their work was labelled 'obscene' by conservative lawmakers who put pressure on the National Endowment for the Arts to rescind their funding. They took their case to the Supreme Court and won. Performance art venues presenting Fleck's work include the ICA London, ICA Boston, Andy Warhol Museum, New Museum, Public Theater, Guggenheim Museum, PS-122, Second Stage, La Mama, Dixon Place, Joe's Pub, Broad Stage, REDCAT, Getty Museum, Cal Plaza, MOCA. He has participated in theater productions at Getty Villa, La Jolla Playhouse, Geffen Theater, UCLA's Reprise, Kirk Douglas Theatre, South Coast Repertory and the Old Globe. A sampling of TV/Film roles include guest star/recurring/series regular roles in Orville, Criminal Minds, True Blood, Weeds, Carnivale, Tales of the City, Murder One, Seinfeld, Falling Down, Velvet Buzzsaw, etc etc



## **KYLE G. FULLER**

*Chorus*

Kyle was last seen in the Odyssey production of *In Circles* and has performed in several community theater productions that he is proud of, including *Songs of A New World*, *Twelve Angry Jurors* and *The Little Mermaid*. He enjoys expressing character, living in the moment and entertaining the audience. He is grateful to his parents for their support and his friends for believing in him, and he is thankful to all of his wonderful performance coaches from the past and to his fantastic talent agency.



## **TOMOKO KARINA**

*Chorus*

Tomoko is an LA-based Japanese actress. Her theater credits include *Balm in Gilead* and *Blood*, both directed by Obie Award-winning, two-time Golden Globe nominee Robert Allan Ackerman, *Three Sisters* at Theater Project Tokyo, lead roles in *Voice* and *Pecan in the Field* at the prestigious Tokyo Metropolitan Art Theater. Tomoko's made her Los Angeles' theatre debut in the Odyssey's 2021/22 production of *The Serpent*. TV/ film credits include *Cobra Kai* (Netflix), *Haunting in Silver Falls: Returns* (Netflix) *Another Kerria- Pink*, which won the Best Foreign Mini Film at BPPI Film Festival and was a semifinalist at Women-Voice-Now Film Festival. Theatre writing/directing credits include the 2021 premiere *Japanese Love Story – Shizuka* at The Broadwater Theater earning Best Play, Director, Performer and Best Costume nominations. Tomoko is represented by Bohemia Group.



## **SCOTT ROBERTS**

*Pianist*

Scott is a writer and composer from San Diego, CA. He graduated with a degree in Music and Anthropology from Harvard in 2020, and wrote a thesis on Afro-Cuban religious drumming. He currently writes for YouTube sensation Daniel Thrasher, performs with musician Austin Weber, and writes for the satirical website ClickHole.



## **JOHN SNOW**

*Musical Director, Bass Player*

John Snow is a musician, actor and producer living between Los Angeles and New York City. In music, John has performed at such venues as the Hollywood Bowl, Umbria Jazz Festival, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, The Virgil, Blue Whale, and many other venues across the United States, Canada, and Europe. Artists John has recorded and performed with have included Patrice Rushen, Bill Irwin, Peter Erskine, Teodrose Avery, Moira Mack, Sammy Miller, Alphonso Hornes's Gotham Kings, The Rad Trads, and other artists across different artistic spectrums. John is also is the founder, producer, and musical director of the show series "John Snow's Coast to Coast Collective" which features different artists each show playing together

showcasing what they do best from New York and LA. As an actor, John has recently been in Theatre productions of *Jersey Boys*, *Moonchildren*, *Great Awakening*, *Speakeasy On Demand*, and multiple films. John's purpose through the arts is spreading love and make the world a place where people can come together and experience something special through live art. With this in mind, John is extremely excited and grateful to be partnering with the Odyssey Theatre as the musical director for this show series.

## **ANN CLOSS-FARELY**

*Costume Designer*

Ann Closs-Farley designs costumes across the country and around the world for Film, Theater, Television, and Print. Credits include: *The Pee-wee Herman Show* (Broadway), *Toy Story The Musical* (Disney), *What About Dick?* (Netflix), *The Bourne Stuntacular* (Universal Studios), *Because Of Charley* (Renaissance Entertainment), *St. Valentines Massacre* (National Geographic), *Pirates of the Caribbean: Eye of The Storm* (Shanghai Disneyland), *Sail Away* (Carnival Cruise Lines), *TWA @JFK* (Connie Cocktail Bar), *Twelfth Night* (Guthrie Theater), *Zoot Suit* (Mark Taper Forum) *Hopscotch: A Mobile Opera* (The Industry), *Cunning Little Vixens Opera* (Industry and Cleveland Orchestra), *Around The World in 80 Days* (Cleveland Playhouse) and many more. Closs-Farley is also a long-time member of The Actors' Gang and evidENCE Room theater companies. In addition to winning the Sherwood Award for Emerging Artists, Ann has received Ovation Awards, L.A. Weekly Awards, Backstage Garlands and L.A. Drama Critics Circle Awards. Ann also Produces the Live From The Lounge Podcast, and she photographs comic and surreal imagery featuring her family, friends, and dogs. She calls this passion project Crockpot Photography. Visit [AnnClossFarley.com](http://AnnClossFarley.com) for updates.

## **KATELAN BRAYMER**

*Lighting Designer*

Katelan is a lighting designer and technical director for theatre, dance and opera. Recent designs include *Fefu and her Friends*, *Hir*, *Underneath*, *Silent*, *Forgotten*, *Kiss*, *A Taste of Honey*, *The Hairy Ape* (Odyssey Theatre); *Drift*, *90Sugar*, *Time* and *ROSEWOOD* (Micaela Taylor); *Safe and Sound*, *Gnarled* (Kevin Williamson); *Land of the Sweets* (Movement Headquarters); *You In Midair* (Danna Schaeffer); *MEAT* (Emma Zakes Green); *TIM* (Brandon Baruch); *Free Outgoing* (East West Players); and *notes on change\_* (Erica Sobol). US/International Tours: *All the Sex I've Ever Had: Ghent*, Belgium / Helsinki, Finland / Austin, TX (Mammalian Diving Reflex); *The Real James Bond... was Dominican* (DNA-WORKS); *Halfway to Dawn*, *Stardust* (David Rousseve); *Inflatable Trio*, *Ruth Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (Lionel Popkin); and *Pang!* (Dan Froot). Films in production: *Harbor* (Ivana Horvat), *Mad Woman* (Marc Ancito), and *Tracers* (First Two Rounds). Katelan has been a lighting assistant at the LA Opera since 2011. [www.KatelanBraymer.com](http://www.KatelanBraymer.com)

## **CHRISTOPHER MOSCATIELLO**

*Sound Designer*

Chris is an award-winning sound designer, composer, music editor and music director for theater, television and film. TV highlights include *The Walking Dead*, *Human Target*, *Eureka*, *Psych*, *Caprica*, *The Cape* and *Trauma*. He has scored full series and specials for National Geographic and The Discovery Channel, as well as specials and promos for HBO, BBC, Animal Planet, MSNBC, The History Channel and ZDF Germany. Theater highlights include The Kennedy Center, The Smithsonian Institution, The Shakespeare Theatre, Signature Theatre, Roundhouse Theatre, Rogue Machine, Antaeus, Skylight Theatre, The Fountain Theatre, Odyssey Theater Ensemble, The Road Theatre, Pacific Resident Theater, and he served as assistant conductor for the national tour of The Phantom of the Opera. Before residing in LA, Chris was the associate artistic director and conductor of the Boston Chamber Ensemble, and wrote a ballet commissioned by the Kirov Ballet Academy.

## **JACOB PRICE**

*Stage Manager*

Jacob is an Arkansas native and a recent graduate from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, where he studied theatre with a concentration in stage management. He has earned a stage management award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for his work on *The Night of the Iguana* in 2017. This is Jacob's third project working at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble; his first show was the L.A. Times Critic's Choice *Fefu and Her Friends*. He wants to thank all of the special people in his life who have supported him. He is also thankful to be back doing theatre after such a long intermission.