



LYSISTRATA UNBOUND

Written by **EDUARDO MACHADO**
Inspired by **ARISTOPHANES**

Directed and Choreographed by **John Farmanesh-Bocca**

STARRING

**Jo Bateman, Jason Caceres, Laura Covelli, Vito D'Ambrosio,
Apollo Dukakis, Laura Emanuel, Sierra Fisk, Aaron Hendry, Steven Jasso,
Casey Maione, Sydney A. Mason, Dash Pepin, Briana Price,
Brenda Strong, Jones (Welsh) Talmadge, Cynthia Yelle**

SCENIC DESIGNER

Mark Guirguis

COSTUME DESIGNERS

Denise Blasor & Josh La Cour

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Bosco Flanagan

PROP DESIGNER

Josh La Cour

ASSOCIATE CHOREOGRAPHERS

**Alina Bolshkava, Jones (Welsh) Talmadge &
Not Man Apart company**

SOUND DESIGNERS

Adam Phalen & John Farmanesh-Bocca

DRAMATURG & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Jonathan David Martin

STAGE MANAGER

Jenny Nwene

Produced by **Beth Hogan** and **Ron Sossi** in association with **Gloria Levy**

An Odyssey Theatre Ensemble production in collaboration with Not Man Apart - Physical Theatre Ensemble.

"Lysistrata Unbound was first performed as part of the Villa Theater Lab series at the Getty Villa on February 8, 2013."

Lysistrata Unbound runs from June 9 through August 4, 2018



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.



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Administration and Box Office: 310-477-2055 ext 2 FAX: 310-444-0455
boxoffice@odysseytheatre.com www.odysseytheatre.com



CAST

(in order of appearance)

Senator/ The InstitutionApollo Dukakis
Adeimantus Vito D'Ambrosio
HagonJason Caceres
Lysistrata Brenda Strong
CaloniceLaura Emanuel
MyrrhineSierra Fisk
Courtesan Sydney A. Mason
KinessiasAaron Hendry
Efimia Cynthia Yelle
Female Chorus.....Jo Bateman, Laura Covelli, Briana Price
Male Chorus Steven Jasso, Casey Maione (Achaikos),
Dash Pepin (Kinnesias Understudy), Jones (Welsh) Talmadge

SETTING

Athens, Greece - 412 BC,
after the disastrous Sicilian Expedition against Sparta.

There will be no intermission

The running time is 90 Minutes.

A NOTE FROM SHELBY BROWN, SENIOR EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST, J. PAUL GETTY VILLA

When Not Man Apart performed *Lysistrata Unbound* as a Theater Lab at the J. Paul Getty Villa in 2013, Eduardo Machado and John Farmanesh-Bocca looked to both ancient texts and classical art for inspiration. This prequel to Aristophanes's comedy *Lysistrata* reflects gendered Athenian behavior, and the costumes incorporate the semi-nudity of warriors and the flowing dresses of wives and courtesans.

As a comic playwright, Aristophanes made his audience laugh not through funny versions of myths, but by his take on Athenian daily life, including civil discord and war. Humor gave him license to make brutal fun of politicians, public figures, and current events.

Lysistrata was produced in 411 B.C.E. during the course of a long war between Athens and Sparta, two years after a terrible Athenian defeat in Sicily. The city was exhausted, and it was a relief to watch a ridiculous play about women achieving peace by depriving their husbands of sex. It also offered indirect criticism of the city's political and military leaders.

This prequel explores underlying aspects of sex, war, and grief. The story incorporates the trauma of men's constant battle-readiness and women's roles as caretakers of the dead: preparing the corpses of husbands and sons, lamenting publicly, and then disappearing back into their homes. Wife and courtesan are contrasted – one meant to create and nourish family, the other to provide intellectual and sexual companionship. Machado tackles the complex topic of male bonding in battle, and he reimagines the erotic interest of older men in younger males, who were their (future) equals, as women could never be.

A devastated mother who cracked from her losses in war made sense in ancient narrative. A woman who rallied other women to resist a war was unacceptable, and her success had to be presented as a joke. This prequel to the ancient comedy is a tragedy, with a twist.

—Shelby Brown, June 9, 2018

ABOUT *LYSISTRATA UNBOUND* PLAYWRIGHT EDUARDO MACHADO

Eduardo Machado was born in Cuba and came to the United States when he was nine. He grew up in the San Fernando Valley. He is the author of over fifty plays, including *The Cook*, *Havana is Waiting*, *The Modern Ladies Of Guanabacoa*, *Fabiola*, *In the Eye of the Hurricane*, *Broken Eggs*, *Once Removed*, *Worship*, and *Stevie Wants to Play the Blues*. His plays have been produced at Seattle Repertory Theatre, the Goodman Theatre, Hartford Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Mark Taper Forum, Long Wharf Theatre, Hampstead Theatre in London, American Place Theatre, The Cherry Lane Theatre, INTAR Theatre, Theater for the New City, and Repertorio Español, and productions through out Latin America and Europe. Mr. Machado's television credits include, Season 2 of the Starz drama *Magic City*, and on two seasons of the HBO television show *Hung*, and he wrote and directed the film *Exiles in New York*. Mr. Machado was a Professor of Playwriting in the Goldberg Department of Dramatic Writing at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and head of playwriting at Columbia University. *Tastes Like Cuba: An Exile's Hunger for Home*, a food memoir by Eduardo Machado and Michael Domitrovich, is published by Gotham Press. His plays are published by Samuel French and Theatre Communications Group, including his most recent collection of plays, *Havana is Waiting and Other Plays*.

PROJECT HISTORY

In 2012 Director John Farmanesh-Bocca was asked to create a project with Olympia Dukakis in mind for The Getty Villa Theatre Lab Spring 2013 Play Reading Series. John had always had in mind to do a neo-classical adaptation of *Lysistrata* as part of Not Man Apart's War Cycle of military inspired plays, - which hoped to use classical text to explore war from every angle. This included *Titus Redux* (Kirk Douglas Theater), *Hercules Furens* (Getty Villa Theatre Lab) and Ellen McLaughlin's *Ajax in Iraq* (Los Angeles Premiere). *Lysistrata* has a fascinating premise that has endured centuries, but no version John ever saw or read truly lived up to the promise or seriousness of the stakes involved. Many versions invariably devolve into a slapstick series of 'sex jokes,' undercutting and belittling its own points, and only briefly touching on the more serious and humane questions that it presents. The concept was simply to take a serious look at this, a prequel that would explore the genesis of *Lysistrata*'s idea and dig a bit further. The women not only take away sex, but the reality is they would take love and life itself away in the process. Realistically thought out, what does it do when 50% of the society says, 'enough!'

The inspiration for the piece came from Cindy Sheehan, who was an outspoken American anti-war activist, whose son, U.S. Army Specialist Casey Sheehan, was killed by enemy action during the Iraq War. Ms. Sheehan went from being one of the countless unknown military Moms to have lost a son in a military conflict, to attracting national and international media attention for her extended antiwar protest at a makeshift camp outside President George W. Bush's Texas ranch in Crawford Texas—a stand that drew both passionate support and harsh criticism, but ultimately made her an undeniable national figure who was consulted weekly on her opinion of foreign policy by the national and international media. That transformation from a faceless member of society to lighting rod of great political significance was John's inspiration that he pitched to Ms. Dukakis. Olympia Dukakis then introduced John Farmanesh-Bocca to prolific New York playwright and television writer Eduardo Machado to pen the script. Eduardo's brilliant additions and distillations realized the ambitious project into a potent and powerful piece filled with sexuality, beauty and despair. Eduardo and the entire NMA Ensemble worked tirelessly on the piece, and in less than a month's time, presented the first reading of *Lysistrata Unbound* with stunning performances by Olympia Dukakis and her brother Apollo Dukakis, on February 2013 at The Getty Villa. The provocative play had an overwhelming response.

In light of the current cultural movements and political friction, *Lysistrata Unbound* is an incredibly timely piece for 2018.

ABOUT *LYSISTRATA UNBOUND* DIRECTOR JOHN FARMANESH-BOCCA

Director/ Choreographer/Founding Artistic Director of Not Man Apart - Physical Theatre Company

John is the founding artistic director of both Not Man Apart – Physical Theatre Ensemble (2005-2015) and Shakespeare Santa Monica (2003–2014). He now serves as Emeritus Director at NMA, which was named by Backstage Magazine in 2014 as one of the 13 most innovative physical theatre companies in the world. John's award-winning productions have been seen throughout the U.S. and Europe. His original production of *Wish I Had A Sylvia Plath* garnered a Fringe First Award at The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and there were multiple nominations for *Pericles Redux* the following year. Los Angeles directing credits include *Tempest Redux* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble w/New American Theatre) *Ajax in Iraq* (NMA@Greenway Court) *Pericles Redux* and *Titus Redux* (NMA@Kirk Douglas Theatre) *Lysistrata Unbound* and *Hercules Furens* (conceived at The Getty Villa Theatre Lab), *As/Is* for New American Theatre and multiple productions at Shakespeare Santa Monica. Training: The Juilliard School - Directing Fellow (03-05), NYU - Experimental Theatre Wing (Class of 94)

ABOUT THE COMPANY



JO BATEMAN

Female Chorus

Jo is thrilled to be telling this story with this particular group of artists. Memorable roles include Athena (*Ajax: In Iraq*), Helena (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Mariane (*Tartuffe*), Alice in the HFF Award-nominated *Odessa* and Flora (*27 Wagons Full of Cotton*). She wishes to thank her beloved family and friends for their support and inspiration, her vipassana meditation practice (dharma.org) and you, for your attendance here tonight changes everything.



JASON CACERES

Hagnon

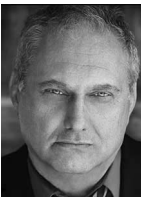
Jason is excited to be taking part in the premiere of *Lysistrata Unbound* as Hagnon. Most recently, Jason can be seen playing Jimmy Bennet on *Criminal Minds*. Jason will also recur in Facebook's first scripted show, *Turnt*, as well as Netflix's *Insatiable*. Film credits include Sundance Official Selection *American Animals*, *BBJ* (starring opposite Wilson Cruz) and *Emily*. Jason made his Los Angeles stage debut at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, playing Newbie in the West Coast premiere of *Hit The Wall*. He has also been seen performing in music videos for Five Finger Death Punch, The Vamps, Steve Grand and Bart Baker. Jason recurs the web series *Where the Bears Are*, and *How to Survive High School*, as well as running a YouTube channel at youtube.com/jasonscaceres. Currently he is enrolled in ongoing scene study classes at John Rosenfeld Studios. More information at JasonCaceres.com



LAURA COVELLI

Female Chorus

Driven by a fierce desire to affect the world through art and community, as well as a love of storytelling, movement and the classics, all of Laura's passions line up seamlessly with the mission of Not Man Apart - Physical Theatre Company. As one of its co-artistic directors, Laura has co-produced, co-directed and performed with NMA for five years. The inexhaustible drive of her creative family, and the depths of their conversations and projects continue to enrich her life and process. Trained at The Actors Center in NY; in clown with the amazing Jane Nichols, and with Pierre Dulaine for Ballroom Dance. Laura has also worked for many years with Lisa Wolpe and the LA Women's Shakespeare Company, recently tackling the role of Cleopatra at the Nix Amphitheatre. Laura is also a writer, and if you scour Netflix, you can find her there too, in some great stuff! Laura is thrilled to work with the talented cast and crew of *Lysistrata Unbound* and the wonderful staff of The Odyssey.



VITO D'AMBROSIO

Adeimantus

Regional Theater credits include *A Warrior Class*, as Nathan Berkshire at Houston's Alley Theater, *Lombardi*, as Vince at Harbor Lights Theater in NYC, *Frankie & Johnny*, as Johnny at The Arena Stage in DC. In Los Angeles at LATC: *King Lear*, *The Inspector General*. In Chicago: *Riverview* and *Moby Dick* at the Goodman Theater, and at the Steppenwolf Theater Company *Fool For Love*, *Tracers*, *Three Sisters*, *Streamers*; also at the Kennedy Center. Film & TV: Vito moved to L.A. after landing a memorable role in *The Untouchables*. TV guest appearances include recurring as Mayor Bellows on *The Flash*, after recurring as Officer Bellows in the original 1990 TV series. *Person Of Interest*, *Bones*, *CSI*, *Harry's Law* and *Boston Legal*, recurring as Justice Sam Alioto, to name a few. He wishes to thank his wife Sherry and their beautiful children, Giovanni and Isabella.



APOLLO DUKAKIS

Senator/The Institution

Apollo has been a professional actor for fifty years. He has worked extensively throughout the country off-Broadway, in regional theaters, and in film and television. For fifteen years he was co-founder, associate artistic director, actor, director and teacher with the Tony-nominated The Whole Theater of Montclair, N.J. In Los Angeles he is a resident artist with the acclaimed A Noise Within and recently did Argan in *The Imaginary Invalid* and Seldson in *Noises Off* there. Other theaters: Pasadena Playhouse (*Anna In The Tropics*); Mark Taper Forum (*Nine Armenians*); The Theatre @ Boston Court (*Pera Palas*), LA Drama Critics Award - Best Ensemble; Antaeus Theatre

Company (*Exit The King, Waltz of the Toreadors*). Also American Conservatory Theater (*Hecuba, Scorched*); Trinity Repertory Theater (*Homebody/Kabul* by Tony Kushner); Arizona Theater Company (*The Cherry Orchard*); Dallas Theater Center (*Glengarry Glen Ross*); Actors' Theater of Louisville (*The Kite Runner*). He had the great pleasure of being shot to death by Arnold Schwarzenegger when he played Polonius in the film *The Last Action Hero*.



LAURA EMANUEL

Calonice

Laura is excited and grateful to be part of the team of *Lysistrata Unbound*. She is an actress, entrepreneur and Reiki practitioner who earned an MFA in acting from Carnegie Mellon University and The Moscow Art Theater School. Before moving to Los Angeles, she lived in NYC where she co-founded The American Studio Theater. She has worked at the Geffen Playhouse and The Theatre @ Boston Court. Favorite roles include Viola (*Twelfth Night*), Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*) and Julia (*The Two Gentleman of Verona*) and performing in the LA Fringe Festival, NYC Fringe Festival and The 2009 ABC Talent Showcase. Laura is the founder and

CEO of Mystic Dirt, a beauty and wellness company, dedicated to empowering self-care, self-worth and self-love in women. She is the co-host of the mindfulness podcast *Third Eye Candy*, and her writing on mindset and the creative process is featured OnStage Blog. www.lauraemmanuel.com



SIERRA FISK

Myrrhine

Sierra is a Theatre grad from UC San Diego and the University of Kent in Canterbury, England. Most recent LA theatre credits include Miss Mia Wallace in *Pulp Shakespeare*, Beth in *Orange Flower Water*, Ophelia in *Hamlet*, Marie in *Woyzeck*, and Marie in *Search and Destroy*. Sierra recently worked with Ray Romano in the upcoming Duplass film *Paddleton*. Other film/TV works include *The League* (FX), *G-Force* (Disney), *Piranha 3DD* (Dimension) and *Transformers* (Dreamworks). Sierra has a passion for sharing her love of theatre

with young people, and has a gift for coaching kids one-on-one. She is a founder of Academy for Children's Theatre (ACT-1) in Sherman Oaks, where she has staged 30 musicals with her students. www.sierrafisk.com



AARON HENDRY

Kinessias

Aaron is an actor, writer, swordsman, horseman, choreographer and father. He has been with the *Lysistrata Unbound* project since its inception at the Getty Villa classical theater lab in 2013. He is thrilled to see this inspired play come to fruition. Aaron is a member of Not Man Apart - Physical Theater Ensemble, The Theatrum Botanicum Classical company, and a former member of DIAVOLO Dance Theatre. Aaron can be seen on television in Marvel's *Inhumans*, Walt Disney's *Bizaardvark*, heard as the voice of a supernatural menace

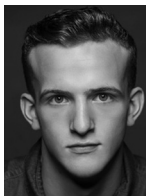
on *Sleepy Hollow*, and many other wonderful programs. He is grateful for your support of live theater. He invites you to follow him on Twitter and Instagram @loudmouthtarzan



STEVEN JASSO

Soldier Chorus

Steven has performed across the country and internationally with Diavolo, State Street Ballet, and Pacific Conservatory Theatre (PCPA). He is now excited to perform with Not Man Apart at the Odyssey Theatre. When he's not performing, you'll find Steven fire-breathing, practicing jiu-jitsu or indulging in the pleasure of doing nothing.



CASEY MAIONE

Soldier Chorus

It is not only a journey to brave the winds of eternal time, to dive headfirst into raging fire, to carve monuments with the collective voice; it is a great delight. Casey would like to thank John Farmanesh-Bocca, the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble and the wonderful cast and crew of this ship. Shouts to all my family, friends and mentors who served as guiding stars to lead the way out of darkness. He is exceedingly grateful for this opportunity and hopes his career can be filled with more experiences like this one.



SYDNEY A. MASON

Courtesan

Pleased to be returning to Not Man Apart is Sydney A. Mason. This will mark her third production with the company: *The Superhero and His Charming Wife* (Waitress) and *Ajax In Iraq* (Connie). Sydney can most recently be seen in her self produced short film, *No Place* (Dee). A UCLA Theatre Film and Television alumni, Sydney has done various theatre projects around Los Angeles – Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum, Playwright's Arena and LATC to name a few... Sydney thanks her friends, family and NMA team for their constant love and support.



DASH PEPIN

Soldier Chorus

Dash is a proud co-founder of Not Man Apart and is excited to return again to the Odyssey Theatre. He was last seen here at the Odyssey as Caliban in The New American Theater's *Tempest Redux*, which earned him a nomination for Best Supporting Actor at the Stage Raw Theater Awards. Other Not Man Apart projects of Dash's include *Ajax in Iraq*, *Titus Redux* and *Pericles Redux*. Dash is also the director and founder of Not Man Apart's experimentation and performance art laboratory, ArtNasty, which is currently developing an exciting new project. He is also a proud co-founder of Vertebrae Theater and Implied Violence Ensemble out of Seattle. Dash would like to give special thanks to Kelly and Elle for their personal support, without which he would not be able to be here in this important and powerful project, and to John and Brenda for folding me into their passionate world once again.



BRIANA PRICE

Female Chorus

Briana was born and raised in Pasadena, California. She studied at Columbia University in the City of New York, where she was preparing to be a doctor. However, her love for the arts took over, and steered her in the direction of professional dance and theater. Briana has toured with Nicki Minaj, performed on *Glee* and *The Neighbors*, *Tempest Redux* as Ariel, *All My Distances are Far* as Ruby, and most recently *Future Sex, Inc.*, as a member of the ensemble.



BRENDA STRONG

Lysistrata

Brenda was last seen at the Odyssey in *Grace and Anvils*, and heard as the voice of Ariel in *Tempest Redux*. Brenda also played Queen Tamara under the direction of John Farmanesh-Bocca in the Not Man Apart and New American Theatre's Co-Production of *Titus Redux* at the Kirk Douglas. She is currently enjoying her roles as Lillian Luthor on *Supergirl* and Mrs Walker on the upcoming season of *13 Reason's Why*; and she may be familiar to audiences as Mary Alice Young on *Desperate Housewives* or Ann Ewing on the reboot of *Dallas* among others. She is honored to be a part of this new take on *Lysistrata* during this ripe time for conversation.



JONES (WELSH) TALMADGE

Soldier Chorus/ Associate Choreographer

Jones (Welsh) Talmadge is a performer, arts activist and warrior. Jones received a double degree in theater and dance from the University of Washington in 2000, and has a rich career in acrobatic performance, high-octane dance, and choreography. As one of the co-artistic directors of Not Man Apart - Physical Theater Ensemble, Jones has led the creative team and set movement on every show. Since 2009 Jones he has performed with Diavolo/Architecture in Motion for thirteen years, and has established new community arts programming and professional training programs throughout Los Angeles. For the last 20 years, Jones has coached Elite Gymnastics & Tumbling for competition and stage performance, he is grateful to continue to create dynamic movement with Not Man Apart, Diavolo /Architecture in Motion, SpectorDance and many others, and will soon move to China to create a new show with Cirque du Soleil.

POST SHOW DISCUSSIONS: FRIDAY, JUNE 29, WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, WEDNESDAY, JULY 25
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8PM, SUNDAY AT 2PM RESERVATIONS: 310-477-2055 EXT. 2 OR ODYSSEYTHEATRE.COM



CYNTHIA YELLE

Efimia

Cynthia is a French Lebanese actress born in Beirut, Lebanon. She grew up in Paris, France, then later joined Caracalla Dance Theatre Company in Lebanon when she was sixteen. As soon as she graduated high school, she went back to Paris to study dramatic arts. She's been in productions such as Sartre's *No Exit*, Molière's *Tartuffe* and Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, as well as Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo & Juliet*. She moved to Los Angeles almost three years ago to pursue film acting, and has performed in theatre productions such as *Confessions Of An Arab Woman* at The Complex Theatre, and *KISS* at The Odyssey Theatre. She's currently filming an indie film called *Touch Deficiency*, and is writing, producing and acting in a film about the psychological journey of a woman with an eating disorder called *My Darling Juliet*.

MARK GUIRGUIS

Scenic Designer

Mark most recently designed sets for *Beckett 5* last season at the Odyssey Theatre. He has designed for numerous professional theatre companies, including Playhouse on the Square, Circuit Playhouse, Creede Repertory Theatre, TheatreWorks, CA, Cape Rep Theatre Company and San Diego Repertory Theatre. Los Angeles credits include the West Coast premiere of *The Four of Us*, produced by Firefly Theatre and Films and *Four Places* and *Bhutan* at Rogue Machine Theatre. Credits this past year include *Buyer and Cellar*, *American Idiot* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Mark is the recipient of several design nominations and four Ostrander Awards for excellence in set design. He is currently Head of Undergraduate Design at the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of California, San Diego.

DENISE BLASOR

Costume Designer

Denise is a Puerto Rican director, actress, artist and designer who moved to Chicago to be part of Steven Schacter, William H. Macy and David Mamet's St. Nicholas Resident Theater Company. She later was artistic director of the multi-cultural theatre alliance LADiversified Theater Company where she served as executive producer, director, designer, adapter and performer. She was a founding member of Latin Actors and a Few Others, KOAN and ELAC Theater, and is now associate artistic director of Bilingual Foundation of the Arts. Plays designed include *MACBETHX5*, *A Taste of Honey*, *Tempest Redux*, *Life Is A Dream*, *Blood Wedding*, *La Casa de Bernarda Alba*, *Pedro Infante y La Viuda Triunfante*, *The Greeks*, *La Posada Magica*, *Princess Of Burgundia*, *Faust*, *The Three Sisters*, *Wild in Wichita*, *Good Woman Of Setzuan*, *Cumbia De Mi Corazon*, *The Wide Wide Sea* and *No Exit*. Her next project will be directing and designing Henry Ong's *The Blade of Jealousy* at the Whitefire Theatre. Thank you, Josh La Cour, for all your wonderful help.

BOSCO FLANAGAN

Lighting Designer

Bosco has designed lights for theatre on four continents, winning awards from Edinburgh (Best of Fest), to New York (Fringe Festival award) and Los Angeles (LA Weekly awards). He currently designs in L.A., and his work continues to take him all over the world. Recent work includes *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Snow Geese* for ISC in Griffith Park, and *The Happiness Project*, *Harlequino*, *1984* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* (World Tours) for the Actors Gang; also *Naked*, *Tempest Redux* for the Odyssey Theatre (2017 Stage Raw award for light design), *Mine Eyes Have Seen* and *Bog Of Cats* for Theatre Banshee, and *Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy* for Wallis Annenberg.

ADAM PHALEN

Sound Designer

Select shows include *Other Desert Cities*, *Marjorie Prime* (Mark Taper Forum), *The New Electric Ballroom*, *The Word Begins* (Rogue Machine Theatre), *9 Circles* (Bootleg Theater: LADCC nominee, Best Sound Design), *Against Oblivion* (South Coast Repertory), *Tempest Redux* (Odyssey Theatre), *Throw Me On The Burnpile and Light Me Up*, *St.Jude*, *Facing Our Truth*, *Titus Redux*, *The Paris Letter*, *Flight* (NAACP Award, best sound design), *Gaytino!*, *Taking Flight*, *Of Equal Measure*, *Taking Over*, *Eclipsed* and *Bones* (Kirk Douglas Theatre). Adam is the head audio engineer at the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

JOSH LA COUR

Costume Designer/Prop Designer

Josh is the Odyssey Theatre's production manager and received his BFA in theatre arts and BBA in business administration

from Loyola Marymount University. Recent Odyssey works include scenic charge and prop design for *Bad Jews*, property design for *Freud's Last Session* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*, stage-managing *The Dance of Death*, and costume construction for *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*. He will be returning to LMU this fall as scenographer for Tanya Barfield's *Bright Half Life*, directed by Dana Resnick.

ALINA BOLSHAKOVA

Associate Choreographer

Alina was born and raised in Riga, Latvia, where she professionally studied ballet, which brought her to the United States. At the age of 17, Alina moved to California to pursue her career in acting. She has been seen on TV shows like *Shameless*, *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee*, *Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior*, *Worst Cooks In America*. She has also done theater productions of *Hercules Furens*, *Lysistrata*; *Unbound*, *Ajax in Iraq*, *Nosferatu: Symphony In Terror*, *Superhero and His Charming Wife* and *Paradise Lost*.

JONATHAN DAVID MARTIN

Assistant Director & Dramaturg

Jonathan is a theatre-maker and producer who creates new works of performance that are socially relevant and aesthetically adventuresome. A Leonore Annenberg Foundation fellow, he appeared in NMA Physical Theatre Ensemble's *Pericles Redux*. Directing credits include *Point of Departure* and *The Alien Nation* for Smoke and Mirrors Collaborative, where he is the Co-Artistic Director, Studio Tisch Festival, Touchstone Theatre, and the forthcoming *Peter and the Starcatcher* for Red House Theater Education. He assistant-directed for MacArthur Awardee, Martha Clarke. Movement director credits include works at Theater Alliance and University of Maryland in Washington DC. Other performing credits include *War Horse* at Lincoln Center Theater (original Broadway cast), National Black Theatre, Bushwick Starr, Two Rivers Theater, Portland Center Stage, Shakespeare Santa Monica, Seattle Children's Theatre, Empty Space Theatre, Theatre Alliance and Washington Ensemble Theatre, where he was a founding co-artistic director. MFA from NYU graduate in acting.

BETH HOGAN

Producer

Beth is the associate artistic director of the Odyssey, and also functions as a producer on many Odyssey shows, including *Kiss*, *The Hairy Ape*, *Passion Play*, *Annapurna*, *Margo Veil*, *Awake and Sing!*, *Anna Christie* and Irish actor Pat Kinevane's solo work. In August of this year, together with the Goethe Institut - Los Angeles and Barbara Mueller-Wittmann, she will co-produced a theatre/dance event with German choreographers Katrin Deufert and Thomas Plischke. Beth is a founding member of the Odyssey's in-house process-oriented resident acting ensemble, KOAN, developing original work over a four-to-eight-month process, and was last seen in *Beckett5*.

RON SOSSI

Producer/ Artistic Director /Founder of the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble

Ron received the LA Weekly Career Achievement Award in 2013. He has also received the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Margaret Harford Award for "demonstrating a continual willingness to experiment provocatively in the process of theatre" and the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Ron Link Award for "consistent quality of direction." Recent OTE directing projects include *Beckett5*, *My Sister*, *Oedipus Machina*, *Theatre in the Dark* (LA Weekly nomination Best Production of the Year), *Way to Heaven* (LA Weekly and LADCC nomination for Best Production of the Year), *Adding Machine: A Musical*, *The Arsonists* (LA Weekly nomination for Best Direction) *Sliding Into Hades* (Best Production of the Year, LA Weekly), *Kafka Thing!*, *Far Away* and *The Threepenny Opera*. Ron has led the Odyssey throughout its 49-year history.

JENNY NWENE

Stage Manager

Jenny, born and raised in Arlington, Texas, fell in love with performance after a viewing of Broadway's big fat musical hit, *Hairspray*. Her love continued and she moved to Los Angeles to pursue her BFA degree with AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts. When she's not performing or doing technical work, Jennifer is directing/co-producing films with her team 92 Artist Productions, as well as co-producing Clusterfu, an art show dedicated to both performing and visual artists.

GRETCHEN GOODE

Rehearsal Stage Manager

Gretchen is an actor and theatre artist currently based in Los Angeles. Her acting credits include *Collected Stories* (Lisa

Morrison), *A Flea In Her Ear* (Raymonde), *Othello* (Emilia), *All In The Timing*, *As You Like It* (Audrey), *The Comedy of Errors* (Antipholus of Ephesus), *Reasons To Be Pretty* (Stephanie), *The Exonerated*, *The Miracle Worker* (Annie) and *Urinetown, The Musical* (Little Becky). She holds an MFA from University of Connecticut/Connecticut Repertory Theatre actor training program, and certification from Pacific Conservatory Theatre (PCPA). Gretchen is pleased to be supporting NMA and the Odyssey on another passionate adventure. Site: www.gretchengoode.com Insta: @gretchen.goode

COLLETTE RUTHERFORD

Production Assistant

Collette is delighted to have had this opportunity to work with both Odyssey Theatre Ensemble and No Man Apart for the first time on *Lysistrata Unbound*. Most recently, Collette has worked in various capacities for Little Fish Theatre, Elite Theatre Company, directed Aristophane’s *The Frogs* for Infinite Jest Theatre Company as well as new play workshops for The Blank Theater’s Living Room Series, *Infinite Jest’s Koffee Klatch* and *Little Black Dress* INK’s Acting Out Fest. As an actor, Collette has been seen onstage in: Torrance Theatre Company’s *One Slight Hitch*, Infinite Jest’s *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, and Repertory East Playhouse’s *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club*, among others. Collette trained at UNC-Chapel Hill, N.C. State University and American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. She is executive director of Infinite Jest Theatre Company and a member of The New American Theatre. <http://www.colletterutherford.com/>

PRODUCTION STAFF

Sound Mixer & Operator Joe Behm
Rehearsal Stage Manager Gretchen Goode
Production Assistant Collette Rutherford
Master Carpenters Danny Felix, Leonard Felix
Master Electricians Kevin Orellana, Andy Futter-Carroll
Light Crew Michael Navarrete
Set Crew Robert Fox, Joe Behm, Octavia Carr, Reno Logan, Melonee McKinney
Scenic Artists Mark Guirguis, Chris Bell
Paint Crew Rachel Abraham, Michael Navarrete
Publicist Lucy Pollak
Photography Enci
Graphic Design Peter Simpson Cook
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Special Thanks The Getty Villa, Dr. Shelby Brown, Olympia Dukakis, Norman Frisch, Natalie Galante,
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VOLUNTEERS:

Rachel Abraham Marcia Himmelstein, Octabia Carr, Payam Hakakian, Nicholas Jacobs, Mathew Kahrobee, Dr. Bob Karns, Flora Kiumehr, Christopher Lasseater, Felicia Lawson, Reno Logan, Melonee McKinney, Navid Misaghi, Michael Navarrete, Mahmoud Paydar, Michelle Seamon, Etienne Stinson

VOLUNTEERS

If you would like information on how to volunteer at the Odyssey, please call 310-477-2055, ext. 107.
Thank you!

LYSISTRATA UNBOUND TIX FOR \$10 PERFORMANCES, FRIDAY, JUNE 15 AND WEDNESDAY, JULY 11
STUDENT TICKETS: \$17 • SENIORS \$25 • SAG/AFTRA/AEA \$20 WITH ID. POST SHOW DISCUSSIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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Technical Director..... Danny Felix
Assistant to the Technical Director..... Robert Fox
Lighting Technician Danny Felix
Production Intern Sofia Francisca Cassidy

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This season's productions reflect the Odyssey's passion for diverse, maverick work.

- Odyssey Theatre January Dance Festival
- *Freud's Last Session*, January 13 - March 4
- *Bad Jews*, now playing through July 1
- World Premiere of Edwardo Machado's *Lysistrata Unbound*, June 9 - August 4
 - *Side by Side by Sondheim*, July 21 - September 16
- Theatre/ Dance project with German Choreographers Katrin Deufert and Thomas Plischke
- West Coast Premiere of Rumania's *Old Clown Wanted*, September 8 - October 28
 - New adaptation of *Steambath*, October 20 - November 25
- Odyssey Theatre Dance Festival, January 5 - February 10, 2019
- Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage's *Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine*, March - May, 2019

As a not-for-profit organization, our work is only possible because of charitable donors like you. A gift of any size goes a long way toward supporting the Odyssey's bold and exciting productions.

THANK YOU for helping us sustain our community of inspired audiences and artists.

Together we do great things!

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