



SWEENEY

TODD

**THE DEMON BARBER
OF FLEET STREET**

February 11–March 17, 2024

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

Stephen Sondheim

BOOK BY

Hugh Wheeler

FROM AN ADAPTATION BY

Christopher Bond

DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY

Julia Rodriguez-Elliott

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Rod Bagheri

SWEENEY TODD is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



aNoiseWithin

Stephen Sondheim's and Hugh Wheeler's

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by Hugh Wheeler

From an adaptation by Christopher Bond

Originally Directed On Broadway by Harold Prince

Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Directed and Choreographed by Julia Rodriguez-Elliott

Music Director Rod Bagheri

Originally Produced on Broadway by Richard Barr, Charles Woodward, Robert Fryer, Mary Lea Johnson, Martin Richards in Association with Dean and Judy Manos

A NOISE WITHIN'S 2023-24 SEASON IS PRESENTED BY

S. Mark Taper Foundation

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CREATIVE TEAM & CREW

Scenic Designer

Francois-Pierre Couture[†]

Sound Designer

Jeff Gardner[†]

Costume Designer

Angela Balogh Calin[†]

Lighting Designer

Ken Booth

Assistant Lighting Designer

Cici Mao

Wig/Makeup Designer

Tony Valdes

Properties Designer

Stephen Taylor

Stage Manager

Angela Sonner*

Assistant Stage Manager

Mikayla Bettner*

Assistant Director

Vivi Le

Audio Engineer

Lucio Maramba

Sound Technician

Christopher Bosco

Dialect Coach

Andrea Odinov

Master Electrician

Georgia Shupper

Board Operator

Raven McMillen

Stage Crew

Samantha Barrientos

Hope Matthews

Dramaturg

Dr. Miranda Johnson-Haddad

CAST

Sweeney Todd Geoff Elliott*
Mrs. Lovett Cassandra Marie Murphy*
Judge Turpin. Jeremy Rabb*
Johanna. Joanna A. Jones*
Beggar Woman Amber Liekhus*
Pirelli. Kasey Mahaffy*
Anthony Hope James Everts
Tobias Ragg Josey Montana McCoy*
Beadle Bamford. Harrison White*
Ensemble. Grace Albano
 Gabriella Anifantis
 Samantha Atilano
 Ella Blain
 Ethan Clayton
 Ariel Davis
 Rachel Han
 Sebastian Rodriguez

UNDERSTUDIES

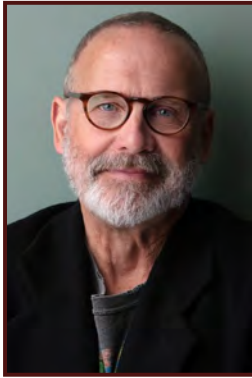
Anthony U/S: Michael Solomon
Mrs. Lovett U/S: Sarah Randall Hunt*
Judge Turpin U/S: Luke Matthew Simon*
Johanna U/S: Lauren Han Ward*
Beadle Bamford/Pirelli U/S:
Wyn Moreno
Tobias U/S: Kyle Frattini

RUNTIME:
2 HR. AND 45 MIN.
WITH A 15 MIN. INTERMISSION

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



* Designer is represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829 of the IATSE.
* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you for joining us for this production of *Sweeney Todd*.

Our 2023-24 season is one for the record books. *The Bluest Eye*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *A Christmas Carol* have met critical acclaim and sold-out houses. Now, halfway through the season, we've welcomed nearly 20,000 patrons through our doors. In addition, our education program is on track to host 18,000 students in our theatre this year, many of them attending a play for the first time.

The remainder of our season promises to be equally captivating. Don't miss the powerful production of *King Healdy II*, the next installment in August Wilson's American Century Cycle, continuing our ongoing partnership with director Gregg Daniel. Following that, prepare for laughter and wit in *Misalliance*, arguably George Bernard Shaw's most hilarious comedy.

Many of you have inquired about how to support the arts in our ongoing pandemic recovery. Our answer is simple—buy a ticket. Supporting the arts by showing up and experiencing the performance is the key to a thriving community.

At A Noise Within, we strongly believe in the ineffable power of storytelling, and how it brings communities together. Your presence in our audience adds vibrancy to the stories we bring to life on stage. We are so grateful to have you inside the A Noise Within family.

We will see you at the theatre!

Geoff Elliott and Julia Rodriguez-Elliott

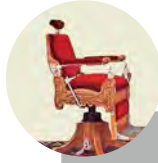
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

SWEENEY TODD

TIMELINE

1846

The People's Periodical, a popular **penny dreadful** publication, features a story entitled *The String of Pearls: A Romance*, about a razor-wielding barber who turns his victims into meat pies.



1979

Sondheim and Wheeler's musical, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, opens on Broadway. Harold Prince directs and it stars Angela Lansbury and Len Cariou. This production receives eight Tony Awards.

1847

George Dibdin Pitt writes *The String of Pearls or The Fiend of Fleet Street*. This **play is performed** the same year at Britannia Saloon.



2001

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street is performed with the San Francisco Symphony. This production, starring George Heam and Patti LuPone, is **filmed and broadcast on PBS.**

1848

Pitt's play inspires many others to write their own versions. The story and **these plays continue to be adapted and staged in British theatres** for the remainder of the 19th century.



2007

Tim Burton directs a **film adaptation: *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street***. The film stars Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, and Alan Rickman.

1936

Two silent films (1920s) took on the Sweeney Todd story, and in 1936 George King directs *The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, the **first modern film** adaptation.

1973

Christopher Bond had already written and **staged his version** of this Sweeney story, when **Stephen Sondheim approaches Bond about turning the play into a musical**, bringing in **Henry Wheeler** to write the book, with Sondheim writing music and lyrics.



1979-2024

Stage revivals and tours of *Sweeney Todd* have included: Broadway 1979, US tour 1980, West End 1989, Broadway 1993, West End 2004, West End 2005, Broadway 2009, UK & Ireland tour 2012, and West End 2017. **There is a current 2023 Broadway revival.**

Credits : "A String of Pearls." PBS, Public Broadcasting Service, www.pbs.org/kqed/demonbarber/play/index.html
George Arents Collection, The New York Public Library. "Sweeney Todd." <https://digitalcollections.nysl.org/items/510d47e4-4802-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

CAST



Geoff Elliott
(Sweeney Todd)



**Cassandra
Marie Murphy**
(Mrs. Lovett)



Jeremy Rabb
(Judge Turpin)



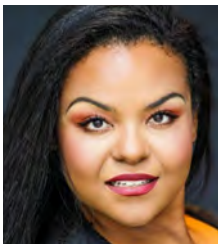
Joanna A. Jones
(Johanna)



Kasey Mahaffy
(Pirelli)



James Everts
(Anthony Hope)



Amber Liekhus
(Beggar Woman)



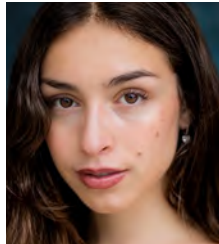
**Josey
Montana McCoy**
(Tobias Ragg)



Harrison White
(Beadle Bamford)



Grace Albano
(Ensemble)



Gabriella Anifantis
(Ensemble)



**Samantha
Megan Atilano**
(Ensemble)



Ella Blain
(Ensemble)



Ethan Clayton
(Ensemble)



Ariel Davis
(Ensemble)



Rachel K. Han
(Ensemble)



Sebastian Rodriguez
(Ensemble)

CAST

Geoff Elliott he/him (Producing Artistic Director/Sweeney Todd)

WITH ANW: Director: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Arcadia*, *All My Sons*, *Endgame*, *Eurydice*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, and many others. Actor: Boxer/Old Major, *Animal Farm*; Midas, *Metamorphoses*; The Poet, *An Iliad*; Dodge, *Buried Child*; Ebenezer Scrooge, *A Christmas Carol*; Don Quixote, *Man of La Mancha*; Lloyd Dallas, *Noises Off*; King Lear, *King Lear*; The Father, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*; and more. **ELSEWHERE:** South Coast Repertory, Arizona Theatre Company, American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Shakespeare Festival, California Repertory.

EDUCATION: MFA—American Conservatory Theatre. Mr. Elliott is a recipient of multiple LADCC, Backstage Garland, Robby, Drama-Logue, and LA Weekly awards as well as the Margaret Hartford Award for Distinguished Achievement for ANW.

Cassandra Marie Murphy she/her, ANW Resident Artist (Mrs. Lovett)

WITH ANW: First Fairy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Moses/Minimus/Dance Captain, *Animal Farm*; Lucina and others, *Metamorphoses*; Aphrodite/Atalanta/Meleager's Mother/Woman of Lemnos/Dance Captain, *Argonautika*; Queen Isabel, *Henry V*; Aldonza, *Man of La Mancha*.

ELSEWHERE: Center Theater Group's Revival of *The Secret Garden* at The Ahmanson Theater; Alice/US Lily Craven and Martha. International Tour: *Miss Saigon* in Macau China; Ellen.

Select Regional: *Bridges of Madison County*; Francesca, *Evita*; Eva Peron, *Les Misérables*; Fantine, *Hunchback of Notre Dame*; Esmeralda, *Frozen: Live at the Hyperion*; Elsa. Cassandra is also a studio singer for some of the world's finest directors and composers, such as Steven Spielberg and Alan Silvestri, along with multiple Disney shows around the world. All of my love to John, Nora, Archie, Potter and my village. IG: @cassandramariemurphy

Jeremy Rabb, ANW Resident Artist

(Judge Turpin) **WITH ANW:** Henry Condell, *The Book of Will*; Benjamin, *Animal Farm* (LA Drama Critics Circle Award); Lafeu, *All's Well That Ends Well*; White Rabbit, *Alice in Wonderland*; Camillo, *The Winter's Tale*; Frederick Fellowes, *Noises Off*; Roderigo, *Othello*; Padre, *Man of La Mancha*; Exeter/Bardolph, *Henry V*; Sir George Crofts, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*; Mr. Stryver, *A Tale of Two Cities*; Cornwall, *King Lear*; Dr. Purgeon, *The Imaginary Invalid*; Ezra Chater, *Arcadia*; Ferrailleon, *A Flea in Her Ear*; Stephano, *The Tempest*; Porter, *Macbeth*; Sir Andrew Aguecheek, *Twelfth Night*; Clov, *Endgame*; Marley, *A Christmas Carol* and many more. **ELSEWHERE:** Julie Taymor's *King Stag* (Barbican), *Rock of Ages* (original cast), Mark Taper, Yale Repertory Theatre, American Repertory Theater, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Virginia Stage Company, Maine State Music Theatre, and others. **FILM/TV:** *Her*, *Night Court*, *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Goliath*, *Grey's Anatomy* (3 seasons), *Silicon Valley*, *Odd Couple*, *Weeds*, among others. **EDUCATION:** A.R.T. Institute at Harvard; Princeton. www.jeremyrabb.com

Joanna A. Jones (Johanna)

WITH ANW: Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** Broadway: *Hamilton*. Off Broadway: *School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls Play* (MCC). West End: *Thriller, Live*. Regional: *Cabaret* (The Old Globe), *Hamilton* (Pantages Theatre), *Gotta Dance* (Bank of America Theater), *Kiss Me Kate* (The Pasadena Playhouse), *Hair* (The Hollywood Bowl), *Baz: Star Crossed Love* (Palazzo Vegas), *Parade* (3D-Theatricals), *Caroline, or Change* (PCPA), *Hairspray* (PCPA), *Showboat* (Sacramento Music Circus), *Sugar* (Sacramento Music Circus). **FILM/TV:** *Good Trouble* “All These Engagements,” *Mufasa: The Lion King*, *NBC’s Hairspray Live*, *The Sing-Off NBC*. **EDUCATION:** Bachelor’s Degree in Theater from the University of California, Los Angeles. Instagram @joannaalexisjones

Kasey Mahaffy he/him, ANW

Resident Artist (Pirelli) **WITH ANW:** Mr. Cratchit, *A Christmas Carol*; Puck, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; Ralph Crane, *The Book of Will*; Rosencrantz, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* (LA Drama Critics Circle Award); Phaeton, *Metamorphoses*; Garry Lejeune, *Noises Off*; Sancho Panza, *Man of La Mancha*; Fool, *King Lear*; Jim O’Connor, *The Glass Menagerie*; among others. **ELSEWHERE:** *The Inheritance*, Geffen Playhouse; *The Heart of Robin Hood*, The Wallis & Hong Kong Cultural Centre; *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *You Nero*, *Taking Steps*, South Coast Rep; *The Miracle Worker*, *Assassins*, Berkshire Theatre Festival. **TV/FILM:** *Modern Family*, *Grace & Frankie*, *Truth Be Told*, *NCIS*, *9-1-1*, *AHS*, *CSI*, among others.

James Everts he/him (Anthony

Hope) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Spring Awakening (EWP)*, *Newsies (3DT, Candlelight Pavilion)*, *West Side Story*, *Mamma Mia (5-Star)*, *Chicago (ACPA)*, *Legally Blonde (Empress)*, *The Actor’s Nightmare (CCT)*, *Joseph (La Mirada)*. Taavi in *Singing Revolution*, Kevin in *The Bully Problem*. James wants to thank his family, DDO, and his partner Arianna for their endless support. Find him @jamesfeverts and at jameseverts.com

Amber Liekhus she/her (Beggar Woman) **WITH ANW:** Debut.

ELSEWHERE: Described as a “versatile singer, whose voice is at once regal and affectionate” (LA Times), Amber has had a thrilling career in the US and abroad. Favorites include: *La Cage!* at The Hollywood Roosevelt, *Annie* at The Hollywood Bowl, Sweet Charity with Reprise 2.0, *Blues in the Night* at The Wallis, Ovation Award winning *Ain’t Misbehavin’* with McCoy Rigby, and *Rent*—also with McCoy Rigby. Accomplished operatic soprano, Amber appeared as Queen of El Dorado in *Candide* at LA Opera, the title role in *Suor Angelica* with Opera di Roma, and Lily in *Porgy and Bess* at San Francisco Opera and Los Angeles Opera. Amber’s favorite role is mommy to Julien and Jasper, alongside her supportive husband, Justin.

Josey Montana McCoy he/him

(Tobias Ragg) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Floyd Collins* - Ovation and LADCC nominated best featured actor; *Rogers the Musical* and *Frozen Live at the Hyperion* at Disneyland Resort; *Big River*, *Newsies*, *The Pokémusical*, *Bronies*. Touring: *Ragtime*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Magic Tree House*. VO:

Genshin Impact, *Batwheels*, *Harry Potter Magic Awakened*. Josey is originally from the tiny town of Inez, Kentucky. He's been in LA a dozen years or so. An avid sports fan, catch him at most LAFC home matches. He sends constant love and thanks to his wonderful wife Josie and beautiful boy Lincoln.

Harrison White (Beadle Bamford)

WITH ANW: *Frankenstein*.

ELSEWHERE: On Broadway: *The Lion King*, *Sarafina*; West End: *Smokey Joe's Café*. Off-Broadway: *Romance In Hard Times* at the Public Theatre. MUNY: *Beauty And The Beast*. Other credits: *Dreamgirls*, *Seussical*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Full Monty*, *Gulls*, *Miss Saigon*, *It's A Wonderful Life*, *Purlie*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Once On This Island*, *Ray Charles Live*, *Sister Act*. **TV/FILM:** *Villains Of Valley View Generation*, *The Underground Railroad*, *Kenan*, *Danger Force*, *The Kominsky Method*, *Fresh Off The Boat*, *How To Get Away With Murder*, *This Is Us*, *9-1-1*, *Modern Family*. *Killher*, *Mermaid*, *I Got The Hookup*, *The Way You Look Tonight*, *Waiting In The Wings*, *Opening Night*, *The Muppets Movie*, *Se7en*.

Grace Albano she/her (Ensemble)

WITH ANW: Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Helen*, *Fun Home* - USC Musical Theatre Repertory; *Nora 1* (*Nora 2 & 3 U/S*), *Nora: A Doll's House* - USC Mainstage; *Myhrrine*, *Lysistrata*-British American Drama Academy; *Armyny*, *Carousel* - Kidz Theater, NYC. **EDUCATION:** BA Theater '24-University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts, British American Drama Academy, London, UK. Instagram: @gracealbano.

Gabriella Anifantis she/her

(Ensemble): **WITH ANW:** Debut.

ELSEWHERE: *Hope Cladwell*, *Urinetown: The Musical* (USC School of Dramatic Arts); *Norma Pike*, *Trap*, (*Aeneid Theatre Company*); *Various*, *Long Story Short*, (*Musical Theatre Repertory*); *Featured Vocalist*, *All Alone Together* (4085 Productions).

Samantha Megan Atilano she/her (Ensemble) **WITH ANW:**

Debut **ELSEWHERE:** *Florrie*, *Dracula*; *Joan*, *Saint Joan*; *Angelo*, *Comedy of Errors*; *Maggie*, *Lend Me a Tenor*; *Eva*, *Accrington Pals*; *Women and Wallace*; *Extensions*, *East Los Angeles College*; *Suzy Macready*, *Eastside Theatre Works*. **EDUCATION:** Shakespearean Acting Certificate, Acting Certificate, *East Los Angeles College*.

Ella Blain she/her (Ensemble)

WITH ANW: Debut **ELSEWHERE:** USC: *Pennywise*, *Urinetown*, *Actor/Divisor*, *Body of Faith* (2021 Revival), *Sofia*, *Dance Nation*; *American Conservatory Theatre*: *Actor/Divisor*, *Devised Theater Piece* (SFS); *Aeneid Theatre Company*: *Agave*, *The Bacchae*; *Independent*: *Jemilla*, *Firebringer*; *Mozilo Performing Arts Center*: *Judas*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. A Pasadena native, Ella is beyond thrilled to be making her professional theatre debut at *A Noise Within*. **EDUCATION:** BA—*University of Southern California*, *School of Dramatic Arts*; *American Conservatory Theatre*, *San Francisco Semester*. Ella wants to thank her family for their endless love and support. Find her @ellablain and at ellablain.com.

Ethan Clayton he/him (Ensemble)

WITH ANW: Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** USC: *Bruce*, *Fun Home*, *Mr. McQueen*, *Urinetown*, *Actor/Divisor*, *Body of Faith*; *Webb Theater*:

Robert, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Durdles, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*; Lead Vocalist, *Performing with the Pros: Ali Stroker, Season Premiere: A Night with Krysta Rodriguez*; The Attic Theater: The Baker, *Into the Woods*; Hans in the LA debut of Jennifer Rosenfield's *The White Rose*. **TV/FILM:** *The Goldbergs* (ABC), *The Afterparty* (Apple TV+), *A Very Demi Holiday Special* (RokuTV). **EDUCATION:** BA—Acting '24, USC School of Dramatic Arts. Thanks to family, LTA, and Matthew. Instagram: @ethclayton

Ariel Davis she/her (Ensemble) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Annie, The Wiz, The Lion King*, Calumet City Performing Arts; *Caroline or Change*, SLATE Theater GSU; *Sister Act, Chicago*, Homewood-Flossmoor Theater; *Normal Heart*, USC School of Dramatic Arts. **EDUCATION:** Theater B.A. Acting Emphasis, Dance Minor—USC.

Rachel K. Han she/they (Ensemble) **WITH ANW:** Ensemble, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* **ELSEWHERE:** Aeneid Theatre Company: *Andromache, Women Of*; Sticking Place Theatre: Irene Molloy, *The Matchmaker*; Grace/Theresa, *Working the Musical, Uzo/Nick, Godspell the Musical* **TV/FILM:** *I Can*. **EDUCATION:** University of Southern California, School of Dramatic Arts, B.A.

Sebastian Rodriguez he/him (Ensemble) **WITH ANW:** Debut. Sebastian is an actor who started his theatrical journey from performing in plays at Schurr High School, to his theatrical training in mask work and movement at East Los Angeles college, to his first professional theatre debut at A Noise Within. At East Los Angeles College he has performed in classical plays such as *Taming of the Shrew* and *The Country Wife* as well as commercial plays like *A Christmas Carol*. Sebastian has also received theatrical training at PCPA Conservatory and starred in many student projects.

UNDERSTUDIES

Sarah Randall Hunt she/her (U/s Mrs. Lovett) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** Theatre highlights: *Hello, Again* (Young Wife, BWW West Best Featured Actress Nominee), *Broadway Backwards 3, Christmas Rappings* (Off-Bway). **FILM/TV:** Ellie Creighton in *1923, Unfinished Business* (w/ Vince Vaughn), *Chronic* (Cannes Best Screenplay), *Black-ish*. Thanks to my hubby, fam, and FSE. No thanks to Ms. Zoey, our cat with sensitive ears that doesn't like my practicing. Proud member AEA & SAG-AFTRA.

Kyle Frattini he/him (U/s Tobias) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Newsies, Shrek, 3D Theatricals; Bronco Billy, Skylight; The Mollyhouse*, Montalban. **EDUCATION:** BA—Theater, UCLA. A singer-songwriter as well as an actor, Kyle's work is available wherever you listen to music.

Wyn Moreno he/him (U/s Beadle/Perelli): **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** Wyn is an Actor, Director, and Educator hailing originally from Salt Lake City, Utah. Some of his recent California credits

include: *Beauty and the Beast* at Performance Riverside (Riverside), *The Nether* at The Wayward Artist (Santa Ana), *The Story of My Life*, *Ragtime*, and *Violet* at The Chance Theatre (Anaheim), *Best of Enemies* at The Colony Theatre (Los Angeles), *Journey of Angels* at The Lanterman Theatre (Glendale). He also is a proud founding member and Resident Artist at The Wayward Artist in Santa Ana, CA. As an instructor, Wyn currently teaches theatre at Riverside City College, Orange Coast College, Orange County School of the Arts, and at Gary Spatz's The Playground in Los Angeles.

Luke Matthew Simon he/him (U/s Judge Turpin) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** *Lewis*, *Pippin*; *Hedwig*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*; Craig, *INVISIBLE* (54 Below); Sam, *The Harry and Sam Dialogues*; **EDUCATION:** BA—Theatre (Acting), USC School of Dramatic Arts. Luke would like to thank his parents and his fiancée MacKenzie for their unending support. Proud member of Actor's Equity Association.

Michael Solomon (U/s Anthony Hope) **WITH ANW:** Debut. **ELSEWHERE:** Prior to this playhouse Michael was Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid*, Young Artist Theatre Co. But he has most recently been working in television and can be seen in Netflix's *Boo B*tch* and *Freeridge*, which he's so humbled you're going to go stream after the show. He thanks A Noise Within for welcoming him with open arms and is excited to be part of telling this story.

Lauren Han she/her (U/s Johanna) **WITH ANW:** Debut **ELSEWHERE:** *King and I* (Tuptim), La Mirada Theatre; *Tarantino Live* (O-Ren Ishii), For The Record; *Mickey and the Magical Map* (Principal Vocalist), Disneyland Park; *The Addams Family*, 5-Star Theatricals; *Sound of Music*, Musical Theater West. **TV/FILM:** *Beef*, Netflix; *Me Time*, Netflix; *Partners in Rhyme*, ALLBLK. **EDUCATION:** BM—Vocal Performance, UCI. **AWARDS:** *Performance Award*, Bel Canto Institute-Italy, *1st Place Awards*, NATS-LA Competition, *Best Featured Actress*, Broadway World.

DESIGNERS & CREATIVE TEAM

Stephen Sondheim (Playwright) Stephen Sondheim wrote the music and lyrics for *Saturday Night* (1954), *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* (1962), *Anyone Can Whistle* (1964), *Company* (1970), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *The Frogs* (1974), *Pacific Overtures* (1976), *Sweeney Todd* (1979), *Merrily Roll Along* (1981), *Sunday In The Park With George* (1984), *Into The Woods* (1987), *Assassins* (1991), *Passion* (1994) and *Road Show* (2008) as

well as lyrics for *West Side Story* (1957), *Gypsy* (1959) and *Do I Hear A Waltz?* (1965) and additional lyrics for *Candide* (1973). Anthologies of his work include *Side By Side By Sondheim* (1976), *Marry Me A Little* (1981), *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow* (1983), *Putting It Together* (1993/99) and *Sondheim on Sondheim* (2010). He composed the scores of the films *Stavisky* (1974) and *Reds* (1981) and songs for *Dick Tracy* (1990) and the television production *Evening Primrose* (1966). His collected lyrics

with attendant essays have been published in two volumes: *Finishing The Hat* (2010) and *Look, I Made A Hat* (2011). In 2010 Broadway's Henry Miller's Theatre was renamed The Stephen Sondheim Theatre in his honor; in 2019, London's Queens Theatre was also renamed the Sondheim.

Hugh Wheeler (Author) Hugh Wheeler was a novelist, playwright and screenwriter. He wrote more than thirty mystery novels under the pseudonyms Q. Patrick and Patrick Quentin, and four of his novels were transformed into films: *Black Widow*, *Man in the Net*, *The Green-Eyed Monster* and *The Man with Two Wives*. For films he wrote the screenplays for *Travels with My Aunt*, *Something for Everyone*, *A Little Night Music*, and *Nijinsky*. His plays include *Big Fish*, *Little Fish* (1961), *Look: We've Come Through* (1961) and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* (1966, adapted from the Shirley Jackson novel). He co-authored with Joseph Stein the book for a new production of the 1919 musical *Irene* (1973), wrote the books for *A Little Night Music* (1973), a new production of *Candide* (1973), *Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (1979, based on a version of the play by Christopher Bond), and *Meet Me in St. Louis* (adapted from the 1949 M-G-M musical), contributed additional material for the musical *Pacific Overtures* (1976), and wrote a new adaptation of the Kurt Weill opera *Silverlake*, which was directed by Harold Prince at the New York Opera. He received Tony and Drama Desk Awards for *A Little Night Music*, *Candide* and *Sweeney Todd*. Prior to his death in 1987 Mr. Wheeler was working on two new musicals, *Bodo* and *Fu Manchu*, and a new adaptation of *The Merry Widow*.

Music Theatre International - Music Theatre International (MTI) is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form. MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide. MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior® shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students.

Julia Rodriguez-Elliott she/her (Producing Artistic Director/ Director/Choreographer) **WITH ANW:** ANW has produced more than 175 works, and she has directed 50 productions including *An Iliad*, *Metamorphoses*, *Argonautika*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Animal Farm*, *The Book of Will*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *Noises Off*, *Henry V*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Man of La Mancha*, *King Lear*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *The Tempest*, *The Dance of Death*, *Come Back*, *Mourning Becomes Electra*. **EDUCATION:** MFA—American Conservatory

Theatre. Julia is a multiple award winner, most recently she was awarded the 2022 recipient of the Career Achievement in Direction Milton Katzelas Award.

Rod Bagheri he/him (Music Director) **WITH ANW:** Music Director, *A Christmas Carol*, *Animal Farm*. **ELSEWHERE:** Seen both as a conductor/pianist and as an actor, Rod has been a music director for several local companies including The Candlelight Pavilion (*Legally Blonde*, *Footloose*, *9 to 5*), The Wayward Artist (*Next To Normal*) and The Chance Theater (*Lysistrata Jones*, *West Side Story*). Recently as an actor: Davey in *Newsies* (3d Theatricals), Jerry Lee Lewis u/s in *Million Dollar Quartet* (National Tour), Jesus in *Godspell* (The Wayward Artist). Former Assistant Conductor for Pageant of the Masters. Has taught voice, piano, and improv for over a decade.

Stephen Taylor he/him (Properties Designer) **WITH ANW:** *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Book of Will*, *The Bluest Eye*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Christmas Carol*. **ELSEWHERE:** Stephen is a member of the House Theatre of Chicago, where he has been an actor, writer, and designer. Love to Lauren and Oliver. **EDUCATION:** BFA Theatre, Southern Methodist University.

Angela Balogh Calin she/her, ANW Resident Artist (Costume Designer) **WITH ANW:** Costume Design: *The Book of Will*. Scenic & Costume Design: *Animal Farm*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, Set Design: *The Madwoman of Chailot*; *Romeo and Juliet*; *The Dance of Death*; *Ghosts*; *Julius Caesar*; *The Winter's Tale*; *Cyrano de Bergerac* (1995); Costume Design: *Alice in Wonderland*; *Buried*

Child; *Gem of the Ocean* among others. Recipient of LADCC, Ovation, Garland, Drama-Logue awards. **ELSEWHERE:** South Coast Repertory, Pasadena Playhouse, Ensemble Theatre Co., Antaeus Theatre, among others. **FILM/TV:** 16 productions with I.R.S. Media, PBS, Full Moon Productions, Moviestore Entertainment, Romanian Films. **EDUCATION:** MFA, Set and Costume Design-The Academy of Fine Arts (Bucharest, Romania). Member of the Costume Designers Guild in the USA and Romania.

Jeff Gardner (Sound Designer) **WITH ANW:** Sound Designer: *The Bluest Eye*, *Radio Golf*, *Anna In The Tropics*, *Seven Guitars*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Buried Child*, *Noises Off*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *The Madwoman of Chailot*; Ensemble in *The Tempest* '93. **ELSEWHERE:** *Inherit The Wind* and *The Sound Inside* for Pasadena Playhouse; *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* and *The Search For Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* for the Mark Taper Forum. He has designed and performed throughout the country including Williamstown Theatre Festival, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Baltimore Center Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cleveland Playhouse, The Shakespeare Theatre, DC, The Studio Theatre, Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, Geffen Playhouse, The Kirk Douglas Theatre, Antaeus Theatre Company, as well as the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. jeffthomasgardner.net.

François-Pierre Couture (Scenic Designer) **WITH ANW:** *Metamorphoses*, *Frankenstein*. **ELSEWHERE:** *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord*, Center Theatre Group. *Romeo & Juliet* (touring), L.A. Dance

Project. *The Present, The Future, Invisible Tango*, Geffen Playhouse. *Measure Still For Measure, Everything That Never Happened*, Boston Court Theatre. *Destiny of Desire*, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage Theatre, South Coast Repertory & Goodman Theatre. *The Mexican Trilogy, An American History*, Los Angeles Theatre Center; *Carmen Jones, Metamorphoses, Everything is Illuminated*, Ensemble Theatre Company. www.fpcouture.com. Originally from Montréal, Canada, François-Pierre Couture has been working in Los Angeles, his adoptive home, and the United States as a scenic, lighting and projection designer since 2006. His multifaceted and dynamic approach to his craft has given him the opportunity to work across multiple environments and venues. Instagram @fpcouturedesign @fpcouturestudio

Ken Booth he/him, ANW Resident Artist (Lighting Designer) **WITH ANW**: Since 1998, Ken has worked on at least 70 productions at A Noise Within. Included in these are: *A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Book of Will, Much Ado About Nothing, Animal Farm, Metamorphoses, An Iliad, Alice in Wonderland, The Winter's Tale, Argonautika, Henry V, Pericles, Prince of Tyre, Julius Cesar, The Threepenny Opera, Great Expectations, Man of La Mancha, The Glass Menagerie, King Lear, The Tempest, The Dance of Death, Buried Child, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Noises Off, Ubu Roi, The Tragedy of Richard III*, and the annual holiday *A Christmas Carol*. He graduated from UCLA in 1982.

Cici Mao they/them (Assistant Lighting Designer) **WITH ANW**: Debut. **ELSEWHERE**: Before

recently moving to LA, Cici designed lighting and sound for many theatre productions at MIT, including *Anon(ymous), Jekyll and Hyde, Small Mouth Sounds, The Wedding Singer, A Chorus Line*, and *Jasper in Deadland* along with several dance showcases and immersive concert experiences.

Tony Valdes he/him (Wig & Make-up Designer) **WITH ANW**: *A Christmas Carol, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing, Metamorphoses, Animal Farm*. A graduate of the University of Puerto Rico where he earned a BA in Fine Arts in Theater, Tony worked for fifteen years as a hair and makeup artist on professional theatrical productions and television. Since he moved to Los Angeles, Tony has worked as a professional HMU artist at CNN Spanish Edition, stage, fashion, music videos and Independent films. Tony taught classes from Beauty Makeup to Special FX along with his position as Co-Director and Dean of Academics at El School of Professional Makeup in Hollywood for 20 years. As the owner of Tombola Stage Hair & Makeup, he offers wig styling classes and wig styling services.

Andrea Odinov she/her (Dialect Coach) **WITH ANW**: *The Book of Will, Radio Golf, Animal Farm, Seven Guitars, Gem of the Ocean*, and *A Christmas Carol*. **ELSEWHERE**: The Geffen Playhouse, The Odyssey Theatre, Rogue Machine Theatre, Ghost Road Theatre Company, Antaeus Theatre Company, The Road Theatre Company, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, The Group Rep, 24th St. Theatre, Sea Glass Theatre Company, and Long Beach Playhouse. Andrea is a Clinical Asst. Professor of Voice and Speech

at Loyola Marymount University, a Certified Associate Instructor of Fitzmaurice Voicework®, and a member of VASTA, SAG-AFTRA, and AEA. **EDUCATION:** M.F.A from University of CA at Irvine.

Angela Sonner she/her (Production Stage Manager) **WITH ANW:** *A Christmas Carol, A Midsummer Night's Dream.* **ELSEWHERE:** *The Sound of Music, Oliver!, The Louise K. Taylor Performing Arts Center; Afterglow, Midnight Theatricals; Enter Stage Right, 24th St Theatre; Adobe Punk, Evangeline: The Queen of Make-Believe, They Shoot Mexicans Don't They?, About... Productions; Dream Hou\$e, Arizona Theatre Company; Lydia, Medea, UCLA - Little Theatre; Toyer, Dodgers, We Are The Tigers, The Hudson Theatres; Sylvia, Cat's Cradle, Sierra Madre Playhouse; The Story of Carlos Bulosan, East West Players.* Angela has also been the Theatre Director for Performing Arts Workshops, West LA for the past nine years. **EDUCATION:** BA - Theatre, UNR.

Mikayla Bettner she/her (Assistant Stage Manager) **WITH ANW:** Assistant Stage Manager, *Metamorphoses, Animal Farm, A Christmas Carol.* **ELSEWHERE:** *Love Actually Live, The Wallis; The Engagement Party, Geffen Playhouse; Stew, Sunday in the Park with George, Pasadena Playhouse; On This Side of the World, East West Players.*

Vivi Le she/her (Assistant Director) **WITH ANW:** Debut **ELSEWHERE:** *On This Side of the World, East West Players; Stalled, Pacific Resident Theatre.* **ASM:** *Tosca, La Boheme, Carmen, Pacific Opera Project* **CREW:** *The First Deep Breath, Geffen Playhouse;*

Spring Awakening, The Brothers Paranormal, The Great Jheri Curl Debate, East West Players; Monsters We Imagined, Cloud 9, UCLA Theater. Vivi Le is an Actor and Theatre Director based in Los Angeles, CA. Despite growing up low-income, with little access to the arts, she overcame socio-economic and cultural barriers, eventually receiving scholarships to attend UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television, where she graduated with a BA in Theater and a minor in Art History. Her talents extend to Comedy & Improv, receiving the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB) Diversity Scholarship and The Improv Space Diversity Scholarship. Find her on Instagram @viviale

Miranda Johnson-Haddad she/her (Resident Dramaturg) **WITH ANW:** Dramaturg, *A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Bluest Eye, The Book of Will, Kiss of the Spider Woman, Much Ado About Nothing, Radio Golf, Animal Farm, Metamorphoses, All's Well That Ends Well, Argonautika, Othello;* Educator and Consultant since 2010. **ELSEWHERE:** Dramaturg, *Inherit the Wind, Pasadena Playhouse State Theater; Dramaturg, Measure Still for Measure, Boston Court Theater;* Consultant, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington, D.C. Dr. Johnson-Haddad has taught Shakespeare, Drama, and Literature at Howard University, UCLA, Vassar College, and Yale University. She is a frequent speaker at Los Angeles Opera, the Shakespeare Club of Pomona Valley, and elsewhere. **EDUCATION:** PhD Renaissance Studies, Yale University; BA Comparative Literature, Princeton University.

Douglas Love-Ramos he/his

(Managing Director) has created intellectual property businesses for some of the largest entertainment, publishing, and digital companies in the world. He served as Managing Director of Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Producing Artistic Director of Walden Playhouse for film studio Walden Media, and FamilyStage San Francisco at the historic Orpheum Theater. He is the creator and executive producer of award-winning children's television series including: *Out of the Box* for Disney and *Jammin' Animals* for HBO. He is the author of more than 30 books published by HarperCollins, Disney Press, and others. Douglas co-wrote and produced the stage adaptation of Marlo Thomas's *Free To Be You And Me* published by Rogers and Hammerstein Theatre Library. He has built two theaters and a children's museum, and created the arts education product *World Book's Dramatic Learning*, used by 11 million students worldwide.

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ANW is committed to the lifelong work of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (EDIA), which includes an ongoing analysis of how we work, what we put onstage, and audience experiences at our theatre. Over the past few seasons, we've taken several steps towards advancing these core institutional priorities. Among other things, we re-centered our strategic plan more squarely around anti-racism; we radically expanded our Board of Directors and cohort of collaborators; our staff, board, and artists are meeting regularly to discuss the systemic changes we'd like to see implemented throughout every level of our theatre; and our EDIA Task Force was formalized as a permanent EDIA Committee to help us better identify, prioritize, and address issues (including representation, access, and education).

FOR A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT OUR APPROACH, VISIT
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