# VER **BY JONATHAN TOLINS**

6 OCTOBER – 12 NOVEMBER 2017



# **BY JONATHAN TOLINS**

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH HAL LEONARD AUSTRALIA PTY LTD. ON BEHALF OF DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC

> ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FRANCESCA SAVIGE

DIRECTOR SUSANNA DOWLING

# CREW

DESIGNER CHARLES DAVIS

LIGHTING DESIGNER ALEX BERLAGE

> SOUND DESIGNER MARTY JAMIESON

STAGE MANAGER **REBECCA POULTER** 

WARDROBE COORDINATOR RENATA BESLIK

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# CAST

ALEX MORE

**BEN GERRARD** 



# JONATHAN TOLINS - PLAYWRIGHT

Jonathan Tolins is the author of BUYER & CELLAR, which was named "Best Unique Theatrical Experience" by the Off-Broadway Alliance when it premiered at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater. Other plays include THE TWILIGHT OF THE GOLDS (Broadway, Booth Theatre), IF MEMORY SERVES (Promenade), THE

LAST SUNDAY IN JUNE (Rattlestick, Century Center), and SECRETS OF THE TRADE (Primary Stages). A collection of his plays has been published by Grove/Atlantic. His film work includes THE TWILIGHT OF THE GOLDS and MARTIAN CHILD. For television, he was a writer for QUEER AS FOLK, the Academy Awards, the Tony Awards, and PARTNERS. He was the author of PUSHKIN 200: A CELEBRATION AT CARNEGIE HALL, acted as script consultant on WALKING WITH DINOSAURS: THE ARENA SPECTACULAR, and co-wrote THE DIVINE MILLENNIUM TOUR and THE SHOWGIRL MUST GO ON FOR BETTE MIDLER. He has written articles for Opera News, Opera Monthly, TheaterWeek, Time Magazine, and the Huffington Post, and is a panelist on the Metropolitan Opera Radio Quiz. He lives in Fairfield, Connecticut with his husband, the writer and director Robert Cary, and their children, Selina and Henry. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild and the Writers Guild of America.



# SUSANNA DOWLING - DIRECTOR

Recent productions: Darlinghurst Theatre Company: HYSTERIA by Terry Johnson. Ensemble: TRIBES by Nina Raine. CDP Productions: SNUGGLEPOT & CUDDLEPIE (adapted by Monkey Baa). NIDA: TOP GIRLS by Caryl Churchill. Illuminate Educate: NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH by Lally Katz. Sport for Jove: A

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. City of Sydney: THE HUNGRY GHOST created with Mei Tsering. Bell Shakespeare Company: Resident Director 2014, INTIMATE LETTERS (AD), TARTUFFE (AD), HENRY V (AD). Sydney Theatre Company: THE LONG WAY HOME by Daniel Keene (Assistant/Tour Director), IN A HEART BEAT created with Jo Turner, Education Resident Artist 2012. Griffin Independent: GIRL IN TAN BOOTS, by Tahli Corin. Belvoir: SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL by Ray Lawler (Assistant Director), THE KISS by Anton Chekhov, Kate Chopin, Peter Goldsworthy and Guy de Maupassant, YELLOW MOON by David Greig. Graduate of Trinity College, Dublin (BA), UNSW (MA) and NIDA (Grad Dip in Directing).



# FRANCESCA SAVIGE - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Francesca holds two degrees in Theatre and Acting from QUT Brisbane, and furthered training at RADA

London (Shakespeare), and Shakespeare & Company in the US. In 2015 she received a Globe International Actors Fellowship to train at Shakespeare's Globe, London. Frankie has pursued directing alongside her acting career since graduating. Experience includes directing SUCH SWEET SORROW for Bell Shakespeare's Actors at Work; assistant directing ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST, OTHELLO (Sport For Jove); CYMBELINE (Queensland University

# BEN GERRARD - ALEX MORE



Ben Gerrard graduated from NIDA (BA Acting) in 2006. He is best known for his television work having

starred in OPEN SLATHER (Foxtel), MOLLY (2016 AACTA nominee best supporting actor, Drama), OUTLAND (ABC1), as well as the feature film WOLF CREEK 2. Other television credits include A PLACE TO CALL HOME (Foxtel), JACK IRISH: DEAD POINT (ABC), DEEP WATER (SBS), THE POWER OF 10: GALLIPOLI (7 network), and ALL SAINTS (7 Network). Theatre credits most recently include an acclaimed Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane tour of one-man show I AM MY OWN WIFE (OrielGroup/Red Line) for which of Technology) and co-writing and directing Sport For Jove's youth theatre program THE SECOND AGE PROJECT (2013, 2014 & 2016) as part of their summer outdoor season. A 2010 Churchill Fellow, Frankie travelled to Grahamstown, South Africa to co-direct ROMEO AND JULIET for Ubom Theatre Company, and toured the production nationally to Schools Festivals. As an actor, Francesca has worked with Sport for Jove, Bell Shakespeare, Queensland Theatre Company, Griffin, Parramatta Riverside and the Old Fitz. Frankie is a member of Equity and the proud recipient of a Sandra Bates Director's Award for 2017.

Ben received a Sydney Theatre Award nomination for Best Actor in an Independent Production. Other recent theatre credits include HIDDEN SYDNEY -THE GLITTERING MILE (Working Management) and YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (Hayes Theatre Co.). Ben has also toured Australia with the cabaret smash-hit SONGS FOR THE FALLEN (Old Fitz, Seymour Centre, Brisbane Festival, Sydney Festival, Adelaide Cabaret Festival), as well as national tours of SHAKESPEARE'S R & J (Riverside) and ACTORS AT WORK (Bell). He will again be touring I AM MY OWN WIFE in 2018, and was a Mike Walsh Fellowship recipient in 2015.





# CHARLES DAVIS - DESIGNER

Charles is a set and costume designer for theatre, opera, dance and film. A recent graduate of NIDA, Charles

also studied architectural design at Monash University. Charles' theatre designs include: THE KITCHEN SINK (Ensemble Theatre); SMURF IN WANDERLAND (Griffin Theatre/ National Theatre of Parramatta); THE WHALE (Old Fitz), UNFINISHED WORKS (Seymour Centre); co-design THE GRAND HOTEL (Sydney Grammar); KANDAHAR GATE, WRITING FOR PERFORMANCE (NIDA). Charles is associate set designer for MURIEL'S WEDDING - THE MUSICAL



# ALEXANDER BERLAGE - LIGHTING DESIGNER

Alexander is a Sydneybased Director and Lighting Designer. Recent credits include: As Lighting Designer:

Sydney Theatre Company: CLOUD NINE. Griffin Independent: NOSFERATUTU, THOMAS MURRAY and the UPSIDF-DOWN **RIVER. Sydney Chamber Opera: VICTORY** OVER THE SUN. Old Fitz: 4:48 PSYCHOSIS, DOUBT. CRIMES OF THE HEART. THE JUDAS KISS, THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT, THE WHALE, MEN, FREAK WINDS, HOWIE THE ROOKIE. Old 505 Theatre:

with STC and Global Creatures. Charlie's opera designs include: BIOGRAPHICA (Sydney Chamber Opera/Sydney Festival); OH MENSCH! (SCO, costume); HANSEL AND GRETEL directed by Michael Gow (Queensland Conservatorium); associate set design for CARMEN directed by John Bell and THE MERRY WIDOW (Opera Australia). Later this year he designs THE CORONATION OF POPPEA for Pinchgut Opera. Charles was nominated for a Sydney Theatre Award for THE WHALE. Charles is lecturer and mentor for NIDA's undergraduate design programme. View Charles' designs at: www. charlesdavisdesigner.com

THE BLOCK UNIVERSE, HILT. ATYP: WAR CRIMES, MOTH, BETWEEN US. Sydney Dance Company: PPY15: REVEALED. Hayes Theatre: DOGFIGHT. CRITICAL STAGES: SONGS FOR THE FALLEN. As Assistant/Associate Lighting Designer: AN INDEX OF METALS. Alexander was a participant at the 2014 Watermill Center International Summer Program and was also awarded the 2013 Peter Baynes Memorial New York Scholarship and the 2014 Leslie Walford AM Award, Alexander holds a Bachelor of Dramatic Art (Production) and Masters of Fine Art (Directing) from NIDA.



# MARTY JAMIESON - SOUND DESIGNER

Marty is a composer and sound designer for the stage and screen. He graduated from AFTRS in 2011 where

he studied Screen Music. As a composer and sound designer for theatre his credits include THE PRIDE, DEATHTRAP and CONSTELLATIONS (Darlinghurst Theatre Company), AWKWARD CONVERSATIONS WITH ANIMALS I'VE FUCKED (UNHAPPEN), ON THE SHORE OF THE WIDE WORLD, SWEET NOTHINGS and THE KNOWLEDGE (Pantsguys Productions), COMPASS (ATYP), THIS IS WHERE WE LIVE (Griffin Independent), 4000 MILES (Mophead/Catnip Productions), GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS (seriousboys) and GREAT EXPECTATIONS (ATYP Under the Wharf). Marty also composes for film as well as trailers and documentaries for Belvoir, Griffin and Darlinghurst Theatre Company.



REBECCA POULTER – STAGE MANAGER

Rebecca is a graduate of NIDA (Production). As Stage Manager: Previously for Ensemble Theatre: TWO,

RELATIVELY SPEAKING, THE GOOD DOCTOR, MOTHERS AND SONS, EDUCATING RITA, DREAM HOME, BLUE/ORANGE, RICHARD III, CLYBOURNE PARK, CAMP; THE MYSTERY OF LOVE AND SEX (Darlinghurst Theatre Company), THE CRUCIBLE, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Sport for Jove), SONGS FOR THE FALLEN-Arts Centre Melbourne & NSW Regional Tour (Critical Stages), THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR SHOW-SOH, Brisbane, Adelaide (Michael Sieders Presents), MY FIRST TIME (Kay & McLean Productions/SOH), ACTOR ON A BOX (Sydney

# graduate of Theatre Company), ORESTES 2.0 (Griffin Tion), As Stage Theatre Company), As Assistant Stage

Theatre Company). As Assistant Stage Manager; DANCE BETTER AT PARTIES, AUSTRALIA DAY, BLOOD WEDDING, ZEBRA!, TRUE WEST and THE COMEDY OF ERRORS (Sydney Theatre Company), INTERPLAY-International Tour, COUNTERMOVE (Sydney Dance Company), STRANGE INTERLUDE, THYESTES (Belvoir), BLOOD WEDDING (Malthouse Theatre). As Production Stage Manager: THE UGLY ONE, SHINING CITY (Griffin Theatre Company). As Production Manager; CYRANO DE BERGERAC, ROMEO AND JULIET, THE TEMPEST-Seymour Centre, IPAC (Sport for Jove). As Technical Stage Manager MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL.



# RENATA BESLIK - WARDROBE COORDINATOR



Renata is a costume supervisor, maker and buyer. She graduated from NIDA in 2007 with a Bachelor's

Degree in Costume Production. Supervising credits include THEODORA (Pinchgut Opera), THE WINTER'S TALE, HENRY V, MACBETH, ABC SHAKESPEARE and INTIMATE LETTERS for Bell Shakespeare and THE TEMPEST, WOYZECK, A LIE OF THE MIND, PORT, THE THREESOME, A BRIGHT ROOM CALLED DAY and SWEET CHARITY for NIDA. For Ensemble Theatre Renata has supervised Edward Albee's WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?, David Williamson's ODD MAN OUT, A HISTORY OF FALLING THINGS, BETRAYAL and BAREFOOT IN THE PARK. Buying credits include Channel 7's THE SECRET DAUGHTER. As a costume maker, Renata has worked on THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, LOVE NEVER DIES, various Opera Australia productions, THE CRUCIBLE (Sport for Jove), KING KONG (Global Creatures) and IN THE NEXT ROOM (STC).



# REFERENCE INDEX

**Almodóvar:** (Pedro Almodóvar Caballero) famous Spanish film director.

**Andre Agassi:** Las Vegan tennis star; dated Barbra (28 yrs his senior) 1992-93

Arthur Laurents: US playwright, stage director, screenwriter. Broadway hits include WEST SIDE STORY and GYPSY

**Barbara Boxer:** US Politician, senator for California 1993-2017

**Barry Dennan:** US actor, singer & writer and according to a controversial biography, Barbra's first love. She was reportedly heartbroken after walking in on him having sex with a man.

**Bea Arthur:** US actress, comedian, singer, and animal rights activist whose career spanned seven decades

**Bill Clinton:** Former US President. Rumoured to have had an affair with Barbra after she spent a night in the White House Lincoln Bedroom in 1993

**Caesar's Palace:** classic, Roman-themed casino hotel

**Candy Spelling:** very wealthy celebrity; widow of producer Aaron Spelling

**CAPRICORN ONE:** 1977 movie starring James Brolin, Elliot Gould and OJ Simpson, about a failed Mars mission and the plan to film fake footage

**Carvel:** US ice cream franchise known for soft serve and distinctive 'crunchies'

**Cecil Beaton:** English fashion photographer, artist and Academy Award–winning stage and screen costume designer

Chutzpah: supreme self-confidence

**David Geffen:** US business magnate, producer, film studio executive, and philanthropist

**Don Johnson:** US actor, singer, director, producer; dated Barbra in 1988, features on her album TIL I LOVED YOU

**Doris Roberts:** US actress whose TV career spanned six decades

**Dorothy Zbornak:** fictional character from the TV series THE GOLDEN GIRLS, portrayed by Bea Arthur

**Elliot Gould:** US actor; married to Barbra 1963-71, father to Barbra's only son, Jason Gould

Farbissina: an angry, bitter, vocal person

**Fatima:** a central Portuguese town, Catholic pilgrimage site.

Foucault: French philosopher

**FUNNY GIRL:** 1968. Barbra's first movie, based on the musical about singer/comedian Fanny Brice, who worked her way up to stardom on Broadway

**GIGI:** 1958 US musical romance film based on the novella Colette

**GYPSY:** 1959 musical based on striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee's memoirs. Main character Mama Rose, is the ultimate show business mother; Louise is based on Lee, and "dainty June" on Lee's sister, actress June Havoc.

**Hadassah:** the Women's Zionist Organization of America

**Hannibal Lector:** character from a novel & film series; a forensic scientist with cannibalistic tendencies

**HAZEL:** 1960s US Comedy TV series starring Shirley Booth as a live-in maid.



**HDMI 1:** interface for transmitting audio/video data

**HGTV:** US cable, satellite TV, focussing on home improvement

**HOARDERS:** US reality TV series depicting real-life struggles of those who suffer compulsive hoarding disorder

**HuffPo (Huffington Post):** news and top stories in politics, entertainment, sport, innovation, travel, food and life

**IDOL (American Idol):** US singing competition TV series

**Irene Sharaff:** US stage & screen costume designer, earned 5 Academy Awards and a Tony

**Jason Gould:** Jason Emanuel Gould: Son of Barbra Streisand and Elliot Gould. US actor, director, producer, writer, singer

**JEOPARDY:** America's favourite quiz show, hosted by Alex Trebek since 1984

**Jon Peters:** Hairdresser, then Studio Head and Producer; dated Barbra for 10 years from 1973-83

**Kris Kristofferson:** US actor; dated Barbra in 1976 during making of A STAR IS BORN

Liam Neeson: Irish actor; had an 'encounter' with Barbra in September 1991

**LITTLE FOCKERS:** B-grade 2010 US comedy film, featuring Barbra

**Los Feliz:** Trendy hillside suburb in central LA, popular with actors

**Louis B. Mayer:** Belarusian-Canadian-American film producer, co-founder of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) studios in 1924 **Main Street USA:** "themed land" at Disneyland, representing small town America, with fictional businesses

**MARCUS WELBY, MD:** 1970's U.S medical drama series, starring James Brolin as Dr. Steven Kiley

Mary Kate & Ashley Olsen: (the Olsen twins) US former child actresses.

Meeskite: ugly person

Mensch: person of integrity

**MILDRED PEARCE:** 1945 film noir. Single mother Mildred's (Joan Crawford) a successful restauranteer is resented by her eldest, Veda, for degrading their social status.

Mishigas: craziness, nonsense

**Mr Potter:** character in 1946 Frank Capra film IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

**Mr Whipple:** fictional supermarket manager featured in US loo paper ads 1964 to 1985

**MUSIC MAN:** Meredith Willson musical about a man who poses as a boy band leader

**NUTS:** 1987 US drama film in which Barbra's plays call girl Claudia Draper who kills a client in self defense. Her parents claim she is 'nuts' to avoid scandal.

**Olivia deHavilland & Joan Fontaine:** Golden age rival actresses and siblings.

**Omar Sharif:** Egyptian actor; involved in a scandulous affair with Barbra during their filming of FUNNY GIRL in 1967

**Paris Hotel:** French-themed casino hotel with a half-size Eiffel Tower

Passover Seder: a Jewish ritual feast

**Peter Jennings:** Canadian American journalist and news anchor; dated Barbra 1994-98

**PHYLLIS:** 1970 US sitcom, starring Cloris Leachman

**Pierre Trudeau:** 15th Canadian Prime Minister; had a long distance romance with Barbra in 1970-71

**Prince Charles:** reputedly infatuated with Barbra, he met her on the set of FUNNY GIRL in 1974 and stayed in touch; Rumoured to have had an affair with her in 1994

**PRINCE OF TIDES:** 1991 US romantic drama, starring Barbra and Nick Nolte. Barbra also directed and produced the film

**PROJECT RUNWAY:** US reality TV series about fashion design

**Rachel Maddow:** US TV host and political commentator on THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW

**Richard Gere:** US actor; rumoured to have 'hooked up' with Barbra in 1980

**Rob Reiner:** US actor, writer, director, producer and activist

**Robert Redford:** Starred in THE WAY WE WERE with Barbra and famously resisted her charms

**Ryan O'Neal:** US actor; dated Barbra during the making of WHAT'S UP DOC? in 1971

**Salon:** News and culture media, featuring in-depth reporting and criticism on politics, business, entertainment and technology.

**Sandy Gallin:** US producer, talent manager and designer of high-end homes

**Schmendrick:** an ineffectual, foolish, or contemptible person

Schtupped: had sexual intercourse with someone

**Seth Rogan road movie:** 2012 film THE GUILT TRIP, starring Barbra.

Shmattas: old tattered clothing

**SUMMER STOCK:** 1950 musical film starring Judy Garland and Gene Kelly

### SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE:

Sondheim musical inspired by Seurat's painting

**Tallises:** a shawl like garment worn by Orthodox and Conservative Jews during the morning service.

Tchotchkes: trinkets

**The 5:** A busy north-south highway in California, US, road to Anaheim: home to Disneyland

**The Groundlings:** LA training & performance venue for improvisation & sketch comedy.

**The 405:** Interstate highway in California; the busiest and most congested freeway in the US

**The Grove:** a popular fashion, shopping, dining destination in LA

**THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES:** 1996 US film, a rom-com-drama produced, directed and starring Barbra

**TOP CHEF:** Competitive US cooking show

**TWILIGHT:** A series of 5 romantic fantasty films about vampires and werewolves

**YENTL:** 1983 American romantic musical drama film, directed, co-written, co-produced, and starring Barbra. The story of a Polish Jewish girl who dresses and lives like a man so she can be educated in Talmudic Law









BUYER AND CELLAR BY JONATHAN TOLINS











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