BUYER AND CELLAR

BY JONATHAN TOLINS

6 OCTOBER – 12 NOVEMBER 2017
BUYER AND CELLAR

BY JONATHAN TOLINS

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

DIRECTOR
SUSANNA DOWLING

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FRANCESCA SAVIGE

CAST
ALEX MORE
BEN GERRARD

CREW
DESIGNER
CHARLES DAVIS

LIGHTING DESIGNER
ALEX BERLAGE

SOUND DESIGNER
MARTY JAMIESON

STAGE MANAGER
REBECCA POULTER

WARDROBE COORDINATOR
RENATA BESLIK

RUNNING TIME APPROX 90 MINUTES

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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 Rattlestic 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

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, OTHÉLLO (Sport For Jove); CYMBELINE (Queensland University 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 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 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 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

ALEXANDER BERLAGE – LIGHTING DESIGNER

Alexander is a Sydney-based Director and Lighting Designer. Recent credits include: As Lighting Designer: Sydney Theatre Company: CLOUD NINE. Griffin Independent: NOSFERATUTU, THOMAS MURRAY and the UPSIDE-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: 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.

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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 Theatre Company), ORESTES 2.0 (Griffin 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).

BY JONATHAN TOLINS
Almodóvar: (Pedro Almodóvar Caballero) famous Spanish film director.

Andre Agassi: Las Vegas 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


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

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, focusing 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


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 scandalous 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

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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


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 fantasy 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
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- Bill Young

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We feel it is time to upgrade the foyer, the bar and the restaurant with a lick of paint and an improved look, allowing audiences to feel more comfortable in the theatre’s surroundings. We’d also like to improve the hub of creativity by upgrading our rehearsal rooms and outdoor boat shed area. We are very keen to get started for the 60th anniversary celebrations in 2018 but without your generous support this will not be possible.

**Help Us Celebrate 60 Years in Style**

**Donors who give $260+** will be invited to a special ‘opening night’ hosted by Mark Kilmurry in our upgraded rehearsal room/deck and bar to celebrate our 60 years and the completed renovations; be assured of a few surprises!

**The generous donors who give $6,000+** will be recognised in our foyer and website.

**Please donate online or pledge forms are available in the foyer. For further information contact:**

David Wright, Financial Controller, (02) 8918 34 21 or david@ensemble.com.au
The management reserves the right to make any alteration to cast which may be rendered necessary by illness or any other unavoidable cause. Patrons are reminded that out of consideration for others, latecomers cannot be admitted until a suitable place in the performance.