

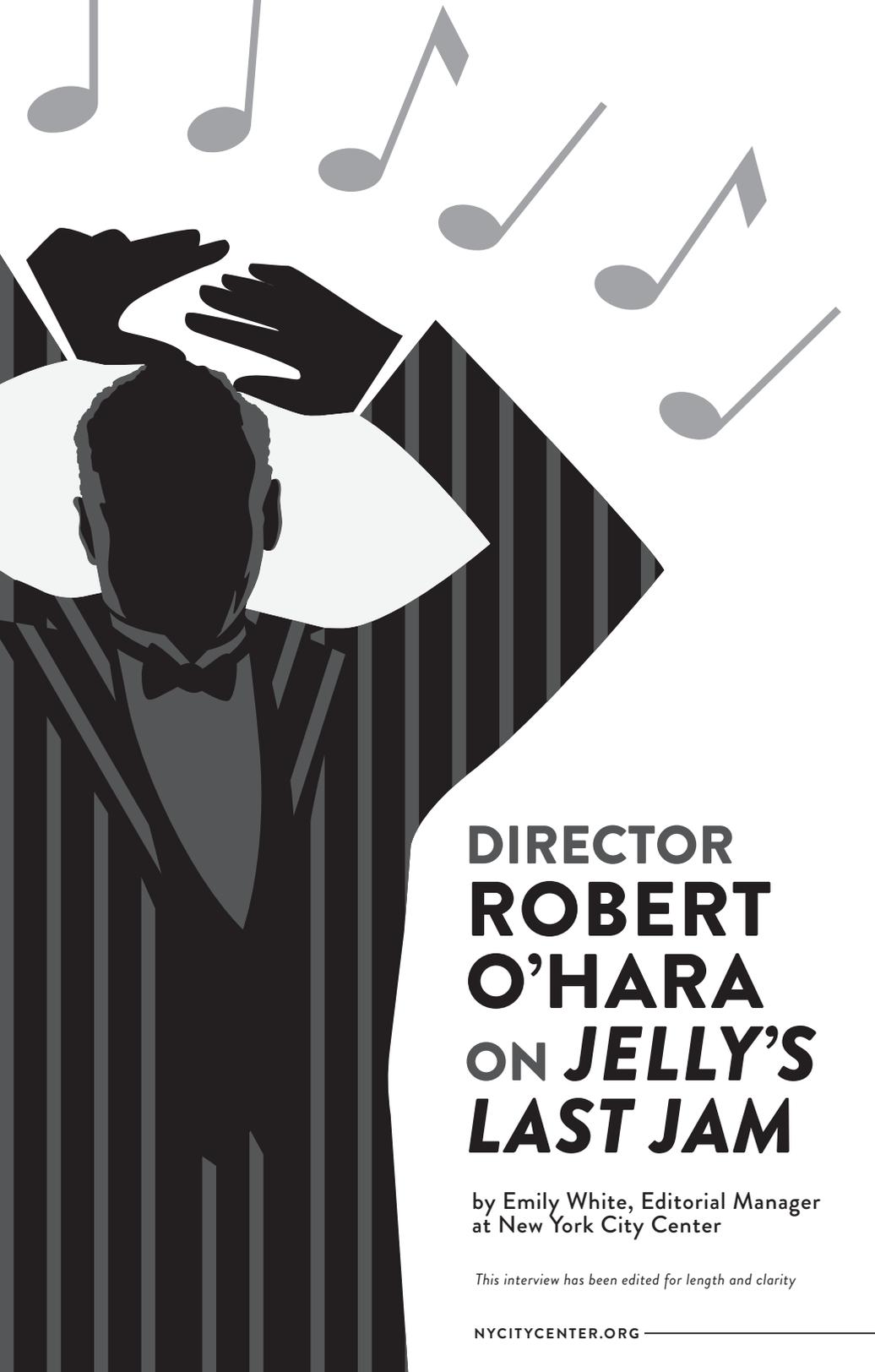
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NEW YORK CITY CENTER  
30 YEARS OF ENCORES!

# JELLYS LAST JAM



FEB 21 –  
MAR 3  
2024



**DIRECTOR  
ROBERT  
O'HARA  
ON *JELLY'S*  
LAST JAM**

by Emily White, Editorial Manager  
at New York City Center

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity*

[NYCITYCENTER.ORG](http://NYCITYCENTER.ORG)

**Emily White: What was your first experience with *Jelly's Last Jam*?**

**Robert O'Hara:** I saw the original Broadway production in 1992, right after I moved to New York to attend graduate school. I can remember sitting in the balcony and having my mind blown from start to finish. It was incredible and solidified, for me, that I wanted to be a director, but also that I wanted to work with George C. Wolfe.

I have a long history with George. He has been a mentor for most of my professional life, and he gave me my first start in the business. And with this Encores! presentation of *Jelly's Last Jam*, George has been there from the beginning, guiding me. It's a very difficult and exciting piece about one man's legacy and his relationship to his culture.

**EW: Why is *Jelly's Last Jam* so important in the overall musical theater canon?**

**RO:** Because it was a Broadway show with a Black protagonist that wasn't interested in making audiences comfortable. It's about black genius. It examines the light and the dark. It was sexy. It was hilarious. It was incredibly moving, joyful to watch and painful at times. And that is why it meant so much to me, because I had rarely seen that level of excellence.

It is profoundly moving to me that I have the ability to do just this little bit of reincarnation. How many people get the chance, 30 years after they've seen the original, to actually work on a revival of it, and to have the ability to communicate with the people who created it? That is a rare gift, I think.

**EW: Can you tell me a little bit more about Jelly Roll Morton himself – a historical figure who was not the nicest individual?**

**RO:** Well history is littered with historical figures who weren't very nice. But Jelly Roll Morton's contradiction of character starts with his proximity to whiteness. He was Creole and incredibly light-skinned. He was sexist, prejudiced, colorist, misogynist, and elitist. He was also a musical genius. And his music lives on in this show. There are new arrangements by the great Luther Henderson, but for the most part this is Jelly's music, and Susan Birkenhead is also a lyrical genius.

*Jelly's Last Jam* is a musical about and performed by Black people that are not simply there to make your toes tap, but also to say something about the virus of racism. This musical shows us what humanity looks like. And humanity is oftentimes difficult to reckon with, even in musical form.

**EW: What does it mean to you to have *Jelly's Last Jam* onstage during Black History Month?**

**RO:** Every month for me is Black History Month, so the show being in February is not anything significant to me. But I think that if it means that a more diverse group of people will see it, then that's exciting to me.

We as artists are here to reflect on the human condition. The human condition is messy and difficult to take in. So I think it's a celebration, because Black people are complicated, just like everybody else is complicated. We're not a monolith, and so the celebration is in the complication, is in the contradictions.

I think that's why the musical is so brilliant. It's an act of artistry and creative impulse that we're able to put something so large and so celebratory on stage, and yet still see behind the curtain, see behind the man, to take Jelly and the audience on this journey of his life through the rearview mirror. As the musical says, it's a journey to save his soul.



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Encores! *The Tap Dance Kid*; photo by Joan Marcus





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**LEAR DEBESSONET**

PRODUCING CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
**CLINT RAMOS**

# JELLYS LAST JAM

BOOK BY **GEORGE C. WOLFE**  
MUSIC BY **JELLY ROLL MORTON**  
LYRICS BY **SUSAN BIRKENHEAD**

MUSICAL ADAPTATION & ADDITIONAL MUSIC COMPOSED BY **LUTHER HENDERSON**

ARRANGEMENTS & ORCHESTRATIONS  
**LUTHER HENDERSON**

ADDITIONAL ORCHESTRATIONS  
**DARYL WATERS & WILLIAM DAVID BROHN**

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**NICHOLAS CHRISTOPHER JOHN CLAY III ALAMAN DIADHIOU MAMIE DUNCAN-GIBBS  
JOAQUINA KALUKANGO TIFFANY MANN OKIERIETE ONAODOWAN  
STEPHANIE POPE LOFGREN BILLY PORTER LESLIE UGGAMS ALLISON M. WILLIAMS**

**TOPHER J. BABB RAYMOND BAYNARD SHAWN BOWERS REESE BRITTS CRYSTAL BURTON  
AMANDA CASTRO JOSHUA DAWSON JOHN EDWARDS ARI GROOVER MORGAN MCGHEE  
CHARLOTTE MCKINLEY JODECI MILHOUSE RAMONE NELSON PAUL NIEBANCK JAMES PATTERSON  
ANTONIA RAYE SALOME SMITH TAYLOR MACKENZIE SMITH FUNMI SOFOLA JORDAN SIMONE STEPHENS  
RENELL ANTHONY TAYLOR NASIA THOMAS SIR BROCK WARREN CHANSE WILLIAMS**

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**CLINT RAMOS**

COSTUME DESIGNER  
**DEDE AYITE**

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
**ADAM HONORÉ**

SOUND DESIGNER  
**MEGUMI KATAYAMA**

HAIR & WIG DESIGNER  
**J. JARED JANAS**

MUSIC COORDINATOR  
**KIMBERLEE WERTZ**

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
**KAREN MOORE**

CASTING BY  
**THE TELSEY OFFICE  
DESTINY LILLY, CSA**

SCORE CONSULTANT

**DARYL WATERS**

CHOREOGRAPHER

**EDGAR GODINEAUX**

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GUEST MUSIC DIRECTOR

**JASON MICHAEL WEBB**

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for their essential and ongoing connections to this land.*



# JELLY'S LAST JAM

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jelly Roll Morton ..... NICHOLAS CHRISTOPHER  
Jack the Bear ..... JOHN CLAY III  
Young Jelly ..... ALAMAN DIADHIOU  
The Hunnies ..... MAMIE DUNCAN-GIBBS, STEPHANIE POPE LOFGREN  
ALLISON M. WILLIAMS  
Anita ..... JOAQUINA KALUKANGO  
Miss Mamie ..... TIFFANY MANN  
Buddy Bolden ..... OKIERIETE ONAODOWAN  
Chimney Man ..... BILLY PORTER  
Gran Mimi ..... LESLIE UGGAMS

### Ensemble

RAYMOND BAYNARD SHAWN BOWERS AMANDA CASTRO JOSHUA DAWSON  
JOHN EDWARDS ARI GROOVER MORGAN MCGHEE JODECI MILHOUSE  
RAMONE NELSON PAUL NIEBANCK JAMES PATTERSON ANTONIA RAYE  
SALOME SMITH TAYLOR MACKENZIE SMITH FUNMI SOFOLA  
JORDAN SIMONE STEPHENS RENELL ANTHONY TAYLOR  
NASIA THOMAS SIR BROCK WARREN CHANSE WILLIAMS

### Covers

TOPHER J. BABB (Swing), SHAWN BOWERS (Buddy Bolden), CRYSTAL BURTON (Swing),  
JOHN EDWARDS (Chimney Man), ARI GROOVER (Anita & Hunnie),  
CHARLOTTE MCKINLEY (Swing), RAMONE NELSON (Jack the Bear),  
RENELL ANTHONY TAYLOR (Young Jelly), NASIA THOMAS (Miss Mamie),  
STEPHANIE POPE LOFGREN (Gran Mimi)

REESE BRITTS (Standby for Jelly Roll Morton)

*JELLY'S LAST JAM* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.  
[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)



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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ADMINISTRATION & SCORE RESTORATION

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**SHAWN EDMONDS**

**RAVI BEST**

**ALPHONSO HORNE**

TROMBONE

**JASON JACKSON**

TUBA

**KENNETH BENTLEY**

DRUMS

**GENE LAKE**

PERCUSSION

**DAMON GRANT**

PIANOS

**LAFAYETTE HARRIS**

**ANDRE CHEZ LEWIS**

BANJO/HARMONICA

**AYODELE MAAKHERU**

BASS

**CHELTON GREY**

Music Coordinator: **KIMBERLEE WERTZ**

Original orchestrations restored by **JOSH CLAYTON & DARYL WATERS**

Music Copying: **EMILY GRISHMAN MUSIC PREPARATION/ALDEN TERRY**

Special thanks to Dr. Luther L. Henderson, III who provided scores to assist New York City Center and Encores! with the score restoration for this production.



## JELLY'S LAST JAM MUSICAL NUMBERS

### Act One

Jelly's Jam .....	The Hunnies & Ensemble
In My Day .....	Jelly, The Hunnies, Chimney Man, Ensemble
The Creole Way .....	The Ancestors, Amede, Viola, Young Jelly
The Whole World's Waitin' To Sing Your Song .....	Jelly & Young Jelly
Michigan Water .....	Miss Mamie & Buddy
The Banishment .....	Gran Mimi
Somethin' More .....	Jack, Jelly, The Hunnies, Chimney Man, Ensemble
That's How You Jazz .....	Jelly & Ensemble
The Chicago Stomp .....	Chimney Man & Jelly
Play The Music For Me.....	Anita
Lovin' Is A Lowdown Blues .....	The Hunnies
Dr. Jazz .....	Jelly & Ensemble

### Act Two

Good Ole' New York.....	The Hunnies, Chimney Man, Jelly, Ensemble
Too Late, Daddy .....	Jelly, Chimney Man, The Hunnies, Ensemble
That's The Way We Do Things In New Yawk .....	Jelly & Melrose Brothers
Jelly In Isolation.....	Jelly & Young Jelly
The Last Chance Blues .....	Anita & Jelly
Creole Boy/Finale.....	Company



NICHOLAS  
CHRISTOPHER



JOHN CLAY III



ALAMAN DIADHIOU



MAMIE  
DUNCAN-GIBBS



JOAQUINA  
KALUKANGO



TIFFANY MANN



OKIERIETE  
ONADOWAN



STEPHANIE POPE  
LOFGREN



BILLY PORTER



LESLIE UGGAMS



ALLISON M. WILLIAMS

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SALOME SMITH



TAYLOR  
MACKENZIE SMITH



FUNMI SOFOLA



JORDAN SIMONE  
STEPHENS



RENELL  
ANTHONY TAYLOR



NASIA THOMAS



SIR BROCK  
WARREN



CHANSE WILLIAMS



## MEET THE ARTISTS

**NICHOLAS CHRISTOPHER** (Jelly Roll Morton) Born in Bermuda and raised in Boston, Christopher recently starred in the 2023 Broadway revival of *Sweeney Todd* as Pirelli. Christopher studied at the Juilliard School and The Boston Conservatory, where he cultivated his unique range as both an actor and a singer. Select theater and TV credits include: *Hamilton*, *Miss Saigon*, *Lazarus* (with David Bowie), *Hurt Village* (Katori Hall), and *RENT*; *ALL RISE* (CBS), *United States Of AI* (CBS), and *Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll* (FX).

**JOHN CLAY III** (Jack the Bear) Broadway: *New York, New York*; *Choir Boy* (MTC, OCC nominee). Off-Broadway: *A Raisin in the Sun* (The Public Theater), *Grand Hotel* (Encores!). TV: *Raising Kanan*, PBS' *Great Performances* (Mass). Education: Carnegie Mellon University. Clay made his solo concert debut to a sold-out crowd at Green Room 42 this fall. He thanks his wife for constantly challenging him to be the best man he can be. IG: @johnclayiii

**ALAMAN DIADHIU** (Young Jelly) is a singer, dancer, songwriter, and entertainer from Leimert Park in Los Angeles. Trained at the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Diadhiou is a 2019 Presidential Scholar in the Arts (Tap Dance) and a graduate of Yale College '23 with a BA in Comparative Literature. Diadhiou aspires to be one of the world's premier live performers, carrying the tradition of the legendary artists who precede him while striving to innovate with his own voice.

**MAMIE DUNCAN-GIBBS** (Hunnie) is thrilled to be on the City Center stage once again, having performed in *Purlie*, *Chicago*, *Pal Joey*, and *Du Barry Was A Lady*. Broadway credits include *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Chicago*, *Cats*, *Joseph... Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Liza Steppin' Out* at Radio City. She is currently a Professor of Movement at Manhattan School of Music and instructs fitness classes with senior citizens at LY Daycare and 5-Star Residences of Yonkers. [mamieduncangibbs.com](http://mamieduncangibbs.com)

**JOAQUINA KALUKANGO** (Anita) is thrilled to be back at New York City Center. She received the 2022 Tony and Drama Desk Awards for best performance by an actress in

a leading role in a musical for her performance in *Paradise Square*. Other Broadway credits include: *Into the Woods*, *Slave Play* (Outer Critics Circle award), *The Color Purple Revival*, *Holler If Ya Hear Me*, and *Godspell*. Off-Broadway: *The Wild Party* (City Center Encores!), *Antony and Cleopatra* (The Public), *Hurt Village* (Signature Theatre). @joaquinakalukango

**TIFFANY MANN** (Miss Mamie) Hailing from Fort Worth, TX, the multi-hyphenate talent Tiffany Mann is no stranger to the spotlight. She has appeared in numerous Broadway and Off-Broadway shows, such as *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Lucille Lortel Award for Best Female Actress), *Waitress*, and the Original Broadway Cast of *Be More Chill*. She has also appeared on television shows including *Orange Is the New Black*, *New Amsterdam*, and the NBC series *RISE*. @iamtiffanymann

**OKIERIETE ONAODOWAN** (Buddy Bolden) Grammy Award-winning stage actor best known for his acclaimed performance originating the role of Hercules Mulligan and James Madison in the Tony Award-winning *Hamilton*. Additional Broadway: *A Doll's House*; *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*; *Rocky*; *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Off-Broadway: *Hamilton* (The Public), *Luce* (LCT), *Neighbors* (The Public). Film: *American Fiction*, *Molli and Max In the Future*, *Hamilton*, *A Quiet Place 2*. Television: *Jack Ryan*, *Station 19*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Billions*, *Girls*, *Ballers*.

**STEPHANIE POPE LOFGREN** (Hunnie, Gran Mimi Understudy) is thrilled to be returning to City Center Encores! with this production of George C. Wolfe's *Jelly's Last Jam*. She originated the role of Hunnie #2 in the original Broadway production in 1992 alongside Allison M. Williams and Mamie Duncan-Gibbs, also in this production. Lofgren was last seen at Encores! in the *Ziegfeld Follies of 1936* playing the role of Josephine Baker, and her multi-hyphenate career includes 11 Broadway shows. [stephaniepoppe.com](http://stephaniepoppe.com)

**BILLY PORTER** (Chimney Man) is an Emmy, Tony, and Grammy Award-winning actor, singer, director, producer, composer, and playwright. Porter has numerous theater credits, including the role of "Lola" in the Broadway musical *Kinky*



## MEET THE ARTISTS

**Boots**, for which he won the Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards, as well as the Grammy for best musical theater album. He won his second Tony Award in 2022 for “Best Musical” as a producer on *A Strange Loop*. New album *Black Mona Lisa* out now!

**LESLIE UGGAMS** (Gran Mimi) Broadway includes: *Hallelujah, Baby!* (Tony Award, Theatre World Award); *Anything Goes*; *King Headley II* (Tony nomination); *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Regional/Touring: *Stormy Weather: The Lena Horne Story* (Ovation nomination); *Pipe Dream*; *Gypsy*; *A Little Night Music*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *Into the Woods*; *Guys and Dolls*. Film: *Deadpool*, *American Fiction*, and more. Television: *Roots* (Golden Globe nomination), *The Leslie Uggams Show*, *Fantasy* (Emmy Award), *Empire*, *New Amsterdam*, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. [leslieuggams.com](http://leslieuggams.com)

**ALLISON M. WILLIAMS** (Hunnie) made her Broadway debut in the original Broadway hit, *The Wiz* as the Tornado Eye, *Guys and Dolls*, *Dancin'*, *Pippin*, and *Dreamgirls*, to name a few. She recreated the role of Helene in *Sweet Charity* on Broadway with Debbie Allen, Ann Reinking, and Bebe Neuwirth and was featured Hunnie in the Original Broadway production of *Jelly's Last Jam* with Gregory Hines. Williams graces the cover of Bob Fosse's book, *Razzle Dazzle*.

**TOPHER J. BABB** (Swing) is overjoyed and immensely thankful to be making their NYCC Encores debut! Credits include: *Kinky Boots* (Off-Broadway), *Pretty Woman* (First National Tour), *On Your Feet!*, *Hairspray*, *Holiday Inn*, *Ragtime*, *South Pacific* (Regional), and Disney's *Encore!* streaming on Disney+. Many thanks to Dave at Daniel Hoff, and my family, both chosen and blood, for their constant love and support. Dream your life, live your dream. [@topherjfab](https://twitter.com/topherjfab)

**RAYMOND BAYNARD** (Ensemble) is a New Jersey native and thrilled to be making his New York City Center debut. Having graduated with a BFA in dance from SUNY Purchase, his credits include: Broadway: *MJ the Musical*, *Hamilton*, *Bad Cinderella*. Tours: *Hamilton*, *The Lion King*. Regional: *The Great Gatsby*.

**SHAWN BOWERS** (Ensemble, Buddy Bolden Understudy) Broadway: *Ain't Too Proud*. Off-Broadway: *The Harder They Come* (The Public Theater). Favorite credits include: *Ragtime* (Coalhouse Walker Jr.), *Rent* (Benny), *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Fred), *After Midnight* (Male Quartet). Film: *Rio Uphill* (musical adaptation). TV: Tony Awards, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (*Ain't Too Proud*). Thanks to family and friends for their continuous love and support. [@shawnedwardbowers](https://twitter.com/shawnedwardbowers)

**REESE BRITTS** (Standby for Jelly Roll Morton) is excited to be making his City Center debut! Regional: *Tootsie* (Ogunquit Playhouse); *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Twelve Angry Men: A New Musical*, *Merrily We Roll Along* (Theatre Latté Da); *Man of La Mancha* (Asolo Rep); *Mamma Mia!*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Ordway). Huge thanks to the JLJ creative team and DGRW. So much love to my family, TLD JamFam, and Ryan. Onward! [@reese\\_britts](https://twitter.com/reese_britts)

**CRYSTAL BURTON** (Swing) Dance credits include *The Tap Dance Kid*, *After Midnight*, *Tale of The Lion King*, WNBA's LA Sparks, BET Awards, and more. She is a graduate of the University of California, Irvine, with a BFA, and a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She gives ALL glory to God for her success, and hopes to continue to inspire others using her gift of dance, hence her favorite self quote, “Love, Inspire, Dream, Dance!” [@crysdbdancin](https://twitter.com/crysdbdancin)

**AMANDA CASTRO** (Ensemble) Featured in *Dance Magazine's* “25 to Watch” in 2023, Amanda Castro is a Bessie Award-winning Puerto Rican-American multidisciplinary artist. Recent performances: *American Dance Platform* (Soles of Duende), *Chasing Magic* (Ayodele Casel), *Rhythm Is Life* by Dormeshia at the Joyce, and Anita in *West Side Story* at Lyric Opera of Chicago. Latest choreographic commission *El Camino* at New York City Center (collaboration with Ayodele Casel). Gratitude to her unit and the stories that help elevate our collective humanity. [acastrrodance.com](http://acastrrodance.com)

**JOSHUA DAWSON** (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his City Center debut with the company of *Jelly's Last Jam*. His recent credits



## MEET THE ARTISTS

include *Sugar Hill: The Ellington/Strayhorn Nutcracker* and *Carnegie Hall: Orchestra Moves*. He is a senior in the Commercial Dance program at Pace University and he's so excited to be continuing his professional career. Special thanks to his Mom and Dad, Mrs. Treshawn, MSA, Calli Company, and BAA IG: @mr.broadway

**JOHN EDWARDS** (Ensemble, Chimney Man Understudy) Actor/Singer/Dancer/Songwriter. Currently starring in *MJ The Musical* (Jackie Jackson/tour singer/James Brown soloist). Previously seen in the NYC revival of *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Chita Award winner, Lucille Lortel nominee). Broadway and First National Tour of *Jersey Boys* (Hal Miller/Barry Belson/others). National/International tour of *Hairspray* (Seaweed J. Stubbs) and *In the Heights* at The Kennedy Center (Domingo), and more. @therealjohnedwards

**ARI GROOVER** (Ensemble, Anita & Hunnie Understudy) is excited to be a part of Encores! Currently playing Tina Turner in the First National North American tour of *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*. Broadway: *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical* (Alline, Tina U/S), *Head Over Heels*, *Holler If Ya Hear Me*. Off-Broadway: *Little Shop of Horrors* (2020 Lucielle Lortel Nominee for Ronnette), *Bare*. Choreography: *Burn All Night* (A.R.T.). Film: *In the Heights* (Warner Bros.), *Spider-Man: Homecoming* (Sony). TV: *The Get Down* (Netflix), *Law & Order: SVU*. Groover is a DJ who goes by "Ari Grooves".

**MORGAN MCGHEE** (Ensemble) is a native of Baton Rouge, LA and a graduate of AMDA and Clark Atlanta University. She was most recently seen in the world premiere of *BOOP! The Musical* and the revival of *The Who's Tommy*. Broadway: *Ain't Too Proud*. Off-Broadway: *The Harder They Come*, *Seven Deadly Sins*. TV: *Law & Order*, *Everything's Trash*, *Flatbush Misdeemeanors*, *FBI*, *Bull*. @morgan.eli

**CHARLOTTE MCKINLEY** (Swing) grew up in Austin, TX where she began performing at age four. She moved to NYC at 18, two weeks after graduating high school. Credits include *Personality: The Lloyd Price Musical*, *The Met Gala*, *Knicks City Dancers*, *The Marvelous Mrs.*

*Maisel*, VMAs, *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver*, Disney World, Norwegian Cruise Lines, *Sugar Hill Nutcracker*, and various live performances and theater workshops throughout the city. Shoutout to her family, friends and Bloc!

**JODECI MILHOUSE** (Ensemble) New York: New York City Center: *Pal Joey* (Pearl/Ensemble), *The Tap Dance Kid* (Mona/Ensemble), Lincoln Center Clark Theater: Sole Defined's *Zaz: The Big Easy* (Lynette). DC Area: Baltimore Center Stage: *ArtsCentric: Dreamgirls* (Deena Jones). Regional: Signature Theatre: *After Midnight* (Dancing Doll). Television: *Saturday Night Live* (dancer in "Workout Class" with Megan Thee Stallion). Sending enormous love and gratitude to all my friends, family, CTG, and the entire *Jelly's Last Jam* team for this incredible opportunity. @jodecimillhouse

**RAMONE NELSON** (Ensemble, Jack the Bear Understudy) is stoked to make his New York City Center debut. On Broadway, he recently appeared in the Original Company of *MJ The Musical*. Other credits include *Flick in Violet*, *Ren in Footloose*, and *Nicely-Nicely in Guys and Dolls*. He holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Florida State University (GO NOLES!). Many thanks to Hybrid, Telsey Casting, God, and his family and friends for their love and support. 2 Corinthians 5:7

**PAUL NIEBANCK** (Melrose Brother, Ensemble) New York: *Richard III*, *Barbecue*, *Plenty* (The Public); *Blood and Gifts*, *In the Next Room... (LCT)*; *A Walk in the Woods*, *BOY* (Keen); *The Changeling* (Redbull); *RX* (Primary Stages); *American Clock* (Signature); *A Picture of Autumn* (Mint); *Much Ado About Nothing* (TFANA); *The Seagull* (Pearl); *Leaving Queens* (Women' Project). TV/Film: *West Side Story*, *Manhattan Romance*, *Madam Secretary*, *Good Fight*, *The Blacklist*, *Person of Interest*, *Burn Notice*. MFA: Yale.

**JAMES PATTERSON** (Melrose Brother, Ensemble) Broadway and National Tours: *Gigi* (Dufresne), *Mary Poppins* (Park Keeper), *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast, Gaston, and Lumiere understudy), *Cats* (Munkustrap), *State Fair*. Other credits; *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Lyric Opera of Kansas



## MEET THE ARTISTS

City), Max Von Mayerling in *Sunset Boulevard* (MTC), Brother Jeremiah in *Something Rotten* (FST), Georges in *La Cage Aux Folles* (Riverside Theatre, the Pioneer Theatre Company), Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* (Stages St. Louis). Ty BJH & CGF. [jamespattersontheactor.com](http://jamespattersontheactor.com)

**ANTONIA RAYE** (Ensemble) Excited to make her New York City Center Encores debut! Currently in *The Lion King* on Broadway. Favorite credits: *A Chorus Line* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park), *West Side Story* (Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Teatro Lirico di Cagliari), *Cabaret* (Goodspeed), and *After Midnight* (NCL). Training: The University of the Arts/BFA. Thank you to God, Family, Friends, casting, and my agents at CESD. @tonitonitoni93

**SALOME SMITH** (Ensemble) Barrington Stage Company: *A New Brain*. Roundabout Theatre Company: *1776* (Broadway), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Off-Broadway), *1776* (National Tour), *The World Goes Round* (Everyman Theater), *The Wiz* (TUTS), *Five Points* (Goodspeed Opera House), *1776* (A.R.T.) Film and television: *East New York*. BA Theatre (Alabama State University). MFA Musical Theatre (Boston Conservatory at Berklee College of Music) @offsalomebsmith

**TAYLOR MACKENZIE SMITH** (Ensemble) New York City Center Debut! Credits: *Disney's Aladdin* (National Tour), *Slave Play* (Broadway, Associate Movement Director), *The Wiz* (TUTS) BA in Drama, Dance, Spelman College. Love and gratitude to my incredible parents, family, friends, and Hudson Artists Agency.

**FUNMI SOFOLA** (Ensemble), an NYC-based dancer originally from Seattle, WA, is grateful to be making her New York City Center debut! Sofola is a graduate of Pace University, a YoungArts winner, and Jacob's Pillow alum. She has performed works by artists including Caleb Teicher (BZZZ, Joyce Theater), Demi Remick (Battery Dance), Lisa LaTouche, Al Blackstone, and LaTasha Barnes (Pace University). She is inspired by music, culinary pursuits, and all that brings her joy. @funmi.sofola

**JORDAN SIMONE STEPHENS** (Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of the Ensemble in *Jelly's*

*Last Jam!* Stephens is a classically trained performer who received her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance along with a Business Management Minor in 2022. Some of her credits include *The Nutty Professor* that premiered at Ogunquit Playhouse (Ensemble), *Some Like It Hot* (Director/Choreographer Apprentice, Radio City Music Hall (Ensemble)). Stephens is so excited to be a part of this production!

**RENELL ANTHONY TAYLOR** (Ensemble, Young Jelly Understudy) a New Orleans native, is thrilled to be making his New York City debut! Taylor was last seen in the pre-Broadway production of *A Wonderful World* as Banjo Ben and as a member of the ensemble. Favorite Regional: *Anything Goes* (PCLO), *White Christmas* (Bucks County Playhouse), and performances with The Lex, Forestburgh, and National World War II Museum. Shout-out to my family, friends, mentors, and team at HCKR. Elon MT 2023! @renellt21

**NASIA THOMAS** (Ensemble, Miss Mamie Understudy) Broadway: *SIX* (Cleves); *Caroline*, or *Change* revival (Radio One); *Ain't Too Proud*; *Beautiful* (Little Eva). Digital Theater: Out of The Box Theatrics's streamed production of *The Last Five Years* (Cathy). Regional: *Beauty and the Beast* (TUTS), *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, (MUNY), *The Color Purple* (MUNY), *Hairspray* (MUNY). TV: *The 4400* (Kenya), *That Damn Michael Che* (Kim). BFA MT Elon '15, GSA MT '11. Gratitude to her loved ones, DGRW, and ancestors for their sacrifices, support, and love. ASË. @nasiathomas

**SIR BROCK WARREN** (Ensemble) is grateful to be performing again for Encores! in *Jelly's Last Jam*. He was recently here in *Oliver!* Select credits: *Paradise Square* on Broadway, *Ain't Too Proud* on Broadway, *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical* First National Tour, *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* First National Tour, *The Harder They Come* at The Public Theater, *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*, *Dundu Dole Urban African Ballet*, and *In The Heights* (Warner Bros). Education: MBA, MS, BFA Agent: CTG @onlysirbrock

**CHANSE WILLIAMS** (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her City Center debut! A



## MEET THE ARTISTS

Connecticut native, she is based in NYC, a current Pace University BFA Commercial Dance student, and a Jacob's Pillow alum. Williams wants to thank her wonderful friends and family, the entire team at BLOC, the *Jelly's Last Jam* team, and most importantly God for this incredible experience. @chance.williams

**GEORGE C. WOLFE** (Book) Broadway directing credits include: *Angels in America*; *The Normal Heart*; *Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk*; *Elaine Stritch at Liberty*; *Caroline, Or Change*; *The Iceman Cometh* with Denzel Washington; *Lucky Guy* with Tom Hanks; and *Shuffle Along* or *The Making of the 1920 Musical Sensation And All That Followed*. Film Credits include *Lackawanna Blues* (DGA and National Board of Review Award), *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* with Viola Davis and Chadwick Boseman, and most recently, *Rustin*. From 1993–2005 he was the Producer of The Public Theatre/New York Shakespeare Festival, was Chief Creative Officer of The Center for Civil and Human Rights. He was named a "Living Landmark" by the New York Landmark Conservancy, has won five Tony Awards, and in second grade was named the "Reader of the Most Books." In celebration of Gregory Hines, Robin Wagner, Luther Henderson, and Margo Lion.

**JELLY ROLL MORTON** (Music) (1891–1941) Ferdinand Le Menthe "Jelly Roll" Morton was born into the Creole gentry of New Orleans in 1891, but was irresistibly drawn to the excitement of the infamous Storyville district where he made his reputation as a pianist. At a young age he left New Orleans to travel the country, landing in Chicago in the 1920s. He and his band, The Red Hot Peppers, became the top Black recording artists for RCA Records in 1927–28. Morton's music integrated the sounds of ragtime, blues, African rhythms, and French opera, establishing him as one of the great jazz pioneers, but by 1930 his music was considered old hat. He died in Los Angeles in 1941.

**SUSAN BIRKENHEAD** (Lyrics) received a Tony Nomination, a Grammy nomination and a Drama Desk Award for her lyrics for *Jelly's Last Jam*. She was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for *Triumph of Love*, and won a Drama

Desk Award and a Tony nomination for *Working*. She won an Outer Critics Circle award for *What About Luv*, and an LA Drama Critics Award for *Minsky's*. She wrote additional lyrics and new songs for the Broadway version of *High Society*, and wrote songs for the Off-Broadway *Stars of David*, and *A My Name Is Alice*. *The Secret Life of Bees*, which she wrote with Lynn Nottage and Duncan Sheik, directed by Whitney White, played the Almeida Theatre in London this past year, and *BOOP!*, which she wrote with Bob Martin and David Foster, directed by Jerry Mitchell, just played in Chicago prior to a 2025 Broadway opening.

**LUTHER HENDERSON** (Arrangements & Orchestrations) (1919–2003) At an early age, Luther Henderson's family moved to Harlem and became neighbors with Duke Ellington, who became a major influence in his life. After his 1942 graduation from The Juilliard School and later New York University graduate study, he adapted and orchestrated Ellington's symphonic works—"Harlem," "Three Black Kings," and his Broadway musical *Beggar's Holiday*. Ellington later referred to him as his "classical arm." Henderson worked on more than 50 Broadway productions, television shows, and recordings: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music*, *Raisin*, *Play On*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Flower Drum Song*, *Do Re Mi*, *Funny Girl*, and *No, No Nanette*. For *Jelly's Last Jam*, he rearranged Jelly Roll Morton's jazz compositions and musical fragments into a hit musical. Henderson received Emmy nominations for his work on several productions. Shortly before his passing, Henderson received recognition as a 2004 National Endowment of the Arts "Jazz Master."

**DARYL WATERS** (Score Consultant, Additional Orchestrations) was the Music Supervisor/Orchestrator/Arranger for the City Center Galapresentation of *Pal Joey*. He received Tony and Drama Desk Orchestration awards for *Memphis*. Recent credits: Orchestrator, *Water for Elephants*; Co-Orchestrator, *New York, New York* (Tony nomination); and Music Supervisor/Arranger, *BOOP! The Betty Boop Musical*. Other Broadway credits include Music Supervisor/Orchestrations/Arrangements for *The Cher Show* (Drama Desk nomination/Orchestrations), *Shuffle Along...* (Tony



## MEET THE ARTISTS

nomination/Orchestrations), and 7. He was the Music Supervisor/Conductor for *After Midnight* and had the good fortune to work with Luther Henderson on *Jelly's Last Jam*. His composing credits include *Bring In Da Noise/Funk* (Tony nomination/Best Original Score) and *Drowning Crow*. Waters is a founding member of MUSE (Musicians United for Social Equity), an organization that promotes diversity in the music departments of theatrical productions.

**WILLIAM DAVID BROHN** (Additional Orchestrations) (1933 - 2017) was an American arranger and orchestrator, best known for his scores of musicals such as *Miss Saigon*, *Ragtime*, and *Wicked*. He won the Tony Award for Best Orchestrations for *Ragtime* and won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Orchestrations three times.

**ROBERT O'HARA** (Director) is the Tony-Nominated Director of *Slave Play* and is currently working on several film, television, and Broadway projects. He's a two-time Obie Award Winner and two-time NAACP Award Winner whose work has been seen around the country.

**JASON MICHAEL WEBB** (Guest Music Director) Composer/arranger: *MJ the Musical* (Tony and Grammy nominee, Drama Desk winner), *The Mrs. Pat Show* (BET+), *Harlem* (Amazon), *Much Ado About Nothing* (The Public), *Choir Boy* (MTC, Special Tony Award), *Beebo Saves Christmas* (CW). Director: *The Last Five Years* (film). Executive music producer: *Respect* (film), John Doyle's *The Color Purple* (Broadway). @jasomichaelwebb

**EDGAR GODINEAUX** (Choreographer) Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle, and Drama Desk Award Nominee 2023 Outstanding Choreography for *The Harder They Come* at The Public Theater. Jeff Awards Nominee Choreography for *Personality: The Lloyd Price Musical* at Studebaker Theater in Chicago. Barrymore Award Outstanding Choreography/Movement for *Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole* at Geffen Playhouse. NAACP Nominee Best Director/Choreography for *Larger Theatre* in Los Angeles for *Memphis, the Musical*. Broadway Associate Choreographer: *Ain't Too Proud* (Tony Award for Best Choreography), *Memphis* (Tony

Award for Best Musical and Olivier Award for Best Choreography). Godineaux has toured with the iconic artists Michael Jackson, Mariah Carey, Karyn White, and Diana Ross. Godineaux loved his Broadway performance days and is bringing that along to every show he choreographs! [edgargodineaux.com](http://edgargodineaux.com) | @egoconcepts

**DORMESHIA** (Tap Choreographer) is an award winning Tap dancer and choreographer. Her first full-length choreographic work, *And Still You Must Swing*, was recognized by *The New York Times* as the "Best of Dance" in 2016 and again in 2019. Broadway credits include *Black and Blue*; *Bring In Da Noise, Bring In Da Funk*; and *After Midnight* (Astaire Award for best female performer).

**CLINT RAMOS** (Scenic Design, Encores! Producing Creative Director) is a producer and designer. Prior to joining the Encores! leadership team, he was one of the principal designers for Encores! Off-Center, having designed 22 shows. He has designed over 200 plays, operas, musicals, films, and environments. Honors include a Tony award (six nominations), two Obie Awards (including one for Sustained Achievement in Design), Drama Desk, three Lucille Lortels, two American Theatre Wing Henry Hewes, Helen Hayes, USA Fellowship, and Ani Ng Dangal Philippine Presidential Medals for the Arts. He is the Visual Director for Lincoln Center's Summer for the City. He sits on the American Theatre Wing advisory board and is one of the founders of Design Action, advocating for a more equitable landscape for American theater design. @clintramos

**DEDE AYITE** (Costume Design) Two-time Tony Award-nominated costume designer working in theater, opera, and film. She recently designed *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* at The Metropolitan Opera. Select Broadway: *Jaja's African Hairbraiding*, *Topdog/Underdog*, and *Slave Play*. Select Off-Broadway: *Hell's Kitchen*, *Merry Wives* (The Public Theater); *Days of Wine and Roses* (Atlantic). Regional: Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage and more. Television: Netflix, Comedy Central. Awards: TDF/Kitty Leech Young Master Award, Obie, Drama Desk, Henry Hewes, Lucille Lortel, Helen Hayes, Theatre Bay Area, Audelco, and Jeff Awards.



## MEET THE ARTISTS

**ADAM HONORÉ** (Lighting Design) is a Harlem-based designer for the stage. Recent Broadway: *Purlie Victorious*, *Ain't No Mo'*, *Chicken & Biscuits*. Select Off-Broadway: *The Lonely Few* (MCC Theater); *Flex* (Lincoln Center); *This Land Was Made* (Vineyard Theatre); *Patience* (Second Stage); *Ain't No Mo'* (The Public); *I Can Get It For You Wholesale*, *black odyssey*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Frankenstein*, *Dracula*, and *Carmen Jones* with Classic Stage Company. Regional: Alliance Theater, Arena Stage, Asolo Rep, Barrington Stage Co, Center Theater Group, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Cleveland Playhouse, Dallas Theater Center, Geffen Playhouse, Goodspeed Musicals, Huntington Theater Co, Paper Mill Playhouse, Shakespeare Theatre Co, Signature Theatre, Williamstown Theater Festival. Nominations: Drama Desk, Elliot Norton, Henry Hewes, Helen Hayes, Suzi Bass. @itsadamhonore

**MEGUMI KATAYAMA** (Sound Design) is thrilled to return to Encores! after designing *The Light in the Piazza* and co-designing *The Life*. Off-Broadway: *Regretfully*, *So the Birds Are* (Playwrights Horizons/WP); *The Nosebleed* (LCT3); *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf* (The Public); *Signature Theatre*, *New Victory*, *NAATCO*, *Rattlestick*. Tour: *Cambodian Rock Band* (co-designer). Regional: *Alley Theatre*, *Arena Stage*, *The Old Globe*, *Denver Center*, *Geva*, *Two River*, *Long Wharf*, *Yale Rep*, *Studio Theatre*, *Everyman*, *Woolly Mammoth*, *CTG*, *Cincinnati Playhouse*, *KC Rep*, *Berkeley Rep*, and more. MFA Yale School of Drama. megumikatayama.com

**J. JARED JANAS** (Hair & Wig Design) City Center: *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Pal Joey*, *The Tap Dance Kid*, *Mack and Mabel*, *Me and My Girl*, *Brigadoon*, *Irma La Douce*. Broadway: *Prayer for the French Republic*, *Appropriate*, *Purlie Victorious*, *Good Night, Oscar*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Ohio State Murders*, & *Juliet*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *American Buffalo*, *Jagged Little Pill*, *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune*, *Gettin' the Band Back Together*, *Bandstand*, *Indecent*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Visit*, *The Real Thing*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*, *Motown*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*, *All about Me*. Recent Off-Broadway: *Buena Vista*

*Social Club*, *I Can Get It for You Wholesale*, *Sabbath's Theater*, *The Refuge Plays*. Recent TV: *And Just Like That* and *The Gilded Age*.

**ANN C. JAMES** (Sensitivity Specialist) made her debut as the first Black Intimacy Coordinator of Broadway in 2021 for Antoinette Nwandu's *Pass Over*. James serves as an intimacy and sensitivity consultant for *Hamilton* (USA, UK, and Melbourne). James is an Intimacy/Cultural Sensitivity consultant in New York City. Broadway: *The Outsiders*, *Lempicka*, *Parade*, *Sweeney Todd*. Off-Broadway: *White Girl in Danger*; *How to Defend Yourself*; *The Comeuppance*; *Twilight*, *Los Angeles: 1992*; *Confederates*; and at La Jolla Playhouse for *The Outsiders*, *Love All*, and *The Untitled, Unauthorized Hunter S. Thompson Musical*. James has also served as Intimacy Coordinator and Sensitivity Specialist for the provocative productions of Moises Kaufman's *Seven Deadly Sins* and *Here There are Blueberries* by Tectonic Theatre Project. Her company, Intimacy Coordinators of Color, has just been awarded a Special Citation from The Obie Awards.

**THE TELSEY OFFICE** (Casting) With offices in both New York and Los Angeles, The Telsey Office casts for theater, film, television, and commercials. The Telsey Office is dedicated to creating safe, equitable, and anti-racist spaces through collaboration, artistry, heart, accountability, and advocacy. [thetelseyoffice.com](http://thetelseyoffice.com)

**KIMBERLEE WERTZ** (Music Coordinator) Delighted to work with Jason Michael Webb and our wonderful *Jelly's Last Jam* band! TV: The Tony Awards, The Kennedy Center Honors, The Academy Awards, The Emmy Awards, *A Capitol Fourth*, *Disney Holiday*, *We Are One: The Obama Inaugural*, *Mozart in the Jungle*, *Celebrating America: The Biden Inaugural*, and five Democratic National Conventions. Broadway: *A Year With Frog and Toad*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *Carousel*; *King Lear*; *West Side Story*; *The Lehman Trilogy*; *The Music Man*; *Funny Girl*; *Into The Woods*; *Almost Famous*; *KPOP*; *Parade*; *Bob Fosse's Dancin'*. Off-Broadway: *Here We Are*, *Gardens of Anuncia*, and more. Dedicated to the memory of beloved music coordinator and friend, Red Press, and also longtime City Center audio person, Augie Propersi, who



## MEET THE ARTISTS

took wonderful care of our musicians. Both are greatly missed.

**KAREN MOORE** (Production Stage Manager) Encores! production #18! Broadway: *Some Like It Hot*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Elf*, *Ragtime*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Good Vibrations*, *Wonderful Town*, *Taboo*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Graduate*, and *Follies*. The world premiere of Minsky's for Center Theatre Group. Off-Broadway: Stephen Sondheim's *Saturday Night*, *Visiting Mr. Green*, *Das Barbecü*, *Closer Than Ever*, *Steel Magnolias*.

**MATTHEW KURTIS LUTZ** (Stage Manager) Broadway: *Some Like It Hot*, *Frozen*, *Aladdin*, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *Ain't Too Proud*, *Clybourne Park*. Pre-Broadway Chicago: *The Devil Wears Prada*. Selected Off-Broadway: The Public Theater, Signature Theatre Company, NYTW. Multiple Corporate Events around the country. BFA: UIUC. Love to my family, friends, and Coop. For Dad.

**JANETTE BRAGGS** (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be making her New York City Center Encores! debut! Previous Credits: *Tina: the Tina Turner Musical* (Tour National Tour), *The Prom* (First National Tour), *Beetlejuice* (Broadway), *Trevor the Musical* (Off-Broadway). She sends all her love to her family and friends! Keep up with her shenanigans on Instagram if you dare: @janettebraggs

**NICHOLAS POLONIO** (Associate Director) has worked as Robert O'Hara's Associate Director on over a dozen productions, including *Slave Play*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Richard III*. He is a current NYTW 2050 Artistic Fellow, and an alum of the Drama League, Roundabout Director's Group, and National YoungArts Foundation. BFA: Rutgers MGSA.

**JUSTICE MOORE** (Associate Choreographer) City Center Debut! Moore is a New York based performer/choreographer. Theater: *Hamilton* on Broadway, *Chicago*, and National Tour as "The Bullet;" *Once Upon a One More Time*; *The Karate Kid*. Live Performances: MTV VMA's X Doja Cat, *World of Dance*. TV/Film: *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *East New York*, *Better Nate Than Ever*.

**JACINTH GREYWOODE** (Associate Music Director) is a Brooklyn-based composer and

music director. Broadway: *A Soldier's Play* (MD and Arranger), *The Rose Tattoo* (AMD). Off-Broadway: *I Can Get It For You Wholesale* (MD and orchestrations). Regional: *Cult Of Love* (Berkeley Rep, MD and Arranger), *A Strange Loop* (Woolly Mammoth, AMD). [jacinthgreywoode.com](http://jacinthgreywoode.com)

**RIW RAKKULCHON** (Associate Scenic Designer) is a Set and Costume Designer, Animator, and Chef from Bangkok, Thailand. He/They has designed at Yale Repertory Theatre, Syracuse Stage, The Old Globe, Asolo Rep, Edinburgh Fringe, Hartford Stage amongst others. Broadway Associate Set Design: *Pass Over*, & *Juliet, Parade*. @riwrdesign

**RAPHAEL REGAN** (Associate Costume Designer) previous costume design credits include *The Master's Tools*, *On The Far End*, *The Book of Lucy*, *Metra: A Climate Revolution Play With Song*, *According to Coyote*, *Third Wing*, *Sovereignty*. He received his MFA from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music (CCM). He's an enrolled member with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. [RaphaelRegan.com](http://RaphaelRegan.com)

**SHANNON CLARKE** (Associate Lighting Designer) is a New York-based lighting designer. Design credits include *The Magnificent Seven* (Theatre Row), *Notes for Now* (Prospect Theatre Company), *The Ballroom*, *Almost Ritual*, and *Any/Which/Way* (Co-Lab Dance). Associate design credits include *Purlie Victorious*, *Ain't No Mo'*, *Chicken & Biscuits* (Broadway). [@sclarke.design](http://shannon-clarke.com)

**BEN TRUPPIN BROWN** (Associate Sound Designer) is a Brooklyn-based sound designer and audio engineer, and works as an audiovisual designer for the theater consultancy firm Charcoalblue. Encores! debut. His work has been heard on Broadway, off-Broadway, at regional theaters, and music venues throughout the country, and internationally. Member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and the Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association.

**THE ENCORES! ORCHESTRA** Chosen for their versatility and virtuosity, the musicians of The Encores! Orchestra are experts in all eras and styles of theater music, from the operettas



## MEET THE ARTISTS

of Sigmund Romberg to the jazz-inflected scores of Harold Arlen to the classic 1960s Broadway sound of John Kander and Fred Ebb.

**LEAR DEBESSONET** (Encores! Artistic Director) is a Tony-nominated director and the Artistic Director of Encores! She recently directed *Into the Woods* (Broadway, Encores!, National Tour), *Oliver!* (Encores), *Annie Live!* (NBC), and *Hercules* (Disney Theatricals/Public Works). She is the Founder of Public Works, and of One Nation/One Project. During her eight years (2012–2020) as Resident Director at The Public Theater she directed *Good Person of Szechwan*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Miss You Like Hell*, *The Tempest*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Odyssey*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Tony nomination, Drama League Founders Award and Best Director of a Musical 2023, Obie Award, Ammerman Award, Lilly Award, and multiple Drama Desk and OCC nominations.

**MARY-MITCHELL CAMPBELL** (Encores! Music Director) has served as the music supervisor or director for many Broadway shows including *Some Like It Hot*, *The Prom*, *Mean Girls*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Finding Neverland*, *Big Fish*, *The Addams Family*, *Company*, and *Sweeney Todd*. She has conducted the Chicago Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, the Nashville Symphony, and was recently named an Imagination Artist for the Colorado Symphony. Campbell is passionate about arts education and access to arts education for marginalized communities. She is the Founder of Arts Ignite ([artsignite.org](http://artsignite.org)) which recruits and trains high-level artists to teach young people health education and life skills through the arts. She is very active in *Maestra* ([maestramusic.org](http://maestramusic.org)) and MUSE - Musicians United for Social Equity. [Museonline.org](http://Museonline.org)

**JENNY GERSTEN** (VP & Producer, Musical Theater) also serves as Line Producer for the *Beetlejuice* National Tour and is the Interim Artistic Director of the Williamstown Theatre Festival. She sometimes produces commercially, including Alex Edelman's acclaimed *Just For Us* on Broadway, the award-winning Off Broadway "pie shop" production of *Sweeney Todd*, and Gavin Creel's new musical *Walk on Through*. Previously,

she was Executive Director of Friends of the High Line and Associate Producer of The Public Theater.

**MICHAEL S. ROSENBERG** (President & CEO) has a long and distinguished career of leading performing arts institutions to nurture artists, expand audiences, and engage communities. Beginning with Drama Dept. (the Greenwich Village artist collective he co-founded in the 90s) and carrying through to the present, he has helped develop works by playwrights, songwriters, choreographers, directors, authors, designers, visual artists, and students. As Managing Director of La Jolla Playhouse, Rosenberg worked with Artistic Director Christopher Ashley and the staff to oversee the development and production of a host of other acclaimed productions, many of which transferred to Broadway, Off-Broadway, and the West End - including the international smash hit *Come from Away*. More recently, as Managing Director of McCarter Theatre Center, Rosenberg was part of the evolution of the historic theater, expanding programming to include family-friendly performances and multidisciplinary events. His work in building diversity, equity, and inclusion encompasses artists, audiences, and administrators alike.

**NEW YORK CITY CENTER** has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city since 1943. The distinctive Neo-Moorish building was founded by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia as Manhattan's first performing arts center with the mission of making the best in theater, dance, and music accessible to all audiences. This commitment continues today through celebrated dance and musical theater series like the Fall for Dance Festival and the Tony-honored Encores! series; the annual season by Principal Dance Company Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; and new series Artists at the Center. City Center welcomes audiences to experience internationally acclaimed artists on the same stage where legends made their mark. Dedicated to a culture built on the values of curiosity, collaboration, accessibility, and inclusivity, City Center's dynamic programming, art exhibitions, and studio events are complemented by education and community engagement programs that bring the performing arts to thousands of New York City students, teachers, and families every year.

# NEW YORK CITY CENTER

80 YEARS AT THE CENTER OF THE ARTS



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# NEW YORK CITY CENTER

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Costume Coordinator..... Jeanna DiPaolo  
Prop Coordinator..... Matt Frew  
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Rehearsal Musicians..... Lafayette Harris Jr.,  
Andre Chez Lewis, Gene Lakes  
Feb 29 Performance ASL Interpretation provided by The ASL Extension, LLC .... Director of Artistic Sign Language: Jeremy Lee Stone  
Interpreters: Paulina Burnham, Cheryl Kelly, Patrick Michael  
Photographer..... Joan Marcus  
Group Sales..... For Groups of 10+ visit BroadwayPlus.com or call 646-838-0749

City Center mourns and remembers longtime soundperson,  
August J. Propersi, Jr.

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Show art by Ben Wiseman  
Additional lighting equipment: PRG Lighting  
Additional audio equipment: Gibson Entertainment

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Sean Flahaven and Concord Theatricals,  
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Adriana Ogle, Jeesee Robinson, Cameron Monroe Thomas,  
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City Center recognizes the passing of artist and activist  
Cecilia Gentili who worked with us on *The Life*.

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See the House Manager for assistance.

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The musicians employed in this production are  
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of Musicians.



The Director and Choreographer are members of the  
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The Press Agents, Company and House  
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**United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE**  
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BASED ON THE SONGS OF

STING

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KATE PRINCE

APR 30 – MAY 12

Featuring 27 of **Sting**'s most beloved songs, this dance-theater sensation makes its New York debut at City Center. Featuring powerful athleticism by world-class dancers and new musical arrangements by **Alex Lacamoire** (*Hamilton*, *Dear Evan Hansen*), this contemporary and street dance-influenced work tells an uplifting tale of humanity and hope.

Photo by Lynn Theisen

80 3

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## FLAMENCO FESTIVAL MAR 8 – 17

A two-week extravaganza of music, dance, and unforgettable performances, featuring **National Ballet of Spain**, **Olga Pericet**, and the star-studded **Gala Flamenca**.



## NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER APR 3 – 6

World famous for their theatricality, stunning technique, and unparalleled expression, **Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT)** returns to City Center with a slate of unforgettable works.



## DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM APR 11 – 14

DTH celebrates its 55th season by honoring its legacy and ushering in the next generation with audience favorites and new repertory alike, from **Robert Garland**, **William Forsythe**, **Robert Bondara**, and **George Balanchine**.



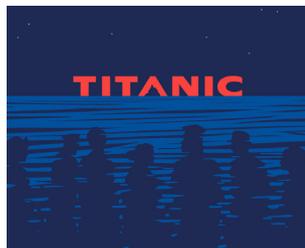
## MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY APR 17 – 20

Signature Martha Graham works *The Rite of Spring* and *Appalachian Spring* are presented alongside **Agnes de Mille's** 1942 classic *Rodeo* and a new work by **Jamar Roberts** with composer **Rhiannon Giddens**.



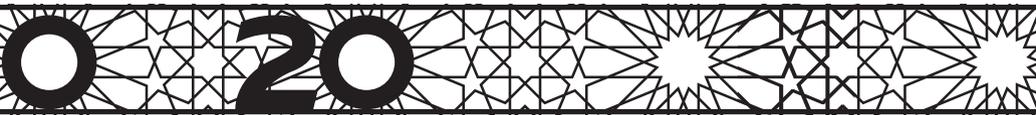
## BALLET HISPÁNICO APR 25 – 28

Featuring the restaging of *Mad'moiselle*, **Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's** homage to Latina women, *Buscando a Juan*, the most recent work by **Eduardo Vilaro**, and a fun-filled, interactive **En Familia Matinee**.



## 30 YEARS OF ENCORES! TITANIC JUN 11 – 23

Set sail with an all-star cast, including **Chuck Cooper**, **Eddie Cooper**, **Drew Gehling**, **Ramin Karimloo**, **Emilie Kouatchou**, **Judy Kuhn**, **Bonnie Milligan**, **Brandon Uranowitz**, and **Samantha Williams** in **Maury Yeston** and **Peter Stone's** iconic, operatic musical directed by **Anne Kaufman**.



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80 30 20

# NEW YORK CITY CENTER

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| Rosanne Leshner, Fiorello La Guardia Society member.

| In loving memory, Marty Leshner 1938 – 2023.



Photo by  
Benjamin Miller

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# NEW YORK CITY CENTER

80 YEARS AT THE CENTER OF THE ARTS



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# NEW YORK CITY CENTER

80 YEARS AT THE CENTER OF THE ARTS



## \$1,000 and over (continued)

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New York City Center is pleased to recognize the members of the Fiorello La Guardia Society, a group of individuals who have included City Center in their long-range financial and estate plans. For more information, please call Joseph Valone, Director of Leadership and Planned Gifts, at 212.763.1296 or email [JValone@NYCityCenter.org](mailto:JValone@NYCityCenter.org).

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City Center Circle is a vibrant group of young professionals (under 40) who are passionate about the performing arts and enjoy socializing and networking with like-minded peers. For more information, please email [Circle@NYCityCenter.org](mailto:Circle@NYCityCenter.org) or call 212.763.1206.

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