

MARIA BILBAO is making her Broadway debut in *Sweeney Todd*. Miami native Maria performed at Miami Childrens Theater before moving to New York City to study at AMDA. Regional credits include: Marela in *Anna in the Tropics* (Bay Street), Mistress in *Evita* (Bucks County), Nina in *In the Heights* (Portland Center Stage), and Gloria in *On Your Feet!* (Westchester Broadway, Aurora Theatre). Love and gratitude to my family, Ean, Soffer Ent, and the phenomenal *Sweeney* team.



CHARLES BUSCH is a playwright, actor, director, novelist, cabaret performer, and drag icon. He is the author and star of over twenty-five plays including *The Divine Sister*, *The Lady in Question*, *Red Scare on Sunset*, *The Tribute Artist*, *The Confession of Lily Dare*, and *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*. His play *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife* ran for 777 performances on Broadway, won the Outer Circle Critics' John L. Gassner Award for playwrighting, and received a Tony nomination for Best Play.

Charles wrote and starred in the film versions of his plays *Psycho Beach Party* and *Die Mommie Die*, the latter of which won him the Best Performance Award at the Sundance Film Festival. For two seasons, he appeared as Nat Ginzburg on the HBO series *OZ* and is the author of the auto-biographical novel *Whores of Lost Atlantis*. He has directed two films -- the Showtime short subject *Personal Assistant*, and the feature *A Very Serious Person* which won an honorable mention at the Tribeca Film Festival. Due to his love and knowledge of film and theater history, he has appeared as a guest programmer and in numerous documentaries for Turner Classic Movies and has lectured and conducted master classes at colleges and universities including NYU, Harvard, UCLA, and Amherst College. Charles received a 2003 Drama Desk Award for career achievement as performer and playwright, and earned a star on the Playwrights Walk outside the Lucille Lortel Theatre. He is also the subject of the acclaimed documentary film *The Lady in Question is Charles Busch*.



Charles is a two-time MAC award winner and has performed his cabaret act worldwide. In winter 2016, his show *The Lady at the Mic* premiered at Jazz at Lincoln Center's American Songbook series. His first CD, *Charles Busch Live at Feinstein's 54 Below*, was released by Broadway Records. *Leading Lady: A Memoir of a Most Unusual Boy* was published in September 2023.

LAURA CANTY-SAMUEL is a writer, comedian, and alumni of UCB where she was a member of the UCBTNY house sketch team The Foundation. She is currently a writer for a number of animated and live action series with Sesame Workshop as well as head writer for two exciting projects being produced by Holler Tech. Oh, and she was just nominated for two writing Emmys, so there's that.



DAVID CHASE has been Music Director, Supervisor and/or Arranger for over forty Broadway productions. He's written extensively for the Boston Pops and Tanglewood Festival Chorus, The Kennedy Center Honors, Radio City Music Hall, EssentialVoicesUSA, and TV's "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" and "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" (where you can also see him onscreen as the bandleader and announcer for "The Gordon Ford Show" in Season 5). Music Director and Arranger for Apple TV's "Schmigadoon!" and NBC's "The Sound of Music" and "Peter Pan Live!" (Emmy nominations for both). Grammy and Olivier nominee. Choral works published by Hal Leonard.



KATIE ROSE CLARKE appears in the current revival of *Merrily We Roll Along* as Beth Shepard, reprising her role in the 2022-2023 NYTW production. Prior appearances on Broadway include *Miss Saigon*, *Allegiance*, *Wicked*, and *The Light in the Piazza*. She has appeared in regional productions of *Last Five Years* and *Prayer for My Enemy* (at Long Wharf) and *Heart of Rock and Roll* (at Old Globe). TV work includes roles on “NCIS: New Orleans,” “The Good Wife” (CBS), and “Live from Lincoln Center: Light in the Piazza.”



TRIP CULLMAN has directed on Broadway: *The Rose Tattoo*, *Choir Boy*, *Lobby Hero*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Significant Other*. Select Off Broadway credits include: *Moscow Moscow Moscow*, *YEN*, *Punk Rock* (Obie Award), *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Gynecologic Oncology Unit At Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Of New York City* (MCC), *Days Of Rage*, *The Layover*, *The Substance of Fire*, *Lonely I'm Not*, *Bachelorette*, *Some Men*, *Swimming In The Shallows* (Second Stage), *Unknown Soldier*, *The Pain Of My Belligerence*, *Assistance*, *A Small Fire* (Drama Desk nomination), *The Drunken City* (Playwrights Horizons), *Choir Boy* (MTC), *Murder Ballad* (MTC and Union Square Theatre); *The Mother*, *I'm Gonna Pray For You So Hard* (Atlantic); *Roulette* (EST); *The Hallway Trilogy: Nursing* (Rattlestick); *The Last Sunday In June* (Rattlestick and Century Center); *Dog Sees God* (Century Center); *US Drag* (stageFARM); and several productions with The Play Company. London: *The Colby Sisters of Pittsburgh, PA* (Tricycle). Select regional: Arena, Geffen, Alliance, Old Globe, La Jolla, South Coast Rep, Bay Street, Williamstown Theater Festival.



MICHAEL HARTNEY is an alum of Harold, Lloyd, and Maude Night and co-created Characters Welcome. He previously served as the Artistic Director of UCBTNY from 2018 to 2020. He is the head writer at Brooklyn production company Hatched and is a co-founder of Squirrel Comedy Theatre. His Emmy nomination count remains steady at zero.



ILIANA INOCENCIO is an actor, writer, acting coach, and director. Her musical sketch comedy group, AzN PoP! was the first all Asian American team to have a long running show at UCB. She also performed on Maude Night with teams, Presley and Peach. Favorite TV credits include: Orange is the New Black, The Other Two, and The Iliza Shlesinger Sketch Show. She's very excited to help usher in the new UCB and has big ideas for the community!



KHANDY KAMARA is the Executive Director of Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC NYC). She has over 24 years of theater management experience with a proven record of significantly increasing earned and contributed revenue streams, as well as researching and launching new revenue streams. In addition to managing strategic planning efforts, a core focus is strengthening community relations and developing new audiences with an attention on diversity and inclusion.

Prior to becoming executive director of PAC NYC, Khady was executive director of Second Stage Theater where she oversaw multiple aspects of the organization; including operations, finance, marketing, and production. In June 2022, she won a Tony Award® for *Take Me Out* as part of the Second Stage leadership team. She has extensive non-profit management experience, including a 20-year career at Arena Stage in Washington DC – one of the largest performing arts organizations in the US. During her tenure, Khady doubled the company's subscription base, increased patron engagement, and contributed to the world premieres of *Dear Evan Hansen* and *The Originalist*, both of which transferred to New York.



NAVEEN KUMAR is a culture critic and journalist whose recent work appears on *them.us*, *The Daily Beast*, and *Vox*. He's a contributing theater critic for *The New York Times*, *Variety*, and *Broadway News*. His arts features have also appeared in *Town & Country*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *L.A. Times*, *InStyle*, and more.



SEAN MAYES is a New York & Toronto-based music director, conductor, educator, and academic. His work has involved productions in theaters and on stages across the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, spanning musical styles from Broadway, theater, opera, classical, and pops.

In New York, Sean serves as Assistant Conductor of *MJ* and Associate Conductor of *Hadestown*. Select recent additional credits include serving as Music Director and Conductor of the all-Canadian premiere of *The Color Purple* (2019), and Musical Supervisor of the Finnish Premiere of *Come From Away* (2022). He was Music Director and Conductor of the 2022 world premiere of *Mandela*, inspired by the life of Nelson Mandela, at the Young Vic. He conducted for the 2023 PBS show “Black Broadway: A Proud History, a Limitless Future,” and recently was Music Director, Orchestrator and Arranger for “An Evening With André De Shields” with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.



Sean is Composer and Musical Supervisor of *Fall On Your Knees*, stage adaptation of the best-selling Canadian novel, as well as Composer, Musical Supervisor & Conductor of the world premiere of *aportia chryptych*, a new Black opera being produced by the Canadian Opera Company in 2024.

Sean is Part-Time Professor of Musical Theatre at Sheridan College in Canada and been guest instructor at various musical theater institutions. He has authored work on the role of Black music directors and disproportionately represented artists on Broadway in *Reframing the Musical* (2019) and retracing Black practitioners through British musical theater history in *An Inconvenient Black History of British Musical Theatre* (2021). *Conversations in Color: Exploring North American Musical Theatre*, will be published in 2023. Sean holds degrees in music, education, and music direction from McGill University and the University of Surrey, UK.

RUTHIE ANN MILES has played Lady Thiang in *The King and I* (Tony Award, Grammy and Olivier Award nominations, Lincoln Center Theater); *Sunday in The Park with George* (both Encores! NY City Center and the Broadway transfer); *Sondheim On Sondheim* (the Boston Pops); *Sondheim On Sondheim* (the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl); concerts with the San Francisco Symphony and the Incheon Philharmonic Orchestra (Seoul, Korea). She's the OG Imelda Marcos in Alex Timber's *Here Lies Love*, written by David Byrne w/DJ Fat Boy Slim (Lucille Lortel and Theatre World Awards, The Public Theater.) She also played Adolfo Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd* (playing onstage accordion, flute and piano.) Most recently, she played Margaret Johnson in *The Light in the Piazza* at Encores! NY City Center.



On television Ruthie is best known as Sherri Kansky on WB's "All Rise" (CBS and OWN), or Young Hee in "The Americans" (Emmy nomination, FX). You can hear her voice in *Over The Moon* (Golden Globe and Academy Award nomination, Netflix); *The Tea Girl Of Hummingbird Lane* (Audie Award finalist, Simon Schuster); *If I Had Your Face* (Penguin).

GLORIA OLADIPO is a New York-based journalist and playwright who hails from Chicago and whose work has appeared in Teen Vogue, the Guardian, Bitch Media, and other publications. The ATCA 2023 Edward Medina Prize for Excellence in Cultural Criticism winner was a 2022 National Critics Institute fellow at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, selected through the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Institute for Theatre Journalism and Advocacy. Her plays are often Black comedies about Black women that explore themes of caregiving, mental health and trauma using a mix of realism and absurdism. She is a 2022-2023 Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow and 2023 Seven Devils Playwrights Conference resident.



MICHAEL PAULSON is the theater reporter for *The New York Times*. He previously covered religion at *The Times* and at *The Boston Globe*. He was part of the Boston Globe team whose coverage of clergy sexual abuse in the Catholic Church won the [2003 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service](#). In July 2023 he published a piece on the current state of American theaters, [“A Crisis in America’s Theaters Leaves Prestigious Stages Dark.”](#)



JILL RAFSON joined Classic Stage Company as producing artistic director in June 2022. She is the seventh CSC artistic director (and the second woman in the post). Jill was with Roundabout Theatre Company from 2005 until 2022, most recently as associate artistic director and artistic producer for emerging playwrights in the Roundabout Underground program. She developed Roundabout works including Stephen Karam’s *The Humans*, Steven Levenson’s *If I Forget*, Joshua Harmon’s *Bad Jews*, and Ming Peiffer’s *Usual Girls*. She has dramaturged for the O’Neill’s National Playwrights Conference, CollaborationTown, The Playwrights’ Center, Fault Line Theatre, Flea Theater’s *The Mysteries*, Candace Bushnell, Zoe Sarnak, and Iris Rainer Dart, and worked with the Broadway League, New York City Center, and ART/NY. She was a member of NYFA’s Emerging Arts Leaders program, taught and lectured for institutions and programs including the Commercial Theatre Institute, ESPA, Kenyon College, Columbia University, and Hunter College. She currently serves on the board of the Alliance for Jewish Theater.



BILL RAUCH is the inaugural artistic director of Perelman Performing Arts Center. His work as a theater director in New York includes the world premiere of Naomi Wallace's *Night Is A Room* at Signature Theatre, the New York premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *The Clean House* at Lincoln Center Theater, and a site-specific *Occasional Grace* in Manhattan churches for En Garde Arts.

From 2007 to 2019, Bill was artistic director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and directed premieres and classic plays from Shakespeare to musicals. His "American Revolutions: the United States History Cycle" initiative that produced Lynn Nottage's *Sweat* (winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize), Paula Vogel's *Indecent*, the 1491s' *Between Two Knees*, Lisa Loomer's *Roe*, Universes' *Party People*, Culture Clash's *American Night*, and Robert Schenkkan's LBJ plays *All The Way* and *The Great Society*.

Bill directed over at Cornerstone Theater Company (where he was artistic director from 1986 to 2006), and at Portland Center Stage, Center Theater Group, South Coast Rep, American Repertory Theater, Yale Rep, the Guthrie, Arena Stage, Seattle Rep, Long Wharf Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Pasadena Playhouse, and Great Lakes Theater Festival.

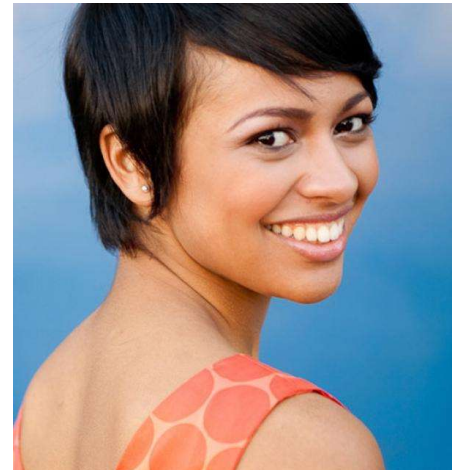
Bill has won awards including the Independent Reviewers of New England Award, Ivy Bethune Award, Ford Fellowship, Fichandler Award, TCG Visionary Leadership Award, Margo Jones Medal, United States Artists Prudential Award. Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations for Best Direction of *All The Way*. He lives in New York City with his husband Christopher Liam Moore and their two children, Liam and Xava Rauch-Moore.



REG ROGERS appears as Joe Josephson in the current revival of *Merrily We Roll Along* on Broadway, reprising his role in the 2022-2023 New York Theatre Workshop production for which he received a Lucille Lortel nomination. Other productions in which he has appeared include *Tootsie*, *The Royal Family*, *The Iceman Cometh*, *Present Laughter*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Holiday* (Tony and Drama Desk nominations), and *The Dazzle* (OBIE and Lucille Lortel Awards). His recent work on television includes "The Americans," "Boardwalk Empire," "The Knick," "Hell On Wheels," "YOU," and "The Blacklist."



ELLENORE SCOTT is a New York based choreographer and director. Broadway: *Funny Girl*, *Mr. Saturday Night*. Off-Broadway: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Titanique*. Other choreography credits include: "So You Think You Can Dance?" and "Single All the Way" (Netflix) and "Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical." In 2023, she directed *The Lonely Few*, a world premiere musical at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles, CA. Her work has also been seen at The Bushwick Starr, The Old Globe, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, McCarter Theatre, Cherry Lane Theatre, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Cape Fear Regional Theatre, and Seattle Repertory Theatre.



As a performer, Ellenore appeared in numerous television shows ("Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "Smash," "The Blacklist," "Glee!") and was a finalist and All-Star on "So You Think You Can Dance?" She is the Artistic Director of ELSCO Dance, a contemporary-fusion dance company. As a content creator, Ellenore makes lifestyle, dance, and comedy videos for over 1 million followers on TikTok. @helloellenore

JOHN WEIDMAN has written the books for a wide variety of musicals, among them *Pacific Overtures* (Tony nomination, Best Book), *Assassins* (Tony Award, Best Musical Revival), and *Road Show* (Lucille Lortel nomination, Best Musical), all with scores by Stephen Sondheim; *Contact* (Tony nomination, Best Book; Tony Award, Best Musical), co-created with director/choreographer Susan Stroman; *Happiness*, score by Scott Frankel and Michael Korie, directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman; *Take Flight* and *Big* (Tony nomination, Best Book), scores by Richard Maltby Jr. and David Shire; and the new book, co-authored with Timothy Crouse, for the Lincoln Center Theater/Roundabout Theatre revivals of Cole Porter's *Anything Goes* (Tony Awards, Best Musical Revival; Olivier Award, Best Musical Production). Since his children were preschoolers, Weidman has written for "Sesame Street," receiving more than a dozen Emmy Awards for Outstanding Writing for a Children's Program. From 1999 to 2009 he served as President of the Dramatists Guild of America.



ROB WEINERT-KENDT is editor-in-chief of *American Theatre*. He was the founding editor-in-chief of *Back Stage West* and writes about theater for *The New York Times*, *Time Out NY*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. He studied film at USC and is a composer member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop. In July 2023, he and a group of writers wrote a feature for *American Theatre* entitled [“Theatre in Crisis: What We’re Losing, and What Comes Next.”](#)

