

La MaMa
Experimental Theatre Club

IN ASSOCIATION WITH **THIRD EAR** AND **IMMEDIATE MEDIUM**

PRESENT

THE
BARBARIANS

WRITTEN BY
JERRY LIEBLICH

DIRECTED BY
PAUL LAZAR

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
KEITH GILBERT

ELLEN STEWART THEATRE
AT LA MAMA

FEB 14 - MARCH 2, 2025
TICKETS @ LAMAMA.ORG

66 E 4TH ST, 2ND FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10003



La MaMa Presents

PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH THIRD EAR & IMMEDIATE MEDIUM

THE
BARBARIANS

WRITTEN BY
JERRY LIEBLICH

EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER

KEITH GILBERT

DIRECTED AND
CO-CHOREOGRAPHED BY
PAUL LAZAR

PRODUCER
LEIGH HONIGMAN

WITH

CHLOE CLAUDEL
JESS BARBAGALLO*

ANNE GRIDLEY
JENNIFER IKEDA*

STEVE MELLOR*
NAREN WEISS*

PRODUCTION
STAGE MANAGER
CARTER WHITE

PM/TD
ERIC NIGHTENGALE

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DESIGNER
AMY RUBIN

COSTUME DESIGNER
SUZANNE BOCANEGRA

LIGHTING
DESIGNER
JOE LEVASSEUR

SOUND DESIGNER
JOHNNY GASPER

ASST. SM &
ASST. COSTUME
DESIGNER
EVA RUBIN

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ASST. SCENIC
DESIGNER
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CHOREOGRAPHER
CHLOE CLAUDEL

PROGRAM DESIGNER
BETH BROWNRIGG

**Equity Member appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association
without benefit of an Equity contract in this Off-Off Broadway production.*

CAST

Jess Barbagallo* (*Ana Coluthia, Man Suspended from the Ceiling, Dad*)

is a theater artist based in New York City. Directing credits include *Pony* (Portland Theater Festival), *It's That Time of the Month* (Soho Rep), and *The Last Podcast on Earth* (The Tank). He has acted in many things, currently rehearsing Jordan Baum's *21st Century Princess*. With producer/performer John Hoobyar, he co-curated *Prelude 2024*, an experimental theater festival, at the Martin E. Segal Center of the CUNY Graduate Center. He was recently awarded a 2025 New York State Council on the Arts grant in the slow march to publish his short story collection *Cherry and The Others*.

Chloe Claudel (*Woman with the Robot Voice, Pimpily Errand Boy*) (Choreographer)

is thrilled to be a part of The Barbarians. She's an actor, director and choreographer and the co-artistic director of The Goat Exchange. She's been lucky enough to work with Paul Lazar several times before, including on Mac Welman's *Three Americanisms* at Harvard University and *7 Blowjob*s as part of LaMama's online happenings, and on *DEADCLASS, OHIO* at the New Ohio Theater.

Anne Gridley (*Madam President Fake President*)

is a two time Obie award-winning actor, dramaturg, and artist. As a founding member of Nature Theater of Oklahoma, she has co-created and performed in critically acclaimed works including *Life & Times, Poetics: A Ballet Brut, No Dice, Romeo & Juliet, and Burt Turrido*. In addition to her work with Nature Theater, Gridley has performed with Pan Pan, Chameckilerner, Jérôme Bel, Caborca, *7 Daughters of Eve*, and Big Dance, served as a Dramaturg for the Wooster Group's production *Who's Your Dada?*, and taught devised theater at Bard College. Her drawings have been shown at H.A.U. Berlin, and Mass Live Arts. B.A. Bard College; M.F.A. Columbia University.

Jennifer Ikeda* (*St. Crispin's Day Massacre*)

BROADWAY: *Top Girls*. **OTHER NY:** MTC, Clubbed Thumb, NYTW, P73, Soho Rep, The Public, Ma-Yi, NAATCO. **REGIONAL:** ACT, CTG, La Jolla, Berkeley Rep, ART. Jenny is especially proud of her work with JoAnne Akalaitis, Caryl Churchill, Lloyd Suh, Susan Soon He Stanton, the artists at Lake Lucille, and the 52nd St Project. **TV/FILM:** ADVANTAGEOUS (Sundance 2015), KILLING HASSELHOFF, *Dash and Lily, Blue Bloods, Maniac, New Amsterdam*. 100+ audiobooks (2x Audie winner) including best sellers by Sarah Maas and Deborah Harkness, and Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston's seminal book on Japanese-American incarceration, *Farewell to Manzanar*. Multiple appearances on NPR's Selected Shorts. Proud Union Member.

CAST

Steve Mellor* (Witness, Little Ciggy Nubbin, Old Dog Turd)

most recently performed "Mahinerator" by Jerry Lieblch at The Tank in NYC. He has appeared in films including HEARTBREAKERS, DAN IN REAL LIFE, CELEBRITY, MICKEY BLUE EYES and SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE and on television shows THE HIGH LIFE, LAW AND ORDER, NYPD BLUE, NY UNDERCOVER, YOUNG INDIANA JONES, ED and THE SOPRANOS. In the theater he has appeared on Broadway in BIG RIVER, Off-Broadway at MCC, CSC, the Public Theater, Soho Rep, Primary Stages, LaMama, The Flea and the Chocolate Factory and has worked at regional theaters Arena Stage, Long Wharf, La Jolla Playhouse, Portland Stage, Syracuse Stage, Wilma Theatre and Yale Rep. He received his first Village Voice Obie Award in 1990 for his performance of Mac Wellman's TERMINAL HIP at P.S. 122 and performed the piece in London and at the Dionysia Festival conference in Tuscany. He received his second Obie in 2003 for his portrayal of Ambrose Bierce in Mr. Wellman's BITTER BIERCE, also at P.S. 122. He directed Paul Lazar in Mr. Wellman's 1965UU at the Chocolate Factory.

Naren Weiss* (We)

is an actor who has appeared on stage (Clubbed Thumb, The Public, 2nd Stage, Geffen Playhouse, Kennedy Center, international), in TV series (ABC, NBC, CBS, Comedy Central), and in various film industries (American, Chinese, Indian). As a playwright, he has five published books and his work has been produced throughout Asia, Africa, and North America.

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CAST



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CREATIVE

Jerry Lieblich (Playwright)

plays in the borderlands of theater, poetry, and music. Their work experiments with language as a way to explore unexpected textures of consciousness and attention. Plays include *Mahinator* (The Tank), *D Deb Debbie Deborah* (Clubbed Thumb), *Ghost Stories* (Cloud City), and *Everything for Dawn* (Experiments in Opera). Their poetry has appeared in magazines such as *Foglifter*, *Second Factory*, and *TAB*. Their poetry collection otherwise, without was a finalist for The National Poetry Series. Jerry has held residencies at MacDowell, MassMoCA, Blue Mountain Center, Millay Arts, and UCROSS, and Yiddishkayt. MFA: Brooklyn College. www.thirdear.nyc

Paul Lazar (Director, Co-Choreographer)

is a founding member of Big Dance Theater. He has co-directed and acted in works for Big Dance since 1991, including commissions from the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Walker Art Center, The Old Vic, and Japan Society. Paul created *Cage Shuffle*, a Dance/Theatre solo, in 2017 and continues to tour the U.S. and Europe. <https://www.cageshuffle.com>. Paul has acted in over 40 feature films, including *Snowpiercer*, *The Host*, *Mickey Blue Eyes*, *Silence of the Lambs*, *Beloved*, *Lorenzo's Oil* and *Philadelphia*. Stage acting credits include acting with The Wooster Group, *Macbeth* on Broadway, and works by Young Jean Lee, Chekhov, Richard Maxwell, Irene Fornes, Mac Wellman and many others. Awards include two Bessies (2010, 2002), The Jacob's Pillow Creativity Award (2007), Prelude Festival's Frankie Award (2014), and an Obie Award for Big Dance in (2000).

Carter White (PSM)

Selected credits include WP Theater: *When the Other Mary Celeste Sank* (ASM); Playwrights Horizons: *Wet Brain* (PA); *Regretfully, So the Birds Are* (PA); Manhattan Concert Productions: *Children of Eden* (PA); The Public Theater: *Good Bones* (Prop Runner), *Hell's Kitchen* (Prop Runner), Public Works' *The Tempest* (Prop Runner). A million thanks to Bernita & Caroline. Love to Mom, Dad, Robin, Elizabeth, Henry, Dylan, Maia & Dory. Kallisti.

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C CREATIVE

Eric Nightengale (Production Manager/Technical Director)

is a founding member of Concrete Temple Theatre, The Acme Corporation, and Anthropological Theatricals. He served as artistic director of 78th Street Theatre Lab from 1995 thru 2008. Recent credits include work with Theatre Breaking Through Barriers, PS21, Penguin Rep, The Brick, 59E59, Dixon Place, Minetta Lane, LaMama, The Acting Company, Symphony Space, Cherry Lane Theatre, St Clements, Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Barrow Group, HERE, Classic Stage Company, Victory Gardens Theatre, Bailiwick Repertory Theatre, Steppenwolf, Chicago Dramatists Workshop, and Second City. He currently serves as Production Manager for the Keen Company.

Amy Rubin (Scenic Designer)

is a designer of environments for theater, opera, and dance. Designs include *Romeo & Juliet* (ART), *Highway 1* (LA Opera), *Omar* (LA Opera), *Orpheus Descending* (Theater for a New Audience), *Lucy* (Audible Theatre), *Snowy Day* (Houston Grand Opera), *Aging Magician* (New Victory Theatre), *Most Happy* (Williamstown Festival), *Octet* (Signature Theater), *Cyrano* with music by The National (The New Group); *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* (Signature Theater); *Gloria: A* (Daryl Roth Theatre); *Miles for Mary* (Playwrights Horizons); *Acquanetta* (Prototype Festival). David Geffen School of Drama at Yale.
Website: bentscenic.com

Suzanne Bocanegra (Costume Designer)

is a visual artist who uses theater and theater craft to interrogate the history and practice of visual art. She is the recipient of a Robert Rauschenberg Award from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Bocanegra's most recent performance "Honor, an Artist Lecture by Suzanne Bocanegra starring Lili Taylor" was commissioned by the Metropolitan Museum of Art and traveled to LAMoCA, ICABoston and the Walker Art Center. Bocanegra's work is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts (Houston) and the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), among others.

Johnny Gasper (Sound Designer)

John Gasper is a sound & video designer, musician and performer. Notable designs and performances include *Wet Brain* (by John Caswell, directed by Dustin Wills, sound co-design with Tei Blow; Obie Award, Lortel Nominee); *Racecar Racecar Racecar* (by Kallan Dana, directed by Sarah Blush), Advanced Beginner Group's *I Understand Everything Better*; *Coach Coach, Events*, and *I thought I would die but I didn't* (by Bailey Williams, directed by Sarah Blush); Elevator Repair Service's *Seagull*; and Royal Osiris Karaoke Ensemble's *The Art of Luv*. MFA: PIMA, Brooklyn College.

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Joe Levasseur (Lighting Designer)

has collaborated with many artists including: Pavel Zuštiak/Palissimo, John Jasperse, Sarah Michelson, Jodi Melnick, Jennifer Monson, Neil Greenberg, and Beth Gill. He lit both Wendy Whelan's 2013 breakout *Restless Creature*, and her subsequent collaboration with Brian Brooks *Some of a Thousand Words* (2016). He has received two Bessie awards (including one with Big Dance Theater) and a Knight of Illumination Award for his work on Meredith Monk's *Cellular Songs*. When not designing, Levasseur also engages in a visual art practice. Instagram: @sirjoelevasseur /www.joelevasseur.com

CultureHub (Projection Design)

is a global art and technology community formed by La MaMa and the Seoul Institute of the Arts, Korea's first contemporary arts school. These two visionary institutions wanted to explore how the internet and digital technologies could foster a more sustainable model for international exchange and creativity. Since its founding in 2009, CultureHub has grown into a global network that advances the work of artists experimenting with emerging technologies in search of new artistic forms. CultureHub provides online and offline platforms that fuel artist mobility, create opportunities for cultural exchange, and broaden human understanding through the convergence of art, technology, and education.

Forest Entsminger (Props Designer, Asst. Scenic Designer)

is a scenic designer and visual artist based in Brooklyn. Some scenic credits include *The Threepenny Opera* (Columbia Lenfest Center), *The Salvagers* (Yale Repertory Theatre), *Marys Seacole*, *Hamlet Princesa de Dinamarca* (DGSD); *Horsefacts.gov*, *Babies on the Street*, *The Dastardly Thornes v. The Town of Goldhaven*, *Sleeping Car Porters* (The Brick); *Tulsa Swinton Variety Hour* (Flux Factory); *Fatboy*, *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (Overtime TX) and *The Gas Heart* (The McNay TX). Forest holds a B.A. from Trinity University and M.F.A. from David Geffen School of Drama at Yale. Website: bentscenic.com

Mikelle Kelly (Asst. Lighting Designer)

is a Brooklyn based lighting designer, electrician, & theatre artist. Some recent electrician credits are *The Antiquities* at Playwrights Horizon, *Babe* with The New Group, and Dave Malloy's new musical *Three Houses* at Signature Theater in New York. She can usually be found working at Signature, BAM, Skirball, and many other staple NY spaces.

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Eva Rubin (Asst. Costume Designer/Asst. Stage Manager)

is a graduate of Coastal Carolina University where they received a BFA in Physical Theatre and have been devising and writing original works since they were 14. Performance credits: *Edge of Nature* (La Mama), *Romeo and Juliet* (Alchemical Studios), *ATTWLSTB* (NYTF), and continued work with TheTheatre.Company in Brooklyn. Select Production Credits: *you don't have to do anything* (ASM/Wardrobe, HERE Arts Center), *No Good Things Dwell in the Flesh* (Lead PA/FOH, ART/New York - NYT Critics' Pick), *Alexa, Play* (SM, The Chain Theatre).

Jonathan Schatzberg (Stagehand)

is a Brooklyn-based scenic and production designer, prop master, and art director. He holds a B.A. in English with a concentration in creative writing from New York University. Jonathan's scenic design has been featured at The Brick, The Tank, The Chain, Columbia University, and New York University. His production design and art department work has been featured across short films, music videos, commercials, and two feature films. Commercial work includes the New York City Ballet, Children's Aid, H&R Block, and Nike. Say hi! @jonschatzberg / jonathanschatzberg.com

June Buck (Graphic Designer)

is a graphic designer and theatre artist. She currently serves as the staff graphic designer for the Vineyard Theatre, in addition to freelance designing. She has designed for La MaMa, HERE Arts Center, IFC Center, The Hearth, 3 Dollar Bill, and other institutions across NYC. She's a student of Brecht, Benjamin, and Reba.

Beth Brownrigg (Program Designer)

is a Brooklyn-based designer and artist. She is currently the art coordinator at *The Drew Barrymore Show*, for which her work received a 2024 Daytime Emmy Nomination in Outstanding Art Direction/Set Decoration/Scenic Design. Previous design work can be seen on Starz, Amazon Prime, and Hulu. Production Design with *To Be Blue*, *Horse Girls*, and *It's True, It's True, It's True*. Set Dec with *Three Women* and *Godfather of Harlem*. Art with *Dead Ringers*. Program Design with *Babies on the Street* (The Brick Theatre, 2024). Scenic work with *Willa's Authentic Self* (Lisa Clair Group), Pink Sparrow. www.bethbrownrigg.xyz

Immediate Medium (Producing Company)

For over 20 years, Immediate Medium has worked to holistically support, promote, befriend, pay, and produce a sprawling network of experimental performance-makers whose art pushes aesthetic boundaries and challenges dominant culture. Our core values include generosity, experimentation, and justice.

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Third Ear Theater Co. (Producing Company)

develops and presents the work of Jerry Lieblich. With imagination and wit, curiosity and compassion, our work plays in the relationship between language and consciousness — speaking differently, we seek to make a space for different thought.

Leigh Honigman (Producer for Third Ear)

is an arts administrator and producer, focused on amplifying queer and femme voices. Select credits include MEOW! (Associate Producer - Exponential Festival, 2025), Babies on the Street: The Show (The Brick Theater, 2024), you don't have to do anything (New York Mag's Best Theater of 2024, HERE Arts Center, 2024), would you set the table if I asked you to? (Line Producer - Brick Theater, 2023), NO GOOD THING DWELL IN THE FLESH (Line Producer - ART/NY Gural Theatre, 2023), An Ode to Ben Okri (IRT Theater 3B Development Series, 2023), the untitled gabbie project (IRT Theater 3B Development Series, 2023), Of the woman came the beginning of sin and through her we all die (Normal Ave, 2019), and The Ugly Kids (Fresh Fruit Festival at The Wild Project, 2018). www.honigman.space

Matthew Antoci (Associate Producer for Third Ear)

is a Georgia-born, NY-based creator, director, performer, producer, and curator of live performance. They've produced and shown original work onstage at MITU580, Baryshnikov Arts Center, CATCH / The Invisible Dog, The Exponential Festival, Loading Dock, and The Brick. Some of the companies they've worked with include theater and media company Fake Friends, and experimental performance collective CHILD, of which they're a member. Beyond their own work, they frequently collaborate with artists at different stages of development and production, often acting as a dramaturg, facilitator, and marketing consultant in support of other projects. They're a curator for the Obie-winning Brick Theater and weekly performance guide Staff Picks. www.matthewantoci.com.

McKenna Harrington (Associate Producer for Third Ear)

McKenna Quigley Harrington associate produced *Racecar Racecar Racecar* with the Hearth at A.R.T./New York Theatres, *you don't have to do anything* with Leigh Honigman at HERE Arts & IRT theater, and *Panic of '29* with Less than Rent at 59E59 Theaters. As an actor, she's performed with the Irish Repertory Theater, the Mint theater Company at Theater Row & more. McKenna is currently a recurring cast member on Tulsa King on Paramount+. Fordham University (Lincoln Center) Theater Performance class of 2020.

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The play has enjoyed previous development with Uncanny Valley, NYTW, Prelude Festival, Fault Line Theatre, Dixon Place, and an Immediate Medium residency at the Collapsible Hole.

Developed in collaboration with the Theater, Dance, and Media Program at Harvard University.



Actor's Equity Association

Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

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**La MaMa is deeply grateful for the support
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