LaMaMa

presents

The Greatest Story Ever

By Paul Budraitis



The Club
74a East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
October 29- November 8, 2026

The Greatest Story Ever

Paul Budraitis –
Text, Direction, Performance, Set Design

Evan C. Anderson –
Light, Sound, Music, Set construction

Elif Sözer –
Dramaturgy

Prof. John Kendall Wilson and Lennart Laberenz –
Dramaturgy

Anna Telcs-Druss –
Costumes

Robert Fisher, PhD –
Cosmology Consultant

The IllustrisTNG project
(Volker Springel, project manager)
– cosmic animations

This performance is dedicated to the loving memory of Timothy White Eagle and John Kendall Wilson, dear friends and teachers.

Paul Budraitis is a Berlin-based director, performer, and generative artist. His artistic practice draws from a fusion of international influences and an ongoing, exploration of the mysterious nature of life, death, and human connection. Paul earned his master's degree in theatre directing from the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy under the mentorship of Jonas Vaitkus. He has directed productions in the United States and Europe, including at the Lithuanian National Drama Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre (Seattle), On the Boards (Seattle), and La MaMa ETC (NYC). As a performer, he has appeared in productions at the Munich Biennale, the Vienna Festival, REDCAT Theatre (LA), and the Under the Radar Festival (NYC). Paul's solo performance, *I Love That For You*, premiered at Acker Stadt Palast (Berlin) and was subsequently presented in New York (La MaMa ETC) and Seattle (On the Boards). *The Greatest Story Ever* premiered at ASP and this production at La MaMa marks its U.S. premiere. Paul will be based here in New York City starting in 2027.

Evan Anderson is an award-winning lighting designer and composer for theater, dance, and film. His lighting work has been presented throughout the United States and internationally in Europe and Asia. He regularly collaborates with The Wooster Group, zoe | juniper, and Paul Budraitis. He is a member of CabinFever, a Burry Fredrik Design Fellow, and a graduate of the Yale School of Drama. He releases music under his own name and composes for theater and dance.

Elif Sözer is a Berlin-based theatre artist, lecturer, and dramaturge. She specializes in physical and developmental theatre. Her professional practice encompasses acting, directing, and concept development, with a particular focus on collaborative creative processes and the interplay of body, text, and space in contemporary performance. She adapted Melih Cevdet Anday's novel Gizli Emir for the stage. The play, which she also directed, premiered in Istanbul. For two seasons, she was part of the artistic direction team at the Volksbühne Berlin, where she worked as an assistant dramaturg and dramaturge. In this role, she collaborated with directors such as Claudia Bauer, Lucia Bihler, Susanne Kennedy, and Pınar Karabulut. In 2023, she adapted the play Les Pas Pardus / Kayıp Adımlar for a Turkish audience in collaboration with director Zeynep Özden. She also contributed to the production as a dramaturg and movement director. Elif Sözer and Zeynep Özden are joint scholarship recipients of the Tarabya Cultural Academy and are currently working on a new, jointly staged theatre production, which is scheduled to premiere in Istanbul in 2026.

John Kendall Wilson is Professor Emeritus at Cornish College of the Arts, having retired after a remarkable 32-year career in theatre history, dramaturgy, technical arts, and the history and theory of performance art. Throughout his academic career, he became a strong advocate for interdisciplinary collaboration. For him, the success of his career was the success of the people he worked with. Most recently, he provided dramaturgical support to the performance collective Timothy White Eagle and The Violet Triangle, as well as to the solo performance work of Paul Budraitis.

Anna Telcs-Druss uses hand-sewing techniques and fabric manipulation to create wearable and hung soft sculptures from natural materials. As a freelance seamstress and alteration expert, Telcs-Druss works on set for advertising and commercial productions, for the red carpet, and for celebrities. As a costume designer, she brings characters and movement to life with deeply researched character studies, using silhouette and materiality to enhance a narrative or scenic image.

Lennart Laberenz is a historian, author, and filmmaker. As a freelance journalist, he works for publications including *Die Zeit* , *Der Freitag* , *and the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* . As a filmmaker, he has worked as a cinematographer on Christoph Schlingensief's film Crackling of Time, among other projects .

Dr. Robert Fisher is a professor of physics at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, specializing in computational and theoretical astrophysics. His career includes positions at UC Berkeley, where he developed numerical solvers and conducted simulations of star formation, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he developed the first quantitative theory of binary star distribution. As head of the Astrophysics Group at the University of Chicago's Flash Center, he led international teams in the advancement of three-dimensional simulations of thermonuclear supernovae, producing widely recognized visualizations. Fisher has held visiting research positions at leading institutions worldwide and continues to work on new projects with his students in the Fisher Computational Astrophysics Group.

The IllustrisTNG Project (Dr. Volker Springel, PI) is a suite of state-of-the-art cosmological simulations on galaxy formation. Each simulation in IllustrisTNG develops a large section of a simulated universe from shortly after the Big Bang to the present day, taking into account a multitude of physical processes that drive galaxy formation. The simulations enable the investigation of a wide range of topics concerning how the universe—and the galaxies within it—have evolved over time.

This project is made possible by the generous support of: John C. Robinson, Josef Krebs, Ariel Glassman, AJ Epstein, Nicole Stellner, Peter Eberhardy, Andrius Nemickas, Lenna Koszarny, John Neeleman, Stephen McCandless, Andrew Storms, Bebet Caguin, Kairu Yao, Nicole Biskup, Mark Siano, and Becky and Rob Witmer.

A full program with information on this
production can be found on the
La MaMa website page of
The Greatest Story Ever

In addition you can scan the
QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby
for access to the digital program.

LA MAMA

RESTORE A BUILDING
REMAKE A WORLD



Rendering: 74 East 4th St.

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street underwent an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld

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Oct 30-Nov 1, 2026
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