

HISTORIC TIMES



78th Street Theatre Lab

ERIC NIGHTENGALE
Artistic Director

MARK ZELLER
DANA ZELLER-ALEXIS
Producing Directors

RUTH NIGHTENGALE
General Manager

proudly presents

HISTORIC TIMES

by
ANDREW CASE

Directed by
CAROLYN RENDELL

Featuring
RICHARDA ABRAMS*
KATE CORDARO
LIVIA NEWMAN
CHRISTIAN PEDERSEN
SCOTT C. REEVES*
JEREMY ALAN RICHARDS*
KERI SETARO
ZANDER TELLER
EVAN ZES*

Scenic Design Lighting Design Costume Design
JANE MANCINI ERIC NIGHTENGALE DEANNA BERG

Choreography Casting Fight Choreography
TESHA BUSS ERICA JENSEN DAN O'DRISCOLL

Stage Manager/Sound Design Press Representative
MICHAEL MINN* JIM BALDASSARE

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Theodor Adorno.....SCOTT C. REEVES*
Dorothy Parker.....LIVIA NEWMAN
Dorothy Chandler.....KATE CORDARO
Valerie Vail.....KERI SETARO
Arnold Schoenberg.....EVAN ZES*
Sam.....CHRISTIAN PEDERSEN
Phil.....ZANDER TELLER
Betty.....KERI SETARO
Dolly.....RICHARDA ABRAMS*
Sam Goldwyn.....CHRISTIAN PEDERSEN
Igor Stravinsky.....ZANDER TELLER
Hamed.....JEREMY ALAN RICHARDS*
O'Kee Harper.....JEREMY ALAN RICHARDS *
Qoheleth.....EVAN ZES*
Andre W. Case.....SCOTT C. REEVES*
Elizabeth Short.....KATE CORDARO
Suzanne.....LIVIA NEWMAN
Precious Monday.....RICHARDA ABRAMS*
Frank.....ZANDER TELLER
Daniel Handler.....CHRISTIAN PEDERSEN
Radio Interviewer.....ZANDER TELLER
Woman.....KERI SETARO
Her Attorney.....KATE CORDARO
BBC Announcer.....SCOTT C. REEVES*
Translator.....KATE CORDARO

LOS ANGELES

ACT ONE: The War, 1944

ACT TWO: The Other War, 1999

THERE WILL BE ONE TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION
Please turn down your beepers and turn off your cellular phones.

No photos or recordings.

Smoking is not permitted in the building. Thank you.

* These actors and stage manager are appearing
courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

This play is not a history, though the characters in it are historical figures. I have, in writing the play, relied on many outside sources for inspiration or information, though in few instances for factual information. I am particularly indebted to Ludmilla Ignatenko, whose testimonial originally appeared in Harper's Magazine. Further, I have adopted some lines of Dorothy Parker that are authentic or based on authentic lines; all of these I first encountered in either Marion Meade's Parker biography What Fresh Hell is This? or Margaret Case Harriman's The Viscous Circle. Other sources I have drawn upon include published works by Adorno and Parker, as well as the following: Mike Davis's City of Quartz, Charles Rosen's Schoenberg, Martin Jay's Adorno, John Gilmore's Severed, and Hollywood Babylon.

- Andrew Case

THE COMPANY

RICHARDA ABRAMS (*Dolly, Precious Monday*) is a member of the Actors Studio and holds a B.F.A. in Acting and an MA in Educational Theatre from New York University. Her most recent theatre performances include: Katy Jones in *Contribution* (Second Stage); Regan in *King Lear* (La Mama E.T.C.); Ivory in *Fear Itself* (Crossroads Theatre Company); and Flamenco Dancer/Singer in *Sotoba Komachi* (La Mama Annex). Her film and TV credits include: *Cosby*, *One Life To Live*, *Sesame Street's Noises in the Dark*, and *Oreos With Attitude* on Showtime Networks, Inc. Richarda has toured Europe and performed with *The Amina Claudine Myers Voice Choir*. She can be heard singing the title song on Muhal Richard Abrams' CD *Song for All* (Black Saint Records). Richarda would like to thank her family for their continuing love and support. She gives a special thanks to Kanguuele Sissokho for his invaluable assistance with her research of Malian Culture.

KATE CORDARO (*Dorothy Chandler, Elizabeth*) Favorite roles include Frauline Doktor Mathilde Von Zahnd in *The Physicists*, Dorine in *Tartuffe*, Lady Anne in *Richard III*, Yara in *Atom and Eve* (dir. Ken Page) and the title role in *Othello*. She received a BFA in Drama from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Kate is also a director and teaching artist at the Play Group Theatre. She is crazy in love with Kevin Camoosa.

LIVIA NEWMAN (*Dorothy Parker, Suzanne*) is honored to be making her first appearance at the 78th Street Theatre Lab. Other New York credits include *Once in a Lifetime*, directed by David Pittu at the Atlantic Theatre Company and the title role in *Desdemona...a Play About a Handkerchief* by Paula Vogel. Film and TV credits include *As the World Turns*, the award-winning *She Never*, written and directed by Jen McGowan and the upcoming feature *Who Killed Juliet Matlin?*, starring and Darrell Hammond. Livia is a graduate of NYU and a proud member of the sketch comedy group, *Sugar Jones*. Special thanks to her mother, Ruth Warner, Joan M. Schenkar, Erica, Dad, Jen, Lisa Emery and Josh Pais.

CHRISTIAN PEDERSEN (*Samuel Goldwyn, Sam*) has most recently appeared in *Spare* at The Vital Theatre's Festival of New Works. Elsewhere in NYC he has performed at The Medicine Show, Expanded Arts, NADA 45 and the New York Comedy Club. Regional: New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, Berkshire Theatre Festival. Christian is a graduate of the School for Film and Television and the University of Richmond.

SCOTT C. REEVES (*Adorno/Andre*) is thrilled to be back at the 78th Street Theatre Lab after performing late nights last year in *Dracula*. Favorite roles include Iago in *Othello*, Dr. Jason in *Wit*, Bob in *Far East*, and roles in two original works by Kevin Henderson, *Airs of Might* and *The End of the Road*. He has performed regionally at the Alliance Theater, Yale Rep, the Horizon Theater, and Florida Studio Theater. Scott is a graduate of the Yale Drama School, is a diehard Atlanta Braves fan (Go Chipper! Go Andrew!), and is recently engaged, so he also thanks his beautiful fiancée, Eve, for being so exceptionally great.

JEREMY ALAN RICHARDS (*Hamed*) has just completed *On the Hills of Black America* by Keith Josef Adkins at HERE with the Imua Theatre Company. Favorite roles include: Betty/Edward in *Cloud Nine*, James Hewlett in *The African Company Presents Richard III*, Edgar in *King Lear*, Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, Frank in *Flying West* and Percy in *Woza Albert*, which was awarded the Fox Fellowship and was also picked up by the Lincoln Center Institute. T.V: *As the World Turns*. Film: *Matt in Love and the Three Mohammeds* at NYU and yet to be released *ShadowBoxer*, Pharaoh Jones, and *Camouflage*. Jeremy went to SUNY Purchase; and has a MFA from NYU.

KERI SETARO (*Valerie, Betty, Woman*) is excited to be making her New York theater debut here with the cast of *Historic Times*. Keri recently graduated from the Mason Gross School of the Performing Arts at Rutgers University and The London Academy of Theater, where she received her BFA. Recent credits include Shelly Leevak on *Law and Order: SVU* and Philomena Lacey on *All My Children*. Special thanks to all her family and friends but especially to her mom for being so wonderful and supportive.

ZANDER TELLER (*Igor Stravinsky, Phil, Fight Captain*) was last seen in New York in *New York, New York* in the '98 New York International Fringe Festival. Regional: *Sweet Bird of Youth* at La Jolla Playhouse (directed by Michael Greif), *Beauty and the Beast* at Playmakers Repertory Company (directed by Michael Wilson), *Twelfth Night*, *The Castle*, *The Visit*, *Ordinary Phoenix*, and others. University: *Universal Grammar* (written by Andrew Case), *The King Stag*, *Once in a Lifetime*, *The Mousetrap*, *Conquest of the South Pole*, *No Exit*, *Our Country's Good*, and many others. Zander received his MFA in acting from the University of California, San Diego.

EVAN ZES (*Schoenberg, Qoheleth*) just returned to New York from a National Tour of *The King Stag*, choreographed and designed by Julie Taymor. Evan is a recent graduate of the A.R.T./Moscow Art Theatre at Harvard University where he received his M.F.A. in acting. At the American Repertory Theatre his stage credits include Kosykh in Chekhov's *Ivanov*, Zhu in Charles Mee's *Full Circle*, and Dr. Robert Chapman in *A Question of Mercy*. He also played The Schoolmaster in Strinberg's *Dream Play* and Sorin in *The Seagull*, both at the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia. One of his favorite roles was Verges in *Much Ado About Nothing* at the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. On Television he has appeared on *All My Children* and on the Discovery Channel special, *Slapstick Comedy, Can We Stop The Violence?* Evan can be seen this summer in *Romeo & Juliet* at the Lucille Lortel Theatre.

CAROLYN RENDELL (*Director*) directing credits include New York premieres of *Buried Dog* by Marc Ardito (Trilogy Theater), *The Interpreter of Horror* by Kelly Stuart (Kraime Theater), *Stages* by Abigail Solomon (NYU), and *After Such Knowledge, What Forgiveness?* also by Mr. Case (The Salon). She has guest directed for American Stage Festival, Gateway Playhouse, Abingdon Theatre Company, New Georges, and New Jersey Shakespeare Festival. Carolyn is a member of the Lincoln Center Directors' Lab and The Looking Glass Theater. She received her BA from Harvard University.

ANDREW CASE (*Playwright*) has had plays produced at the New York International Fringe Festival and the Lincoln Center Directors Lab in New York, and in Washington DC, San Diego, and Carmel-by-the-sea regionally. He has an MFA from the University of California, San Diego, and his poetry has been featured on National Public Radio.

MICHAEL MINN (*Stage Manager & Sound Design*) is delighted to be making his Theatre Lab debut. Off-Broadway he has appeared in *Making Tracks* and *Shanghai Lil's*. Regionally he has appeared in productions of *42nd Street* (Julian), *The Pajama Game* (Sid), *The King & I* (King). Television credits include *All My Children*, *As The World Turns*, *The City* and *Law & Order*. www.michaelminn.com

JANE MANCINI (*Scenic Design*) New York design credits in theatre include *Last Sortie* (Gloria Maddox Theatre), *Interpreter of Horror* (NY Fringe Festival), *Transformations* (Center for Contemporary Opera, NY), *Le Jeu De L'amor et du Hazard* (Studio Dramatique) and *Having It All* (Vortex Theatre). Over the past few years Jane has been involved as an assistant designer in numerous Broadway shows including *Contact*, *The Music Man*, *Aida*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Sound of Music*, *Steel Pier*, as well as *Madame Melville* (London Production) and *Les Indes Gallantes* (Paris Opera).

ERIC NIGHTENGALE (*Lighting Design*) is currently serving as Artistic Director for the 78th Street Theatre Lab, where he has designed lights, sets, sound, and many a postcard. Other design credits in New York include work for Circle Repertory Theatre, The Acting Company, the Manhattan Theatre Club, Circle in the Square, The River Ensemble, Ensemble Studio Theatres, The Classic Stage Company, HERE, and most recently for the Krane Theatre.

ERICA JENSEN (*Casting*) interned in the casting office at Playwrights Horizons. She assisted in casting several plays including: *James Joyce's The Dead*, James Lapine's *The Moment When*, and *Year of the Baby* for Soho Rep. *Historic Times* is her first solo casting project. She would like to thank Carolyn Rendell for this wonderful opportunity. Thanks also to James Calleri and Alaine Alldaffer for their support.

TESHA BUSS (*Choreography*) is thrilled to be working on *Historic Times*. The majority of her work in NYC has been assisting choreographer Christopher Gattelli on such projects as *Bat Boy*, *The Musical*, *The Moon of the Caribees* with The Bat Theatre Company, The Rosie O'Donnell Show, industrials for Pontiac, GM, and McDonald's and benefits for The Actors Fund and BC/EFA. Her performing credits include *Rumpleteazer* in the Broadway Company of *Cats*, *The Rhythm Club* (headed to Broadway next season), *Gypsy* at Paper Mill Playhouse, and Sandy Duncan's understudy in *That's Christmas* choreographed by Jerry Mitchell.

DAN O'DRISCOLL (*Fight Director*) has choreographed over 200 fights in more than 60 productions that have garnered critical acclaim and 3 oobr (off-off-broadway review) awards along the way. This summer will be his 12th season as a writer, director and choreographer at the New York Renaissance Faire. Dan will also be attending the SAFD Fight Directors Workshop at Celebration Barn Theater in South Paris, Maine for two weeks in June.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION was founded in 1913 to protect Actors from the severe mistreatment that permeated the industry at that time. Since its inception, Equity has had only twelve Presidents. Its current president is Patrick Quinn. The 39,000-member Association consists of distinguished stars and other professional Actors and Stage Managers who work nationwide, from New York's Broadway to Los Angeles, from Minneapolis to Miami Beach, in regional, stock and dinner theatre, and in theatres for young audiences which build the audiences of tomorrow. These Actors and Stage Managers are committed to working in the theatre as a profession, not an avocation, and bring to you the finest professional training and experience. By presenting Equity productions, this theatre offers to you, our audience, the best entertainment presented by the finest quality Actors and Stage Managers that your admission dollars can buy.

SPECIAL THANKS

Stefan Novinski, Adele Shank, Allan Havis, Claudia Wilsch, Scott Horstein, Sarah Rayer, Susan & Claude Case, Tim Callahan, Ruth & Robert Rendell, Alaine Alldaffer, Lorin Wortheimer, Sonya Sobieski, Jonah Goger, and the entire casting, literary, artistic and administrative offices at Playwright's Horizons, LCT Directors' Lab members, and George, James, & Kerry at Props for Today, and Billy Roberts for the voiceover of Sgt. Clarke. **Extra Special Thanks to Patrick O'Leary and Joe Boffardi (Happy 40th Birthday!!) at Staging Techniques; James Hines and his staff at Staples, 2248 Broadway; One on One Productions; and Brian Roff at Makor.

The Samsonite and Situation office chairs were donated by **Staples** for this production and are on sale at the Staples Furniture Department, Broadway and 81st Street.

The 78th Street Theatre Lab wishes to thank the following people and organizations who have contributed time, money, or energy to help make the Lab run during the last year:

Edmund & Francesca Arkus, Paul Blackman, Rose Bonczek, David Barnes & Jill Taylor, Frederica Breneman, Thomas Bullard & Susan Smyly, Margie Castleman, Betty Anne Cohen, Anamaria Correa, Allen & JoAnn Dischinger, Bonnie Egan, Neil & Deborah Eisenberg, Patricia Fletcher, Barbara Foster, Nicole Friedman, Judith Granite, Stefan Hagen & Renee Philippi, Nicole Haran, Andrei Hartt, Larry King, Karen Koven, Nicholas Martin-Smith, Michael & Ginger Montel, Allison Neet, Miriam Nightengale, Masha Obolensky & Brett Cramp, Barbara Okishoff, Operaworks, Ltd., Eileen Phelan, David Pinkard, Melanie Rey, Aileen Seldes, Margaret Steyer, Laura Strausfeld, Burl & Helen Thompson, Burl & Doris Thompson, John Viscardi, Judylee Vivier, Lisa Webb, Warren and Jane Weiss, Philip & Marion Weyna, Grace Wherry, Shelley Wyant, The John-Vincent Peter Copani Memorial Fund, and The Shirah Kober Zeller Foundation.

To join the 78th Street Theatre Lab mailing list, or to contribute, please contact Ruth Nightengale, General Manager, at 212/873-9050 or theatrelab@aol.com

78th Street Theatre Lab

In 1979, the 78th Street Theatre Lab was established by Mark Zeller and Dana Zeller-Alexis as an embracing workplace for actors. Since then we have remained committed to that simple idea, providing a place for a small family of artists dedicated to the idea of creating provocative work within a supportive community. Our studio theatres are home to a variety of interrelated activities including public performances, classes, and developmental work.

The Lab supports a series of productions and workshops in various stages of development, which together constitute the life-blood of our work, generating the energy for everything else that happens here. Each season we present plays which come out of this ongoing developmental process. In these productions we share our passion for a theatre that is imaginative; that nourishes as well as challenges; that holds a mirror up to human experience; and that creates an atmosphere of fellowship and celebration.

For information on future productions, please call or write to us at:
236 West 78th Street, New York, NY 10024,
(212) 873-9050/873-1156(fax)/TheatreLab@aol.com.

78TH STREET THEATRE LAB STAFF

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