# GATEWAY PLAYHOUSE

PLAYBILL

1996

ALLAN and ALLAN ARTS, LTD. in association with PAUL ALLAN and JOHN HODGE

presents

CYNDI NEAL

in



Lyrics by TIM RICE
Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

also starring

DAVE CLEMMONS

ROBERT ARONSON

with

TOM ROCCO

JODIE LANGEL

Associate Producer JEFF BELLANTE Sound Designer MARK CLARK General Manager

Set Designer GEORGE PUELLO Costume Designer CHUCK BATCHELOR Lighting Designer
ANDREW MARTINI

Musical Director PHYLLIS GESSLER Resident Set Designer
MICHAEL
BOYER

Production Stage Manager MARIBETH HUNTER

Choreographer STEPHEN NACHAMIE

Direction and Musical Staging by

KEN LEIGH ROGERS

EVITA is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International, 545 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10018

# **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

# ACTI

ACT		
A Cinema in Buenos Aires July 26, 1952		
ACT II		
Entr'Acte		
THE CAST		
Eva Peron CYNDI NEAL* Che DAVE CLEMMONS* Juan Peron ROBERT ARONSON* Magaldi TOM ROCCO* Eva's Family LAURIE SHEPPARD* ROGER ROSEN ANITA ANDERSON JELENA ALONSO ELIZABETH WIPFF		
Tango Dancers		
JIM DULANEY*		
Peron's Mistress		

#### PEOPLE OF ARGENTINA

REGINA ALIFFI, JELENA ALONSO, ANITA ANDERSON, CHRISTOPHER BOWLES, BILL BROOKS\*, JOE DIGENNARO, JIM DULANEY\*, STEPHANIE FREDERICKS, JODIE LANGEL\*, DAVID-ISRAEL MARCUS, ROBERT PHILIP MARCUS\*, FRED MURDOCK, LANCE J. OVERDORFF\*, TOM ROCCO\*, ROGER ROSEN, LAURIE SHEPPARD\*, SARA ANN SMOLEN, ELIZABETH WIPFF

#### CHILDREN OF ARGENTINA

JESSICA HOWARD, KEVIN KELLY, JOY KNUST, STEPHANIE MAFFEI, RACHEL ANN SEPULVEDA. CRYSTAL STIRIZ. DOUGLAS TERRY

#### UNDERSTUDIES

Eva Peron	JODIE LANGEL*
Che	DAVID-ISRAEL MARCUS
Juan Peron	ROBERT PHILIP MARCUS*
Magaldi	
Mistress	JESSICA HOWARD



\* Actors employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

#### WHO'S WHO (in alphabetical order)

**REGINA ALIFFI** (Ensemble/Dance Captain), a native Long Islander, was last seen in Gateway's production of TWIST & SHOUT. She previously toured in the European production of EVITA. Other credits include THE WIZARD OF OZ, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, THE KING & I, and dance captain for Princes Cruises' production shows.

JELENA ALONSO (Ensemble) has won the top vocalist award in several national talent contests, including the Starpower, Shining Star, and On Stage America talent competitions. Regional credits include SNOOPY (Lucy), WEST SIDE STORY (Rosalia), ANYTHING GOES (Hope), DARK OF THE MOON (Dark Witch), THE CRUCIBLE (Tituba), ANNIE (Grace), and THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (Margot), On the Opera stage, Jelena has performed the title role in MANON, Susanna in THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, and Suor Genovieffa in SUOR ANGELICA. Jelena is the National Anthem singer for the NY Islanders.

ANITA ANDERSON (Ensemble) is happy to return to Gateway/Candlewood, after being here in productions of BUDDY and PHANTOM. She recently performed in the world premieres of I'VE HEARD THAT SONG BEFORE with Island Stage and the opera PIGS IS PIGS with Golden Fleece, Ltd. Anita has toured as a classical soloist throughout Europe and the U.S. and currently teaches at Manhattan School of Music. Thanks to Carlos and Lucy for the love and support.

ROBERT ARONSON (Juan Peron) is glad to be back on stage at the Gateway Playhouse. Previously he played Rhona in GRAND HOTEL and King Arthur in CAMELOT. He was also privileged to be part of the Gateway company that toured the Far East, playing Captain Von Trapp in THE SOUND OF MUSIC. Other regional credits include Don Quixote in MAN OF LA MANCHA. Stine in CITY OF ANGELS, Starbuck in 110 IN THE SHADE, and Voltaire/Pangloss in CANDIDE. A native Minnesotan, Robert has performed frequently with the Minnesota Opera, and holds a degree in Music/Theatre from Hamiline University. He studied acting at the Royal National Theatre in London, and last year travelled the world over, performing aboard the Crystal Harmony.

**CHRISTOPHER BOWLES** (Ensemble) is appearing in his 3rd production of EVITA and his second show at Gateway Playhouse. His most recent credits include the European tour of EVITA, appearing as the Lead Dancer and the Tango Dancer, and the National Tour of Rodgers and Hammerstein's CINDERELLA. He last appeared at Gateway Playhouse in THE KING & I.

BILL BROOKS (Magaldi Understudy/Ensemble) is happy to be making his second appearance at the Gateway Playhouse, where he was previously seen in PHANTOM. His favorite roles include Che in EVITA, Nathan Detroit in GUYS & DOLLS, and Homer in MORNINGS AT SEVEN. He dedicates this performance to his soulmate Christine M. and to Shawn bug.

DAVE CLEMMONS (Che) comes to Gateway/Candlewood direct from the National Tour of JEKYLL AND HYDE, playing the Bishop of Basingstoke and serving as standby for Jekyll/Hyde. Dave was also seen across the country as Jean Valjean in the National Tour of LES MISERABLES (San Francisco Critics Circle Nomination). Other credits: Broadway—LES MISERABLES (Brujon); Off-Broadway—THE STRANGE LIFE OF IVAN OSOKIN (La Marna), BLACK NATIVITY (Artists Perspective); regional—EVITA (Che), GALILEO, CAMELOT (Arthur), CHESS (Freddle—Perry Award for Best Actor in a Musical), CAMELOT and GREASE (Teen Angel) at Candlewood; at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas, JEKYLL AND HYDE (Bishop), SVENGALI (Billy), and AS YOU LIKE IT (Cotin/Amiens). Dave can be heard on the soundtracks of JEKYLL AND HYDE as the Bishop and THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL as Chauvelin. He was the Vocal Arranger/Conductor for THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL and currently serves as Vocal Director for JEKYLL AND HYDE and musical supervisor for the musical revue NEXT STOP. David is an active vocal coach/teacher and is a graduate of the University of Miami jazz vocal program. Thanks, Beth, for everything.

## WHO'S WHO (continued)

JOE DIGENNARRO (Ensemble) was last seen playing George Gibbs in Thornton Wilder's OUR TOWN at the Oasis Theatre. Off-Broadway credits include the world premiere of THE SECRET ANNEX at Playhouse 91 and SCENES FROM LIFE IN AMERICA at the Ensemble Studio Theatre. Regional credits: BIG RIVER, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, BRIGHTON BEEF MEMOIRS, and TWO INTO ONE. National Tours: THE LITTLE PRINCE, DINOSAUR MOUNTAIN, and ALADDIN. EVITA marks Joe's debut at Gateway Playhouse. He wishes to thank his family for its unending love and support.

JIM DULANEY (Ensemble) is very excited to be performing in EVITA here at Gateway Playhouse. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, where he received a BFA in Dance from Wright State University, Jim has danced with The Dayton Ballet Co, and the Oakland Festival Dance Company. Other credits include SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS at North Carolina Theatre, ON THE TOWN (European Tour), GREASE, THE KING & I, ANYTHING GOES. Jim has also performed in many revues in Atlantic City Migmi Reach, and aboard cruise ships.

STEPHANIE FREDRICKS (Ensemble) appeared Off-Broadway in THE OCCUPATION (Rachel) and A NIGHT SEA JOURNEY (Lisa). Other theatre credits include ENTER LAUGHING (Wanda), INTO THE WOODS (Red Riding Hood) and HMS PINAFORE (Josephine). Television work includes the HBO movie LIFE STORIES: THE HEIDI LETTER STORY, ALL MY CHILDREN and several after-school specials. Stephanie also danced with the New York City Ballet.

JODIE LANGEL (Mistress/Eva Understudy/Ensemble) was last seen on Broadway and in the National Tour of LES MISERABLES as Cosette; prior, she understudied Eponine and Cosette on Broadway. She has performed at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey and the West Fourth Street Theatre in NYC. Jadie just received her BFA in Theatre from New York University. She is happy to be performing at Gateway Playhouse.

**DAVID-ISRAEL MARCUS** (Che understudy/Ensemble) appears at Gateway for the first time for this production, happily. Having started performing at the age of 13, he left the cushy 9-to-5 life to be seen nationally in tours of GRAND HOTEL, CITY OF ANGELS, and most recently, OLIVER. David-Israel studied music and voice at the University of Maryland, near Columbia, MD., where he grew up. After college, he continued to perform while working in computer support for the Department of Defense in DC. Now concentrating on his stage career, David-Israel's credits include Archibald Craven in THE SECRET GARDEN, the Phantom in Maury Yeston's PHANTOM, the Dentist in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, Louis in LOST IN YONKERS, and El Gallo in THE FANTASTICKS.

ROBERT PHILIP MARCUS (Peron understudy/Ensemble) is pleased to be performing at Gateway Playhouse in one of his favorite shows. Regional and stock credits include OF MICE AND MEN (Lenny), JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (Caiaphas), 110 IN THE SHADE (H.C. Curry), EVITA (Peron), ANNIE (Warbucks), BIG RIVER (King), THE GONDOLIERS (Grand Inquisitor), and FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Lazar Wolf). Originally from Maine, Robert has lived in NYC for the past 5 years, pounding the audition pavement. Film and TV credits include episodes of SPENSER FOR HIRE and LAW AND ORDER, a Cinemax Horror Spot, and several "Indies." He is currently working on a few personal projects, including a concert fundraiser for a scholarship fund in memory of his parents. As always, here's to Zaydie, his sister Andrea, and "the Gnob."

FRED MURDOCK (Ensemble), a BFA graduate from the Boston Conservatory, is thrilled to join Gateway Playhouse. A few past credits include CABARET (tenor soloist), FUNNY GIRL (Ziegfield tenor), and GUYS & DOLLS (Rusty Charile) at the Jupiter Theatre; CLOSER THAN EVER and THE SUM OF US (Greg) at Speakeasy Stage Co. at the Boston Center for the Arts; and PAL JOEY at the Huntington Theatre Co. Thanks to all!

CYNDI NEAL (Eva Peron) marks her 7th production at Gateway with EVITA. Some of her favorite roles here include Dorothy Brock in 42nd STREET, Maria in LEND ME A TENOR and Tessie/Miss Cratchitt in GYPSY. This Colorado native's career has taken her as far away as Singapore and Israel, and to countless cities across the U.S. She has done everything from Sarah in GUYS & DOLLS and Flona in BRIGADOON to Miss Hanigan in ANNIE and—believe it or not—Samuel Chase in 1776. Most recently, Cyndl was with the National touring company of LES MISSERABLES, and also understudied the role of Fantine in the Broadway company of LES MIZ. This performance is dedicated to her loving family and to the memory of her beloved friend and teacher, Mr. David McDonald.

LANCE J. OVERDORFF (Ensemble) is pleased to be performing in EVITA, one of his favorite shows. Most recently, Lance appeared in THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES, starring John Schneider. Some of his favorite roles he has performed include Reuben in JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT, Charlie Brown in YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN and SNOOPY, Mr. Burnble in OLIVER, Alfred Von Wilmers/Sam in ROMANCE/ROMANCE, Dr. Orin Scrivello, DDS, in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, and Nicely-Nicely Johnson in GUYS & DOLLS, Lance is originally from Wichita Falls, Texas, where he developed his passion for theatre at the Backdoor Theatre. He would like to thank all of his friends at Backdoor, his family, and God for their support, and especially Ken Leigh Rogers for this opportunity. Thanks, guys!

**TOM ROCCO** (Magaldi/Ensemble) is very excited to be making his debut at Gateway Playhouse. Broadway credits: THE WHO'S TOMMY and Martin Charnin's WINCHELL. Original National Tours: THE WHO'S TOMMY and CHESS. Regional credits include Seymour in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, PETER PAN with Cathy Rigby, Huck Finn in BIG RIVER, Paul in A CHORUS LINE, and GODSPELL at Candlewood Playhouse in Connecticut.

ROGER ROSEN (Ensemble), having just toured Europe in GREASE: DAS MUSICAL (directed and choreographed by Dennis Callahan), is happy to be working in America again. He has been seen in

and around NY in productions of BRIGADOON (Harry Beaton), ANNIE, CAMELOT, ON THE TOWN, WORKING, BY JUPITER, EVITA and OKLAHOMA, Roger has a BFA from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU and studies voice with Don Johnston.

LAURIE SHEPPARD (Ensemble) is very excited to finally be working with Ken Leigh and Stephen Nachamie here at Gateway. She has just returned from the European tour of GREASE. Other credits include A CHORUS LINE, WEST SIDE STORY, CABARET, STARLIGHT EXPRESS, PROMISES PROMISES, ANIMAL CRACKERS, and 42nd STREET. She is also part of the singing group "The Girls Next Door," and has just finished working on the movie NEPTUNE'S ROCKING HORSE. Live, Love, and Laugh!

**SARA ANN SMOLEN** (*Ensemble*), has toured Europe with CATS and the US with PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, A CHORUS LINE and A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM. She dedicates this performance to the artist within each and every one of us. May it be nurtured, supported and celebrated in our homes, communities, schools, and government. Thanks to Ken and Stephen and the presence of divine guidance.

**ELIZABETH WIPFF** (Ensemble) is a Northern California native who now makes her home in New York City. She is a recent graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, and has performed such roles as Rizzo in GREASE, Reno Sweeny in ANYTHING GOES, and Glinda the Good Witch in THE WIZARD OF OZ. Thanks to Gateway for the opportunity!

MARIBETH HUNTER (Production Stage Manager) returns for her second season at Gateway. Her favorite project so far is SHLEIMIEL THE FIRST, an original Yiddish Musical Comedy that she stage managed for the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, MA and its pre-Broadway tour. Other companies she has worked with include Cheltenham Center for the Arts, the American Music Theatre Festival, Philadelphia Drama Guild, Philadelphia Festival Theatre for New Plays, George Street Theatre, and People's Light and Theatre Company, where she was the resident production stage manager for two years, including tours to Cyprus, Hungary, and Japan. Maribeth is dedicating her work this season to her mother.

KEN LEIGH ROGERS (Director/Musical Staging) has directed and choreographed throughout the U.S.: AIN'T MISBEHAVIN', MY ONE AND ONLY, WEST SIDE STORY, THE WIZ, THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES, and SINGIN' IN THE RAIN. In London, he choreographed productions of STEPPING OUT and PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES. One of his proudest achievements was mounting the West End production of SEESAW. Ken also served as resident choreographer to the West End production of GRAND HOTEL and as Assistant Choreographer on David Merrick's OH, KAYI, which was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Choreography but lost out to Tommy Tunel As a performer, he's been featured in five Broadway shows and three musical films. For Gateway, Ken directed and choreographed GRAND HOTEL, FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE, and THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES, and directed and staged MY FAIR LADY.

STEPHEN NACHAMIE (Choreographer/Assistant Director) is thrilled to return to Gateway with EVITA. As an actor he's toured the U.S. as Paul in A CHORUS LINE, and Europe with EVITA. Choreography credits include LITILE SHOP OF HORRORS, A CHORUS LINE, and assisting on several showcases for Musical Theatre Works. He assisted directors Lois Englund and Mitzi Hamilton in restagling A CHORUS LINE for National Tour and regional productions. He thanks Paul and Ken Leigh for this apportunity.

PHYLUS GESSLER (Musical Director) is happy to be returning to Gateway for this, her 5th full season as musical director. Her shows here include SHENANDOAH, CAROUSEL, SUGAR BABIES, THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES, THE KING & I, WEST SIDE STORY, GRAND HOTEL, NUNSENSE and GROUCHO, and her on-stage Gateway debut as VI Petry, the piano-playing wife of Buddy Holly's producer in BUDDY. A snowbird at heart, Phyllis winters in Florida when not touring the U.S. or Asia. Four Asian tours have seen her at the musical helm of THE SOUND OF MUSIC, SOUTH PACIFIC, and an original Singaporean show, BUGIS STREET, in such countries as South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malasia, and Singapore.

GEORGE PUELLO (Set Designer) is associate producer/artistic director of the Westchester Broadway Theatre, where he has designed more than 40 productions, including ANYTHING GOES, ANNIE GET YOUR GUN, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, OLIVER and SIDE BY SONDHEIM. He has also directed more than 30 productions there, including A CHRISTIMAS CAROL. THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, MASS APPEAL, and I'M NOT RAPPAPORT. Regionally, Mr. Puello has directed, choreographed, and/or designed over 300 productions, among them CHESS, EVITA, JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, EQUUS, AGNES OF GOD, and SWEENY TODD. A composer/lyricist, his original works include HEARTS AND HOOFERS, PARUSIA, the rock opera CLEOPATRA, and ZAPATA, based on the life of the Mexican revolutionary.

**ANDREW MARTINI** (*Lighting Designer*) is making his Gateway debut with EVITA: over the years, Andrew has designed lights for productions of most of Andrew Lloyd Webber's shows. He is thrilled to be working again with Ken Leigh Rogers, with whom he did A CHORUS LINE, and also with Sara Ann Smolen.

CHARLES "CHUCK" BATCHELOR (Costume Designer) is the resident costume designer for Costume World, Inc., the nation's second largest costume outlet, He studied design at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and at Point Park College in Pittsburgh. Formerly, Chuck was the resident costume designer with the Pittsburgh Lab Theatre and Music Theatre North in Potsdam, NY. Among the shows Chuck has designed are GRAND HOTEL for the Royal Palm Dinner Theatre of Boca Raton, Florida; Carleton Davis' New England Tour of PHANTOM; toured as the wardrobe supervisor with the National Tour of YOUR ARMS TOO SHORT TO BOX WITH GOD for Pyramid Entertainment in New York and LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, showcased at New York's Gateway Playhouse, Candlewood Playhouse and Sarasofa's Golden Apple Dinner Theatre and SHOWBOAT for Florida's Gold Coast Opera. Chuck prides himself on insuring quality, originality and above all, professional service.

## **GATEWAY PLAYHOUSE STAFF**

Executive Producers Ruth and Stan Allan Producers Paul Allan, John Hodge Associate Producer Jeff Bellante General Manager Gale Edwards Personnel and Press Director Jerry Lapidus Company Manager Timothy Wilkins Director Ken Leigh Rogers Choreographer and Assistant Director Stephen Nachamie Musical Director Phyllis Gessler Casting Director Robin Joy Allan
Production Stage Manager Maribeth Hunter Resident Set Designer and Technical Director Michael Boyer Set Designer - Evita George Puello Lighting Designer Andrew Martini Sound Designer Mark Clark Shop Foreman Don Roberts
Master Electrician
Scenic Artist Heather Buggee Prop Master David Dovell Dance Captain Regina Aliffi Sound Consultant Dominick Sack Box Office Manager Nancy Kana Box Office Staff Mary Carlson, Gladys Hawkins, Nadlne Hazard, Doris Lundegard, Jeff Monteith,
Heather Moore, Richard Schaffer, Barbara Wright Group Sales
House Staff . Lynne Nofi Maintenance/Landscaping Supervisor . Bob Nofi Painting Maintenance . Don Harrison Concession Manager/Production Photographer . Mil Kana General Counsel . Ann L. Nowak & Associates

### Costumes Produced by Costume World Pompano Beach, Florida

WARNING - The photographing or sound recording of any performance is strictly prohibited.

Gateway Playhouse now offers a wireless sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired. Inquire at the box office for more information.

FIRE NOTICE: The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy, is the shortest route to the outside. In the event of fire or other emergency, please do NOT run. WALK to that Exit. However, under normal circumstances, when leaving the Theatre, use the center rear exit. SMOKING is prohibited in the THEATRE, as required by a new Suffolk County NO SMOKING ordinance. Please do not smoke in any area designated "No Smoking." This renders the offenders subject to a fine or imprisonment or both.