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*Holiday Season 2011*

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**NOEL**

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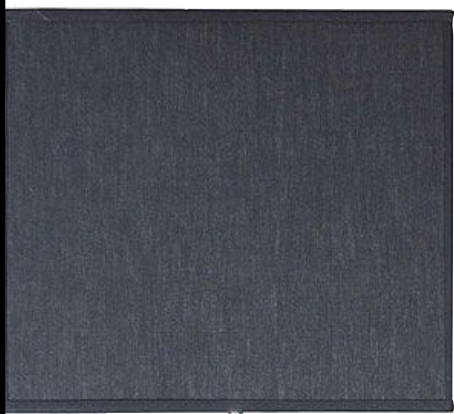
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**MIA CARESS**

ARTIST DIRECTOR

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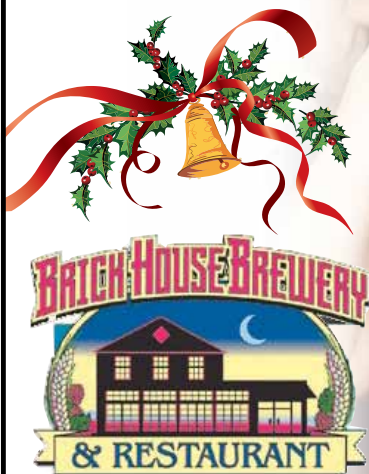
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# SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT I

1. **"All I Want For Christmas"**

WEEGO

2. **"Welcome to Toyland"**

The COMPANY

3. **"A Suspended Ornament"**

NAOMI PARSHIN & STEPHANIE CHISHOLM

4. **"A Present for You"**

MARIO DIAMOND

5. **"An Elf's Diabolo"**

JEREMIE ARSENAULT

6. **"Juggling Fete"**

NATALIYA TOLSTIKOVA

7. **"Climbing UP the Chimney"**

OLEG VALENTINOVICH BOCHAROV

8. **"A Well-Balanced Season"**

KIRILL REBKOVETS

## ACT II

1. **"The Grinch Makes a Stink"**

WEEGO

2. **"Flying Stockings"**

NAOMI PARSHIN & SERGEY PARSHIN

3. **"Santa's Movie"**

MARIO DIAMOND

4. **"Traipsing Above the Rooftops"**

FLETCHER RUNYAN

5. **"Snowstorm of Silver"**

KIRILL REBKOVETS

6. **"The Biggest Gift of All"**

The GARZA FAMILY

7. **"Dreams of the Holidays"**

The COMPANY

The Role of MOIRA played by

**RACHEL FOSTER**

Dancers:

**BIANCA SALTAFORMAGGIO** – Dance Captain

**LARA CHAMBERLAIN, SAMANTHA LYN DuBOFF, LAURA HALEY, ELISABETH RAINER**

# Who's Who

## JEREMIE ARSENAULT (*Diabolo*)

It all started in 2004, when I got accepted in Québec Circus School. The program includes technical and artistic coaching, contemporary and classical ballet dance classes, as well as classes in physical theater. The first two years of the program were 20 hours per week, and last two years have been 40 hours per week. During the past five years, I have had the chance to perform many times for different events, such as private shows organized by *Cirque du Soleil*, GOP Variété-Theater, circus festivals as La Piste aux Espoirs in Belgium, Krystallpalast, Startissimo and SOLyCIRCO in Germany, 250 summer shows in which I performed both juggling and acrobatics in a theme park in the United States, as well as many corporate events.

## OLEG VALENTINOVICH BOCHAROV

(*Chair Balance*) was born in Grodno Belarus. At the early age of 6, Oleg trained and practiced with Olympic gymnastics in his hometown of Grodno. At the age of 15, he transferred to the world-renowned Moscow Circus School, from where he graduated, with the help of his great mentors and trainers, with his highlighted act of "Handstands." Since then he has traveled the world with his unique and skilled act. Oleg has performed as a highlighted attraction in various shows in Italy, Mexico, Germany and many other countries around the world. Working

with the best show business companies in the world, Oleg has performed with productions such as *LeReve* – Wynn Las Vegas, *Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus* – USA Tour, and *Jubilee* – Bally's Las Vegas. Continuing his great career as a performer, he will continue to entertain and take the breath away from audiences around the globe!

## MIA CARESS

(*Production & Stage Manager*) Mia has toured nationally and internationally for more than a decade as a dancer, rehearsal director, dance captain and stage manager. Recently she worked as the choreographer, on-set rehearsal director, and dance coach to Laura Ramsey for the feature film, *Whatever Lola Wants* (Tribeca Film Festival, 2008). A 3rd generation circus performer, Mia has been a member of *Cirque Le Masque* for 9 years. Other credits include: hosting 15 fitness videos including On-Demand segments for Exercise TV. She can also be seen in dozens of regional and national commercials, as a guest host for HSN and in print advertisements for everything from Walgreens to Toys 'R Us to Kmart.

**LARA CHAMBERLAIN** (*Dancer*) Lara is thrilled to be joining this incredible cast! Originally from Parker Colorado, she is now living in New York City and loving it! Most recently, Lara was singing and dancing on the high seas with Princess

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Cruises. Favorite previous roles include Kathy in *Singing in the Rain*, and Val in *A Chorus Line*. She'd like to thank her family and J-Boogie for their incredible love and support. Enjoy the show!

**STEPHANIE CHISHOLM** (*Dancer*) is an aerialist from Miami, FL. She studied silk and lyra in Miami, and has spent the last six years working domestically and internationally. She is excited to be performing with *Cirque le Masque* in their Holiday show.

**MARIO DIAMOND** (*Comic Mime*) Born in 1958 in Louiseville, Canada, he discovered mime while studying literature in college. In 1976 Mario was on stage for the first time. Thirty-two years later the mime has performed in Europe, Asia, South and North America, over 8000 shows, played in television shows, movies and TV commercials. His audience is from kids to matured people from everywhere on planet earth.

**BRIAN LOESCH** (*Lighting Design*) is proud to be part of the Gateway Family for his fourteenth straight season. Gateway Playhouse lighting design credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (2006 & 2010), *Avenue Q*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Forbidden Broadway* (2008), *The Full Monty*, *A Holiday Spectacular On Ice* (2004 & 2009), *South Pacific*, *Footloose*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Holiday Hop* (1999), *Urinetown*, *Mooseltoe*, *Cabaret* and numerous children's theatre productions including *Peter Pan* (2004) and *Jungle Book* (2005). Brian graduated with a Degree in Technical Theatre from Suffolk County Community College. Other design credits include *Language of Angels* (Henry Street Experimental Theatre, NYC), *Paraffin Touch* (World Premiere at Suffolk County Community

College), *The Man Who Would Be King* (World Premiere at the Antrim Playhouse), and *Kiss Me Kate* (Cape Fear Regional Theatre). National Tour credits include *George M!* (2003 Candlewood Int./ Mainstage Productions), *Titanic* (2004 Candlewood Int.), *A Holiday Spectacular On Ice* (2004 A Gateway / Candlewood Production), *Mame* (2005-06 Candlewood Int.), *Camelot* (2006-07 Candlewood Int.), and the 2007 and 2008 productions of *Mooseltoe* (Sammelman Productions)

**SAMANTHA LYN DUBOFF** (*Dancer*) is very excited to be touring again with this year's company of *Cirque Le Masque*. She graduated with a BFA in dance performance from the University of the Arts in 2007. Since then her credits include multiple appearances in Atlantic Cities Trump Plaza and Trump Taj Mahal as well as the Broadhollow Theater Company's production of *Anything Goes* (Purity) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Gloria/Pearl Lady). Much love and thanks to my family and fiancé Corey for all their love and support.

**RACHEL FOSTER** (*Moir*) born in Pittsburgh, PA is a graduate of the acclaimed Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. Dance program. She has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Pascal Rioult, Christopher Huggins and Robert Battle among others. She is very excited to join *Cirque Le Masque* and thanks her family, friends and Carl for their support.

**THE GARZA FAMILY** (*Living Statues*) is a slow-motion acrobatic balancing trio which does their work painted in solid silver. The act creates art form, from ancient Greek and Roman statues. The three members slowly assume statue-like positions moving into their acrobatic balancing formations silhouetted by a center spotlight.

# Who's Who

The Garza's studied ancient Greek and Roman statue-like formations and learned to slowly mold themselves from one form to another. The Garza's have spent many years researching the poses they currently use in their performances. The act has evolved from ordinary temple hand balancing to an amazing display of strength and grace. They display a combination of grace, beauty, strength, and athletic discipline. The marble sculptures are reminiscent of the celebrated human form in ancient Greece. The poses they have selected are easily recognized by Greek and Roman poses. Whether or not the audience is familiar with the ancient statue-like forms, The Garza's are able to impress them with their remarkable display. For this manner, The Garza's were nominated as the "Act of the 80's" on the Las Vegas Strip. They performed twelve straight years with the show *City Lites* at the Flamingo Hilton and also *Bal du Moulin Rouge* at the Grand Hilton. They shared the stage with artists like: Vic Damone, Jim Nabors, Charo, and Suzanne Somers to name a few. The Garza Family introduced the slow-motion hand balancing act or "Living Statue Act" into the United States. Every place The Garza's perform they have the audience twisting and shouting for more. They have been imitated, but not replicated!

**LAURA HALEY** (*Dancer*) received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance Performance from Hofstra University, and is currently teaching and choreographing for studios around the country. She performed in the regional theatre production of *The Music Man*, and sang for Shirley Jones in *Shirley Jones in Concert*. A seasoned tap dancer, Laura appeared in the NYC Fringe Festival in the production of *Break the Floor* as well as danced in a tribute to Bill Bojangles Robinson along with the most accomplished tap dancers of today. She has appeared in numerous fitness commercials,

music videos and Dance Teacher Magazine fashion shows. This is Laura's second season with *Cirque Le Masque*.

**MIRIAM HERTZSON** (*Artistic Director*) has been choreographing in one genre or another since 1982. Her critically acclaimed modern dance company *Mirmdance* performed in NYC and toured nationally for six years including performances at the Atlanta Arts Festival. As her interests changed her work branched out into the world of business theatre. Miriam traveled internationally creating work for such companies as Revco, Citibank, MetLife, Prudential, and IBM. With her production company Mirmco, she choreographed and produced her own cruise ship show, business theatre productions and special events. Regionally she has choreographed countless musicals, occasionally directing as well. Her favorites include: *She Loves Me*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Candide*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sugar Babies*, *Sweet Charity*, *Frog and Toad*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, and *Chicago*. Ms. Hertzson has been a professor of dance and movement at Nassau Community College since 1995. Miriam would like to thank her four children and lovely husband for their love and support.

**NAOMI PARSHIN** (*Duo Lyra / Duo Silk*) is from Miami, Fl. She grew up studying dance and graduated with a Dance Educators of America Degree. She taught for six years before joining a nationally acclaimed cirque company as a dancer. She began her training in aerial silks, hoop, and straps. She has now worked professionally as an aerilist for six years and has toured throughout all of the United States, Latin America, Australia, and France performing her duo silks and duo lyra acts.

**SERGEY PARSHIN** (*Duo Silk*) is from Voronez, Russia. He studied gymnastics and acrobatic sport in the prestigious Sports Acrobatic Academy. He holds several champion titles, and has competed on international levels. He has toured the United States, Europe, and Latin America with several Cirque companies, and is well-known for his aerial abilities.

**ELISABETH RAINER** (*Dancer*) began her dance training in the Baltimore, Maryland area, under the direction of Mary Carter. She graduated from the Gallatin School of NYU with a BA degree, and has performed with LiNK! the Movement, with Bette Midler in choreography by Toni Basil, in dance installations at El Museo del Barrio, and in many industrials and promotional videos. Elisabeth has been consulted for and featured in articles for Dance, Dancer, Time Out, and Nikkei Woman Magazines. A dance teacher as well as certified yoga teacher, Elisabeth is on faculty at several New York City area studios, including Broadway Dance Center.

**KIRILL REBKOVETS** (*Rolla Bolla*) is a multi-talented circus performer who has worked all over the world with his cube juggling and rolla bolla acts. This is his first season with *Cirque Le Masque* and he is thrilled to be part of their holiday show.

**FLETCHER RUNYAN** (*Tight Wire*) Trained from the age of six by the world renowned 8th generation Canestrelli family from Italy, Fletcher is one of the most experienced wire walkers in the United States today. He has developed a reputation for the feats he has accomplished on the wire such as the rare forward somersault and back handspring. His skills are not limited to just the wire; also performing acts such as the 80 foot sway poles and

Incline Motorcycle. Fletcher has traveled the Globe performing these acts in countries like Mexico, Canada, United States, and Saudi Arabia.

**BIANCA SALTAFORMAGGIO** (*Dance Captain/Dancer*) is beyond thrilled to be joining the cast of *Cirque Le Masque*! A New York Native, she received her BA in Dance from Marymount Manhattan. Some Regional credits include Gracie Shinn (*Music Man*) and ensemble (*Evita*) at The Fireside Theatre. Part of Kinetic Dance Theatre, Bianca has performed in several shows and cabarets with this NY based jazz company. Film: *Trying to Find the Words* (Waterway Productions). So much love and thanks to everyone in her life that keeps positivity around her...you know who you are!

**BERNIE SCHUSSEL** (*Executive Producer*) has been involved in the entertainment field since 1980 when he co-founded Le Masquerade Entertainment Troupe. This entertainment company started performing at private as well as corporate events, and grew through the years to perform for President Reagan, and the inauguration party for President Bill Clinton. Le Masquerade has also performed throughout the United States, Mexico, Europe and Canada. Bernie grew up in Queens before moving to Long Island where he resides with his wife Ellen. Cirque Le Masque is a dream come true as it encompasses all aspects of professional theater from concept and design to opening night. His main focus is to produce the finest shows that will leave the audience spellbound and amazed.

**DENNIS SCHUSSEL** (*Executive Producer*) has been in the entertainment industry since graduating CW Post College in 1966.

Before transferring to Post, he started booking shows on campus at Nassau Community College, and knew then that he found his passion...In 1980 he developed the highly successful interactive and theatrical performing troupe of *Le Masquerade*. In the mid 1990s, he created his first attempt at a *Cirque* theater production show called *Cirque Le Masque*.

Since that time, *Cirque Le Masque* has received national and international recognition, toured hundreds of cities including Atlantic City, Foxwoods, and Las Vegas, and performs around the world. *Cirque Le Masque* recently performed in Dubai to the highest of praise. *Cirque Le Masque* is constantly developing new productions to keep the shows fresh and unique. Our current production is *Carnivale*... and plan to open our newest production show *Evolution* in the very near future. Dennis thanks his wife Linda, family members Laurie and Eric, Robyn, and grandchildren Olivia and Spencer for their support and inspiration.

## NATALIYA TOLSTIKOVA

(*Foot Juggling*) was born in Yalta, Crimea and attended the Moscow School of Circus with a concentration in foot juggling. Nataliya has worked all over the world showcasing her unique skills and was the recipient of the 'Princess Russian Circus' special prize in 2007 and the 'Fifth International Festival Competition of Circus Arts in Moscow' special prize in 2006.

**WEEGO** (*Clown*) GOT WEEGO? With his kooky characters, zillion of faces and outrageous costumes, WEEGO has shocked and dazzled audiences for years! Performing all over the country, WEEGO has now been on The Las Vegas Strip for 5 years. Having started in Orlando, Florida, where he did

everything from promotions (Smirnoff Twist), Fashion Shows (Nicole Miller), and many Cabaret and Corporate Events, to hosting a night of his own ("Weego Wednesday's") at Universal Studios City Walk for 2 years with a cast of 10 dancers, WEEGO is a performer that can do anything! Following his dream to be featured on The Las Vegas Strip, WEEGO headed West.

In Las Vegas, WEEGO started at The Rio's *Show in the Sky* and he has done numerous Grand Openings, Red Carpet Events and performances for Planet Hollywood, Hard Rock Hotel, Bellagio and others. He continues to be in high demand for Corporate Events as well. Most recently he has toured Greece and the U.S. with *Cirque Le Masque Carnivale* and is thrilled to be part of *Cirque Le Masque* two new productions.



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## HOLIDAY EDITION

Starring

**GINA KREIEZMAR**  
**CRAIG LAURIE**

**JEANNE MONTANO**  
**KEVIN B. MCGLYNN**

At the Piano-Musical Director

**CATHERINE STORNETTA**

Choreographer  
**PHILLIP GEORGE**

Stage Manager  
**CATHERINE BLOCH**

Scenic Coordinator  
**BRITTANY LOESCH**

Lighting Design  
**BRIAN LOESCH**

Costume Design  
**ALVIN COLT**

Wig Design  
**CAROL SHERRY**

Directed By

**WILLIAM SELBY**

Created, Written and Originally Directed by

**GERARD ALESSANDRINI**



### **GINA KREIEZMAR**

*(Performer)*

has been involved with the "Forbidden" Phenomenon since the dawn of time! This year marks her 20th year with the show.

Performing *Forbidden Broadway* and *Forbidden Hollywood* in Manhattan, throughout the 50 states, with orchestras and symphonies (A dream come true!), as well as Singapore, Japan, and South Africa. Gina can be heard on the recently released DGR cast recording of *Forbidden Broadway goes to Rehab*. Other credits include *Evita* (Eva Peron), club dates at New York's famed Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Center, and numerous commercials and voiceovers. A Florida native, she graduated from the University of Miami School of Music and The Burt Reynolds Institute for Theater Training in Jupiter Florida, where she worked with and was directed by such notables as Charles Nelson Reilly, Carol Burnett, Liza Minnelli and Burt Reynolds. Her longest production is her marriage to her husband, Bob Goodman, and their most treasured collaboration is their son Max Tyler.



### **CRAIG LAURIE**

*(Performer)*

has performed extensively with the hit Off Broadway show *Forbidden Broadway*, appearing across

the country as well as the Off-Broadway production in NY. He was seen for nearly 1000 performances in the megasmash hit musical *Jersey Boys* where he originated the role of Bob Crewe in the Chicago production. Most recently Craig appeared as Guido Contini in Phoenix Theatre's celebrated production of *Nine*. National Tours: *Miss Saigon*, *Chicago*, and *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* guest starring Michael Bolton. Regional Theatres: Florida Studio Theatre, Barrington Stage, Stages St. Louis, Lenape PAC, White Plains PAC. Trained at NY's LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts and Wagner College ....and Craig is a triplet.



### **KEVIN B.**

**MCGLYNN**

*(Performer)*

a native of Medford, Ma and a graduate of the Boston Conservatory, Kevin is THRILLED to be returning to the Gateway Playhouse

with *Forbidden Broadway*. Most recently he performed as Matt in *5 Course Love* at the North Coast Rep in San Diego and as Benny Southstreet in *Guys and Dolls* at the Riverside Theatre in Vero Beach, other credits include the national tours of *All Shook Up*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *Forbidden Broadway*, regionally as Jesus in *JC Superstar*, Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* and Andrews in *Titanic*. Many thanks to family and friends for their CONSTANT love and support especially Mom and Dad.



## JEANNE MONTANO

(Performer)

has been happily performing *Forbidden Broadway* both in New York, across the country and overseas for the past 6 years.

Some theatre credits include: Off Broadway - *Forbidden Broadway SVU* - (Tony Award for Excellence in the Theatre and Drama Desk Award for Best Review) *Forbidden Broadway: Rude Awakening* - (Recording) Broadway and Natl Tour: *Cats* (Jellylorum/Griddlebone) Regional - *The Most Happy Fella* (Cleo) Starring John Schuck, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), *Funny Girl* (Fanny), *Joseph...* (Narrator), *Falsettos* (Cordelia) and *Nunsense* (Sister Mary Amnesia) with "Superior Mothers" Alice Ghostly, Pat Carroll and Lainie Kazan. She was recently seen Off-Broadway in *Loose Screws* and at the acclaimed Feinstein's and Kaufman Center in *Lawyer and His Ladies*. She is happily married to Robert Giannetta NYPD.

**WILLIAM SELBY** (Director) recently appeared in the play *Barrymore* at the Bristol Riverside Theatre in PA. He starred in the Boston, Detroit, Salt Lake City, San Diego and Washington DC companies of *Forbidden Broadway*, as well as several of the Off-Broadway editions. Overseas: *FB* (Japan and Singapore). Recording: *Forbidden Broadway Vol. II*, *FB 20th Anniversary Edition*, *FB Rude Awakening*, and the *FB Goes to Rehab* cd. Off-Broadway: *Nerds* (NY Musical Theatre Festival), *Forbidden Hollywood* (Triad), *Juba* (Vineyard), *The Apple Tree* (York). Workshop: *Finding Nemo* for Disney (Mr. Ray, Gill). Regional: *The Presidents* (with Rich Little), *Hot n' Cole*, *The All*

*Night Strut*. Assistant Director: *Forbidden Broadway* in New York, Los Angeles and Boston. Director: *FB* in New Orleans, LA (Le Petit Theatre), Long Beach CA (Musical Theatre West; 2009 OVATION Award nomination, Best Ensemble), Chicago (2009 JEFF Award nominee, Best Director), Pittsburgh CLO (two editions), Minneapolis (Chanhassen Dinner Theatre), Kansas City (Theatre League), Cleveland's famed Hanna Theatre and Milwaukee productions, as well as three editions of *A FORBIDDEN BROADWAY CHRISTMAS* in Detroit. Enter the words *FORBIDDEN BROADWAY BEHIND THE MYLAR* for Bill's behind-the-scenes look at the show on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)!

**CATHERINE STORNETTA** (Musical Director) has performed *Forbidden Broadway* in many cities including Boston, New York, San Diego, in Japan and Singapore, and on cruise ships circumnavigating the globe. She has also orchestrated and conducted the orchestral version with the Hartford, Minnesota, Winnipeg, North Carolina, Rochester, Detroit, and Adelaide (Australia) Symphonies. She composed the score for the Cable ACE-award winning documentary *Christa McAuliffe, Teacher in Space*, produced for the Arts and Entertainment Network *Biography* series, and she has written and produced several cabarets and musicals including: *Intriguing People* for People Magazine, *12 Angry Reindeer*, *All-of-a-Kind Family*, *Centimentenial*, *100 Songs in 60 Minutes*, and *Sleighs, Bells, and Santas*. She was the musical director for the Ogunquit Playhouse production of *My Fair Lady* for which she received an IRNE nomination for Best Musical Director of 2008. She has worked extensively as a composer, musical director, arranger and teacher in Boston. In her salad days, she was an occasional piano soloist with the Boston Pops.

**CATHERINE BLOCH** (Stage Manager) is delighted to be working with *Forbidden Broadway* again. Catherine stage managed *The Civilians' Great Immensity*, *Nobody's Lunch in New York* and *Gone Missing on the road*. She also tours with the very funny *Forbidden Hollywood*.

**GERARD ALESSANDRINI** (Creator, Writer & Director) is best known for writing and directing all the editions of *Forbidden Broadway* and *Forbidden Hollywood* in New York, Los Angeles, London and around the world. He was also a member of the original cast of *Forbidden Broadway*. Gerard is from Needham, Massachusetts and the Boston area, where he graduated from the Boston Conservatory of Music.

In 1982, he created *Forbidden Broadway*, which has spawned 15 editions, 8 cast albums and a 25-year-and-counting run in New York. Television credits include writing comedy specials for Bob Hope and Angela Lansbury on NBC, Carol Burnett on CBS and *Masterpiece Tonight*, a satirical revue saluting *Masterpiece Theatre* on PBS. He can be heard on four of the eight **FB** cast albums and on the soundtracks of Disney's *Aladdin* and *Pocahontas*. Directing credits include many corporate industrials and regional musicals, including a production of Maury Yeston's musical *In the Beginning*. Gerard also co-directed a revival of Irving Berlin's last musical *Mr. President*, which he updated and "politically corrected." Gerard is the recipient of an Obie Award, an Outer Critics Circle Award, two Lucille Lortel Awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Drama League and three Drama Desk Awards for Best Lyrics for *Forbidden Broadway*. Most recently, Gerard received a 2006 Tony Honor for Excellence in the Theatre.

## PHILLIP GEORGE

(Choreographer) As director Off-Broadway: *Shout!*, *Forbidden Broadway: SVU*, *Forbidden Hollywood*, *Whoop-Dee-Doo* (Drama Desk Award, Best Musical Revue), *Forbidden Broadway Twentieth Anniversary Edition*, *Forbidden Broadway Cleans Up Its Act*, *Forbidden Broadway Strikes Back*, *Forbidden Broadway 2001: A Spoof Odyssey* (Drama Desk Award, Best Musical Revue), *The Remarkable Ruth Fields* (1993 Bistro Award, Best Musical Best Director), *When Pigs Fly* (as Assoc. Director to Mark Waldrop), *Blackout* (Amas), *Bring Me a Dwarf* (Wing & Drop Co.), *Miss Pretty Hard* (Dance Theater Workshop with Katherine Griffith), *Forbidden Broadway 1988-93*. London: Kean (nominated for Evening Standard Award, Best New Musical); *Forbidden Broadway* (The Albery, West End); *Shout!*; *Frankly*, *Scarlet* (co-author with Peter Morris); *Listen to the Wind*; *Much Revue About Nothing*; *Forbidden Broadway*; *The Famous Five*; *The Arcadians*; *Escape from Pterodactyl Island* (1999 Michael Steward Award). Regionally: *Forum* (5th Ave Theatre, Seattle), *Best Little Whorehouse*, *Footloose*, *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *The Secret Garden* (Paper Mill). Currently Artistic Director: Wing & Drop Co. Club Acts: Ruben Flores, Randall Frizado, Chris DiCristo.

## ALVIN COLTS (Costume Design)

costumes have been represented in 88 Broadway shows which include the original productions of *On the Town* and *Guys and Dolls*, plus *Li'l Abner*, *Fanny*, *Destry Rides Again*, *Sugar*, *Pipe Dream*, *Wildcat*, *Lorelei*, *Greenwillow* and numerous others.

A Tony Award winner, he has also been nominated four times for both the Tony Award and television's Emmy Award, having designed costumes for over 90

programs on all major networks. Mr. Colt is the recipient of TDF's Irene Sharaff's Award in costume design, and received a Drama Desk nomination for *Forbidden Broadway*. He was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in 2001. Recently, The Museum of the City of New York celebrated Mr. Colt's work with *Costumes and Characters: The Designs of Alvin Colt*.

**BRIAN LOESCH** (Lighting Design) is proud to be part of the Gateway Family for his fourteenth straight season. Gateway Playhouse lighting design credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (2006 & 2010), *Avenue Q*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Forbidden Broadway* (2008), *The Full Monty*, *A Holiday Spectacular On Ice* (2004 & 2009), *South Pacific*, *Footloose*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Holiday Hop* (1999), *Urinetown*, *Mooseltoe*, *Cabaret* and numerous children's theatre productions including *Peter Pan* (2004) and *Jungle Book* (2005). Brian graduated with a Degree in Technical Theatre from Suffolk County Community College. Other design credits include *Language of Angels* (Henry Street Experimental Theatre, NYC), *Paraffin Touch* (World Premiere at Suffolk County Community College), *The Man Who Would Be King* (World Premiere at the Antrim Playhouse), and *Kiss Me Kate* (Cape Fear Regional Theatre). National Tour credits include *George M!* (2003 Candlewood Int./Mainstage Productions), *Titanic* (2004 Candlewood Int.), *A Holiday Spectacular On Ice* (2004 A Gateway / Candlewood Production), *Mame* (2005-06 Candlewood Int.), *Camelot* (2006-07 Candlewood Int.), and the 2007 and 2008 productions of *Mooseltoe* (Sammelman Productions).

**BRITTANY LOESCH** (Scenic Coordinator) graduated with a BFA in Theater from

Pace University in New York City. Previous designs include *Violet*, *Kiss of The Spider Woman*, *A Perfect Ganesh*, and *Iboga* at Pace University, *Language of Angels* at the Abrons Art Center and *Quiet Cry* (Passajj Productions) on Theater Row. Previous Gateway credits include *Sophisticated Ladies*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Avenue Q*, as well as *I Love a Piano* for both set and projection design. Her 10 year journey from Intern to Designer has brought her all over the country touring with *Rent* and *Mooseltoe*, as well as designing various children's theater productions. She has also just finished her first season as Properties Designer for the Actor's Studio Drama School in New York City. It's wonderful to be back working with such a great team this season!

**JOHN FREEDSON** (Producer) has been associated with *Forbidden Broadway* for most of its 27-year history and has produced the Special-Tony®-awarded New York company since 1994. John is also producer of the current national tour of the Off-Broadway hit *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. With his partner Harriet Yellin, he produced *Forbidden Broadway* at London's Menier Chocolate Factory, in Los Angeles, San Diego, Detroit, Denver and on tour, as well as *Forbidden Hollywood* in Los Angeles, Japan and Off-Broadway. He has directed both shows to acclaim around the world, winning Jefferson Award for Best Direction for the Chicago production of *FB*. Mr. Freedson co-produced 8 *Forbidden Broadway* CD's for DRG records and, long-ago, appeared in the Off-Broadway and Boston productions. As a composer/ lyricist, he wrote three hit children's musicals: *A Swan is Born*, *Aesop's Follies* and *Country Mouse/City Mouse*, which toured with the New England Theatre Guild. His voice can be heard on numerous radio and

television spots and jingles, two *Forbidden Broadway* CD's and Disney's *Aladdin*. Originally from Reading PA, Mr. Freedson attended the Boston Conservatory and is a graduate of Brandeis University.

**HARRIET YELLIN** (Producer) produced and managed *Forbidden Broadway* in Boston, which ran for over six years, as well as the Los Angeles, San Diego, Washington, D.C., Detroit, and Denver productions of the show. With John Freedson, she is co-producing the current *Forbidden Broadway* SVU in New York and was a co-producer of *Forbidden Hollywood* in Los Angeles, Chicago, Japan and New York. She was co-producer and General Manager of *Forever Plaid* in Boston, and is currently the CFO for Blue Man Group, with shows running in New York, Boston, Chicago, and Las Vegas, Toronto, and London. In another life, she was a high-powered political consultant; clients included a variety of senatorial and gubernatorial candidates and she was National Media Director for the Dukakis and Tsongas Presidential campaigns.

## **FORBIDDEN BROADWAY AND FORBIDDEN HOLLYWOOD**

*Forbidden Broadway* was first seen at Palsson's Supper Club on New York's Upper West Side in January, 1982. What began as a simple cabaret act to give creator/lyricist Gerard Alessandrini a showcase for his talents and the opportunity to "find an agent" became New York's longest running musical comedy revue. Hailed by critics and audiences alike, *Forbidden Broadway* won Drama Desk, Obie and Outer Critics Circle awards and captured the heart of the theatre industry itself. Many of its legendary "victims," including Mary Martin, Ethel Merman, Bernadette Peters, Tommy Tune, Angela Lansbury,

Stephen Sondheim, Hal Prince, and Andrew Lloyd Webber, were among the celebrities who stopped by to applaud first-hand. Updated regularly for each new theatre season, *Forbidden Broadway* ran to packed houses at the 75-seat Palsson's through August, 1987. In September, 1988, the show re-opened at the 125-seat Theatre East, where it ran an additional 5-1/2 years. The show also became known for talented but as yet unknown actors, many of whom have gone on to stardom in various venues: Jason Alexander (*Seinfeld's* George Costanza), Chloe Webb (*Twins* and the PBS series *Tales of the City*), Davis Gaines (*Phantom*), as well as Roxie Lucas (*Damn Yankees*), Gregg Edelman (*City of Angels*), Dee Hoty (*Will Rogers Follies*), Michael McGrath (*Spamalot*, *The Martin Short Show*), and Brad Oscar (*The Producers*). *Forbidden Broadway's* success was repeated in Boston, where it enjoyed a 6-1/2-year stay at the 250-seat Terrace Room; Chicago and Boca Raton (over two years each), Toronto and Philadelphia (one year each), Kansas City (nine months and two return engagements), Denver (six months), San Diego (two engagements including *Forbidden Christmas*), a record-breaking run in 1994 at the Tiffany Theatre in Los Angeles, Sydney, Tokyo, and Singapore among many others. In 1999, after a sell-out engagement at London's Jermyn Street Theatre, it transferred for the summer to the famed Albery Theatre in the West End. *Forbidden Broadway's* return to the Tiffany Theatre in Los Angeles in the spring of 2000 garnered two more Ovation Awards. Mr. Alessandrini's next spoof, *Forbidden Hollywood*, first appeared as a section of *Forbidden Broadway* in Boston in 1989. After several years of work on the project, the full length version previewed in San Diego, then opened

in Los Angeles in March, 1995. The run at the Coronet Theatre delighted audiences for nearly a year and was nominated for seven Ovation Awards. Whoopi Goldberg, Carol Channing, and many other luminaries of the "industry" showed up to see themselves and their friends lovingly parodied. The show was subsequently produced in Chicago (which garnered three Jefferson Award nominations), Kansas City (a record-breaking run), and Toronto. It was updated for New York and ran off-Broadway in 1996, and has had numerous successful runs across America since that time. In the fall of 1996, the *Forbidden* crew, including John Freedson and Harriet Yellin (producers), Phill George (Associate Director), and of course, writer-director Gerard Alessandrini, turned their attention back to their first love: Broadway. A new edition of the show, *Forbidden Broadway Strikes Back!* returned to New York and its original home on West 72nd (now called the Triad and expanded to 135 seats), where it once again delighted audiences with its fast-paced spoofs of current Broadway shows and stars. The return of *FB* was again greeted with raves from critics (The New York Times called it "triumphant") and the show won the Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, and Drama League Awards. Bob Hope,

Bea Arthur, Stephen Sondheim, Angela Lansbury, Savion Glover, George C. Wolfe, Elaine Paige, Rosie O'Donnell, Dame Maggie Smith and the casts of *Lion King*, *Aida*, and *Rent* are among the recent attendees. The show moved to the Douglas Fairbanks Theatre on 42nd Street with a brand new edition, *Forbidden Broadway 2001: A Spoof Odyssey*, which won the 2001 Drama Desk Award for Best Revue. *Forbidden Broadway's 20th Anniversary Edition* was followed by *Forbidden Broadway: SVU*, which won yet another Drama Desk Award for Best Musical Revue in 2005. Most recently, the show was recognized with a Tony Honors Award, for being an integral part of the theatre community for over twenty-five years. As long as there's a Broadway, *Forbidden Broadway* will be there, poking, prodding, teasing, pleasing, jeering and cheering, but always, with love.

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## THE CORNELL GUNTHER COASTERS.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the formation of Cornell Gunter's Coasters out of the ashes of the surprising breakup of the original Coaster group several months earlier.

Few people recall anymore the historical significance of Cornell Gunter's decision at the time to "fly in the face of the wind." After all, he thought he could form a new group that would overcome the sudden lack of public interest in The Coasters' music, and 1950's music in general. And he thought he could do so by relying, in part at least, on Coasters' music. Cornell believed that there was a new and unique way to present 1950's music and clearly a new approach was needed because the early 60's brought about a stunning and sudden change in American musical tastes. The Beatles

and psychedelic music were right around the corner and almost overnight The Coasters, along with all of the other purveyors of the oldies group sound (The Drifters, The Shirelles, The Platters, to name a few), went from living as stars in the spotlight to being unable to get a new record played on the radio.

Looking back, given the current popularity of their type of music, it is hard to believe that this immensely popular art form could have fallen into disfavor so rapidly, joining such other fads as disco, calypso, big band and swing; all of which disappeared from the music scene.

Like aging football players or silent movie stars, the 1950's group members all seemed headed for their new lives out of the limelight. Enter Cornell Gunter. Cornell believed that The

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Coasters could be reborn. In fact he believed that all of the groups from that era could be reborn, and thrive as live performing groups and ultimately he led the way to what was soon to become known as "the rock revival." All that was needed was to take the original music and present it in a way that gave each group a modern theatrical approach to their presentation. More important, he developed an approach to 1950's music that lent itself to constant innovation.

And slowly but surely the fans returned. So unique was Cornell's approach to The Coasters' music and 1950's music in general that within a year Cornell Gunter's Coasters were headlining in Las Vegas for six months out of the year. Soon The Drifters, The Platters and other 1950's groups following Cornell's lead, were reconstituted as live performing groups, all with their own unique style. By 1969, came the first oldies stations and oldies shows that still fascinate the country's musical taste today. In fact, by the early 1970's, all of the original Coasters had formed their own individual groups of Coasters and were touring extensively, both separately and on certain occasions, together. All because of this "crazy idea" of Cornell Gunter.

Over the years, Cornell Gunter's Coasters has continually built up a new market for their approach to 1950's music. If you've seen the show, you will know what we mean when we say, "you are in for a surprise." Today they are as much a comedy act as a singing group. It's The Coasters' music through the eyes of Salvador Dali. It's definitely not your mother's music.

It has been ten years since Cornell passed away. Since that time, his sister

Shirley (who was an original member of The Platters and had been Cornell's manager and the creative force behind the group) incorporated Cornell's genius into the group's ongoing homage, to not only The Coasters' music, but to Cornell himself.

It is under her tutelage and guidance that the group continues to entertain today. And today Cornell Gunter's genius still lives on in the way Cornell Gunter's Coasters present themselves on stage.

**THE MARVELETTES** occupy an esteemed place in the history of American popular music as the group that caused Motown, and most notably Berry Gordy to change the label's focus from single bluesy soul artists (previously Barret Strong's "Money" had been the label's biggest seller) to a smooth orchestrated harmonic sound that transcended the prior racial limits of rhythm and blues. With their first record, "Please, Mr. Postman" hitting the top spot on the charts and selling 3 million records in a crossover market Motown was to concentrate on the Marvelettes, Supremes, Temptations, Four Tops, and Martha and the Vandellas and create a new group pop soul sound that totally dominated the music charts until the advent of the Beatles 4 years later.

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During their reign at the top of the charts the girls were to turn out over a dozen hits, eight of which went Top Ten. Although the group at times had more than three members, the originators were Wanda Rogers, Gladys Horton, and Katherine Shaffner. In the early years of the group, family ties forced all three to leave the act at various times (although Wanda and Gladys continued to make frequent "guest appearances") but carefully chosen and highly talented replacements kept the act at the top of the charts even with changed personnel. Once again this is a patented mark of Motown's success story-the ability to change personnel in acts like the Supremes, Temptations and the Marvelettes and still keep an act at the top of the charts and in demand for personal appearances.

In fact it is in person where the current lineup really excels. Offering an act that features Motown standards, interspersed with their versions of some great contemporary songs, the girls are still, in the smooth Motown vein, a highly choreographed, polished, very good looking and humorous night club act as well as a major draw.

**THE PLATTERS** first formed during the dawn of the rock & roll era, early part in the 1950's. At the outset, the group included five teenagers, Tony Williams (their legendary first lead singer) along with Zola Taylor, Herb Reed, Paul Robi and David Lynch. Initially under the direction of their famed manager, Buck Ram, and continuing to this day under the direction of current management, some of the greatest singers in rock & roll history have passed through this group.

The list of hits turned out by the

original PLATTERS includes ten songs that qualified for Billboard's list of the 500 greatest rock & roll hits of all time, including three in the top 50. They have had 21 top 10 records, 9 million selling singles, 5 platinum albums and 5 number 1 songs. Their total record sales exceed 200 million, making them one of the top 25 selling artists of all time (source: *Billboard Magazine*).

It has been nearly 30 years since the last original member left THE PLATTERS and still the group remains one of the most popular in rock & roll in history, continuing their popularity by becoming one of the most sought after performing groups in the country. Over the years the greatest of care has been taken to assure that each new member of THE PLATTERS carries on the tradition and maintains the skills that were associated with the original group.

The group has appeared all over the world, including President Clinton's inauguration and the coronation of the Queen of England, as well as on a good will exchange tour at the Great Wall for the Chinese government. Additionally they have appeared at such stellar American venues as Foxwoods Hotel & Casino, Westbury Music Fair, Madison Square Garden, The Houston Astrodome, The Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas and Trump Castle in Atlantic City. The group has appeared on such television shows as The Today Show, The Tonight Show, Good Morning America and Saturday Night Live and are currently promoting their latest CD, "The Platters Live in Las Vegas".

# the gateway

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### Holiday Season 2011

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**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 exits. SMOKING is prohibited in the BUILDING, as required by the Suffolk County NO SMOKING Ordinance. Smoking in any area designated "No Smoking" renders the offenders subject to a fine, or imprisonment, or both.

#### PRODUCTION

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 Technical Director..... Dennis Berfield  
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 Sound Engineer..... Adam Shubert  
 Assistant Production Manager. Justin Hoffman  
 Assistant Sound Engineer..... Ben Panichello  
 Wardrobe Supervisor..... Marianne Dominy  
 Wardrobe/Dresser..... Natalie Ferris  
 Flyman..... AJ Lebenns  
 Scenic Charge..... Keeley Dorwart  
 Sound Consultants..... Dominic Sac,  
 Cody Spencer  
 Technicians..... Mark Frederick, Maxx Henry,  
 Greg Marullo  
 Technical Interns..... Justin Michel,  
 Bethany Sortman

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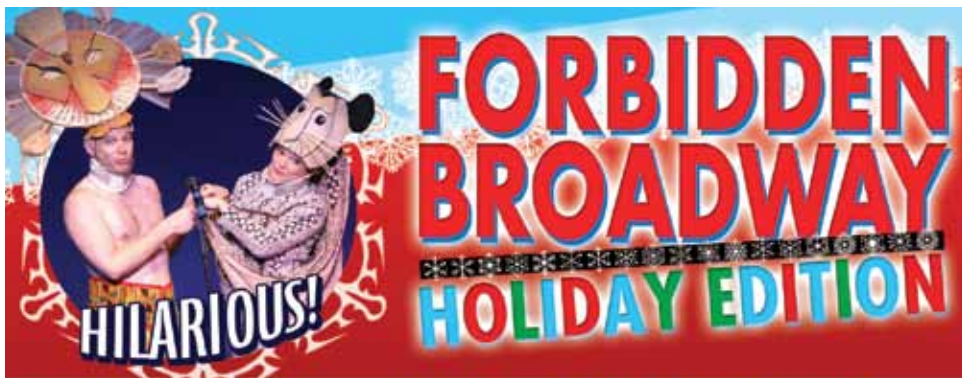
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# 2012 SEASON—A SURVEY...

**W**e have been entertaining you with professional theater for 63 years. For next season we have proposed a list of our favorites and recently closed Broadway hits, some of which are already set. Please help us set the remainder of our season and possible special events by marking your preferences below.

From each of the following rows, check off the 1 or 2 shows you would be most interested in attending, or choose none of these. Check a maximum of 2 per row. Once completed, please give to an usher or drop it off at the box office.

- 
1. ☐ Carousel      ☐ Me and My Girl      ☐ My Fair Lady      ☐ Mame  
☐ none of these
- 
2. ☐ Titanic      ☐ Swing      ☐ Scarlet Pimpernel      ☐ Footloose  
☐ Phantom      ☐ none of these
- 
3. ☐ Hair      ☐ Xanadu      ☐ All Shook Up      ☐ Grease  
☐ Buddy Holly      ☐ Next To Normal      ☐ none of these
- 
4. ☐ The Marvelous Wonderettes      ☐ Little Shop of Horrors  
☐ Smokey Joe's Café      ☐ Forever Plaid  
☐ Dames at Sea      ☐ 1940's Radio Hour  
☐ none of these
- 
5. ☐ Riverdance      ☐ Legends in Concert      ☐ The Rat Pack      ☐ Stomp  
☐ none of these
- 
6. **Tribute Bands:**  
☐ Rolling Stones      ☐ Pink Floyd      ☐ Steely Dan      ☐ Billy Joel  
☐ none of these

*Thank you for taking the time to fill out our survey*

*Enjoy the show!*

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