

Saturday, January 16, 2021 | 7:30 PM

**MSM MUSICAL THEATRE**

**Liza Gennaro**, Associate Dean and Director

***Le Comte Noir***

**Charles Vincent Burwell**, Composer/Lyricist

**James D. Sasser** (BM '98), Book Writer/Lyricist

**Catie Davis**, Director

**André M. Zachery**, Choreographer

**Andrew Gerle**, Music Director

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**Martín Lara Avila**, Wardrobe Stylist

**Kelley Shih**, Lighting Designer

**Megan P. G. Kolpin**, Props Coordinator

**Willem Oosthuysen**, Orchestrator

**Super Awesome Friends**, Video Production and Additional Post-Production Audio

**Jim Glaub, Scott Lupi, Brenna Kilpatrick, Attilio Rigotti, Orsolya Szánthó, Dan Rudin, David Givens**

# WELCOME FROM LIZA GENNARO, DIRECTOR OF MSM MUSICAL THEATRE

I am very excited to welcome you to MSM Musical Theatre's Virtual Production Season and to introduce you to our wonderful video production team at Super Awesome Friends—Jim Glaub, Scott Lupi, Rebecca Prowler, and Brenna Kilpatrick. They along with our writers, directors, choreographers, designers, musical directors, musicians, stage managers, assistants, editors, production staff, and incredible student crews have made these virtual performances possible.

We've spent the fall adapting to a new medium and adjusting our creative impulses from stage to screen. The students have learned self-recording techniques and joined the ranks of Jeremy Jordan, Laura Linney, Patti Lupone, Karen Ziemba, Melissa Errico and so many more wonderful actors who have pivoted to the online format.

The process has called for invention and ingenuity. Students have created homemade microphone windscreens out of their mother's old stockings and a wire hanger. They have improvised sound booths while quarantining in midtown hotels—recording vocal tracks beneath an ironing board with a duvet draped over it.

Our maestro tells us that orchestra sessions occurred worldwide, with a French horn player in Taiwan, a drummer in Israel, who was being attacked by tsetse flies, a violinist in Georgia (the country, not the state), and another violinist in Korea. Because it was 2:00 AM for them, the students in Asia were only able to hold their instruments in their laps while the other players rehearsed, for fear of waking their families. For those who were playing, the delay on zoom was so extreme that not only were they rarely on the same beat, they were frequently not even in the same measure.

Dance rehearsals presented their own challenges when zoom delay caused the 5,6,7,8 count-off to prompt each performer to start dancing at a different moment. The mind-dizzying display of each dancer performing to their own accompaniment and ending one, by one, by one was both hilarious and disheartening.

Nonetheless the show must go on and we persevered. Artists will find a way and we did. We turned the pandemic into a positive and valuable learning experience for our students by introducing them to self-recording techniques and preparing them to engage in a transformed industry.

This production was filmed following all MSM COVID-19 regulations including physical distancing, room vacancy, and face covering requirements. Some scenes include multiple students without face coverings who are made to appear together through video editing. Students appearing without face coverings recorded themselves alone in a room, in their homes, and/or in accordance with local safety protocols in their location.

We hope you enjoy the shows!

Be well,  
Liza Gennaro

# CAST

*Alexandre Dumas*

*Thomas-Alexandre Dumas*

*Adah Isaacs Menken*

*Marie-Louise Dumas*

*The Chevalier de Saint-Georges*

*Marie Cessette*

*Jean-Michel Rabat*

*Noemie "Oubliée"*

*Napoleon Bonaparte*

*Captain Banale*

**Torinae Norman**

**Bobby Barksdale**

**Ella Faria**

**Libby Johnston**

**Bobby Leaks**

**Jazmyne Charles**

**Joey Miceli**

**Alesha Jeter**

**Bronson Todd**

**Steven Martella**

## **La Liberté**

**Katherine Parrish, Liberté 1**

**Cameron Anthony, Liberté 2**

**Sarah Denison, Liberté 3**

## **Vox Populi**

**Richener Bissereth**

**Corbin Born**

**Regina Brown**

**TaylorRae Carter**

**Steven Martella**

**Maya Mills**

**Tori Moss**

**Bailey Pierce**

**Zane Zapata**

# BAND

**Risa Hokamura, violin**

**Lumeng Yang, violin**

**Jack Rittendale, viola**

**Midori Witkoski, viola**

**Audrey Jellet, cello**

**Gabriel Bar-Cohen, drums**

**Nicholas Mrakovic, bass**

**Andrew Gerle, piano**

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

The Rights of Man	Vox Populi, La Liberté
Imprisoned	Thomas, Prison Guards
What Kind of Man?	Alexandre
Tu N'Oublieras Pas	Marie Cessette
Being an Artist	Rabat & Alexandre
En Garde	Saint-Georges, Thomas, Vox Populi
Be What You Want	Saint-Georges, Thomas, Vox Populi
Unspoken Truth	Noemie & Thomas
The Misery of France	Vox Populi & Liberté 1
A Better World	Marie-Louise & Thomas
Liberty Is Victory	Vox Populi, Liberté 2, Saint-Georges, Thomas
The Reason	Marie-Louise
Italy – The Bridge of Death	Vox Populi, La Liberté, Bonaparte
What Do You Need?	Adah, Alexandre, Vox Populi, La Liberté
The Glory of France	Vox Populi
Fake News	Bonaparte, Banale, Vox Populi
The Glory of France (Emperor Edition)	Vox Populi, Bonaparte, La Liberté
The Ascension of Saint-Georges	Saint-Georges, La Liberté
The Reason / Reckoning	Thomas, Marie Cessette, Noemie, Marie-Louise, Alexandre
Remembrance	Vox Populi

# ABOUT BURWELL & SASSER

Charles Vincent Burwell & James D. Sasser were 2019 Jonathan Larson Grant Finalists and Uncharted Artists in Residence at Ars Nova in 2014, where development began on their musical *Bottle Shock* (based on the hit cult movie) with Artistic Director Kent Nicholson. *Le Comte Noir* is their latest musical, commissioned by Manhattan School of Music for its new musical works initiative with director Catie Davis. Their other musicals include *CUBAMOR*, which had its developmental premiere at the Village Theatre's Beta Series, was an official selection of NAMT (2014) and TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's New Works Festival (2013), and was first developed at NYU-GMTWP, where Vince and James met. They were also commissioned by New York Children's Theatre (formerly Making Books Sing) for a musical about soccer called *O Jogo Bonito (The Beautiful Game)*. Their work is also featured on Broadway On Demand.

James D. Sasser, whose performance career spans Broadway, off-Broadway, and stages around the world, has been involved in the development of dozens of new musical works on both sides of the table as an actor, writer, director, and producer. He has worked with legendary outfits ranging from *Riverdance* to Sundance, shows from *Jesus Christ Superstar* to *Forbidden Broadway*, and organizations including New Dramatists, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, the O'Neill Theatre Center, Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Theatre Club, Goodspeed Musicals, the Vineyard, Village Theatre, and many more. He is also the bookwriter for the new musical *Looking for Christmas* with country music legend Clint Black, which had its world premiere at the Old Globe in San Diego in 2018. He is also collaborating with fellow *Riverdance* veterans Dunphy & Holden of the award-winning Irish folk supergroup The High Kings. James holds a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Manhattan School of Music and an MFA from the NYU-Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program.

Charles Vincent Burwell, a multi-instrumentalist and composer in both the theatrical and dance worlds, currently serves as Professor of Theatre at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee College. Organizations that he has worked with include the Lincoln Center Institute, Urban Bush Women, the Katherine Dunham Institute, Trenton Educational Dance Institute, National Dance Institute, Festival del Caribe Santiago de Cuba, Ile Aiyé Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, the Bates Dance Festival, and the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. He has composed for Cairo Egypt Opera House Ballet and been a longtime member of the faculty and staff at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. His music was featured in the HBO documentary *Jacques D'Amboise in China*. Vince was also a member of the 2018 Musikmarathon in Austria and was the 2016 Art Saves Lives Musical Theater Lecturer on St. Maarten Island. He is a recent recipient of a Pew Center for Arts and Heritage Fellowship for "Pushers," and of a Brooklyn Arts Council grant for his work as a producer and composer with Renegade Performance Group's Afrofuturism Series. A charter member of the Omicron Gamma Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Professional Music Fraternity, Vince holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education/Voice from Florida A&M University and an MFA from the NYU-Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Program.

# MEET THE CAST

## **Cameron Anthony (Liberté 2)**

Cameron Anthony is a senior in the Musical Theatre Program from Forney, Texas. Credits include *Cabaret* (MSM); *Into the Woods* (Garland Civic Theatre); *Baby the Musical* (Theatre Coppel); *Guys and Dolls* (Best Actress Nomination, Dallas Summer Musicals HSMT); *The Addams Family*, *Pajama Game*, *Curtains*, *Thoroughly Modern Mille* (Forney Performing Arts); and *Curtains* (New York Live Arts).

## **Bobby Barksdale (Thomas-Alexandre Dumas)**

Bobby Barksdale from Buffalo, New York, is a sophomore Musical Theatre major. This is his first full production at the school and his first time ever originating a role. Previous performances include *Freshman Hello!* (Ensemble), *Legally Blonde* (Emmett), and *Rock of Ages* (Dennis). Bobby is overjoyed to have the opportunity to bring a new character to life on the screen and very grateful to be at Manhattan School of Music making art with such talented individuals.

## **Richener Bissereth (Vox Populi)**

Richener Bissereth is a sophomore Musical Theatre student from Hyattsville, Maryland. He was last seen in Manhattan School of Music's *Freshmen Hello!* and he was a member of the tech crew for *Wild Party*. In *Le Comte Noir*, you will see him as a prisoner, heckler, and soldier.

## **Corbin Born (Vox Populi)**

Corbin Born, a junior from Dallas, Texas, transferred to Manhattan School of Music after studying for two years at Collin College. He was last seen in the ensemble of the 2019 Fred Ebb Musical in Development *Radioactive* and as Jack Chesney in MSM's production of *Where's Charley?* Corbin also appeared onstage during the grand reopening of MSM's Neidorff-Karpati Hall, where he performed "The Jet Song" and "Make Our Garden Grow" with several of his classmates and fellow musicians.

## **Regina Brown (Vox Populi)**

Regina Brown is a junior Musical Theatre major. She graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy, the performing arts boarding school in Interlochen, Michigan, where her favorite role was Clara Johnson in *The Light in the Piazza*. Last year she took a year off from life in the Big Apple to return to her home, Dallas, Texas. During her year off she made her professional debut as an actor in *The Sound of Music* playing the role of Liesl, directed by Brian Clowdus, a life-changing experience.

## **TaylorRae Carter (Vox Populi/Assistant Choreographer)**

TaylorRae Carter, a junior from Lambertville, New Jersey, was last seen at Manhattan School of Music in *The Wild Party*. She is ecstatic to be a part of *Le Comte Noir*. Some of her other past credits are *Little Women* (Beth), *A Chorus Line* (Cassie), and *Damn Yankees* (Lola). She was also the assistant choreographer for MSM's productions of *The Wild Party* and *Freshman Hello!*

## **Jazmyne Charles (Marie Cessette)**

Houston native Jazmyne Charles is a sophomore at Manhattan School of Music, majoring in Musical Theatre. She has portrayed leading characters in a number of Precollege musical productions, including *Carmen Jones* (Carmen), *Jelly's Last Jam* (Anita), *Once on This Island* (Ti Moune), *HairSpray* (Lil' Inez), and *The Wiz* (Dorothy).

### **Sarah Denison (Liberté 3)**

Sarah Denison, an avid traveler, plant mom, and amateur poet, is in her fourth year at Manhattan School of Music. She's honored and excited to be part of this new project and to be working with director Catie Davis at MSM once again after last fall's production of *Where's Charley?* (Kitty). Also at MSM she has appeared in Lippa's *The Wild Party* (ensemble), *Cabaret* (Two Ladies), and *Fiorello!* (Dance Ensemble). Regional credits include *Fools* and *Big River* with TheatreWorks of Southern Indiana.

### **Ella Faria (Adah Isaacs Menken)**

Ella Faria, a junior, is so excited to be playing Adah in *Le Comte Noir*. Some of her past favorite roles have been *Spamalot* (Lady of the lake), *Shrek the Musical* (Fiona), and *Godspell* (Sonya). She is so excited to play this role and to be a part of bringing this amazing show to life!

### **Alesha Jeter (Noemie "Oubliée")**

Alesha Jeter is a sophomore in the Musical Theatre Program who is currently taking classes remotely from her home in Orlando, Florida. She was raised in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. *Le Comte Noir* is Alesha's first show at MSM and she is more than honored to be originating the role of Noemie "Oubliée."

### **Libby Johnston (Marie-Louise Dumas)**

Libby Johnston, a junior in the Musical Theatre Program, is from Auckland, New Zealand. She is thrilled to be involved in her second production at MSM, having played Nadine in *The Wild Party* last spring. Libby made her professional debut as Liesl in the New Zealand National Tour of *The Sound of Music*. Other credits include *Oliver!* (Nancy), *Into the Woods* (The Witch), and *Guys and Dolls* (Sarah Brown).

### **Bobby Leaks (Chevalier de Saint-Georges)**

A junior from Rock Hill, South Carolina, Bobby Leaks is over the hilltops to be in this production of *Le Comte Noir*. His past credits include *Wild Party* (Ensemble), *Where's Charley?* (Swing/Assistant Dance Captain), *The Little Mermaid* (Ensemble/Dance Captain), *Freshman Hello!* (Student), *Broadway Dreams* (Intern), and *Newsies* (Newsboy).

### **Steven Martella (Captain Banale, Vox Populi)**

Steven Martella, a senior, is absolutely thrilled to be a part of this MSM production of *Le Comte Noir*. Some of his recent professional credits include *Legally Blonde* (Kyle the UPS Guy), *Heathers: The Musical* (Ram Sweeney), *The House at Pooh Corner* (Winnie the Pooh), and *Mamma Mia!* (Ensemble). Steven would like to acknowledge that he would not be here today if it wasn't for his incredible mom and dad.

### **Joey Miceli (Jean-Michel Rabat)**

Joey Miceli is a junior Musical Theatre major, most recently in the ensembles of the MSM productions of *Sweeney Todd* and Lippa's *The Wild Party*. Credits: *Fiddler on the Roof* (Fyedka), *Rent* (Mark Cohen), *Scapin* (Argante), and *The Addams Family* (Lucas Beineke). A two-time BroadwayWorld Award nominee, he is also an accomplished singer/songwriter, with four studio albums available through AWAL Recordings America on all digital platforms; his fifth is due next year.

### **Maya Mills (Vox Populi)**

Maya Mills, a sophomore Musical Theatre major, grew up in San Francisco, California. Most recently, she was in *Freshman Hello!* at Manhattan School of Music. Some of her favorite past shows include *The Addams Family* (Alice), *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Kenny), *Parade* (Mrs. Phagan), and *Homefront* (Agnes Kelly).

## **Tori Moss (Vox Populi)**

Tori Moss is so excited to be a part of the cast of *Le Comte Noir*. She is a sophomore at Manhattan School of Music, where she was most recently seen in *Freshman Hello!* last year. Some of her favorite productions from the past include *Urinetown* (Little Sally), *Anything Goes* (Erma), *Peter Pan* (Jane), and *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble).

## **Torinae Norman (Alexandre Dumas)**

Torinae Norman, a Louisville, Kentucky native, is a Musical Theatre junior. She is honored to be a part of this new and exciting piece of theatre/film. Stage credits: *Sweeney Todd*, *A Raisin in the Sun* (Mrs. Johnson), *Sister Act* (Deloris Van Cartier), *The Wiz* (Aunt Em), *Sophisticated Ladies* (singer/dance captain), *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Color Purple*. Award ceremonies: Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Awards (singer), Keepers of the Dream (dancer/singer) Film: *Mom and Dad*, *The Ultimate Legacy*. IG: @naileh\_champion @Tori\_Normz

## **Katherine Parrish (Liberté 1)**

Katherine Parrish is a senior Musical Theatre major at Manhattan School of Music, where she has appeared in *Spring Awakening* (Wendla), *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble) and *Cabaret* (Kit Kat Orchestra). In the summer of 2019, she participated in College Light Opera Company's 51st season in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, where she appeared in nine musicals and operettas, including *Bye Bye Birdie* (Kim MacAfee) and *Godspell* (Célisse). Hailing from southern California, Katherine studied acting at South Coast Repertory for six years.

## **Bailey Pierce (Vox Populi)**

Bailey Pierce is a sophomore Musical Theatre major, who is currently attending class remotely from her new home in Hendersonville, Tennessee. Some of her recent performances have been *Freshman Hello!*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Molly), *Once on This Island* (Mama Euralie), *Legally Blonde* (Margot), and *Sophisticated Ladies* (Ensemble).

## **Bronson Todd (Napoleon Bonaparte)**

Bronson Todd, a junior in the Musical Theatre Program, is excited to be in his second production at Manhattan School of Music. He was last seen on the MSM stage as Mister Spettigue in *Where's Charley?* Favorite previous performances include *Noises Off* (Lloyd), *Die Fledermaus* (Frank), and *Assassins* (Balladeer). He is excited to be working in this brave (and strange) new world of zoom musicals and hopes you enjoy the show!

## **Zane Zapata (Vox Populi)**

Zane Zapata, a junior in the Musical Theatre Program, is thrilled to be a part of *Le Comte Noir* at MSM. His training started at the American Boychoir School in Princeton, New Jersey. Originally focused on classical voice, he transitioned over to musical theatre and couldn't be happier. This coming spring he will be playing Aldolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He loves his mom and dad very much.

# MEET THE BAND

**Risa Hokamura**, violin  
Student of Koichiro Harada  
*Kodaira-Shi, Japan*

**Lumeng Yang**, violin  
Student of Lucie Robert  
*Beijing, China*

**Jack Rittendale**, viola  
Student of Karen Dreyfus  
*Kirkwood, Missouri*

**Midori Witkoski**, viola  
*New York, New York*

**Audrey Jellet**, cello  
Student of Julia Lichten  
*Kerrville, Texas*

**Gabriel Bar-Cohen**, drums  
Student of John Riley  
*Princeton, New Jersey*

**Nicholas Mrakovic**, bass  
Student of Jay Anderson  
*New Hyde Park, New York*

**Andrew Gerle**, piano  
*Catonsville, Maryland*

# MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM

## **Catie Davis, Director**

Catie Davis has worked in theaters across NYC and around the world. Recent directing credits include *Pregnancy Pact* (NYU), *Where's Charley?* (Manhattan School of Music/The Riverside Theatre), and *Empath* (Theaterlab). She has worked as an associate director on the Broadway productions of *Company*, *Moulin Rouge*, and *Beetlejuice*. Other associate directing credits include *Ben Platt Live from Radio City Music Hall* (Netflix), The Public Theater, Roundabout Theatre Company, and Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. She is a 2018 Manhattan Theatre Club Directing Fellow, a Lincoln Center Directors Lab alum, and a proud member of SDC. Catie is actively involved in the creation and development of multiple new theatrical projects and believes the future of theater lies in works that engage with the world in which we live. She has developed work with writing teams Julia Meinwald and Gordon Leary; Eli Kaplan-Wildmann, Yonatan Cnaan, and Andrew Zachary Cohen; and Kate Thomas and Joey Contreras, among others. She continues to seek out new collaborations and opportunities for theater to bring communities together. [www.catie-davis.com](http://www.catie-davis.com)

## **André M. Zachery, Choreographer**

André M. Zachery is a Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artist of Haitian and African American descent and an engaged scholar, researcher, and technologist. He has a BFA from Ailey/Fordham University and an MFA in Performance and Interactive Media Arts from CUNY/Brooklyn College. The artistic director of Renegade Performance Group, his practice, research, and community engagement artistically focuses on the merging of choreography, technology, and Black cultural practices through multimedia work. André is a 2016 New York Foundation for the Arts Gregory Millard Fellow in Choreography and a 2019 Jerome Hill Foundation Fellow in Choreography.

His works through RPG have been presented domestically and internationally, receiving support through several residencies, awards, and commissions. These have included the LMCC Arts Center on Governors Island, Dance/NYC Coronavirus Relief Fund, CUNY Dance Initiative, Performance Project Residency at University Settlement, ChoreoQuest Residency at Restoration Arts Brooklyn, 3LD Art & Technology Center, HarvestWorks, and a Jerome supported Movement Research AIR. Awarded grants have been from the Brooklyn Arts Council, Harlem Stage Fund for New Work, and a Slate Property SPACE Award. Commissions have come from the Brooklyn Museum, Five Myles/BRIC Biennial, and Danspace Project.

RPG has earned mentions and favorable reviews from publications such as the *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Village Voice*, *Culturebot*, *Infinite Blogspot*, *Futuristically Ancient*, *Hyperallergic*, *Brooklyn Rail*, *Daily News* and *AFROPUNK*. As a technologist André has collaborated with various artists through RPG, the design team of 3LD Art & Technology Center, and the Clever Agency on design installations, immersive media productions, film productions, film editing, projection mapping, and performances.

André Zachery has worked on major projects across artistic mediums as a choreographer, media designer, and consultant with artists such as Daniel Bernard Roumain, Cynthia Hopkins, Davalois Fearon, Dance Caribbean COLLECTIVE, Arin Maya, Rags & Ribbons, the Clever Agency, Kendra Foster, Manhattan School of Music, Burwell & Sasser, and Spike Lee.

As a scholar he has been a member of panels, led group talks, facilitated discussions, and presented research on a myriad of topics including Afrofuturism, African Diaspora practices and philosophies, Black cultural aesthetics, technology in art and

performance, and expanding the boundaries of art-making within community. He has been a panelist and presented his research at institutions such as Duke University, Brooklyn College, University of Virginia, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has taught at Brooklyn College and been a guest faculty member at the dance programs of Florida State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Ohio State University, and University of California Los Angeles.

### **Andrew Gerle, Music Director**

Music Director Andrew Gerle, a member of the Manhattan School of Music Musical Theatre faculty, is a composer/lyricist, librettist, pianist, and author. His works for the theater include the musicals *Meet John Doe* (Jonathan Larson Award, cast album on Broadway Records), *Gloryana* (Kleban Award, Richard Rodgers Award), *The Tutor* (three Rodgers Awards), and *La Tempesta* (with *Fantasticks* lyricist Tom Jones, Tokyo premiere 2019). He has performed as piano soloist with the National Symphony, the Yale Symphony Orchestra, and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and on programs for National Public Radio and Television. He is also the author of *The Enraged Accompanist's Guide to the Perfect Audition* and *Music Essentials for Singers and Actors* (Hal Leonard/Applause Books). This spring, he produced and engineered the benefit album *Artists in Residence*, featuring all new songs and performances from Tony and Grammy Award-winning writers and actors about our temporarily constrained lives. [www.AndrewGerle.com](http://www.AndrewGerle.com)

### **Martín Lara Avila, Wardrobe Stylist**

Martín Lara Avila is a New York based stylist and costume designer. Theatrical credits include *Where's Charley?* (Manhattan School of Music), *Ferguson* (Off-off-Broadway), *Leader of the Pack* (NYU), *In the Heights* (Stage Works), *Scenes From the Underground* (feature indie film), and *This Is B.S.* (web series), among others. Other credits include *SpongeBob SquarePants: The Broadway Musical* (Nickelodeon/Broadway/Chicago), *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* (Playwrights Horizons), *Be More Chill* (Broadway/Signature Theatre), *West Side Story* (Japan), *Sweet Charity* (The New Group), *What Did You Expect?* (The Public), *Matilda the Musical* (Broadway), *Mercury Fur* (Signature Theatre), and *The Get Down* (Netflix).

### **Kelley Shih, Lighting Designer**

Kelley Shih is a lighting designer, programmer, and lighting director for theater, live events, and music. Recent designs: The Internet's Hive Mind World Tour (including Sydney Opera House, London Brixton O2 Academy performances), KYLE at Madison Square Garden, Syd's Always Never Home Tour, Hive Rise (Ashley Fure/Berghain/CTM Music Festival), Together Games (Ensemble Modern/Ashley Fure), and Chris Fleming's Bobba Everyday Tour. Lighting programming: Kesha "Raising Hell" on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, Savage X Fenty Show 2019 (Amazon Streaming), Anderson .Paak Summer Tour 2019, VFiles Spring 2020 Show (Barclays Center), and the ACLU Membership Conference 2018. [Kelleysih.com](http://Kelleysih.com)

### **Megan P. G. Kolpin, Properties Coordinator**

Megan P. G. Kolpin holds a BFA from Purchase College in New York. Over the past ten years she has worked all over the country, from Utah Shakespeare Festival to Connecticut Repertory Theatre. Megan's most recent design credits include *The Wild Party* and *Eco Village*. She would like to thank her partner James for supporting and encouraging her, as well as her family and friends. She is currently the resident Properties Coordinator at Manhattan School of Music.

### **Super Awesome Friends, Video Production**

Super Awesome Friends is a full-service digital content and marketing agency dedicated to building strategic and meaningful social experiences that strengthen relationships with audiences. Current client highlights: Black Theatre Coalition; Broadway's Best Shows; Broadway Biz podcast with Hal Luftig; Broadway Teaching Group; *Company*; Concord Theatrical Group; *Girl from the North Country*; Junior Theater Festival; *Officer and a Gentleman: The Musical*; *Oklahoma!*; *Plaza Suite*; Streaming Musicals; TheaterWorks USA; and many more. [SuperAwesomeFriends.com](http://SuperAwesomeFriends.com)

## **Ariela Pizza, Assistant Director**

Ariela Pizza, a senior, was recently seen in *Where's Charley?* (Ensemble) and *Fiorello!* (Dora) at Manhattan School of Music. She recently won the title of Miss Ramapo Valley and will be competing for the title of Miss New Jersey this June.

## **Jared Johnson, Assistant Music Director**

Jared Johnson is a senior at Manhattan School of Music. Favorite performances include the 2019 Fred Ebb Musical in Development Workshop at MSM of *Radioactive* (Father), *West Side Story* (Jet) at the Edinburgh International Festival, and the showcase *The Tony Awards: The Early Years* (Ensemble) at MSM. Also an aspiring composer, he was recently featured in Taylor Louderman's Write Out Loud concert at 54 Below.

## **Kate Owens, Assistant Stage Manager**

Kate Owens, a junior, was born and raised in Pensacola, Florida. She was most recently seen as Johanna in MSM's production of *Sweeney Todd*. Favorite performances include *The Music Man* (Marian Paroo), *Once Upon a Mattress* (Lady Larken), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Miss Dorothy Brown), and *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Ariel).

## **Samuel Dickin, Assistant Stage Manager**

Samuel Dickin, a junior, most recently appeared in *The Wild Party* (Black) and *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble) at Manhattan School of Music. He would like to give a shout-out to his family, LM, LH, and everyone else who shows him constant support and love.

## **Liza Gennaro, Associate Dean and Director of Musical Theatre**

Liza Gennaro choreographed the critically acclaimed Broadway revival of *The Most Happy Fella*, directed by Gerald Gutierrez, and the Broadway revival of *Once Upon a Mattress* starring Sarah Jessica Parker. She choreographed Roundabout Theatre Company's *Tin Pan Alley Rag* (2010 Outer Critics Circle Nomination, Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical) and has choreographed extensively in regional theaters across the country, including *Hair* at Actor's Theatre of Louisville, directed by Jon Jory, the world premiere of *A...My Name is Still Alice* at The Old Globe in California, and the world premiere of *Martin Guerre* at Hartford Stage, directed by Mark Lamos, *Babes in Arms* at Guthrie Theater, directed by Garland Wright, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Most Happy Fella* at Goodspeed Opera House, *Fiorello!*, *Gypsy*, *My Fair Lady*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *The Secret Garden* at Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, *Gypsy*, starring Betty Buckley, and *Ragtime* at the Paper Mill Playhouse, and twelve consecutive seasons of musicals at the St. Louis "Muny" Opera. She collaborated with Stephen Flaherty and Frank Galati on their chamber musical *Loving, Repeating: A Musical of Gertrude Stein* for the About Face Theatre in Chicago and choreographed the 30th Anniversary tour of *Annie*.

Liza has choreographed and directed the New York Pops Carnegie Hall Christmas Concerts *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (2010), *Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer* (2014), *Holiday Follies* (2015), *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (2012, 2015) and *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* (2016). Her adaptation of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* has also been presented on the San Francisco Symphony Christmas Concert (2014–19). She choreographed the 20th Anniversary concert of *Titanic: The Musical* at Avery Fisher Hall starring Michael Cerveris and Brian d'Arcy James. Liza is a member of the SDC Executive Board, a Tony Voter, and in 2015 completed a three-year term on the Tony Award Nominating Committee. Hailing from a theatrical family, her father Peter Gennaro was a Tony Award winning choreographer with an extensive career on Broadway, television, and film. She is also a writer and scholar: her chapter, "Evolution of Dance in the Golden Era of the American 'Book Musical'" appears in *The Oxford Handbook of the American Musical*, "Dance in Musical Theatre," co-written with Stacy Wolf, appears in *The Oxford Handbook of Dance and Theater*, and "Dance in Musical Theatre Revival and Adaptation: Engaging With the Past While Creating Dances for the Present" appears in the soon to be released *Routledge Companion to the American Stage Musical: 1970 and Beyond*. Liza has taught at Barnard College and Princeton University.

# LE COMTE NOIR PERSONNEL

## OPERA AND MUSICAL THEATRE

Christina Teichroew, Managing Director

Kathryn Miller, Assistant Managing Director

Erin Reppenhagen, Associate

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Brittany Crowell, Production Manager

Enrique Brown, Fight Coordinator

Jenna Miller, Wardrobe Supervisor

Kevin Novinsky, Music Mix Engineer

Jamie Amadruto, Additional Music Engineering

Kevin Novinsky, Production Sound Mixer

Jacob Schmid, Production Sound Mixer

Galvin Yuan, Additional Production Sound

David Givens, André M. Zachery, Videographers

Megan P. G. Kolpin, Props Coordinator

Mary Grace Moran, Assistant Props Coordinator

Vocals and Music Recorded by MSM Student Actors and Musicians safely at home in New York City and around the world.

## STUDENT CREW

Ariela Pizza, Assistant Director

TaylorRae Carter, Assistant Choreographer

Jared Johnson, Assistant Music Director

Samuel Dickin, Katherine Owens, Assistant Stage Managers

Tirza Meuljic, Production Assistant

Benjamin Hahn, Props Production Assistant

Lyda Jade Harlan, Ayanna Thomas, Wardrobe Crew

Matthew Greer, Alysia Velez, Wig and Makeup Crew

# MSM MUSICAL THEATRE

Manhattan School of Music, with its 100 years of excellence and its location in New York City, a veritable hub of musical theatre, is an ideal institution for a world-class musical theatre program. Today's contemporary musical theatre is exploding with fresh ideas, possibilities, and opportunities; musical theater graduates are entering a thriving art form. Broadway is booming with record high attendance and employment opportunities are plentiful. While acting, voice, and dance remain the cornerstones of musical theatre training, contemporary performers must also be trained beyond the "triple threat" model. Now more than ever multifaceted musical theatre artists are in demand. Devised practice workshops and dance labs require performers to be creative contributors to project development. In addition to learning the essential skills—to sing, dance, and act—MSM Musical Theatre students are encouraged to develop their artistic interests and are given the opportunity to investigate areas beyond performing, including directing, choreographing, writing, and composing.

The MSM Musical Theatre faculty is a stellar collection of artist-educators who combine exemplary teaching skills with the highest level of professional know-how. We embrace individuality and honor each student's journey. At MSM we are passionate about the arts and the next generation of musical theatre artists.

**Liza Gennaro**, Associate Dean and Director

**David Loud**, Program Music Director

**Enrique Brown**, Academic and Artistic Assistant

## FACULTY

**Mana Allen**, Musical Theatre Performance Technique

**Nate Bertone**, Intro to Theatrical Design

**Enrique Brown**, Musical Theatre Dance

**Claudia Catania**, Voice

**Judith Clurman**, Voice/Ensemble Singing

**Carl Cofield**, Acting V

**Marshall Davis Jr.**, Tap

**Erin Dilly**, Scene to Song

**Boyd Gaines**, Advanced Acting

**Andy Gale**, Acting: Scene Study

**Andrew Gerle**, Music Theory and Sight-singing

**Randy Graff**, Acting the Song/Audition Techniques

**Andrea Green**, Voice

**Yehuda Hyman**, Devised Theatrical Practice

**Shawn Kaufmann**, Intro to Theatrical Design

**David Loud**, Musical Theatre Performance Technique, History of Musical Theatre

**Sue Makkoo**, Intro to Theatrical Design

**Or Matias**, Musical Theatre Lab

**Samuel McKelton**, Voice

**Robin Morse**, Acting I, 2, 3

**Shane Schag**, Music Theory

**Scott Stauffer**, Intro to Theatrical Design

**Don Stephenson**, Acting for Camera

**Bob Stillman**, Voice

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Alejandro Lopez-Samame, Manager of Orchestral Operations and the Orchestral Performance Program

Calvin Johnson, Manager of Jazz Operations

Jon Clancy, Instrumental Ensembles Associate

Matthew Jaimes, Instrumental Ensembles Associate

Hannah Marks, Instrumental Ensembles Associate

Matthew Ward, Percussion Operations Manager

### **OPERA AND MUSICAL THEATRE**

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Kathryn Miller, Assistant Managing Director

Erin Reppenhagen, Associate

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Elizabeth Ramsay, Interim Associate Production Manager

Brittany Crowell, Production Manager, Opera and Musical Theatre

Emily Cauthorne, Associate Production Manager, Opera and Musical Theatre

Andres Diaz Jr., Production Supervisor

Keri Bush, Production Coordinator

Alexis Caldwell, Production Coordinator

Tyler Donahue, Production Coordinator

Dash Lea, Production Coordinator

Pamela Pangaro, Lead Technician

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Victor Madorsky, Performance Tuner/Technician

Hide Onishi, Chief Concert Technician

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Luke Breton, Associate

Ramon Tenefrancia, Associate

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David Marsh, Program Manager

Dan Rorke, Chief Recording Engineer

Kevin Bourassa, Recording Engineer

Corey Mahaney, Recording Engineer

Mohit Diskalkar, Network Systems Engineer

Yue Mu, Instructional Designer

Roan Ma, Recording Services Coordinator

Graceon Challenger, Chief Maintenance Technician

## ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its more than 960 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from more than 50 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege program continues to offer superior music instruction to 475 young musicians between the ages of 5 and 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

### Your gift helps a young artist reach for the stars!

To enable Manhattan School of Music to continue educating and inspiring generations of talented students and audiences alike, please consider making a charitable contribution today.

*Contact the Advancement Office at 917-493-4434 or visit [msmnyc.edu/support](http://msmnyc.edu/support)*

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