



THE FLEA THEATER

JIM SIMPSON Artistic Director CAROL OSTROW Producing Director presents

THE CUTTHROAT SERIES: GRAND GUIGNOL POD 1: GORE

Set Design by **ANDREW DIAZ** Lighting Design by **RACHEL FAE SZYMANSKI**Sound Design by **JOSEPH WOLFSLAU** Props Design by **SAMARA WEISS**

MADHOUSE

Written by ANDRE DE LORD & ALFRED BINET Adapted by CORBIN WENT

Directed by RIA T. DILULLO

Costume Design by TRAVIS ALEXANDRA BOATRIGHT Fight Direction by ALEX J. GOULD

TICS, OR DOING THE DEED

Written by **RENÉ BERTON**Directed by **STEBOS**

Costume Design by **BECKY WILLETT** Movement Direction by **MATT BOVEE**

THE FINAL KISS

Written by **MAURICE LEVEL**Directed by **CHONGREN FAN**

Costume Design by EMMA LIPSCHUTZ Fight Direction by ALEX J. GOULD

Technical Director **STEPHEN SIMALCHIK**Press Representative **RON LASKO/SPIN CYCLE**

CAST

MADHOUSE

William Barnet	Doctor
Emilie Bienne	Crook
Lillith Fallon	Sister
Kristin Friedlander	Robin
Glenna Grant	Hablin
Ashton Muniz	Intern
Leslie Erin Roth	Louise
Yoanna Wei	Cornish

TICS, OR DOING THE DEED

Cook	William Barnet
M. de Merliot	Sean Devare
Henrietta	Katarina Feder
Venus	Shane Hall
Genevieve	Olivia Jampol
Adrian	-
Dr. Martin	lexander Kushi-Willis

THE FINAL KISS

Henri	Alec Gaylord
Doctor	Shane Hall
	Olivia Jampo
Jeanne	Sonja O'Hara

CREATIVE TEAM

Set Designer	Andrew Diaz			
Lighting Designer	Rachel Fae Szymnaski			
	Joseph Wolfslau			
Props Designer	Samara Weiss			
	Ellen Joffred			
MADI	HOUSE			
Playwright	Andre de Lorde & Alfred Binet			
Adaptor	Corbin Went			
Director	Ria T. DiLullo			
Costume Designer	Travis Alexandra Boatright			
Fight Director	Alex J. Gould			
TICS, OR DOING THE DEED				
TICS. OR DO	ING THE DEED			
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Playwright	René Berton			
Playwright Director	René Berton Stebos			
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FLEA STAFF

Artistic Director	Jim Simpson
Producing Director	Carol Ostrow
General Manager	
Technical Director	. Stephen Simalchik
Company Manager	Erin Daley
Marketing Manager	David Sernick
Development Associate	Alvin C. Taylor
Audience Development Associate	Ellen Joffred
Assistant Technical Director	Brandon Stock
Graphic Designer	Kelly Higgins
Videographer	Crystal Arnette
Photographer	Hunter Canning
Costume Manager	Josh Boerman
Theater, Technical & Production Consultant.	Kyle Chepulis
AccountantJoel Fad	en & Company, Inc.
Attorney Carol M. Kaplan/Mitchell, Silbe	
Development Consultant	Rachel Colbert
Press Representative Ro	on Lasko/Spin Cycle

Production Notes from Dramaturg Ellen Joffred

Scream it with me: Grand Guignol (French gRahN gee-nyawl).

Grand Guignol is both a place and a genre.

The Grand Guignol Theater, set in the neighborhood of Montmarte in Paris, France from 1897-1962, was a venue for short, transgressive one-act plays.

Oscar Méténier, a former police secretary, started the Grand Guignol in 1897 with the Théâtre Libre model in his mind; his interest being Naturalism and social commentary. After two years, his successor Max Maurey pushed the theatre farther from "slice of life" plays to "slice of death" plays — the work got bolder and bloodier.

The classic formula of an evening at the Grand Guignol was known as la douche ecossaise — a hot and cold shower. In one night, five to six one acts would be performed, alternating horror and humor with a heavy dash of the erotic, and ultimately ending with the most blood curdling one-act. Quite the catharsis — the audience laughed, screamed, and purged their emotions.

It was only a matter of time before The Flea took on Grand Guignol. This Fall, we invite you to take la douche ecossaise.

Eleven Resident Directors direct a Grand Guignol play. Each performance, featuring The Bats, will be composed of 3 Grand Guignol one-acts. But The Flea's taking Grand Guignol one step further, adding another violent twist: a theatrical bracket system. These plays go head to head in a tournament of terror. Audiences will vote for their favorite play to make it to the winner's circle this January 2015. There's no time to let the blood dry!



MADHOUSE

by Andre de Lorde & Alfred Binet Adapted by Corbin Went

Originally called *The Old Women* in English and *Un Crime dans une Maison de Fous* in French, this is one of the key plays in both the British and French Grand Guignol.

First performed June 29th, 1921 at the Little Theatre in

London. Performed June 6, 1925 at the Théâtre du Grand Guignol in Paris.

Andre de Lorde was nicknamed "The Prince of Terror" and wrote over 100 Grand Guignol plays; *The Old Women* is considered one of his greatest. Dr. Alfred Binet was de Lorde's therapist and dramatic collaborator.

TICS, OR DOING THE DEED by René Berton

Premiered April 28, 1908 and revived as late as 1939, *Tics, or Doing the Deed* is an "excellent example of a Grand Guignol sex comedy." Although *Tics* is a comedy, many of its components like "doctors, jealousy and vengeance, tics reminiscent of madness, anxieties and themes of betrayal, guilt and an overall sense of violating moral laws" are also found in the Grand Guignol horror plays. Berton was one of the house playwrights of the Théâtre du Grand Guignol, and also wrote horrific one-acts like Euthanasia.

THE FINAL KISS

by Maurice Level

One of the definitive plays of Grand Guignol, *The Final Kiss* is based on Level's short story published in 1912 in Journal.

The play premiered on December 10, 1912 and was revived in 1922 and 1938.

There is even an unauthorized adaptation "The Haunt of Fear" in 1952 for the American "EC" horror comic.



The Final Kiss could also be translated to The Final Fuck. . . unfamiliar with vitriol attacks? Oh they were a real thing. Read more here! http://theatredamned.blogspot.com/2010/11/violence-and-vitriol-exploring-le.html

Hand, Richard J. and Michael Wilson. Grand-Guignol The French Theater of Horror. Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 2002.

Hand, Richard J. and Michael Wilson. London's Grand Guignol and the Theatre of Horror. Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 2007.

Photo Credit:

http://life.time.com/curiosities/grand-guignol-photos-madness-torture-murder-on-paris-stage/#1

CAST

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



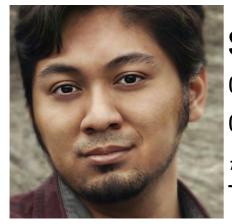
William Barnet (MAD: Doctor, TICS: Cook)
Recent credits include *Vera, or The Nihilists*(HERE, Femme Fatale Theater), *The Party Play*(The Brick), and a workshop production of *Encounters: the la ronde project* (Kid Brooklyn Productions, IRT). In addition to being a proud

memeber of The Bats, Will is a Brown University graduate who has trained with Fiasco Theater, The Shakespeare Forum, and Movement Theater Studio. He also performs over 45 Shakespearean monologues and sonnets in NYC parks for tips. www.williambar.net



Emilie Bienne (MAD: Crook) is thrilled to be in *Madhouse* and to be working as a Bat at the Flea after having been in *The Mysteries* and *#serials* this year. From a modest start as an acting intern at the Looking Glass Theatre and a backup vocalist for Brother Joscephus and

the Love Revolution to starring in world class productions such as *Disney's Big Band Beat*, Emilie has earned respect from fans and fellow performers around the world as a passionate artist and dedicated professional. She is proud to say she graduated from the Boston Conservatory, and after a year of performing in Japan she now resides in New York City where she is working on her own music while continuing to perform.



Sean Devare (TICS: M. de Merliot) is making his official Flea debut since joining the company over a year ago. He frequently appears in #serials and workshops/staged readings at The Flea including collaborations with the

Ma-Yi Writers Lab and WNYC. He most recently appeared in a devised a cappella musical with Dramatic Adventure Theatre. Other NY credits include: *The Saltmakers, We Are Samurai, Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights*. Sean is also a freelance designer/illustrator with a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design. www.seandevare.com



Lillith Fallon (MAD: Sister) is thrilled to be a new Bat with The Flea and in *The Cutthroat Series*! Lillith is a graduate of The Stella Adler Evening Conservatory. Some of her favorite roles include Edith in *Blithe Spirit* and Ada in *How to Make Friends and then Kill Them* (a

staged reading). She sends her love and gratitude to her family and Griffin. Enjoy the show!



Katarina Feder (TICS: Henrietta) Flea debut. A New Yorker, Katarina joined The Flea earlier this year when she participated in the workshop for *The Mysteries*. She has a number of small independent film credits and worked as a television interviewer for "Wipple's World" on

New York 1. Katarina holds a B.A. in Playwriting and English Lit from Emory University.



Kristin Friedlander (MAD: Robin) This is Kristin's first show as a member of The Bats. She was most recently seen as Lady Macbeth in *Drunk Shakespeare*. NYC and regional theatre includes Slant Theatre, Chautauqua Conservatory, Chicago Shakespeare, The New

Harmony Project, Eclipse Theatre and Appletree Theatre. BFA: University of Evansville. www.kristinfriedlander.com



Alec Gaylord (KISS: Henri) was born in Los Angeles, California, and is a founding member of The Horde Theatre Group. In May he received his BFA from Rutgers University. Alec spent 7 months studying at The Shakespeare's Globe Theater in London, UK. While there he played

Proteus in *Two Gentleman of Verona* directed by Tim Carroll. Other credits from Rutgers include *Cyrano De Bergerac*, *Love & Mistrust* a new play by Michael Duffy, and *You Can't Take it With You*. Alec is excited to be making his New York City theater debut in *The Final Kiss*.



Glenna Grant (MAD: Hablin) is thrilled to be back onstage at The Flea! Flea credits include Sarah Flood in Salem Mass, These Seven Sicknesses, The Electric Lighthouse, #serials, The Shakes: Romeo and Juliet. NYC Credits: Unexplored Interior (The Public), and Project

'68 (LAByrinth Theater). Glenna recently returned from a month teaching theater abroad in rural Ecuador. Glenna holds a BFA in Acting from Purchase College.



Shane Hall (TICS: Venus, KISS: Doctor) is a native New Yorker. He studied Theatre and French at the University of Scranton. He has most recently appeared #Serials, 29X/Y, and To Tread Upon a Spark. He would like to thank his company for The Cutthroat Series: Gore, his

friends, family and dog, Blue, for their ongoing support, patience, and love.



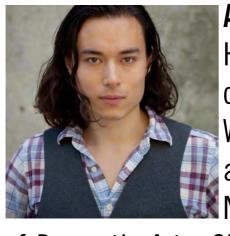
Olivia Jampol (TICS: Genevieve, KISS: Nurse) grew up in Costa Rica and studied filmmaking and literature at Harvard. Recent credits include: #serials (The Flea), Good Men Wanted (Ars Nova/ANT Fest), Stranger Odds (The Wild Project), Everybody's Legs (Columbia MFA/

Columbia Stages), *A Hand in My Heart* (Standard ToyKraft), and multiple productions and readings at the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge. She has also written and directed a handful of short films and her film, *JEANNIE*, shot on 16mm, has garnered multiple accolades. www.oliviajampol.com



Artem Kreimer (TICS: Adrian) is excited to run around the theatre in this ridiculous play. Previous Flea shows include *Grenadine* (reading, dir. Hal Brooks) and *#serials*. Recent NY credits are *The Photo Album* (FringeNYC), *The Sounds of My People* (Columbia Stages),

Boy Crazy Till the Day I Die (Ensemble Studio Theatre/Youngblood), and Giant Killer Slugs (Pipeline Theatre Company). Artem is also a lighting designer and aspiring tax professional. Thanks to Matt for describing him as a ninja. www.artemkreimer.com



Alexander Kushi-Willis (TICS: Dr. Martin) Hailing from the green and pleasant land of rural England I grew up a Macrobiotic Waldorf child, thriving on seaweed, umeboshi and Eurythmy. Over six years ago I came to New York to train at the American Academy

of Dramatic Arts. Since graduating I've been training in Lecoq technique with the Movement Theater Studio and performing both on stage and film. This is my debut at The Flea not including #serials. A very rewarding experience!



Ashton Muniz (MAD: Intern) is thrilled to be joining The Bats in his first production here at The Flea. Proud Ithaca College and NTI (Moscow Arts Theatre School) alum. Member of the up and coming Hypokrit Theater Company (hypokritnyc.org). "Thanks to Ria and the rest

of the Asylum for constant inspiration. All my love goes to the Family and to the Trinity. Peace, Amor, & понимаю!" Instagram/Twitter: @arshton



Sonja O'Hara (KISS: Jeanne) is excited to be making her debut as a Bat! Born & raised in a fishing village in Nova Scotia, Canada, she attended The NY Conservatory For Dramatic Arts at 17. Sonja has played lead roles in multiple indie films (including two that screened at

Cannes Film Festival). Theatre credits include readings at EST, a workshop of Norman Mailer's *The Deer Park* (produced by the Pulitzer winning author) & starring in the NY debut of the recently discovered Tennessee Williams' play *These Are The Stairs*. Sonja wrote/produced/starred in the upcoming SAG film *Ovum* that will be on the Spring festival circuit! www.sonjaohara.com



Leslie Erin Roth (MAD: Louise) is an actor, writer, choreographer, clown and yoga teacher. She has worked with Primary Stages, The O'Neill, Target Margin, La MaMa, The Lark, and Tectonic. Recent: *Jeremy And at The Wild Project* (Jenny), *#serials*. Training: B.A. Amherst

College, Powerhouse, NTI, BADA, Orchard Project. She has worked with Connie Congdon and Catherine Mueller, trained with Brian McManamon, Chris Bayes, Daniel Talbott, and Alexandra Neil. Next: *EBOLAFERGUSON* with Lampaso. "Thanks, Team Doom Train!"



Yoanna Wei (MAD: Cornish) A graduate of Stella Adler Studio. She likes the Rolling Stones and cookies. Cash your dreams before they slip away. She's grateful to be at The Flea. Follow me @yoannawei

CREATIVE TEAM

Corbin Went (MAD: Adaptor) A playwright, actor and inventive adaptor, Corbin Went is an old soul obsessed with modern things. His plays examine our disillusionment with Americana in a post postmodern world, and instill that seemingly antiquated world with a new contemporary poetic life. He is thrilled to join The Flea for this festival, and invites you to see his full length adaptation of Middleton's and Rowley's *The Changeling* later this year. www.tinyurl.com/corbinwent

Ria T. DiLullo (MAD: Director) a New York native, is the co-founder and co-artistic director of Marrow's Edge, a performance group dedicated to new work that is both of the core and at the precipice. She is currently co-producing their Salon Series, where they make space for new plays to be exposed to a supportive audience in a comfortable setting, for free. Other directorial projects include *We Are Samurai* by Daria Marinelli, *Caged* by Brandon Ferraro, *Tinerete* by Ioana Jucan, *1001* by Jason Grote, and movement director for *Deaths of Pan*, by Ioana Jucan. Ria's training includes: holistic biomechanics with Lara London in Providence, Rhode Island, Noh and Kyogen performance at Theatre of Yugen in San Francisco, Movement Theatre Studio workshops and weekly Alexander Technique classes. Ria is excited for her directorial debut at The Flea with The Cutthroat Series. Let the battles begin!

Chongren Fan (KISS: Director) is a New York based stage director. He has developed work with La Mama, New Ohio Theatre, Dixon Place, Prototype Festival, Manhattan Repertory Theater, Thespis Theater Festival, American Dance Institute (D.C.) and Mecoon Theatre (Shanghai, China). His directing credits include: *Rent* and *Spring Awakening* (@Musical, Shanghai); *Cloud Nine* and *Did You See It?/Eight Ways In*(Sarah Lawrence College) among many readings/workshops in New York. As assistant director, Chongren is working with director Eric Ting on *The World Of Extreme Happiness* by Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig (Goodman Theatre, September 2014; Manhattan Theatre Club, February 2015). He was the Artistic Director of a Shanghai-based musical theater company All That Musical (@Musical) from 2008-2011. M.F.A. in Theater, Sarah Lawrence College.

Stebos (TICS: Director) is a Resident Director at The Flea Theater. A NYC-based stage director, producer, teaching artist, and theater scholar, he specialized in acting and directing with Jurij Alschitz at the Russian Academy of Dramatic Art (former GITIS) in Moscow. He is the founder and artistic director of Theatreplots Productions and teaches in the Theatre Department at Hunter College. www. stebos.net

Ellen Joffred (MAD, TICS, KISS: Dramaturg) is a theatre artist born and raised in Berks County, PA. Now rooted in NYC, she received her MFA in Dramaturgy from Columbia University. She is a member of Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, The Plumes, NAMP, and an individual member of TCG. Her interests include investigating theatricality, the beauty and futility of language, cross-cultural collaborations, mash-ups, and theatre transcending language. Merci mille fois to beau Mikey! www.EllenJoffred.com

Andrew Diaz (MAD, TICS, KISS: Set Designer) is a set and props designer making prop magic out of his living room in Brooklyn. Recent set designs: Sox News (Martian Entertainment), Smoke (The Flea), My Daughter Keeps Our Hammer (The Flea), An American Family Takes A Lover (The Cell), Revenge and Guilt (After Midnight). Andrew has been a props designer for numerous theater companies, including: New York Theatre Workshop, Carnegie Hall, Classic Stage Company, Primary Stages, The Public, Theater For A New Audience, Cherry Lane Theater, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, among others. BFA University of Arizona School Of Theater Arts. www.andrewdiazdesign.squarespace.com

Rachel Fae Szymnaski (MAD, TICS, KISS: Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be returning to The Flea. Most recently she designed *Chemistry* at NYC Fringe, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* at Piper Theatre Productions, *Steel Magnolias* at Totem Pole Playhouse, a reading of *The Foreverglades* at NYU, and *The Capricorn Bash* at Spoke The Hub Dancing in Brooklyn. She has enjoyed working at The Public, The Lincoln Center, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Geva Theatre Center and Actors Theatre of Louisville. Rachel is a proud Lady of Kenyon College.

Travis Alexandra Boatright (MAD: Costume Designer) Theater: Hot Season (Strange Sun Theater), Sweeney Todd (Fabrefaction Theater, Winner- Atlanta Theater Fan Award), The Thirteenth Commandment (Libra Theater Co., Nominee- IT Award), The Drowning Girls (Strange Sun Theater), Twelfth Night (Libra Theater Co.), Books Cook! (Directed by Elizabeth Swados, Atlantic Studios). Additional credits: Pulling Teeth (Short film, NYCIFF), The Shaggle Puppets (Magic Leap creations shown at TEDx, SXSW, and NY ComicCon), Find Your Revolutionary (Commercial, Kapital).

Emma Lipschutz (KISS: Costume Designer) has been designing ever since she was a child. It wasn't until she went to college that she truly discovered her passion for costuming. During her

productions, such as *Ruthless: The Musical, Twelfth Night, Girl Crew* and *Holiday*. She had also costumed various smaller productions including: *Pippin and The Master and Margarita*. In addition to working with The Flea she is currently working on building her costuming business Sketch to Life: Costume and Cosplay. She is very grateful to The Flea for giving her the opportunity to work on *The Cutthroat Series*.

Becky Willett (TICS: Costume Designer) is a freelance costume designer in New York City. She received her BFA in Theatrical Costume Design from Virginia Commonwealth University. She also spent a year in Chicago designing for the Windy City's experimental theatre scene. Broadway: *Lucky Guy* (Design Toni-Leslie James). Off-Broadway: *The Rain Maker, Cotton Club Parade, Children of Eden* and *Hamlet*. Off Off-Broadway: *Romeo and Juliet, Man and Coconut, Speaking Up, Oliver!, Arms and the Man, The Winter's Tale* and *VooDoo Chalk Circle*.

Joseph Wolfslau (MAD, TICS, KISS: Sound Designer) is a set, sound, and costume designer based in Brooklyn. Recent designs include sound for *Merrily We Roll Along* (Strasberg Inst.), set, lights, and costumes for *You On The Moors Now pt.1* (Theater Reconstruction Ensemble), sound for *Spring Fling* (F*it Club), set and costumes for *Il Regno Malati at Dinner* (TNC), set and costumes for *Obedient Steel* (Tugboat Collective) set, sound, and costumes for *On Fonts* (Penasco, NM; Cloud City, Brooklyn), set and costumes for *Jack the Bird* (Tugboat Collective), sound for *Clown Bar* (Pipeline Theater Company), set, props, and costumes for *Moon & Marble* (Tugboat Collective), sound for *Telemachus, Darling* (HITS), set, sound, and costumes for *Harm's Way* (Philaletheus Society), and sound for *The Seagull* (Lake Lucille). He also frequently does production design for Spring Street Social Society, and is co-Artistic Director of Tugboat Collective, a Brooklyn-based theatre ensemble.

Samara Weiss (MAD, TICS, KISS: Props Designer) Previous work in props includes *The Government Inspector, Three Sisters, Voices from the Fire*, and *Love's Labour's Lost* for Columbia University, as well as *Richard III* (Facing Page), and *Dirt, Part 1* (Enthuse). Her other props work will appear in late September at CSC in *Light and Fen*. She leads a double life as a playwright (MFA Columbia, New Georges Affiliated Artist), and what she supposes must be a triple life as a coordinator for Bronx nonprofits.

Alex J. Gould (MAD, KISS: Fight Director) has been a fight choreographer and assistant in New York City for The Flea Theater, Partial Comfort, Pulse Ensemble Theater, and Special Sauce Co. He's also worked regionally at the Williamstown Theater Festival. Alex is also a member of The Bats. Edu. AMDA.

Matt Bovee (TICS: Movement Director) is a performer, choreographer, and director from San Francisco. The Flea: *The Mysteries, a cautionary tail, #serials*. NYC: Ma-Yi Theater Company, Ensemble Studio Theater, Movement Workshop Group, The Next Stage Project, NYU Tisch, Columbia Stages. Regional: La Jolla Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Old Globe, San Diego Rep, Hollywood Fringe Festival, San Diego Dance Theater. BA, UC San Diego 2010 (Theater/Dance).

Lorraine Smyth (TICS: Assistant Costume Designer) is delighted to be working with The FleaTheater. Recent credits include *Romeo And Juliet* with The Pulse Ensemble Theater, *16 Words Or Less* with The Club Thumb Summerworks, *Man And Coconut* with IRT Theater, and *Oliver!* with The Secret Theatre. An avid practitioner of several arts and crafts, she is currently expanding her skillset at The Fashion Institute of Technology.

THE FLEA STAFF



Jim Simpson (Artistic Director and Founder) Jim was a child actor in his hometown of Honolulu, as a teenager worked with Jerzy Grotowski in Poland, and holds degrees from Boston University School for the Arts and the Yale Drama School. He's worked at many venues in New York City,

Nationally and Internationally. Drama Desk cited for Downtown Adventurous Theater, Two-time OBIE-award winner, National Board of Review Excellence in Filmmaking, and cited for artistic leadership in Downtown New York by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.



Carol Ostrow (Producing Director) joined Jim Simpson at the helm of The Flea in 2001 and The Guys marked her return to Off-Off-Broadway. She was the OBIE-award winning Producing Director of the Classic Stage Company as well as the founder and original Producing Director of The Powerhouse Theater at Vassar,

now in its 28th season. In between, she has been an adjunct professor of theater at Vassar College, Chatham College and McGill University. For The Flea, Carol has produced dozens of world premieres and has been responsible for sound fiscal management of the theater's \$1.3 M budget for thirteen years. She is also overseeing The Flea's capital campaign that will result in a new performing arts center for The Flea to be launched in the fall of 2015. Carol is a graduate of Vassar College and the Yale Drama School. She serves on the President's Advisory Council of Vassar College and the Board of Advisors of the Yale Drama School, and on the Board of Central Synagogue as well as the National Psoriasis Foundation and Lava. She is also a Wall Street Journal Expert, where she writes on small businesses for the paper's online edition. Married and the mother of four incredible and launched young adults, she and her family count Pittsburgh, London, Montreal and now New York City once again as home.



Joshua Cohen (General Manager) previously worked at Roundabout, holds degrees from Amherst College and NYU/Tisch, and has been a stage manager/lighting designer in downtown modern dance. He is also a writer for the theater, a Jonathan Larson Grant winner whose work includes *The Thirteenth*

Commandment (Libra Theater Co., seven NYIT Award nominations, two wins); lyrics, Keep On Walkin' (Anna Zornio Children's Theater Playwriting Award); and book/lyrics, Tamar of the River (Prospect Theater Co., two Drama Desk nominations; world premiere recording, Yellow Sound Label). He lives in Washington Heights with his wife Anne and daughter Miriam.



Stephen Simalchik (Technical Director) joins the staff as the new Technical Director. He is a graduate of Williams College with a B.A. in Theatre and has worked Off and Off-off Broadway as a production manager and technical supervisor. Recent projects include Clubbed Thumb's

Summerworks festival, Transport Group's successful revival of *I Remember Mama*, the fellowship play, musical and free theatre at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, and sound designs for Omar Sangare's adaptations of *The Crucible* and soon, *Princess Ivana*. He has collaborated with Target Margin, Signature Theatre Company, Berkshire Fringe Festival, I/O New Music Festival, and others. Stephen is also a lifelong musician with a deep affinity for new music, and looks forward to bringing works of theater to fruition with The Flea.



Erin Daley (Company Manager) Prior to The Flea, Erin produced the Eugene O'Neill festival at Arena Stage and spent three years as a coordinator in Los Angeles working in film and commercials. After cutting her teeth as an independent producer and director, Erin is thrilled to have a

found a home at The Flea where she can continue to work with

exciting and innovative artists. Erin is proud to have graduated from Skidmore College, Class of 2008.



David Sernick (Marketing Manager) graduated from Indiana University with a BA in Political Science, Theatre & Drama along with a Certificate in Arts Administration. From 2009 — 2012 David was the Marketing Associate at Barrington Stage Company where he cultivated younger audiences

with new media strategies thanks to a Future Audiences Grant from TCG. David founded Black Swan Theatre Project in Grand Rapids, MI and InPulse Productions in Bloomington, IN where he directed, produced and occasionally acted. David currently produces the Darkroom Series with New Light Theater Project.



Ellen Joffred (Audience Development Associate) is thrilled to be joining The Flea! Having worked in locations as disparate as Norristown, PA and Toulouse France, Ellen is now happily rooting herself in NYC. Most recently, she worked for two years in CAA's Theatre Department. Ellen

is a member of LMDA, NAMP, TCG and The Plumes. She holds a BA in French and Theatre from Dickinson College, and an MFA in Dramaturgy from Columbia University.



Alvin C. Taylor (Development Associate) comes to The Flea Theater from Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute where he served as their first Fellow. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Instrumental Music from Mississippi State University and a Masters of Education in Higher

Education Administration from The University of Southern Mississippi. He also serves as Program Assistant for Jazz at Lincoln Center's youth music education program, WeBop. Alvin is excited to call New York City and The Flea home. He currently lives in the Upper West Side with his wife, Annie, a lighting designer and production manager.

WHAT IS THE FLEA?

The Flea is our theater: two unique and intimate performance spaces, located here at 41 White Street in Tribeca. But The Flea is also an award-winning producing organization, founded in 1996, that offers more than 250 cutting-edge theatrical and multi-disciplinary performances each year and gives voice to some of the most exciting and innovative writers of our time.

Founded from the purely artistic impulse to create "joyful hell in a small space," our body of work has earned us accolades from across the globe including two Obie Awards for Best Production, an Otto for Courageous Political Theater, and a Drama Desk Award Special Award for our commitment to adventurous theater. Our 2001 production of *The Guys*, a raw artistic response to the events of 9/11, became a phenomenon that played to sold-out houses for 13 months and quickly cemented our leadership role in the downtown, Off-Off-Broadway and Lower Manhattan communities.

The Flea is a beacon for adventurous audiences and creative artists of all stripes, from the young striver to the legendary veteran. More than 150,000 people have come to The Flea to witness the rare spark created when artists are given free rein to play, experiment and invent—often in ways that the commercial theater can't support. And it is that spark that fulfills our mission, pure and simple: to embody the spirit of adventure and excitement that has defined Off-Off-Broadway since its inception.



WHO & WHAT ARE THE BATS?

The Bats is our critically acclaimed resident company, cast anew each year from over 1,000 aspiring young actors. Voted "Best Off-Off-Broadway Company to Act In" by Backstage, being a Bat offers young artists the rare opportunity to break into the field with real life experience, performing in front of an audience on a regular basis and working to support The Flea and its visiting artists. All in one night, a Bat may tear your ticket, pour you a drink and rivet your soul to the stage.



WHAT IS OFF-OFF-BROADWAY?

Dating back almost fifty years, Off-Off-Broadway began informally-an alternative, non-commercial environment where new ideas and projects were born out of energetic and often happenstance encounters. Hundreds of well-known artists credit this adventurous and free-spirited time with their falling in love with theater, and getting good at what they do.

Visit www.theflea.org for information on all things Flea!

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Fifteen years ago The Flea's founders undertook an artistic experiment, renting an old TriBeCa factory in the wilds of Lower Manhattan and opening the doors to the most iconoclastic and talented artists they could find. Since then The Flea has evolved into an award-winning theater known for presenting the very best of Off-Off-Broadway theater, music and dance.

We have also become an emblem for the resilience of Lower Manhattan, drawing more than 150,000 people to the area since the 9/11 attacks. To continue in that leadership role, we recently purchased a site nearby that is soon to become our permanent new home. Our goal is to continue producing our own intimate and exhilarating work while providing stability to dozens of other artists and performance groups. We are grateful to the following for their lead gifts to the project:

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THE FLEA I.P.'S

In June of 2009 The Flea launched a unique patron program called The Flea IPs - an elite and dedicated group that helps to make the dreams of The Flea a reality. Flea IPs gain insider access through exclusive events including private talk-backs, intimate artist dinners, master classes and first-look readings. Flea IPs commit their support by generously pledging \$5,000 each year.



Interested? We'd love to make you a Flea IP too!

Please contact Carol Ostrow at 212.226.0051 x104 or carolo@theflea.org for more information.

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