

A SITE-SPECIFIC PHANTASMAGORIA

THE GAAGA

(THE HAGUE)

A FANTASTICAL TRIAL OF PUTIN
FROM A BOMB SHELTER **IN MARIUPOL**



THE GAAGA SPRING MATCH CAMPAIGN

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SPECIAL GAAGA EVENTS

Sunday, June 4, 2023

Post-Show Q&A with Playwright & Director **Sasha Denisova**, and Artistic Director **Igor Golyak**

Directly following **the 2pm** matinee



Co-hosted
by **Makor Center**

#StandWithUkraine #Artists4Ukraine 🇺🇦

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Post-Show Discussion with Cast & Creative Team from Ukraine **Taya Fedorenko** (The Girl), **Igor Golyak** (Artistic Director), **Ilia Volok** (Patrushev). Moderated by **Sara Stackhouse**

Directly following **the 2pm** matinee



Co-hosted
by **Cash For Refugees**

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IGOR GOLYAK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

SARA STACKHOUSE, MANAGING PRODUCER

PRESENTS

THE GAAGA

(THE HAGUE)

A SITE SPECIFIC PHANTASMAGORIA

Written & Directed by **Sasha Denisova**

Co-Directed by **Igor Golyak**

Environmental & Projection Design by
Irina Kruzhilina

Lighting Design by **Kevin Fulton**

Music Composition by **Jacek Jędrasik & Szymon Orfin**

Sound Design by **Brendan F. Doyle**

Costume Design by **David R. Gammons**

Streaming Video Design by **Eric Dunlap**

Properties Design, **Irina Vilenchik** with
Julia Shikh

Hair & Make Up Design by **Anna Furman**

Translation by **Polina Dubovikova & Dr. Theresa Lang**

Production Stage Manager, **Kyra Bowie***

Produced by **Sara Stackhouse**

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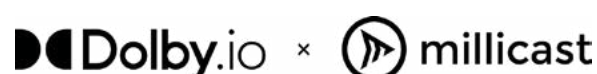


*Appearing through an Agreement between Arlekin Players Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

This production was made possible through the generous support of

Anonymous, Meghan Coleman, Reesa Greenberg, Sarah Hancock, Robin Hanley, Fran Jacobs & Barry Dym, Jennie & David Jadow, Lizbeth and George Krupp, Leonid & Alexandra Raiz, Victor & Inessa Rifkin, Nagesh Mahanthappa & Valentine Talland, Rick & Kathleen Teller, Robert Thurer, and A Gift in Memory of Roy Gottlieb.

Beat Brew Hall venue sponsored by Trinity Properties Management & Harvard Square Business Association



CAST

Shoigu, Parent 1, Soldier
Expert, Commander, Soldiers
Wife, Widow #1
Prigozhin, Parent 2
Mother, Widow #3
Simonyan
Putin
The Girl
Prosecutor
Attorney
Kovalchuk
Kadyrov
Soldiers, Pilot, Head
Matvienko
Surkov
Woman, Widow #2
Patrushev
Surovikin, Biden, Commander

Jeremy Beazlie
Boris Berdnikov
Irina Bordian
Daniel Boudreau
Jenya Brodskaia
Darya Denisova
Polina Dubovikova
Taisiia «Taya» Fedorenko
Anne Gottlieb*
Dev Luthra
Robert Pemberton*
Michael Sáenz
Garrett Sands
Julia Shikh
Misha Tyutyunik
Irina Vilenchik
Ilia VoloK
Robert Walsh*

Setting:

A bomb shelter in Mariupol,
Ukraine, today

Duration:

Approximately 2 hours 40 minutes
including one 10 minute intermission



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FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

I am a Ukrainian director, playwright, and writer that has worked in Russia for many years. I graduated from the School of Theater Leader (Moscow Art Theater School and the Meyerhold Center). I studied dramaturgy with the British at the Royal Court Theatre, created more than 25 performances on Moscow stages, and brought performances to theaters in Germany (Schaubühne), Poland (TR Warsaw), and Mexico (Babel Theatre).

In the first days of the war, I fled from Moscow, where I staged a political play *Hermione* at the Theater of Nations and the police came for me. Russia bombed Kyiv and my mother, Olga Denisova, who was born under the bombing of Kyiv on July 7, 1941. She refuses to leave and awaits victory in her home. I am in Poland, where there are more than 3 million Ukrainian refugees. In the refugee centers I have collected many stories of the war, including recorded documentary monologues of Ukrainian women. Based on these stories, I wrote and staged *Six Ribs of Anger* about the injuries of women from Mariupol, Bucha, Kharkov, Bakhmut and Chernigov. A premiere took place at Theater Commune of Warsaw on June 27, 2022 with a cast of all Ukrainians actors. Since the beginning of the war, I have staged two more plays about the

war — *Gaaga* (The Hague) at the Polish Theater in Poznan, and “My Mom and the Full-scale Invasion” in Barcelona. Now the plays are being prepared for productions in Philadelphia and Washington, in Bulgaria and France. Today the task of an artist from Ukraine is to speak to the world about the war in Ukraine, to remind the whole world that this cruel war goes on, that Europe and America must not forget that today Ukraine pays the price of its citizens’ lives for the freedom of the whole world.

During these months, I thought about what would give hope to me and those who fled the war and who are awaiting victory. A trial of Putin and his government was the biggest expectation. A new “The Hague” – *The Gaaga*.

Igor Golyak reached out to me during this period to discuss a project in America related to the war. Since both he and I were born in Kyiv and it is especially important for me to make a significant project in America about this war, I immediately agreed. It is very interesting for me to work with this troupe, which includes actors of different schools and languages, and it is very inspiring to work with the technologies in which Igor’s latest performances are made.

In the play “The Hague,” Putin and his gang are already sitting in a Hague prison awaiting punishment. They discuss the fact that they are given GMO sausages in the prison canteen and how to avoid trial. They begin to betray each other and to think on whom to blame. KGBist Patrushev is still raving about Ukrainian war geese spraying viruses. Oligarch Kovalchuk quotes Pushkin. Simonyan denies that she called for dropping the atomic bomb. Kadyrov cries, remembering his Ferrari. Matvienko drinks quietly. Shoigu dreams of returning to the taiga and fishing. This is a black comedy where war criminals look pathetic and ridiculous. They are condemned to trial and the worst punishment by a Ukrainian girl whose house was bombed. In her childhood fantasy, formidable tyrants, thieves and bribe-takers become characters from the looking-glass. The trial begins — documents from Bucha, Irpen and Mariupol are presented. There will be no mercy, each of them is doomed to his personal hell.

Satisfaction, hope for a fair trial and retribution are the main message of the play.

Sasha Denisova, Playwright

WHO'S WHO

JEREMY BEAZLIE (Shoigu) is very excited to be working with Arlekin Players. His credits include, Ben in Grand Horizons (Gloucester Stage Company), Katurian in The Pillowman, Jim in The Glass Menagerie (Insomniac Productions), George Bailey in It's a Wonderful Life (Rhino Leap Productions), Steve Enloe in The Radiant Abyss (Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company) Lee in True West (Walden Theatre), Ingram Frizer in Murdering Marlowe (Access Theatre). Film/TV credits include WTC View, The Gamekillers (MTV) and Whoopi (NBC). He recently moved to Massachusetts from New York City and is a proud graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts.

BORIS BERDNIKOV (Commander) has been with Arlekin Players Theater since 2012. He took part in such Arlekin productions as Immigrants 3.0, Memorial Prayer, Cinderella, Insulted – Belarus(sia), The Tail of The Fisherman And the Fish, and others.

IRINA BORDIAN (Wife) is a native of the bright, cheerful city of Odessa on the Black Sea coast in Ukraine. Odessa is famous for its independence and free people, and it is not for nothing that it was called Proto-Franco. The locals there are actors, inventors, charming characters who always rush to help or send you out if you are not a worthy visitor. From childhood, Irina was captivated by acting and the stage. She sought to get on stage in different ways, such as dancing in musical theatre, comedy shows, and a musical ensemble. But only when Irina arrived in the US she was able to fulfill her dream of being an actress. Arlekin Players Theatre became her soul house where she first time stepped on stage as Laura in The Guest. Then she was Katya (waiter) in Immigrants 3.0; followed by Tzeitel in Memorial Prayers; Nina Zarechnaya in The Seagull and more.

DANIEL BOUDREAU (Prigozhin) is thrilled to be working with Arlekin Players Theatre on this important production. Favorite past roles include Solyony in Three Sisters at Wellesley Repertory Theatre (IRNE nomination, Best Play), and for Praxis Stage, D'Amico in Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train (IRNE Nomination, Best Ensemble), and Joe Keller in All my Sons (Norton Award Nomination, Best Ensemble). Other favorite recent stage roles include: Oliver in As You Like It (Merely Players), The Porter in Macbeth (It's a Fiasco), Actor D in Well (Wellesley Rep), Lieutenant Schrank in West Side Story (Fiddlehead Theatre Company), Griffin in Distant Neighbors (Fresh Ink Theatre), Husband in The Fence (Second Act Productions). For three years, Daniel was the artistic director of Boston's Praxis Stage, for which he directed the US Premiere of Neil Bartlett's dramatic adaptation of Albert Camus' The Plague and co-directed the IRNE nominated production of Incident at Vichy.

JENYA BRODSKAIA (Mother) is part of the Arlekin resident acting company. She joined Arlekin Studio in 2011, after years of being the director of BOOM Family Theater and being part of the Harvard & Co KVN stand-up group. Jenya has participated as an actor and director in studio showcases. More recently, Jenya performed in Arlekin's productions of The Stone, Mbl – US, and Witness.

DARYA DENISOVA (Simonyan) is a Boston based actor known for her work with SpeakEasy Stage Company, Actors' Shakespeare Project and Arlekin Players, and has been recognized by The New York Times (critic's pick) and leading Boston critics for her roles at Arlekin Players. Recipient: 2020 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Actress for Arlekin's The Stone. Select Lead Roles: Memorial Prayer, Natasha's Dream, Tales of the Last Wednesday, Dead Man's Diary, Mbl-US, The Stone, The Seagull and State VS Natasha Banina, The Orchard (all Arlekin Players productions). Select National/ International theatre: United SOLO festival (New York); SOLO Festival

WHO'S WHO

(Moscow, Russia); and HighFest Theatre Festival (Yerevan, Armenia) with her award-winning solo performance *Natasha's Dream*. She studied acting at the Russian Academy of Theatre Arts in Moscow. She has taught documentary theatre at the Startalk School at Harvard University and the Stanislavsky method at the Igor Golyak acting studio.

POLINA DUBOVIKOVA (Putin) is an active member of the Arlekin resident acting company. She joined Arlekin Players Theatre in 2018. Since then she performed in numerous productions, including *Insulted. Belarus(sia)*, *Witness*, *A Dictionary of Emotions in Wartime*, *The Tale of the Fisherman and the Fish*.

TAISHA "TAYA" FEDORENKO (The Girl) is a 17-year-old Ukrainian-born actress and playwright. Taya fled her hometown, Kyiv, in February 2022 and is currently based in Connecticut where she's about to graduate high school. She's going to pursue her education and career in acting in New York City as an upcoming freshman at The New School. Taya is one of the members of Laura Cahill's Young Playwrights Ukraine, a teenage playwriting company, whose play *How Do You Feel Fear?* was produced in Orienteatern in Stockholm and is soon to be published by Smith & Kraus. She was also a part of the showcase of *The Clear Blue Skies: Diaries From Ukraine* created by Scott Illingworth and Oleksandra Oliinyk. Taya went through training at Stonestreet Studios as a part of the NYU Tisch Summer Program and at the School of Creative and Performing Arts. She is incredibly grateful and proud to be playing the role of the Girl in *The Gaaga*.

ANNE GOTTLIEB* (Prosecutor) appeared most recently in Arlekin's productions of *Witness* and *The Seagull*. Other favorite productions in the New England area include *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *In the Next*

Room (or the Vibrator Play), *The Little Foxes*, *Betrayal*, *Not Enough Air*, *Broken Glass*, *The Women*, *Macbeth*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*. She is the recipient of several Elliot Norton and IRNE awards for her work as an actor. Her writing includes an adapted screenplay of the novel, *The Dean's Watch* with Brian Tuttle and *The Wrestling Patient*, based on the life of Ety Hillesum, with Kirk Lynn and Katie Pearl which was produced by Speakeasy Stage and Boston Playwrights' Theatre. Anne works regularly with international organizations and businesses combining practices from theatre, voice work, depth psychology and insight meditation. In conjunction with Broadband Collaborative, Anne is designing social arts/action events with multi-disciplinary artists, musicians and global thought leaders to bring awareness to pressing collective issues around inclusion, belonging and grief.

DEV LUTHRA (Attorney) trained at East 15 Acting School, London, England and at Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, MA. Recent credits include *The Seagull* (Sorin) at Arlekin; *Organic* (Donna) at New Repertory Theatre; *Othello* (Iago) EPC production; *The Winter's Tale* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Antigonus, Old Shepherd, Bottom) at Bay Colony Shakespeare Company, *Brilliant Adventures* (The Man) and *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Azdak) at Apollinaire Theatre Company, and *N. Bonaparte* (M. le Comte) at Pilgrim Theatre. Dev served as the Artistic Director of *And Still We Rise* Productions, a theatre company committed to the advocacy of the rights of people impacted by the prison system. *Macbeth's Children*, an adaptation of Shakespeare's play, co-written with Michael Bettencourt, won an AATE New Play award. His play *Secret Asian Man* focuses on his experience of being raised in two cultures. Of Anglo-Indian parentage, he has lived and worked in the Northeast since 1978.

ROBERT PEMBERTON* (Kovalchuk) is pleased to be working with Arlekin Players Theatre. Other productions include; *Art*, *Frankie and Johnnie in the Clair de Lune*, and *Speed the*

WHO'S WHO

Plow (IRNE award) at the New Repertory Theatre. Twelfth Night at Commonwealth Shakespeare Theatre, Driving Miss Daisy, Ponies, and Dinner With Friends at Gloucester Stage Company, Antony and Cleopatra and A Midsummer Night's Dream (Elliot Norton Award) at Boston Theater Works, Much Ado About Nothing (Elliot Norton Award) Public Theater, Mercy Seat at the Lyric Stage, and Shel's Shorts at the Market Theater, among many others. Film credits include By The Sea (nominated for Latin Oscar), Treading Water, Boondock Saints, The Exchange, Gentleman From Boston, The Still Point, The New England Connection, Temps, and Anathema, among many others. Television credits include Brotherhood (Showtime), Another World, Guiding Light, Unsolved Mysteries, and over 400 National and local commercials and industrials.

MICHAEL SÁENZ (Kadyrov) is an actor, director, producer, playwright and theater educator. He was last seen as Creon in Antigone with Theatre@First, Pablo Fu (King Escobar in Our Dear Dead Drug Lord with Off the Grid, and Bishop of Ely in Richard III on the Boston Common with Commonwealth Shakespeare Company. His production company, VitalSaenz Productions, creates horror theatrical events as well as theater for a modern audience. He lives in Lowell with his husband and three canine dependents. This is his first production with Arlekin and hopefully not his last.

GARRETT SANDS (Soldier) is a New York based actor and musician. With a background in classical piano and composition, he began to appear in short films as a teenager. Recent credits include Just Tell No One (Arlekin Players Theatre), Everybody (Boston Conservatory), Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play (Boston Conservatory), and Gabriel (dir. Enrico Pau). He was accepted into The Link Program as

a member of Class 5, where he performed at Theatre Row under the TV/Film track. Training: Boston Conservatory (BFA, Contemporary Theater '22).

JULIA SHIKH (Matvienko) started as a student at Igor Golyak Acting Studio in 2009 and has been with Arlekin Players Theater ever since. She played various roles in multiple shows over the years: Treplev's Fantasy; Immigrants 3.0; Cinderella; Memorial Prayer; Tales of the Last Wednesday; theater documentary We-Us; the Elliott Norton award-winning A Dead Men's Diary; The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane; the stage reading One Hour, eighteen Minutes; the puppet show The Tale of the Fisherman and the Fish; and Arlekin's virtual production of Witness. Theater is Julia's passion and in day job she is a medical professional.

MISHA TYUTYUNIK (Surkov) joined the Arlekin Players Theatre in 2013, after playing in the American League of KVN and Boom family theater. On the studio stage, he played several memorable roles in sketches and scenes from plays. His first role as part of Arlekin was the Rabbi in Memorial Prayer, followed by Atzel in Tales of the Last Wednesday, and Bombardov in A Dead Man's Diary.

IRINA VILENCHIK (Widow) is a math teacher, an advisor to libraries on Slavic literature, a prop master and an active member of Arlekin Players Theatre troupe of actors. Irina studied at Igor Golyak Acting Studio. She performed in Arlekin Players productions for over 10 years. Her most memorable roles were Lady Horse in Memorial Prayer, Waitress and The Dog in The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane and Fairy Godmother in Cinderella.

ILIA VOLOK (Patrushev) was born in Kiev, Ukraine where he lived for the first half of his life. He is a graduate of Moscow Art Theatre School and a Lifetime Member of The Actors Studio. In Hollywood, Ilia has appeared in close to 180 films and television

WHO'S WHO

shows, including two films currently in pre-production: *The Palace*, directed by Roman Polanski, and Paramount's *Self-Reliance*, a film by Jake Johnson. Last October, Ilia received the NOHO Cinefest "Best Actor" award for his portrayal of Dark in the independent feature *Balloon Animal*. Recent Theater credits include *Yaacobi and Leidental* at the Odyssey Theatre, *The Orchard* at the Baryshnikov Art Center opposite Mikhail Baryshnikov and Jessica Hecht, and *The Revisionist* by Oscar nominee Jesse Eisenberg at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, opposite Tony award winner Deanna Dunagan. Ilia's one-man show *Diary of a Madman* won the LA Weekly Theater Award for Best Solo Performance and had two successful back-to-back off-Broadway runs. It has since been presented in Dubai, Paris, Kiev, Zurich and London.

ROBERT WALSH (Surovikin) Off-Broadway: *Gloucester Blue* (Cherry Lane), *Big Maggie* (Douglas Fairbanks), company member: Theater of the Open Eye and Riverside Shakespeare. Boston: *Ah, Wilderness!* and *Hamlet* (Huntington Theatre); *Our Town*, *Mass Appeal*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Merrimack Rep), *Sins of the Mother*, *The Subject Was Roses* (Gloucester Stage) 'ART' (New Rep), *Next Fall* (Speakeasy Stage), and *Coriolanus*, *Macbeth*, *Henry V* (Commonwealth Shakespeare), and *King Lear*, *Henry IV*, *Titus Andronicus*, and *Hamlet*, among others, for the Actors' Shakespeare Project, (founding member). Regional: *Streamers* (Arena Stage); *Anna Christie* (Stage West); *Romeo and Juliet* (Portland Stage Co.); *The Children's Hour* (American Stage Festival). Television: *Body of Proof* (ABC); *One Life to Live*; *The Guiding Light*. Film: *Fourth of July*, *Black Mass*, *Dead Reckoning*, *The Spirit of Christmas*, *State and Main*; *Amistad*; *Eight Men Out*. For seven years he was the Artistic Director of Gloucester Stage Company and is on the faculty at Brandeis University.

SASHA DENISOVA (Playwright & Director) graduated from the philological faculty of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Her plays include *Dusty Day*, *Morphology*, *Mayakovsky Goes for Sugar*, *Light My Fire* (National Theatre Golden Mask Award winner), *Important Things of Sforza's Family*, *Decalogue*, and *Alice and the State* (Golden Mask Award nominee). She has developed and written many plays, including *That's Yes* (Theatre on the Spassky, Kirov), *Villages.net* (Altai State Regional Shukshin Drama Theater; Barnaul), *Plus-Minus Twenty* (Ilkhom Theatre; Tashkent), and *Kiss!* (Prokopyevskiy Drama Theatre). Her short story *Candy* was published in the journal *New World*. She has taught stage direction at The Meyerhold Theatre Centre, lectured at the School of the Moscow Art Theatre, and has led the author and documentary theater studio «Studio-OFF», created in the repertory theatre for the pedagogical work.

IGOR GOLYAK (Co-Director; Virtual Design, Networking & Technical Direction) is the founder and producing artistic director of Arlekin Players Theatre & Zero Gravity (zero-G) Virtual Theater Lab. He recently directed *The Orchard* featuring Jessica Hecht and Mikhail Baryshnikov Off-Broadway in New York and in Boston. A global leader in the virtual theater movement, he directed *Witness*, *chekhovOS* /an experimental game/ and *State vs. Natasha Banina* during the pandemic, which became international virtual theater sensations, receiving multiple New York Times Critic's Picks. His work has received numerous Elliot Norton Awards for *The Seagull*, *The Stone*, and *Dead Man's Diary*, including a Best Director Award, This Week In New York Pandemic Awards (*Witness* and *chekhovOS*), and Broadway World's Best Director of a Streamed Production Award (*chekhovOS*). He directed a critically acclaimed *The Merchant of Venice* for Actors' Shakespeare Project, productions at Northeastern University and Boston Conservatory at Berklee, and has taught for HB Studios, Boston Conservatory, Harvard University and abroad. Golyak is from Ukraine and leads Arlekin, a company of immigrants, which has performed

WHO'S WHO

all over the world, including festivals in Ukraine, Yerevan, Armenia, New York City, Chicago, Lviv, Monaco, the US, Canada and UK, as well as the Moscow Art Theatre.

www.igorgolyakstudio.com

SARA STACKHOUSE (Producer) is Managing Producer at Arlekin Players Theatre & Zero-Gravity (zero-G) Virtual Theater Lab where she was Executive Producer of The Orchard Off-Broadway featuring Jessica Hecht and Mikhail Baryshnikov. She produced WITNESS and co-produced chekhovOS /an experimental game/ and the international tour for State vs Natasha Banina. She is the founder and Creative Director of The Mama Project, a arts-based project for women in townships in South Africa. She is a founder of BroadBand Collaborative where she co-produced two streaming shows during the pandemic, All Together Now and Latitudes, with artists throughout the world. Sara was Founding Executive Producer of Actors' Shakespeare Project, producing 48 productions, during which time the company received multiple Elliot Norton, IRNE, and Best of Boston Awards, and an Innovative Theater Company award from American Theater Wing (producer of Tony's). She was Chair of Theater at Boston Conservatory during the merger with Berklee, Supervising Producer of Inside This Old House on A&E/Time Warner, Executive Producer of Toy Symphony at the MIT Media Lab. She spent her twenties as Project Manager for cellist Yo-Yo Ma, producing and managing artist collaborations, special projects, albums, tours and films, including the internationally award-winning series Yo-Yo Ma: Inspired by Bach. Sara was the recipient of an "Inspiration Award" from Boston's Social Innovation Forum.

IRINA KRUZHILINA (Environmental Designer) is a New York-based theatre artist, scenographer, director, visual dramaturg, and educator, creating work at the intersection

of visual art, live performance, and civic engagement. Her creative endeavors range from interdisciplinary downtown theatre to large scale parades, from opera to site responsive installations. Her work has been shown at Times Square, Tokyo Disney, BAM, Prague National Theatre, NY Philharmonic, and Barbican Center. Recent highlights include designing sets and costumes for Dimitry Krymov's Cherry Orchard at the Wilma in Philadelphia, creating A Dozen Dreams, a large-scale immersive installation developed in partnership with EnGarde arts, and directing the site-specific performance NoPlace in collaboration with the New School of Drama. Irina's work embraces collaborative artistic exchange among theatre makers from different backgrounds, fostering generous creative and educational environments that value a diversity of approaches and ideas. Irina is the founder of Visual Echo, a New York-based performance organization dedicated to facilitating generative dialogues among people from diverse backgrounds. Irina is a faculty member at the New School of Drama and a Chashama resident.

KEVIN FULTON (Lighting Designer) is a Boston-based theatre artist and lighting designer from Denver, Colorado. He is thrilled to be working with Arlekin Players Theatre. Recent credits include: The Marriage of Figaro (Boston Conservatory); Let the Right One In (Actor's Shakespeare Project and Boston University); Mankind, Cosí fan Tutte, Colossal (Boston University); The Silence, The One You Feed, Casting the Vote, Moon Over Dark Street (MIT Theater Arts). He previously was master electrician and taught lighting crafts at MIT. Kevin is currently pursuing an MFA in Lighting Design at Boston University. B.A. Vassar College. Website: Kgfulton.com

JACEK JĘDRASIK (Co-Composer) is a qualified psychologist by education. Composer and music producer by profession. Co-creator of recognised in Poland, off-line audio-visual projects. He creates music for performances in the most

WHO'S WHO

important theatres in Warsaw. His music has been used in theatre performances in France, the USA and Russia. When creating, he draws inspiration from surrealism, electronic psychedelia, ethnic music, classical music and... silence.

SZYMON ORFIN (Co-Composer) is a composer, sound designer, and director for years associated with theatre and film. Author of soundtracks to many audio dramas and audiovisual installations. Moves in the field of electronic, electroacoustic and experimental music, passionate about rhythm section and low frequencies. Lecturer at main Polish theatre and film universities. On a daily basis he runs a recording and post-production facility in Warsaw.

BRENDAN F DOYLE (Sound Designer) is a sound designer, engineer, and artisan working primarily in live performance applications: theatrical sound design, live music, and bespoke audio objects. He holds a MSc in Sound Design from the University of Edinburgh, and a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from Emerson College. His work has been heard in bars, basements, chapels, and concert halls: he also works in theatres, at improvised venues of all sorts, and across the internet. He is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local USA 829.

DAVID R. GAMMONS (Costume Designer) is a director, designer, visual artist, and theatre educator. He is thrilled to return to Arlekin Players, for whom he has previously designed the scenery for *The Stone*. David's theatre directing credits include acclaimed productions for *SpeakEasy Stage Company*, *Actors' Shakespeare Project*, *Boston Playwrights' Theatre*, *Cambridge Chamber Ensemble*, *Commonwealth Shakespeare Company*, *Central Square*

Theatre, *The New Repertory Theatre*, and *Gloucester Stage*. David's recent directing projects have been nominated for forty-six *Elliot Norton Awards* and forty-six *Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) Awards*, including multiple Norton award wins for *Outstanding Director* (2007, 2017, & 2022), *Outstanding Production* (2012, 2013, & 2022), and *Outstanding Designer* (2020). He is currently the *Visiting Assistant Professor of Directing* at *Virginia Tech University* in Blacksburg, Virginia, and has previously taught at *The Boston Conservatory at Berklee*, *MIT*, *Northeastern University*, *Boston College*, *Suffolk University*, and *Concord Academy*. He is a graduate of *Harvard University* and *The ART Institute for Advanced Theatre Training*. For more information, please visit <https://davidrgammons.com/>.

ERIC DUNLAP (Streaming Video Designer) has created video designs for dance and theater, interactive video installations for museums, and live mix video performances for concerts and special events. A former dancer, choreographer, producer from New York, he currently he lives in Berlin where he pursues his work as a video artist. A thirty year veteran of the performing arts, he spent his formative years as a principal dancer with the *Alwin Nikolais/Murray Louis Dance Company*, and has danced with various modern dance and opera companies. He was co-founder and Executive Director of *Forward Motion Theater* from 1995 - 2012. Pursuing a mission to explore movement and technology, the company created works combining physical performance and digital media, produced VJs and audiovisual artists, and curated collaborations in multi-media performance. Since moving to Berlin in 2011, he works as a video designer and technician, and continues to build works combining dance and video. Two of his new video art works have been acquired by the *Leo Kuelbs Collection* as a part of their "Digital Fairytales" series, and he was recently awarded him a research grant to explore dance and interactivity as a part of Berlin's *Neustart Kultur Fund*. Recent video designs include the world premiere of

WHO'S WHO

“Die Machine Steht Nicht Still” with Caroline Peters and LEDWALD, produced by the Wiener Festwochen (Vienna), “Sich waffnend gegen eine See von Plagen” produced by the Schaubühne in Berlin, and Arlekin’s The Orchard in Boston.

KYRA BOWIE (Production Stage Manager) is a multi-hyphenate artist and the co-founder of Transcend Streaming. She is thrilled to be collaborating again with Arlekin and to be a part of The Gaaga. Select Credits: Just Tell No One (SM | Lincoln Center) The Orchard with Jessica Hecht & Mikhail Baryshnikov (PSM | Arlekin Players Theatre) Happy Life (PSM | Walkerspace), Shooting Celebrities (PSM | The Flea), Othello (PSM | New Place Players), Camp Morning Wood (PSM | AsylumNYC), Play On Podcasts (Coordinating Producer). NYU Tisch alum. Proud AEA Member. Filled with never ending gratitude. @KyraBowie www.KyraBowie.com.

IRINA VILENCHIK (Properties Designer) is a math teacher, an advisor to libraries on Slavic literature, a prop master and an active member of Arlekin Players Theatre troupe of actors. Irina studied at Igor Golyak Acting Studio. She performed in Arlekin Players productions for over 10 years. Her most memorable roles were Lady Horse in Memorial Prayer, Waitress and The Dog in The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane and Fairy Godmother in Cinderella.

THERESA LANG (Co-Translator) is a dramaturg, director, historian, and teacher dedicated to the creation of ensemble, development of new work, amplification of underrepresented voices, and emphasis on experimental forms of theater making. She holds a Ph.D. from Tufts University, is head of the Contemporary Theater Program at Boston Conservatory at Berklee, and is the author of Essential Dramaturgy: the Mindset and Skillset.

JUSTIN LAHUE (Technical Director) is a Boston based theatre artist and filmmaker. Previous collaborations include work with Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Speakeasy Stage, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Boston Conservatory, Wheelock Family Theatre, Hub Theatre Company, Firehouse Center for the Arts, Seacoast Repertory Theatre, New Hampshire Theatre Project, and Stagewright Films. He is the recipient of a 2022 BroadwayWorld Boston award for best professional scenic design for Straight White Men (Wellfleet), as well as a 2022 Cannes Film Award and regional Emmy nomination in art direction for the feature film Not on This Night. He holds a BA in theatre from Suffolk University, and will be pursuing his MFA in scenic design at Boston University starting this fall. For more information on his work, visit www.justinlahue.com.

ANNA FURMAN (Hair & Makeup Designer) became an invaluable member of Arlekin around a decade ago, initially joining as a Makeup Artist consultant. Instantly captivated by the group’s dynamic energy, unwavering dedication to one another, infectious humor, innovative ideas, and fearlessness in embracing the new, Anna’s connection with Arlekin blossomed. Over the course of the past twelve years, Anna has played a pivotal role in almost all of Arlekin’s productions. While primarily known for her exceptional talents as a hair and makeup designer, she has also graced the stage in unforgettable performances like Мы/US (We/US) and Insulted. Belarus(sia). Outside the realms of Arlekin, Anna is a founder of Body AT Balance and shares her expertise as an Alexander Technique teacher, guiding individuals toward discovering poise and a harmonious balance within their bodies. When not immersed in the world of theater or inspiring others, Anna finds solace in outdoor pursuits. From gracefully skiing down wintry slopes to kayaking in the summer and embracing year-round hiking adventures, she seeks inspiration and renewal in nature’s embrace.

WHO'S WHO

ARLEKIN PLAYERS THEATRE was founded by Artistic Director Igor Golyak in 2009 and has since toured to New York, Chicago, and Hartford, as well as to international festivals in Russia, Armenia, Ukraine, and Monaco. Most recently Arlekin produced *The Orchard* featuring Jessica Hecht and Mikhail Baryshnikov, both Off-Broadway and in Boston. Arlekin received world-wide acclaim, including two New York Times Critic's Picks, for their groundbreaking virtual theater projects during the pandemic, including *State vs Natasha Banina* and *chekhovOS* /an experimental

game/ featuring Mikhail Baryshnikov as Anton Chekhov. Arlekin has received multiple awards for its work including four 2020 Elliot Norton Awards from the Boston Theater Critics Association for recent productions of *The Stone* and *The Seagull*. Arlekin takes strong pride in their emphasis on self-identity; they are a company of immigrants performing works that play on the ideas of cross-culture, home, and traditions, challenging the idea of nationality, and finding common themes that unite us all. In 2020, Arlekin launched its Zero Gravity (zero-G) Virtual Theater Lab to explore new theater possibilities for a new time. The company makes its home in Needham, MA. For more information, visit www.arlekinplayers.com.

STAFF & PRODUCTION

THE GAAGA Team

Playwright, **Sasha Denisova**
Director, **Sasha Denisova**
Co-Director, Virtual Design, **Igor Golyak**
Producer, **Sara Stackhouse**
Environmental & Projection, Design **Irina Kruzhilina**
Lighting Design, **Kevin Fulton**
Costume Design, **David R. Gammons**
Music Composition, **Jacek Jędrasik & Szymon Orfin**
Sound Design, **Brendan F. Doyle**
Properties Design, **Irina Vilenchik** with **Julia Shikh**
Hair & Makeup Design, **Anna Furman**
Virtual Technical Direction & Networking, **Igor Golyak**
Streaming Video Design, **Eric Dunlap**
Translation, **Polina Dubovikova & Dr. Theresa Lang**
Production Stage Manager, **Kyra Bowie***
Assistant Stage Manager, **Natasha Kushnarova**

Production & Choreography Assistant, **Emma Resek**
Production Manager, **Sara Stackhouse**
Technical Director, **Justin Lahue**
Scenic Associate, **Thijs Beuming**
A1/Mixer, **Bekah Rudinec**
Camera Operator, **Denis Denisov**
Wardrobe Supervisor, **Alla Trachtenberg**
Wardrobe Assistant, **Natasha Mitlina**
Wardrobe Run Crew, **Sara Burd**
Electricians, **Celeste Delgadillo, Klara Ballay**
Projections Assistant, **Klara Ballay**
Carpenters, **Ben Lieberson & Jason Ries**
Scenic Charge, **Crystal Day VanArtsdalen**
Scenic Painters, **Page Evett, Courtney Licata, Maggie Shiver**
Scenic Overhire, **Natalie Han, Mikey Mccarthy, Elliott Purcell, Nolan Quella**
House Manager, **Marianna Golyak**
Assistant House Managers, **Olga Sokolova & Macy Adams**
Press Representative, **Darren DeLuca, Luca PR**

ARLEKIN PLAYERS THEATRE | (ZERO-G) VIRTUAL THEATER LAB

Founder & Artistic Director, **Igor Golyak**
Managing Producer, **Sara Stackhouse**
General Manager, **Mark Soucy**
Accountant, **Harriet Sheets**

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A Gift in Memory of Roy Gottlieb



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