



# HERE

From a SPARK to a BLAZE...  
It starts HERE.

# SPARK GALA

**JUNE 6, 2022**

Honoring

**CHERYL HENSON**

and

**BRIAN SELZNICK**

## **EMCEE**

Basil Twist

## **FEATURED PERFORMANCES**

### **Joey Arias & Basil's RED DEVILS**

PERFORMED BY Joey Arias, Rosa Douglas, Ben Elling, Jonathan Lyons and Rachel Schapira, PUPPETRY BY Basil Twist

### **Nick Lehane's CHIMPANZEE**

PERFORMED BY Rowan Magee, Andrew Manjuck, Emma Wiseman, SOUND DESIGN BY Avery Orvis, PUPPETRY BY Nick Lehane

### **Selections from Ryan Scott Oliver and Brian Selznick's HUGO**

PERFORMED BY Kerstin Anderson and Daniel Yearwood, ACCOMPANIED BY Jason Wetzel

**Processional Arts Workshop**

## **DIRECTOR**

Kristin Marting

## **TOY THEATRES BY**

Great Small Works -

John Bell and Trudi Cohen

Ben&Rosa -

Ben Elling and Rosa Douglas

Tau Bennett

Robin Frohardt

Spencer Lott

with Stephen Selman

Nekaa Lab / Sachiyo Takahashi

Lake Simons

with Erin K. Orr

Brian Selznick

## **DJ**

Angela Di Carlo

## **LIGHTING DESIGN**

Ayumu "Poe" Saegusa

# SPARK GALA

## **CENTERPIECES GRACIOUSLY LENT BY**

Kate Brehm

Chinese Theatre Works

Cheryl Henson

Dan Hurlin

Maiko Kikuchi

Ralph Lee

Jonothon Lyons

Erin K Orr

Joseph Silovsky

Basil Twist

Christopher Williams

## **CENTERPIECE DISPLAYS BY**

Rachel Schapira

## **GALA PRODUCTION TEAM**

ALC Management, EVENT PRODUCER

Jessica Pomeroy, AUCTION COORDINATOR

Alex M. Lee, PROGRAM AND INVITATION DESIGNER

Hunter Canning & Lee Rayment, PHOTOGRAPHERS

Danielle Onsoon Kim, FLORIST

Cole Bonenberger, PRODUCTION MANAGER

Patrick Egan, STAGE MANAGER

Aoife Hough, ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

David Glista, Kathe Mull, Shahiem Jackson, and Dan Hernandez, PRODUCTION CREW

Mariana Newhard, Liz Oakley, Yana Landowne, Christina Marks,

Nathaniel Marvin, Chris Green, and Sarah Bellin, VOLUNTEERS

# Dear **HERE** friends and family,

We are thrilled to welcome you to **HERE's 2022 SPARK Gala!** We began working on this event more than two years ago, months before the pandemic began. When the world stopped in spring 2020, we sadly realized that our desire to celebrate our beloved Dream Music Puppetry Program would have to wait, like so many other things. We are so pleased to have finally made it to this event tonight—and we are so grateful to have you with us.

Over the past two years, we have been fortunate to have so many friends who believe in **HERE's** mission to nurture a diverse array of artists, creating and producing innovative performance in every artistic discipline. Tonight, we finally have the chance to toast the work and contributions of two of those essential friends: award-winning author and illustrator, **Brian Selznick**, and passionate partisan of contemporary puppetry, **Cheryl Henson**.

As one of the originating puppeteers in Basil Twist's original 1998 production of *Symphonie Fantastique*, **Brian Selznick**, our 2022 Avant-Guardian, has long been an important part of our community. **HERE** has been thrilled to watch Brian's career flourish through his creation of imaginative and beautiful books, transformed and brought to life on stages and on the big screen (with thrilling films like *Hugo* and *Wonderstruck*).

We are also proud to celebrate **Cheryl Henson** with the **HERE**manitarian Award for her long-time support of Dream Music. As President of the Jim Henson Foundation for a remarkable 30 years and a leading advocate for high quality puppet theatre, Cheryl has had a deep impact on our field and so many artists in our community. In addition to overseeing the Foundation's achievement of making more than 1,000 grants to over 350 artists, she has been a true partner to **HERE** and Dream Music, generously supporting countless puppeteers who have graced the stages of **HERE** over the past 28 years.

Both of these individuals have been true partners over the past two years and provided generous support enabling us to work with artists even when our doors were closed and to be ready to welcome audiences again as soon as it became possible. For Cheryl, Brian, and you, our community of artists and audience members, we are deeply grateful. Our fire kept burning, and we are ecstatic to spread that flame with all of you tonight!



*Kristin Marting*

**Kristin Marting**  
Founding Artistic Director

# WE LOVE BRIAN SELZNICK



To me, **BRIAN SELZNICK** is a modern-day Leonardo da Vinci, a gifted artist with a myriad of other talents from novel and screenwriting to set design and of course, puppetry! Over the course of our 25+ years working together, I've had the great pleasure and privilege of watching Brian challenge himself creatively in ways I've never seen before in another artist. The seeds of his success were evident in his early award-winning picture books *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins* by Barbara Kerley and *When Marian Sang* by Pam Muñoz Ryan. But it was his first solo novel in words and pictures, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*—a genre-defying tour de force which broke open the novel form and created an entirely new reading experience—that put the scope of his genius on full display. It won the 2008 Randolph Caldecott Medal, became an international bestseller translated into over thirty-five languages, and was adapted into the Oscar-winning film “Hugo,” directed by Martin Scorsese. Between then and now, four more groundbreaking books followed, cementing Brian as one of the most innovative storytellers of our time. His latest book promises to be his crowning achievement! – **Tracy Mack**

**BRIAN SELZNICK** can do anything and do it well. He is a polymath's polymath. His amazing books are complex and stunningly innovative explorations of the electric relationship between language and image. His breathtaking toy theater shows are elegant, tiny doorways into the gigantic lives of heroic, though sometimes half remembered figures. His illustrations range from the adorable to the hilarious to the erotic, while his abstractions in paint/pencil combine artistic virtuosity with deep longing. His puppeteering skills are both nuanced and precise, and as if that weren't enough, he has recently taken to writing plays, musicals, and ballets. Is there nothing this man can't do? I wish he'd take up archery or skeet shooting or something. It would be refreshing to see him be lousy at something. (Although knowing him, he'd have a shelf full of trophies in a matter of weeks.) – **Dan Hurlin**



The magical mind of **BRIAN SELZNICK**, his mercurial eye, his rhapsodic pencil. Just a few of the extraordinary gifts present in a man I am lucky enough to call a collaborator. Our work began together on a new 'Nutcracker' for The Joffrey Ballet which yielded many delightful discoveries. One of them also proved a challenge yet a true testimony to his boundlessly cascading imagination. When I approached Brian to write a synopsis for the ballet, his first proposal was a story over twenty pages long. It was so full of fun, adventure and detail, that a trilogy akin to Wagner's *Ring Cycle* perhaps may have been more appropriate. How was I possibly going to stage the delights he imagined. In all reality, two or three pages for a ballet synopsis for a ballet is already pushing it, and I am certainly not someone who shy's away from telling a hearty tale through dance. I challenged him and told him that if possible, we would need to try to get it on one page, then we could begin fleshing it out. The joy, sense of whimsy, but also deep rooted humanity that leapt from those cut early Nutcracker pages are worthy one day of a full book or indeed a movie. Somehow with great grace Brian reduced it to a manageable length and the Chicago *Nutcracker* was born. Brian Selznick is a man of abundance. An abundance of gift, an abundance of kindness and generosity. He leaves love out in the world like a trail of stars leaping off the page every time a child opens a copy of 'Hugo Cabret' or *The Marvels*. That love washes over us cantankerous grown-ups as we read these stories to our children, or happen to pick up one of these magical titles in a book store. Art is love, and Brian's gift is to be able access that in so many ways, and share it through his writing, drawing and painting. And in person who isn't entranced by that bright twinkle in his eye. The twinkle that seems like tinkerbelle herself leading us to a place deep in our own imagination.

– Christopher Wheeldon



# AVANT-GUARDIAN AWARD

**BRIAN SELZNICK** is the author and illustrator of many books for children, including *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, winner of the Caldecott medal and the basis for the Oscar-winning movie *Hugo*, directed by Martin Scorsese.

He's also the author and illustrator of *Wonderstruck*, which was made into a movie by Todd Haynes with a screenplay by Brian and is currently being developed for the stage.

Other books include *The Marvels* (currently being developed for film and theater), *The Doll People* trilogy by Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin, and *Baby Monkey, Private Eye*, a 158 page beginning reader written by Brian's husband Dr. David Serlin.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the beloved *Harry Potter* series, Brian created new covers and a box for all seven books.

He wrote the story for a new version of *The Nutcracker* at the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago, choreographed by Tony Award winning choreographer Christopher Wheeldon (*An American In Paris*). Christopher and Brian are currently collaborating with Ryan Scott Oliver on a musical of *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*.

His first for an adult audience, *Live Oak, With Moss*, is based on twelve poems by Walt Whitman and is published by Abrams.

Brian's newest book, the *New York Times* bestseller *Kaleidoscope*, was published in September, 2021 by Scholastic.

Brian graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1988. He got his start in children's books as an independent bookseller at Eeyore's Books for Children on Manhattan's Upper West Side. He was in the original cast of Basil Twist's *Symphonie Fantastique* and *Petrushka*, and has worked extensively on puppet productions with Dan Hurlin.

Brian and his husband divide their time between San Diego, California and Brooklyn, New York.

# WE LOVE CHERYL HENSON

**CHERYL HENSON** is my spirit guide to all things puppet. She is a long-time supporter of P.S. 122 and Under the Radar, Dixon Place, La MaMa and of course HERE. Cheryl is truly one of the most lovely human beings on this planet. Though some wonder whether she is actually on this planet, considering her ethereal post-modern hippie style - but I assure you she is. She can come right down to earth when needed. Cheryl is incisive, caring and fierce in her love and support of Puppetry and its community. She makes dreams happen for people, dreams that would not be possible without her encouragement and support. I knew her husband Ed, when he was called Duke. Dukes marry princesses and that is the case here – Cheryl Henson, the “Princess of Puppetry,” long may she reign. – **Mark Russell**

Unlike all the other arts puppetry has few cannons to keep it honest. But fortunately, the field has **CHERYL** who presides over the Jim Henson Foundation. And through the foundation she sets standards for an art that is so immensely diverse in its practices and attitudes. Here is Cheryl in her own words, writing to the board prior to a meeting on dealing with grant proposals:

*“We fund excellence in puppet theater. This means excellence in performance, puppet construction and presentation. Excellent Puppet Theater. No matter how charming and emotionally sensitive something might be: Is it professional and excellent?”*

This spells out Cheryl's total commitment and importance to this field; and it is also why I am committed to Cheryl and the foundation. – **Hanne Tierney**

There are those in the world who are caring and those who are not. There are those in the world who are loving and those who are not. There are those in the world who are life-affirming and those who are not. In this terrible time of the pandemic, of war, of racial hatred, of divisiveness, these three qualities are urgently needed in so many different ways. Tonight we are honoring someone who has chosen in her life to be caring, loving, and affirming of art, specifically of the art of puppetry. If each and everyone of us could be caring, loving, and life-affirming in our respective interests, what a world we would be living in now. It is with gratitude that we honor tonight a champion of the art of puppetry, **CHERYL HENSON**, who has gone the extra mile to support so many artists in this time of need. I wish I could be there tonight to honor you, Cheryl. Congratulations! – **Ping Chong**



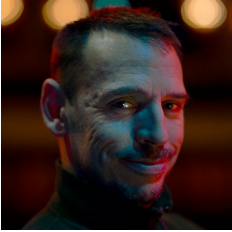
# HEREMANITARIAN AWARD



**CHERYL HENSON** has been the President of **The Jim Henson Foundation** since 1992. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of The Jim Henson Company and The Center for Puppetry Arts. The Jim Henson Foundation is a grant making organization founded by Jim Henson in 1982 to support the art of puppetry in America. Over the past forty years, the foundation has made over 1000 grants to over 350 different artists. Cheryl is an advocate for high quality puppet theater. From 1991 – 2000, Cheryl executive produced the award winning biennial **Henson International Festival of Puppet Theater**. These five festivals presented 136 different productions in 24 theaters throughout New York City, including both theaters at HERE. During this time, Cheryl also worked with Sesame Street and Sesame Workshop, co-wrote the book *Muppets Make Puppets* and worked on a range of other projects. In 2005, she edited a book of her father's philosophy for Hyperion, *It's Not Easy Being Green and Other Things to Consider*. Cheryl was a puppet builder and designer and worked on many productions including *The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*, *The Muppet Show*, *The Storyteller*, *Bunny Picnic* and *Song of the Cloud Forest*. Cheryl is a graduate of Yale and has a degree from F.I.T. She has two children, a wonderful husband, and a new puppy named Misty. She is proud to support the creation and presentation of innovative contemporary American puppet theater through The Jim Henson Foundation. To learn more, please visit [hensonfoundation.org](http://hensonfoundation.org).

# PERFORMER BIOS

Photo by Elliott Verdier



**BASIL TWIST** (Emcee) A native of San Francisco, Basil Twist is a third-generation puppeteer. He is the sole American to graduate from the École Supérieure Nationale des Arts de la Marionnette in Charleville-Mezieres, France. Basil's showmanship was spotlighted in New York by The Jim Henson International Festival of Puppetry with his award winning *The Araneidae Show*.

This recognition coupled with the ground-breaking and multiple award-winning *Symphonie Fantastique*, Twist was revealed as a singular artist of unlimited imagination. Highlights of subsequent work have included *Petrushka* (commissioned by Lincoln Center) and *Dogugaeshi* (The Japan Society), *Behind the Lid* (Silver Whale Gallery) with the late Lee Nagrin and *Arias with a Twist*, co-created with nightlife icon Joey Arias. *Symphonie* and these productions have now toured throughout the world. Broadway credits include puppetry design for *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, *Oh, Hello!*, *The Addams Family*, and puppetry direction for the beloved *Pee-Wee Herman Show*. His work has received an Obie, Drama Desk Awards, UNIMA Awards, Bessie Awards, a New York Innovative Theatre Award, and a Henry Hewes Award. He has been honored with a MacArthur, the "Rome Prize" from The American Academy in Rome, a Guggenheim Fellowship, USA Fellowship, a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award and his productions have received numerous grants from the Jim Henson Foundation. Twist guides the internationally recognized Dream Music Puppetry Program at HERE.

Photo by Heath McBride



**JOEY ARIAS** is an American artist based in New York City, best known for work as a performance artist, cabaret singer, and drag artist, but also as a published author, comedian, stage persona and film actor. He also goes by the names Joseph Arias and Joe Arias. In 2003, Arias moved to Las Vegas, Nevada to star in *Cirque du Soleil's Zumanity* at the New York-New York Hotel & Casino. In addition to starring in the show, he co-wrote two of the

show's songs. After six years, Arias returned to New York where he starred in *Arias with a Twist*, a collaboration with puppeteer Basil Twist at HERE. Produced by Barbara Busackino and Tandem Otter Productions, the show received positive reviews and has toured to Los Angeles and Paris and spawned a "docufantasy" film of the same name which premiered at the TriBeCa Film Festival in 2010. Arias continues to perform in venues such as Joe's Pub and Feinstein's/54 Below.



**RYAN SCOTT OLIVER** was called “the future of Broadway... a major new voice in musical theatre” (*Entertainment Weekly*). He wrote the music and lyrics for *Jasper in Deadland*; *35mm: A Musical Exhibition*; *We Foxes*; *Darling*; *Mrs. Sharp*; and others, and is the winner of a Larson Grant, Rodgers Award, New Musicals Awards from Weston Playhouse, Pace University, and the recipient of a Lortel Award Nomination as well

as numerous fellowships, residencies and ASCAP awards. He’s currently at work on an adaption of *Hugo*; *Tethered* with Adam Chanler-Berat; *Party of the Century* (commissioned by FourthWall Theatricals); *Tomorrow, the Island Dies* (commissioned by Samford University); and *Heart and Souls* with Kirsten Guenther for Universal Theatricals. @ryanscottoliver on all platforms.



**CHIMPANZEE** (by Nick Lehane) premiered at HERE, presented by the Dream Music Puppetry Program. It was made possible through the unwavering support of Cheryl Henson and the Jim Henson Foundation. *Chimpanzee* was the recipient of the 2019 Jim Henson Foundation Residency at the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center, and received work-in-progress presentations at Puppetry at the Carriage House and The Puppet Lab at

St Anne’s Warehouse. *Chimpanzee* made its European premiere at the World Puppet Theater Festival in Charleville-Mézières, thanks to the generous support of The Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, Cheryl Henson, Basil Twist, and Barbara Busackino. It has since been presented by Hamilton College, by Casteliers at Théâtre Aux Écuries in Montreal, The London Mime Festival at the Barbican Center and by the Chicago International Puppetry Festival.



**PROCESSIONAL ARTS WORKSHOP (PAW)**, led by Alex Kahn and Sophia Michahelles, works with communities to create site-specific, human-powered, art parades and Carnavalesque performances. PAW involves volunteers at every stage of production, resulting in collaborative works that evoke local narratives through pageant puppetry, illuminations, ceremonial architecture, and masking. Since 1998, their performances have led NY’s

Village Halloween Parade. Their work has appeared at Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, the High Line, Socrates Sculpture Park, Miami’s Vizcaya Museum, and the Obamas’ White House. Outside of traditional venues, they have engaged communities ranging from the streets of Kyiv to Trinidad Carnival to the South Bronx.



**BEN&ROSA:** Ben and Rosa Elling are puppet artists based in NYC. You can find out more about their work by visiting [www.itfigurespuppetcompany.com](http://www.itfigurespuppetcompany.com). Rosa and Ben are beyond grateful to HERE for their world class puppetry programming and for being an awesome community space. Thank you for inviting us to honor the wonderful Cheryl Henson and hugely talented Brian Selznick. What fun! With special thanks to Rachel

Schapiro and Nat Marvan.



**TAU BENNETT** is a Brooklyn-based puppeteer who has been creating since the age of ten. Over the years, he has gathered a group of friends he can call upon to help actualize his many artistic visions. For this particular project, he recruited such people as Toria Sterling to build the puppet based on Tau's design. Toria has worked on Broadway, Disney, and is currently a builder in the Henson shop. Another close collaborator is Sebastiano

Ricci, who assists Tau in manipulating the puppet; performing the hands while Tau does the head, feet and body. Sebastiano has also worked in the Henson shop and is currently a puppeteer in the live *Winnie the Pooh* stage show. And then there's Rattleshake, the band who provided the music for the piece. Their music can be found on such major platforms as Spotify, Soundcloud and Bandcamp.



Photo by Maria Baranova

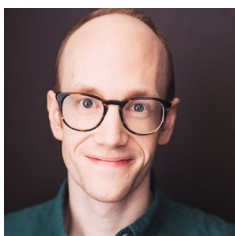
**ROBIN FROHARDT:** Known for her rich aesthetic and highly detailed constructions, Robin Frohardt is an award-winning theater and film director. Her narrative based film, puppetry and sculpture, use recognizable materials, often trash, to create richly detailed worlds that make magic of the mundane and highlight the trivialities of daily life. Her theatrical work has earned her a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Creative Capital

Award and multiple Jim Henson Foundation Grants. Her HERE Artist Residency Program production *The Pigeoning*, hailed by *the New York Times* as "a tender, fantastical symphony of the imagination," debuted in 2013 and continues to tour at home and abroad. Her follow-up project *The Plastic Bag Store* premiered in Times Square in 2020 and has since toured to Los Angeles, Chicago, Adelaide and Austin. Her films have been official selections at The Telluride Film Festival, Aspen Shortsfest, The One Earth Film Festival and BAM.



**GREAT SMALL WORKS:** Trudi Cohen and John Bell are theater makers, puppeteers, festival organizers, musicians, teachers and founding members of Great Small Works, a visual theater collective created in 1995 in New York City, whose six members share roots in Bread and Puppet Theater. The company is now dispersed, with outposts in Brooklyn, NY's Hudson Valley, Montreal, and Cambridge, MA. Bell and Cohen anchor

the Massachusetts base. John is Director of the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry and an Associate Professor of Dramatic Arts at the University of Connecticut. Together they received New England Foundation for the Arts' 2018 Rebecca Blunk Award.



**SPENCER LOTT** is a puppeteer, creator and director. In addition to playing Julia's brother Samuel on *Sesame Street*, his puppetry credits include *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* (starring Tom Hanks), *Helpsters* (Apple+), Disney's *The Muppets* and the upcoming *Hello Tomorrow!* (Apple+). Spencer's original work has been presented at LaMaMa, Dixon Place, HERE, Lincoln Center Education and more. He's a Creative Producer, Public for

Trusty Sidekick Theater Company and the co-founder of Simple Mischief Studio working on projects for HBOMAX, and Nickelodeon. HERE Artist Residency Program alum.



Photo by Erik MC Gregor

**LAKE SIMONS** is a director, designer, puppeteer, physical performer, and a maker of things. She has collaborated with a wide range of artists creating theatre productions from the ground up utilizing puppetry, movement, & live music. But most importantly Lake relies on make-believe. Lake has received multiple Jim Henson Foundation grants in support of her original puppetry productions. Lake has created productions for various

institutions including Miller Theater at Columbia University, Texas Woman's University, and Dixon Place. Most recently Lake took the helm of her family's 46 year old theatre, Hip Pocket Theatre in Fort Worth, Texas, in the role of Managing Artistic Director. For over 25 years she has contributed as a director, performer, and designer with Hip Pocket. Lake is a co-director for the Puppet Lab at St. Ann's Warehouse in Brooklyn. She teaches puppetry in the theatre department at Sarah Lawrence College. HERE Artist Residency Program alum.





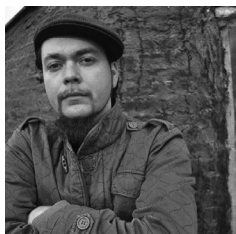
**SACHIYO TAKAHASHI** is a composer, musician, and artist whose work centers around storytelling. Compositing sensory elements in a minimalist manner, she explores the border between narrative and abstraction to generate fables for the subconscious. Sachiyo founded Nekaa Lab in 2006 together with other “lab members” (stuffed toys and tiny figurines). She has been producing performances and installations

while observing human nature from alternative perspectives. Sachiyo is also an accredited master of Okamoto school Shinnai-bushi, a traditional Japanese song-storytelling, and performs as Okamoto Miya. She is an awardee of The Jim Henson Foundation grants and a current resident artist at HERE.



**GRACE GALU** is a vocalist, actor, guitarist and composer. She combines the sounds of her Irish and Congolese heritage and her LES upbringing in a soulful and gritty twist. Grace was featured in *Buskerball*, and recorded “Firelight” with Fearless Music. Her composition, “Ordinary Sentiment” was featured in the Ed Burns film, “Purple Violets” which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival. Grace devised *The Mendelssohn Electric*

with Trusty Sidekick, and was cast as the lead in their production, *The Gospel Electric*, commissioned by the Park Avenue Armory. She is a core member of the band Soul Inscribed, and was twice selected as a cultural ambassador for the American Music Abroad program. She has been selected as a cultural ambassador for their next residency program (2022). Grace is also a recipient of the NEFA NTP grant. Soul Inscribed has recently been signed to the music label, Tokyo Dawn and just released their EP, *Tune UP*. Grace is an artist in residence at HERE and the composer for *Cannabis! A Viper Vaudeville*. Grace voiced Wisdom in Nia Witherspoon’s production *The Dark Girl Chronicles* (2021 at The Shed).



**BABA ISRAEL** is an artist, producer, educator, and consultant raised in New York by parents who were core members of the Living Theatre. He was Artistic Director of Contact Theatre in Manchester where he developed several festivals and productions. He was a resident artist at BRIC creating his previous multimedia performance *The Spinning Wheel* in collaboration with London-based company Unfinished Business. He is a core member of

Hip Hop/Soul project Soul Inscribed, which recently completed the American Music Abroad program. Soul Inscribed released *Tune up* on Tokyo Dawn records in 2020. He is the winner of a Gramophone for his work on *From the*

*Ground Up: The Chaconne* by Hugo Ticciati and o/modernt. He holds an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College and is the Artistic Director of the Performance Project based at the University Settlement. He is a proud member of HERE's HARP program and is developing his current production, *Cannabis! A Viper Vaudeville*. He was a recipient of the 2020 Map Fund and NEFA NTP Grant.



**ANGELA DI CARLO** (DJ) is a New York based performer (ADD Cabaret) and DJ spinning 1970's AM Gold and late 70's/early 80s new wave on vinyl regularly every month at the Mattachine party at Julius Bar with Amber Martin and John Cameron Mitchel for the past 11 years. Other past residencies include Cafe Dancer, The Ace Hotel. Independent events & parties include New Year's Eve At Balthazar & Augustine, The Spiegeltent on BARD Campus, GLAAD, Club Cumming, MAC Cosmetics, Opening night party for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* on Broadway at Tao Nightclub, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* on Broadway TONY Awards party and closing night party.

**AYUMU POE SAEGUSA** (Lighting Designer) started stage lighting design in 2000 in Tokyo. He moved into NYC in 2005 and became resident lighting designer of HERE. He also works as a Freelance lighting designer for various type of shows from NY Fringe festival to Lincoln Center Festival in various countries from Japan to Europe. He is a good collaborator for multimedia opera shows and all sorts of puppet shows. His credits include *Looking At You* (HERE Mainstage, 2019, NY) by Kristin Marting, and *Rite of Spring* (White Light Festival at Lincoln Center, 2014, NY) by Basil Twist.

**PATRICK DAVID EGAN** (Stage Manager) HERE: *The Hang*. Broadway: *Fun Home*, *Newsies*. Off Broadway: Howard Crabtree's *When Pigs Fly*, *Giant*, *Fun Home*, *Barbecue*, *Privacy*, *Southern Comfort*, *The Mystery of Love and Sex*, *Cyprus Avenue*, *The Loophole*, *When It Happens To You*. National Tours and other credits: *Roman Holiday*, *War Horse* First National Tour, 25th Anniversary Production of *Les Misérables*, *Newsies*, *Billy Elliot*, *Finding Neverland*, The Kennedy Center, Paper Mill Playhouse, Bucks County Playhouse, Barrington Stage Company, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. @whiskuponastarnj

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\*Indicates HERE Board Members.  
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The Late Show with  
Stephen Colbert  
Children's Museum of  
Manhattan  
Film Forum  
IFC Center  
Nitehawk Cinema Williamsburg  
Classic Harbor Line  
Murray's Cheese  
NuSweat  
The Bushwick Starr  
Area15 Las Vegas  
The New Museum  
BAM  
UrbanGlass  
Signature Theatre Company  
New Victory Theater  
The Cliffs at Gowanus  
54 Below  
59E59 Theatres  
St. Ann's Warehouse  
Joe's Pub  
The Shed  
MassMoCA

Shakespeare in the Park  
(The Public)  
Curious Elixirs  
Theatre for a New Audience  
School for the Dogs  
Altabella Italian Properties  
The Jim Henson Foundation  
BroadwayCon  
Levain Bakery  
Williamstown Theatre Festival  
Craftsman Ave  
Local & Vine  
Classic Stage Company  
Pangea Restaurant  
BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn!  
Vin sur Vingt Wine Bar  
Hands on Pilates NYC  
  
Helen Mills  
Jani Zubkovs  
Meredith Lynsey Schade  
Machine Dazzle  
Jack Sennott  
Asia Ingalls  
Flavie Ospina

SUPPER AND WINE BY:



DESSERT BY:





# TONIGHT'S GUESTS

Zuzana Adam	Brian Carson	Jillian Flexner
Hugh Allen	Antoine	Dean Furbush
AJ Annunziata	Champerier	Grace Galu
Vivian Anouchian	Michael Champness	Abigail Gampel
Antonia Guest	Lesley Champness	Tiffani Gavin
Ken Ard	Pria Chatterjee	Darrell George
Joey Arias	Sonal Chopra	Andrea Gift
Meghann	Rohit Chopra	Shomari Gilyard
Armstrong	Eli Cohen	Robyn Gilyard
Judy Artime	Charles H Connelly	Michael Goldman
Leslee Asch	El Covan	Fell Gray
Amanda Ashcraft	Melissa Creighton	Charles Gray
Graham Ashcraft	Richard D'Albort	Denise Greber
Lori Benton	Alex Dacorte	Catherine
Ellie Berger	Darlene Darrow	Greenman
Craig Berkley	Machine Dazzle	Jessica Grindstaff
Glenn Bernston	Joe Del Gaudio	Peter Gulliver
Paul Boocock	Don DiLego	Colleen Gulliver
Kaitlin Booher-	Karen Eckhoff	Jane Gullong
Howbert	Peggy Edersheim	Alexandra Haddad
Steven Borecki	Kalb	Daniel Haddad
Deborah Borecki	Amber Edwards	Umar Haider
David Bornstein	Jenny Egan	Judith Haider
Louis Borodinsky	Jason English	Brianna Halstead
Jim Boutin	Nicole English	Chad Hamner
Antonia Bowring	Ross Eustis	Kailin Hartley
Lee Braun	Robert Failia	Bethany Haynes
Lindsey "Z" Briggs	Karen Falk	Lyell Haynes
Barbara Busackino	Mindy Fila	Richard Hefner
Scott Cameron	Ed Finn	Cheryl Henson
Bruce Canon	Lizzy Finn	Katrina Henson
Taska Carrigan	Doug Fitch	Lisa Henson
Christina Carroll	JeanneFleming	David Herskovits

Alli Hickerson  
Lucas Hopper  
John Howbert  
Austin Hunt  
Dan Hurlin  
Asia Ingalls  
Baba Israel  
Jay Itzkowitz  
Deborah Jack  
Darin Johnson  
Vida Jong  
Scott Kalb  
Tjeert Keijer  
Steven Kennedy  
Conor Kennedy  
Sarah Kershaw  
Tanya Khordoc  
Seth King  
Daniel Klingenstein  
Fred Kolo  
Alex Kosslyn  
Eugene Krishnan  
Ming Kwang  
Matt Landy  
David Latham  
Paula Lawrence  
Maria Leblanc  
Karyn Leibovich  
David Levithan  
Laurent Linn  
Stephanie Longardo  
Kristine Louis  
Reynal Nicole Lund  
Meredith Lynsey  
Schade  
Robert Lyons

John MacGregor  
Tracy Mack  
Tim Maner  
Mara Manus  
Michael Marino  
Kristin Marting  
Leeda Marting  
Kevin Matthews  
Merio Maye  
Gale Mayron  
Peter McCabe  
Nello McDaniel  
Tim McDonald  
John McKinney  
Tanya Melich  
Charisse Meloto  
Helen Mills  
Jesse Mintz-Roth  
Louis Mitchell  
Jennifer Moeller  
Alexandra Napier  
Edward Napier  
Julia Notis  
Ryan Scott Oliver  
Ingrid Olson  
Achiro Olwoch  
Alan Ostroff  
Anna Ostroff  
Jodi P. Van Leer  
Ellen Page  
Jonathan Palmer  
Liz Palmer  
Alfonso Parker  
Roman Paska  
Nelson Pena  
Sal Perez

Sara Perez  
McKenna Poe  
Catherine Porter  
Mike Pratt  
Joi Danielle Price  
Diery Prudent  
Nirupama Rao  
Andrew Rasmussen  
Matt Ray  
Federico Restrepp  
Scott Richards  
Jason Rosenbaum  
Brenna Ross  
Matt Ross  
Barry Rowell  
Adam Rubenstein  
Ruben Ruenes  
Erik Sanko  
David Saylor  
Beth Schiavo  
Gary Schwartz  
Michelle Schweber  
Mariza Scotch  
Justin Scott  
Brian Selznick  
Lynn Selznick  
Lizette Serrano  
Bree Sharp  
Aneesa Sheikh  
Yoko Shioya  
Shriya Shukla  
Noel Silverman  
Lake Simons  
Justin Smith  
Solon Snider  
Gilbert Sotomayor

Holly Spector  
Ed Spector  
Brennan Spector  
Dillan Spector  
Jordan Spector  
Amy Staats  
Kay Stallings  
Jenny Steingart  
Carol Sterling  
Susan Stevenson  
Borowitz  
Christine Stodolski  
Rafi Syed  
Sachiyo Takahashi  
Susan Talcott Camp  
Heath Tameris  
Gary Tannenbaum

Brenna Thomas  
Niels Thompson  
Hanne Tierney  
Susan Tofte  
Basil Twist  
Dan Urness  
Ashley Urtecho  
Dani Valdizan  
Isaac VanDuyn  
Terry VanDuyn  
Gianfranco Verga  
Gina Verga  
Vince Wadhvani  
Rob Walport  
Carol Walport  
Emily Walport  
Jason Weber

Kim Whitener  
Jennifer Whitfield  
Ben Whitfield  
Elizabeth Whiting  
Jaime Wolf  
Teresa Woods Pena  
Erika Worth  
Alexi Worth  
Cooper Wright  
Gary Yan  
Tommy Young  
Minami Yusai  
Donna Zakowska  
Dominic Ziebert  
Sarah Ziegler  
Ariel Zurofsky

# FOLLOW US ON



HERE ARTS CENTER



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## #SPARKGALA

## #DRESSABLAZE

**Special thanks to the following individuals.  
We couldn't do it without you!**

Special thanks to Emily Piuggi, Matthew Schwalm, Lindsey "Z" Briggs, Melanie Milton, and Glow Motion Technologies.

We would like to express our gratitude to to our Dream Music Puppetry Program leaders, Basil Twist and Barbara Busackino. Their partnership in planning this Gala and their ongoing support of our amazing puppeteers is immeasurable.

# ABOUT HERE

## HEREmission

From our home in Lower Manhattan, HERE builds a community that nurtures artists as they create innovative new performances in theatre, dance, music, puppetry, media, and visual art. HERE strives to provide genre-blending artists with an adaptive, flexible home for developing and producing their work, and to serve curious audiences as a welcoming accessible destination to witness groundbreaking performances, responsive to the complex world in which we live.

## HEREstory

Founded in 1993 by four artists — Kristin Marting, Tim Maner, Barbara Busackino, and Randy Rollison — HERE was envisioned as a welcoming, safe environment that could attract and launch a variety of artists. Over the past 29 years, HERE has been home to such acclaimed artists and works as Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*, Basil Twist's *Symphonie Fantastique*, Taylor Mac's *The Lily's Revenge*, as well as works by Founding Artistic Director Kristin Marting. We have produced and presented over 1,200 original works; served over 15,000 artists; and welcomed over 1,000,000 audience members. Work and artists at HERE have received 16 OBIE Awards, 2 OBIE Grants and a CUNY Booth Award for artistic achievement, 2 Berilla Kerr Awards, 4 NY Innovative Theatre Awards, 2 Bessie Awards, 6 Drama Desk nominations, 2 Pulitzer Prizes, 2 MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowships, and most recently, a Tony nomination. HERE remains on "Best Off-Off Broadway" theatre lists across New York City. In 2005, with the support of the City of New York and the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, HERE purchased its 9,000-square-foot longtime home with two performance spaces, a lounge, and gallery. With full-scale renovations completed in 2008 and 2011, thanks to significant support from the City of New York, HERE continues to stand as a pillar of the thriving Hudson Square neighborhood.

Launched in 1998, our celebrated HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP) offers comprehensive multi-year residencies to 8-10 artists from all disciplines. This \$100,000 per artist program, which provides a commission, development funds and resources, and a production is the only program of its kind in the country. Our Dream Music Puppetry Program develops and presents wildly unique new puppet works and introduces New York audiences to ambitious local and international puppeteers. Through [SubletSeries@HERE](mailto:SubletSeries@HERE), we provide a home and creative workspace at subsidized rates to dozens of the City's most ambitious, but "homeless" theatre artists and ensembles. Finally, our PROTOTYPE Festival, launched in 2013 and co-produced with Beth Morrison Projects, showcases and furthers the careers of pioneering opera-theatre and music-theatre artists from New York and around the world. HERE provides a broad spectrum of activity 365 days a year.



# BE PART OF HERE'S GROWTH

## HERE's Board of Directors

HERE's Board of Directors is a diverse group of individuals who are artistically curious and endlessly passionate about supporting artists and artistic life in New York City.

A circle made up of both artists and arts advocates, the Board is not only charged with fiscal oversight, but with ensuring that HERE continues to live its mission and values. Deeply invested in HERE's commitment to anti-racism and justice work, this group of individuals engage in deep conversations to steer the organization forward and contribute to a culture conducive to our goals.

They support HERE's vitality in numerous ways and are essential leaders in our City. We celebrate their work tonight.

**If being a part of this important circle of our community is of interest to you or someone you know, please feel free to reach out to Producing Director Meredith Lynsey Schade at [meredith@here.org](mailto:meredith@here.org).**



Photo by Daniel Krieger

**BAM**

Congratulates

**Cheryl Henson**

on receiving the  
**HEREmanitarian Award**

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# HERE STAFF

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Kristin Marting

PRODUCING DIRECTOR

Meredith Lynsey Schade

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Brenna C. Thomas

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## PROGRAMMING

Amanda Szeglowksi, ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR - RESIDENT ARTIST AND ONLINE PROGRAMS

Remi Harris, ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR - SUBLET SERIES AND OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

Basil Twist, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, DREAM MUSIC PUPPETRY

Barbara Busackino, PRODUCER, DREAM MUSIC PUPPETRY

Dan Halm, RESIDENT HEREART CURATOR

Haley Fragen, PROGRAMMING ASSISTANT

## GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Cierra Cass, GENERAL MANAGER

Viktoria-Isabella King, COMPANY MANAGER

Emma Richmond, GENERAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

Enoch Parmar, PRODUCING ASSISTANT

## MARKETING

Amanda Szeglowksi, MARKETING DIRECTOR

Ariana Albarella, MARKETING MANAGER

Alex M. Lee, MEDIA AND BRANDING MANAGER

Matt Ross PR, PUBLIC RELATIONS

Moti Margolin, RESIDENT VIDEOGRAPHER

## DEVELOPMENT

Wei-ming Liu Egelman, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL GIVING

Isabella Rivera Ruiz, INDIVIDUAL GIVING MANAGER

Chiaoyi Chang and Sophia Torres, DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANTS

## PRODUCTION

Cole Bonenberger, PRODUCTION MANAGER

Eden Florence Guill, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND FACILITIES MANAGER

Ayumu "Poe" Saegusa, RESIDENT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Zoey Jones, PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

## AUDIENCE SERVICES

Richard Stauffacher, AUDIENCE SERVICES MANAGER

## PROTOTYPE

Sarah Bellin, FESTIVAL PRODUCER

Victoria Preis, MARKETING MANAGER

# HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of the following group of foundations, corporations, government agencies, elected officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without you.

## FOUNDERS

Barbara Busackino  
Tim Maner  
Kristin Marting  
Randy Rollison

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Champness  
Abigail Gampel  
Umar Haider  
Fred Harris  
Tim Maner  
Kristin Marting  
Kevin Matthews  
Helen Mills

Alan Ostroff  
James Scruggs  
Amy Segal  
Robert Walport  
Jennifer Suh Whitfield  
Tommy Young

## EX-OFFICIO

Barbara Busackino

## GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

HERE'S programming is made possible with Public Funds from: National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the Offices of the Mayor of New York, Speaker Corey Johnson, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, New York State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman. We are extremely grateful for the support and advocacy of all of our dedicated elected officials: Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten R. Gillibrand, Representative Jerrold L. Nadler, Mayor Eric Adams, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer and the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council, State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

## PRIVATE AND CORPORATE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:

Alliance of Resident Theatres/  
New York  
Bloomberg Philanthropies  
Creative Capital  
Cultural Services of the French  
Embassy  
Doris Duke Charitable  
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Fund for the City of New York  
GREEN / LIVE ARTS NYC  
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the Arts  
New York Community Trust  
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The Fan Fox and Leslie R.  
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The Gladys Krieble Delmas  
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The Roy Cockrum Foundation  
The Scherman Foundation  
The Shubert Foundation  
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the Tides Foundation  
Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation

## **HERE'S YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMMING INCLUDES:**

The HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP)

HERE & Back

Dream Music Puppetry Program

PROTOTYPE: Opera | Theatre | Now

SubletSeries@HERE

HEREart

## **HERE'S 2021-22 RESIDENT ARTISTS**

Gelsey Bell

Shayok Misha Chowdhury

Ximena Garnica & Shige Moriya | LEIMAY

Grace Galu & Baba Israel | Soul Inscribed

Maiko Kikuchi & Spencer Lott

Taylor Mac

minor theater

Normandy Sherwood

Sachiyo Takahashi & gamin

Nia Ostrow Witherspoon

Imani Uzuri