

SMALL TOWN BIG CHURCH LOTS OF SECRETS

STARRY NIGHT THEATER PRESENTS

THE BUS

BY JAMES LANTZ
DIRECTED BY JOHN SIMPKINS



HONORARY PRODUCERS

APRIL CORNELL, DEBRA BLUMBERG, DEBRA LOPEZ-GOTTESMAN AND BILL GOTTESMAN, DEBORAH KEHOE, ALEX DOSTIE AND MARY MOYNIHAN PLUS OVER 450 BACKERS FROM KICKSTARTER.COM

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Directed by **JOE MURPHY**
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By **NICHOLAS PIERPAN**
Directed by **MATTHEW DUNSTER**
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SHADOW BOXING
By **JAMES GADDAS**
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OCTOBER 4 - 30, 2011

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DIRECTED BY JOHN SIMPKINS

BRYAN FITZGERALD
WILL ROLAND
ROBERT NUNER
JULIA LAWLER
TRAVIS MITCHELL
KERRY MCGANN

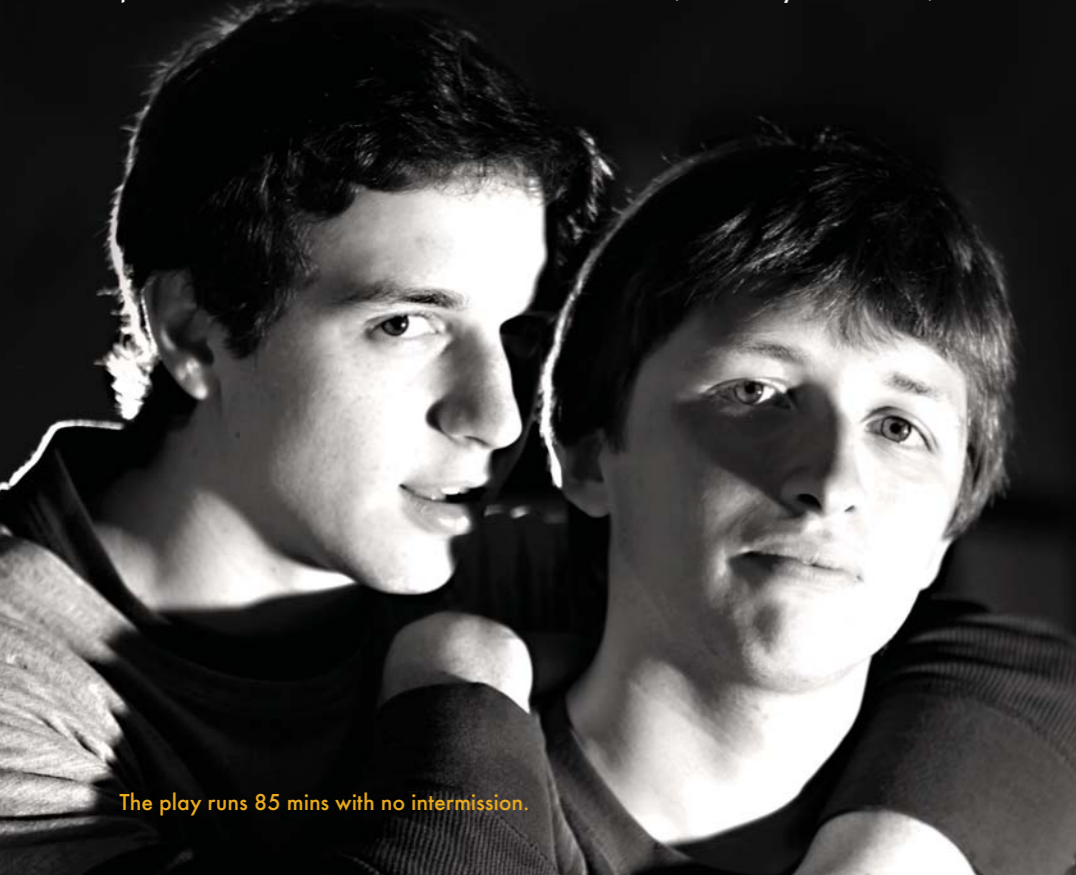
JORDAN
IAN
SLOAT
THE LITTLE GIRL
HARRY
SARAH

PAUL DAVIS/CALLERI CASTING
MICHAEL SCHWEIKARDT
CHRIS DALLOS
MICHELLE EDEN HUMPHREY
JOSHUA WRIGHT
ALIX CLAPS
SVEN HENRY NELSON
MICHAEL SHAIEB
JOHN MAURIUS,
MARK DABELSTEIN AND
ISAAC WASUCK

CASTING DIRECTOR
SET DESIGNER
LIGHTING DESIGNER
COSTUME DESIGNER
PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
PROPERTIES MASTER
ORIGINAL MUSIC

SET CONSTRUCTION

APRIL CORNELL, DEBRA BLUMBERG, DEBRA LOPEZ-GOTTESMAN AND BILL GOTTESMAN, DEBORAH KEHOE, ALEX DOSTIE and MARY MOYNIHAN plus over 450 Backers from Kickstarter.com (Honorary Producers)



The play runs 85 mins with no intermission.



BRYAN FITZGERALD
(Jordan)

Bryan is making his Off Broadway debut at 59E59. Stage credits include: Stanley in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Ichabod Crane in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *Salamander Stew*, an award-winning play which premiered at the Strawberry Festival and the NYC Fringe Festival. Film/TV credits include *Law and Order*, *National Lampoon's Dirty Movie* and independent films *Pablo on Wheels*, *I Am Julia*, *The Narrows*. Bryan eagerly accepts the challenge of portraying a small town young man with such odds stacked against him, and is proud to be a voice for both friends and family in this true piece of art that is powerful, expressive and meaningful.



WILL ROLAND
(Ian)

Will is making his NYC professional debut, having just graduated from NYU Steinhardt. Most recently, Will traveled to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with the new musical *We Didn't Have Time to be Scared*. Will was also seen in the third installment of the *If it Only Even Runs a Minute* concert series at Le Poisson Rouge. NYU Credits include: *Bat Boy* (Bat Boy), *Fantasy Football: The Musical?* (Skip Berry) and *Violet* (Billy Dean). Thanks to John and Jim and the whole cast and crew for making this such an awesome experience! Thanks Mom, Dad, Val and all the teachers who've supported me through this endeavor. www.will-roland.com



ROBERT NUNER
(Sloat)

Robert has worked in Commedia dell'Arte form with The Two Penny Theater and puppet/masks work with Bread & Puppet's *Our Domestic Resurrection Circus and Pageant*. Regional theater experience: Editor Webb in *Our Town*, Angus in *The Drawer Boy*, Gogo in *Waiting for Godot*, the Chaplain in *Mother Courage* and Egeus in *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Recent credits: Bob Ewell in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Ben Hecht in *Moonlight and Magnolias* and Quince in *Midsummer Night's Dream* as well as Frank in *Song For My Father* by David Budbill. For Bob, *The Bus* is a welcome chance to work with a strong production team in the presentation of critical new work.



JULIA LAWLER
(The little girl)

Julia has worked with the 52nd Street Project and Young Playwrights Inc. She is a member of Glass Bandits Theater Company with whom she recently appeared in an adaptation of *The Little Mermaid*. Film: *Beautiful Garden* (fall '11 release). BFA: SUNY Purchase.



TRAVIS MITCHELL
(Harry)

Travis is thrilled to be working with this amazing group of people on such a remarkable piece. National Tours: *Spring Awakening* (u/s Adult Men). Regional: *Spring Awakening* (Adult Men) at ReVision Theatre, *Clue: The Musical!* (Colonel Mustard) at the Lycian Theatre. Film: *Frequent Flyers* (dir. Matt Troy). Television: *Law and Order: SVU*, *As The World Turns*. Please check out his website at www.travistravistravis.com. Enormous thanks to John, Jim and Paul Davis. So much love and respect to Jules.



KERRY MCGANN
(Sarah)

Kerry is super-excited to be making her 59E59 Theaters debut! Recent roles include the Good Will spokesperson and the MTA's *See Something, Say Something* campaign (thank you again, Metro North). Formerly a student of the amazing Wynn Handman, she currently studies with Bob Krakower and adores all her fellow Krakheads. Much thanks to our fearless director John, and the rest of this talented cast. Bravo to writer James Lantz for tackling such topics with grace and care. A special thanks to Jennifer and Emily, Paul Davis, and much love to friends and family! Kerry can be reached at kerrymcgann1@gmail.com

JAMES LANTZ
(Playwright)

James is the writer of four plays, including staged productions for *The Bus* and *American Machine* both of which were co-commissioned projects of The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. He's also an award-winning commercial filmmaker and has written, produced, and directed more than 200 films, videos and live events for clients such as American Express, American Airlines, Amtrak, Alamo Rental Cars, Mobil Oil and The Brooklyn Museum of Art. He has also served as film programmer for The Brooklyn Museum of Art. Last year, his screenplay *Hide Fox* won awards at eight national film festivals. www.JamesLantz.com

JOHN SIMPKINS
(Director)

NY: *Bloodsong of Love* (Ars Nova - 3 Drama Desk nominations), *Things to Ruin* (director/co-conceiver - Second Stage), *ReWrite* (Urban Stages), *The Black Suits* (SPF - Public Theatre), *The Plant That Ate Dirty Socks* (Lucille Lortel) all by Joe Iconis. Regional: *Hairspray* (North Carolina Theatre), *Damn Yankees* (Engeman), *Annie* and *Cabaret* (Sacramento Music Circus), *Evita* (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma), *Rent*, *...Forum*, *The Wedding Singer* (TriArts Sharon Playhouse). New Works: *ReWrite* (Goodspeed Opera House), *When the World Ends* (Blaemire), *Hellraisers* (Barrington Stage), *Next Thing You Know* (Berkshire Theatre Festival). NYU: *The Fix*, *Floyd Collins*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Violet*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Parade*. Artistic Director, TriArts Sharon Playhouse. Faculty, NYU Steinhardt. www.john-simpkins.com

PAUL DAVIS/CALLERI CASTING
(Casting Director)

With James Calleri and Erica Jensen, Paul casts for a variety of theatre, TV and film projects. Theatre: Williamstown Theatre Festival, Classic Stage Company, The Long Wharf, The Rattlestick, The Playwrights Realm and New Georges. Current TV: *Army Wives* for Lifetime. Film: *Another Earth* (currently in release), upcoming *That's What She Said* (director Carrie Preston), Kyle Jarrow's *Armless* (Sundance 2010) directed by Habib Azar as well as *Ready? OK!* for Daisy 3 Pictures. Much gratitude to Jim and John for the opportunity to work with them on *The Bus*. www.callericasting.com

MICHAEL SCHWEIKARDT
(Set Designer)

World premiere of Duncan Sheik's *Whisper House* at The Old Globe in San Diego. *Motherhood The Musical* for G4 Productions. Recent credits include *Ella*, a musical about jazz legend Ella Fitzgerald which is appearing in cities all across the country, critically acclaimed productions of *Showboat*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *1776*, *Big River* and *Camelot* for Goodspeed Musicals, *Bloodsong Of Love* at Ars Nova, *Barnum* for The Asolo Rep's 50th anniversary season, American premiers of Frank McGuinness' *Gates of Gold* and *The Bird Sanctuary, Oklahoma!* starring Kelli O'Hara and Will Chase celebrating The Oklahoma State centennial and National and International Tours of James Taylor's *One Man Band*. www.msportfolio.com

CHRIS DALLOS
(Lighting Designer)

Chris' theatre, dance and opera projects have been produced across the country. Off Broadway, his work has been represented in over 50 productions. His designs for James Taylor's *One Man Band Tour* were seen in over 40 cities. Regionally his work has been seen at The Kennedy Center, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, George Street Playhouse, Syracuse Stage, Bay Street Theatre, NJPAC, Lyric Theatre/Oklahoma, The Hangar and The Geary among others. He has designed numerous corporate environments for clients including WalMart, Pfizer, MillerCoors, Volkswagen, Phillip's, Bridgestone/Firestone, Showtime, Starwood Resorts, Ford Motor Company, Microsoft, Major League Baseball, Tribeca Film Festival and even the Christmas windows for Macy's. See his work at www.dallosdesign.com

MICHELLE EDEN HUMPHREY
(Costume Designer)

Michelle is thrilled to be working on this show with such a great group of people! Recent projects: *Dally with the Devil* (Rachel Reiner Productions), *Ghostlight* (NYMF Signature Theater), *Bloodsong of Love*, *Joe Iconis Christmas Spectacular* (Ars Nova), *Caesar and Cleopatra* (Resonance Ensemble), *ReWrite* (Urban Stages), *Things to Ruin* (Le Poisson Rouge, Second Stage & The Zipper Factory), *The Black Suits* (SPF The Public Theater), *King David* (Skirball), *Oklahoma!* (Ohio Northern University), *Damn Yankee's* (John Engeman), *Rent*, *The Wedding Singer* (Sharon Tri Arts), *Academy* (Maltz Jupiter Theater, NYMF TBG Theater and Daegu International Musical Festival Korea). beautyandthehero.com

JOSHUA WRIGHT
(Production Stage Manager)

Joshua is thrilled to be on *The Bus* with such a great team! Previous SM credits include Chamber Opera (NYU) and at Theatre LaB Houston: *Barbra's Wedding*, *Barrymore*, *Dealer's Choice* and *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*. Recent acting credits include *My Fair Lady* (with Terrence Mann) and *Rent* (Mark) at Connecticut Repertory Theatre, *Die Fledermaus* (Frank), *Sweeney Todd* (Judge Turpin), *The Fix* (Graham Chandler) and *Hotel for Criminals* (Judex) at NYU and *Maybe One Day* (reading) at The York Theatre. Josh holds a M.M. from NYU and B.A. in Theatre from University of Houston. JoshuaWrightOnline.com

ALIX CLAPS
(Production Manager)

Alix is the Production Manager for New York University's Program in Vocal Performance, and a second year student at Rutgers School of Law - Newark. She has worked extensively in New York, and regionally at such theatres as Music Theatre of Wichita, Ogunquit Playhouse, Theater By The Sea, the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, and Surfflight Theatre. www.alixclaps.com

SVEN HENRY NELSON
(Properties Master)

Sven is originally from Seattle, but has been in New York for the last two years working as a prop master. NYU Stienhardt School credits include: *Trouble in Tahiti*, *The Telephone*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *I'll Be Damned*, *Candide*, *Party Come Here* and *The Light In the Piazza*. Other New York credits: *Gates of Gold* (59E59 Theaters), Joe Iconis's *ReWrite* (Urban Stages), *Sin*, *Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party* and *When Last We Flew* (NYFringe 2010). Sven dedicates all his work to Murmenfrau and Leopold.

MICHAEL SHAIEB
(Original Music)

Stage: *Through A Glass, Darkly* (Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus), *Go-Go Beach* (dir. John Simpkins, 2006 New York Musical Theatre Festival, licensed through Theatrical Rights Worldwide), *Alexander's House* (Washington DC Gay Men's Chorus). Choral: *Kushner Trilogy*, including *Want More Life* (text from *Angels In America: Perestroika*, commissioned by Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus for the 2009 Tony Kushner Festival at the Guthrie Theatre). Film and TV: original scores for *Brief Reunion* (dir. John Daschbach) and the VH1 documentary *Last Days Of Left Eye*; end credits song for *Waking Dreams* starring Ben Shenkman. Michael received his MFA from NYU's Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program in 1999.

KICKSTARTER

The Bus was proudly financed as a crowd-funded project on Kickstarter.com

www.TheBusThePlay.com