NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT
& PENDRAGON THEATRE

PRESENT

THIS IS GOVERNMENT

BY

NINA KISSINGER

DIRECTED BY

SARAH NORRIS

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NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT
& PENDRAGON THEATRE
PRESENT

THIS IS GOVERNMENT

BY NINA KISSINGER
DIRECTED BY SARAH NORRIS

— CAST—
IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Emi	KLEO MITROKOSTAS †
Tip	CHARLES HSU
Kaz	VANN DUKES
Stevie	SUSAN LYNSKEY *

— CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM—

Playwright	NINA KISSINGER
Director	SARAH NORRIS †§
Movement Direction	YASMYN SUMIYOSHI
Scenic Design	DANIEL ALLEN †
Costume Design	KRISTA GREVAS †
Lighting Design	HAYLEY GARCIA PARNELL †
Sound Design	JENNIE GORN †
Props Design	PEGGY ORMAN
Production Stage Manager	KELLY McCARTY †*
Assistant Stage Manager	CAT COPELAND †
Company Manager	BETHANY FITCH
Casting	GAMA VALLE †

Run time: 90 minutes with no intermission

* Member of Actors' Equity Association

§ The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society,

† Resident artist of New Light Theater Project

KLEO MITROKOSTAS

(Emi; she/her)



Kleo is an NYC-based actor and producer. Off Broadway: ***The Greatest Hits Down Route 66, According to the Chorus, Room 1214*** (59E59 Theaters/NLTP). Regional: ***Sweet Charity*** (Cotuit Center for the Arts), ***Fire and Air*** (Shakespeare & Company); ***Circle Mirror Transformation, The Mousetrap, Our Town, The Muppet Cabaret*** (Pendragon Theatre). NYU Tisch.

www.KleoMitrokostas.com
@kleomitrokostas

CHARLES HSU

(Tip; he/him)



TV: *The Better Sister* (Amazon Prime), *FBI: Most Wanted* (CBS). Theater: ***The Book of Mountains and Seas*** (dir. Knud Adams, Edinburgh Fringe), ***The Tempest*** (Texas Shakespeare Festival). Education: NYU Tisch, RADA. Member of NYC sketch group LaLaHaHa. Charles is very grateful to be part of such an awesome show. Thank you to all involved, David, Alex, and Steven!

www.CharlesAHsu.com
@charlesahsu

VANN DUKES

(Kaz; they/them)



Vann is an actor and artist from St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, now based in Brooklyn. Select credits include ***Henry V***, ***Love's Labor's Lost*** (Smith Street Stage); ***A Raisin in the Sun*** (The Public Theater), ***Time and Time Again*** (The Chain), and upcoming web-series *Man-Hating Lesbians*. Their career would not be made possible without their parents, family, and friends. And to tyler, I love you <3.

www.VannDukes.com

SUSAN LYNSKEY

(Stevie; she/her)



Off Broadway: ***Handbagged*** (59E59 Theaters/Brits Off Broadway/Roundhouse), ***Night Sings...*** (Theatre Row), ***Self Help in the Anthropocene*** and the title role in ***The Jewish Wife*** by Bertolt Brecht, both with the exceptional New Light Theater Project. Susan is the recipient of 9 Helen Hayes Award nominations for Outstanding Lead Actress, Outstanding Acting Ensemble, Outstanding Supporting Actress, and a Bay Area Critics Circle Award nomination; her work has garnered profiles in *The Washington Post* ("TOP 10 Actors to Watch"—Peter Marks), *BroadwayWorld*, *Washington Theatre Review Magazine*, and multiple DC Commission on the Arts' Individual Artist Awards. Recent Film/TV includes *The Friend* and *Godfather of Harlem*. Lynskey performs in leading regional theaters and served on the Georgetown University faculty for over a decade. Susan is a dedicated new play development specialist who fosters new work around the US (Kennedy Center, Berkeley Rep, OSF, Magic, Arena Stage, ACT, Centerstage, NNPN); this summer she had the great joy of reuniting with playwright Lisa Loomer on her latest ***Side Effects May Include*** (Contemporary American Theatre Festival). Ms. Lynskey is rep'd by HCKR Agency. Susan is deeply grateful for her parents, Susie, LBR, and The METSY, NLTP, and her chosen family and friends for their profound loving support of her art and heart.

www.SusanLynskey.com
@lynskeylenz

NINA KISSINGER

(Playwright; she/her)

Nina is a playwright based in Brooklyn. Her work has been developed/produced by New Light Theater Project, Pendragon Theatre, B Street Theatre, Soho Playhouse, Valdez Theatre Conference, The Tank, Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts, among others and named a Semi-Finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Ashland New Plays Festival, Seven Devils Playwrights Conference, and New Dramatists Princess Grace Fellowship. Nina is a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop (Bookwriting) and the 24 Hour Plays: Nationals 2025 Cohort, as well as the winner of the 2025 Stanley Drama Award and 2025 New Light New Voices Award. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and a proud member of the Dramatists Guild.

www.NinaKissinger.com
@ninakissinger

SARAH NORRIS

(Director; she/her)

Sarah is an award-winning director. Select: ***Room 1214, The Greatest Hits Down Route 66*** (Drama Desk nom, "Best of 2024" Travel Style Magic), ***H*tler's Tasters*** (4 Stage Raw Awards, including Direction; 6 Scenie Awards from StageSceneLA, including Outstanding Direction of a Comedy-Drama; "Top 20 of 2024" Angeles Stage; *TimeOut NY* Critics' Pick, Best of the Edinburgh Fringe;

featured in the NY Times, Chicago Tribune, LA Times and the BBC), ***Everything is Super Great*** (TimeOut NY Critics' Pick), ***This Wrestling Place*** (w/ Executive Producer Ben Folds), ***Picture Ourselves in Latvia*** (Best of Theater, The L Magazine), and ***Lily*** ("Top 12 of 2019" NJ Arts). Other directing highlights include: Ensemble Studio Theater (NYC), New Jersey Rep, Guild Hall of East Hamptons, Pleasance Theatre (Edinburgh), Greenside Theatre (Edinburgh), Bottom Dog Theatre (Ireland), Adelaide Fringe Festival (Australia), 59E59 Theaters, Rogue Machine (Los Angeles), A.D. Players (Houston), LAByrinth Theatre, Working Theater, NewYorkRep, Electric Lodge (LA), Chicago Dramatists, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, The Flea Theater, Zeiders American Dream Theater, Calliope Stage, Forestburgh Playhouse. Member of SDC.

www.SarahNorris.org
@SarahNorris002

YASMYN SUMIYOSHI

(Movement Director; she/her)

Yasmyn is a multi-hyphenate artist from San Antonio, Texas currently residing in NYC. She has presented choreography in the ***Dancers Who Choreograph Showcase***, ***The Choreographer's Collective***, and ***The Black Box Movers Showcase***. Some performing credits include ***A Chorus Line***, ***Rent*** (Swing), ***Frozen***, ***The Little Mermaid*** (Ensemble) all at Theatre Under the Stars. Additional credits include ***LEGACY: A Night with Maria Friedman*** at Broadway's Hudson Theatre and *Encore! (Godspell* episode) on Disney+. Proud member of AEA. Yasmyn is incredibly grateful for this opportunity!

@yasmynwhodances

DANIEL ALLEN

(Scenic Designer; he/him)

Recent selected designs: ***Beau: The Musical*** (OOTB, Off Broadway), ***The Boy who Loved Batman*** (The Straz), ***Room 1214*** (New Light Theater Project, Off Broadway), ***Which Way to the Stage*** (RTP), ***The Witness Room*** (AMT, Off Broadway), ***Post Mortem*** (Mosaic), ***Black Bear Island*** (Alleyway), ***Radiant Vermin*** (5th Wall Theater), ***Torch Song*** (RTP). Selected associate/assistant credits: ***Chicken & Biscuits*** (Circle in the Square), ***Hadestown*** (Seoul, Korea), ***His Story*** (Dallas). USA 829.

www.DanielAllenDesign.com
@danj.allen

KRISTA GREVAS

(Costume Designer; she/her)

Krista is a theater creative currently based in New York City. Recent credits: costume design for ***The Rocky Horror Show*** and ***Tracks*** (Pendragon Theatre), ***Shake Rag Hollow*** (Edinburgh Fringe Festival), wardrobe and wig supervision for The Acting Company's 2025 National Tour. She holds her BA and MFA in Theatre.

HAYLEY GARCIA PARNELL

(Lighting Designer; they/she)

Hayley is a nonbinary, Chicana lighting designer from Colorado, based in NYC. They are so excited to be working with NLTP again, this time as a resident artist! Pendragon: ***Twelfth Night***, ***Friends With Amenities***. New York: ***Unpretty*** (The Chain), ***Pass Over*** (14th St Y), ***She Kills Monsters*** (AADA). Regional: ***Dracula***, ***The Last Five Years*** (Princeton Summer Theatre); ***Misery*** (Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble).

www.HayleyGarciaParnell.com

JENNIE GORN

(Sound Designer; they/she/he)

Jennie is a New York-based sound designer/engineer who is so excited to be back again working with NLTP! Credits include: ***This is Not a Time of Peace***, ***Room 1214***, ***Night Sings Its Songs*** (New Light Theater Project), ***Titanique*** (Daryl Roth), ***A Bright New Boise*** (Signature), and ***Camp Siegfried*** (2nd Stage).

PEGGY ORMAN

(Props Designer; she/her)

Peggy began combining her BA in Studio Art with her passion for theater while stage managing ***The Seagull*** in 2015, a show which needed a taxidermied seagull among other specialty props. She has since designed and fabricated unusual props for several Pendragon Theatre productions as well as Adirondack Stage Rats and Community Theatre Players (CTP). She was incredibly excited to design/produce props for Pendragon's whole 2024 and 2025 Summer Season!

KELLY McCARTY

(Production Stage Manager; she/they)

Kelly is a multi-hyphenate artist based in NYC. Pendragon: 2021 Summer Season (PSM), ***Twelfth Night*** (Viola), ***Marvelous Wonderettes*** (Betty Jean), ***Our Town*** (Emily), ***The 25th...Spelling Bee*** (Schwartzy). She was featured in *The New York Times* for the Off Broadway run of ***According to the Chorus*** (Stacie) and was nominated for an Ostrander Award for Leading Actress in a Musical in ***Tuck Everlasting*** (Winnie).

www.Kelly-McCarty.com
@kellylaurenmccarty

CAT COPELAND

(Assistant Stage Manager; they/she)

Cat is a multi-faceted, Brooklyn-based theater maker and technical director. Previous work includes 3 seasons at Pendragon Theatre, ***Tracks*** (TD, Pendragon/New Light Theater Project/59E59), ***Room 1214*** (TD/ASM, NLTP), ***Night Sings Its Songs*** (wardrobe supervisor, NLTP), ***Madama Butterfly*** (ASM, Amore Opera), and ***Mystic Conversations*** (wardrobe supervisor, NLTP).

GAMA VALLE

(Casting Director; él/him)

Gama is a New York-based Puerto Rican casting director, writer, and theater director. He runs his own casting office, Bass/Valle Casting, where he focuses on new plays and regional theater productions. Gama is a proud New Light Theater Project Resident Artist. Casting credits include: ***O.K.!*** (INTAR Theatre), ***Parrots at the Pagoda*** (Pregones/PRTT), ***House of Telescopes*** (Pipeline Theatre), ***The National Pastime*** (Syracuse Stage), ***War Words*** (NewYorkRep), ***Laughs in Spanish*** (Denver Center for the Performing Arts), ***I Wanna F*ck Like Romeo and Juliet*** (New Light Theater Project), ***How to Break*** (Village Theatre), ***Dream House*** (Alliance Theatre/Baltimore Center Stage/Long Wharf Theatre).

www.BassValleCasting.com
www.GamaValle.com

BETHANY FITCH

(Company Manager; she/her)

Bethany is an actor, administrator, and environmental historian, originally from Westminster, MD. She graduated from Bucknell University in 2023 with a BA in Theater and Environmental Science. She has worked three summer seasons at Pendragon Theatre. For the last two seasons she has served as the Company Manager at Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, RI.

NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT

(Co-Producer)

New Light Theater Project (NLTP) nurtures a collective of artist-practitioners through the presentation of compelling stories across theatrical genres. Since 2013, New Light has mounted over 50 productions which have received critical praise including two Drama Desk nominations (***The Greatest Hits Down Route 66***, ***According to the Chorus***), 6 StageSceneLA Awards (including Outstanding Production of a Comedy-Drama for ***H*tler's Tasters)***, Sold Out Run and "Best of EdFringe 2019" (*The Stage* for ***H*tler's Tasters)***, Best of Theater 2014 (*The L Magazine* for ***Picture Ourselves in Latvia***), *TimeOut NY* Critics' Pick (***H*tler's Tasters, Everything is Super Great, The American Tradition***, ***Breeders,*** and ***Bubba***), Co-Op Resident Company of 59E59 Theaters, and past recipients of The Flea Theater's Anchor Program, Theatre Row Residency Program, Woodstock Byrdcliffe Residency Fellowship, Chicago Dramatists Grafting Project, and the Access Theater Residency Program. New Light is a 501(c)3 organization. Productions at 59E59 include: ***Room 1214*** (Michelle Kholos Brooks), ***Tracks*** (Paula B Stanic), ***The Greatest Hits Down Route 66*** (Michael Aguirre), ***Friends With Amenities*** (Ahsan Ali & Lisa Jill Anderson), ***According to the Chorus*** (Arlene Hutton), ***I Wanna F*ck Like Romeo and Juliet*** (Andrew Rincón), ***Ink'dWell*** (Erin E. Adams), ***Everything is Super Great*** (Stephen Brown), ***H*tler's Tasters***, E2E Festival (Michelle Kholos Brooks), ***Imagining Madoff*** (Deb Margolin), ***Hal & Bee*** (Max Baker), and ***Less Than 50%*** (Gianmarco Soresi).

www.NewLightTheaterProject.com
@newlighttheaterproject

PENDRAGON THEATRE

(Co-Producer)

Pendragon Theatre has served the Saranac Lake and Adirondack community for over forty years. Dedicated to artistic excellence, education and programmatic opportunities, Pendragon has been the recipient of the Governor of the Arts award, voted BroadwayWorld's Favorite Theatre in Central New York in 2022 & 2023, as well as countless other recognitions. Pendragon is supported annually by countless businesses, foundations, government agencies and individual donors. Productions at 59E59 include: ***Tracks*** (Paula B Stanic), ***Friends With Amenities*** (Ahsan Ali & Lisa Jill Anderson).

www.PendragonTheatre.org
@pendragontheatre

SPECIAL THANKS

59E59 Theaters, Jenny Avery, Dana Brooke, Jude Cramer, Molly Delaney, Michael Fosberg, Betsy Karmin, Susie Lampert, Jazmin Miller, Dawson Moore, Julie Marie Myatt, Saranac Lake Free Library, Laura Schellhardt, Manny Strauss, Ben Watson, Klara Weakley.

This is Government was the recipient of the 2025 Stanley Drama Award, administered by Wagner College Theatre.

This is Government was a Finalist in the 2024 New Comedies Festival at the B Street Theatre in Sacramento, CA. CEO/Executive Director Lyndsay Burch.

CURATOR'S NOTE

Pendragon Theatre and Co-Op Resident Company New Light Theater Project are frequent collaborators, and Artistic Director Sarah Norris is an expert at discovering new and exciting voices whose plays, including this one, are exceedingly insightful and entertaining.

While discussing ***This is Government***, I was excited by how well it represents the zeitgeist of this moment and by its call to action for the next generation to get involved and make their voices heard.



Val

VAL DAY
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

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ALANIS MOLINA-GARNELO

Assistant House Manager
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PAOLA GOYCO-VÈLEZ
SANTIAGO AGUILAR
TAVIAN TEAGE
THERESA YONASH

Bartenders
JULIA MELLONI
KEVIN MOLICA

Theater Technicians
JOHN D. IVY
KAT KHELLBLAU
JAMIE JOHNSON

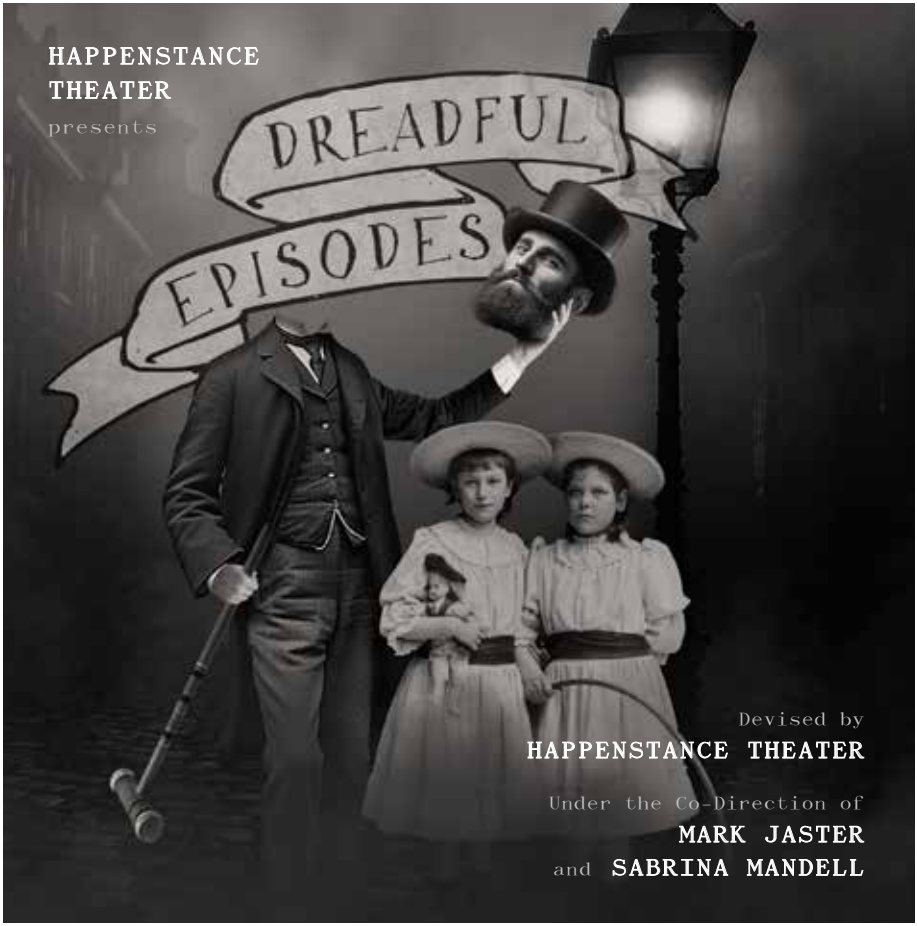
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OUR MISSION

59E59 Theaters was established by the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation in 2004 to grant professional space and expertise to non-profit theater companies premiering their work in New York City. Under the leadership of Val Day, Artistic Director, and Brian Beirne, Managing Director, 59E59 Theaters presents a year-round curated program of Off Broadway plays and musicals that are nurtured and supported by providing performance spaces and equipment as well as production, ticketing, FOH, marketing, and press support. These theater companies receive 80% or more of the ticket revenue and pay no weekly rent to 59E59.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenni-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

This presentation is not a production of the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation, Inc., which offers its facilities, when available, for productions by not-for-profit theater companies. For further information regarding licensing this theater or other theaters in this Theater Building, contact Brian Beirne, Managing Director. The use of cameras and other recording devices in the Theater is prohibited by law. There is no smoking in this Theater or any part of the Theater Building.