NEW JERSEY
REPERTORY COMPANY

SUZANNE BARABAS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

GABOR BARABAS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

PRESENTS

The Bookstore

BY

MICHAEL WALEK

DIRECTED BY

WILLIAM CARDEN

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WITH

QUENTIN CHISHOLM
ARI DERAMBAKHSH
ARIELLE GOLDMAN
JANET ZARISH

SCENIC DESIGN
JESSICA PARKS

COSTUME DESIGN
SUZANNE CHESNEY†

LIGHTING DESIGN
JILL NAGLE

SOUND DESIGN
NICK SIMONE

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
ROSE RICCARDI

PRODUCTION MANAGER
DREW FRANCIS†

MARKETING DIRECTOR
KATIE ROSIN/KAMPFIRE

CASTING DIRECTOR
McCORKLE CASTING LTD

GENERAL MANAGEMENT
MICHALOS MANAGEMENT LLC

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
EVAN BERGMAN & LEAH MICHALOS

CAST

Spencer ..... QUENTIN CHISHOLM
Brittany ..... ARI DERAMBAKHSH
Abby ..... ARIELLE GOLDMAN
Carey ..... JANET ZARISH

— NJ REP STAFF —

Artistic Director	SUZANNE BARABAS
Executive Producer	GABOR BARABAS
Associate Artistic Director	EVAN BERGMAN
Managing Director	DEE DEE IRWIN
Literary Manager	JOEL STONE
Production Manager	JESSICA PARKS
Technical Director	BRIAN SNYDER
Facilities Manager	MARTIN FULLONE
Digital Marketing Manager	JORDAN RYDER
Public Relations	JOE TRENTACOSTA
Box Office Associate	MELINDA APPLEGATE
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Resident Lighting Designer	JILL NAGLE
Resident Sound Designer	NICK SIMONE
Resident Stage Managers	ROSE RICCARDI, KRISTIN PFEIFER
Production Assistant	IAN DUHART
House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator	KAREN WHARMBY
Scenic Artist/Props Assistant	BLAKE ROBINSON
Assistant Lighting Designer	JANEY HUBER
Master Electrician	JAMES LOCKHART
Wardrobe/Crew	HONEY SPOHR
Finance Company	ARTSFMS
Head of Finance Committee	JOHN POCALYKO
Head Custodian	DAVID BECERRA
IT Consultants	JEPHENS TECHNOLOGY

— PRODUCTION STAFF —

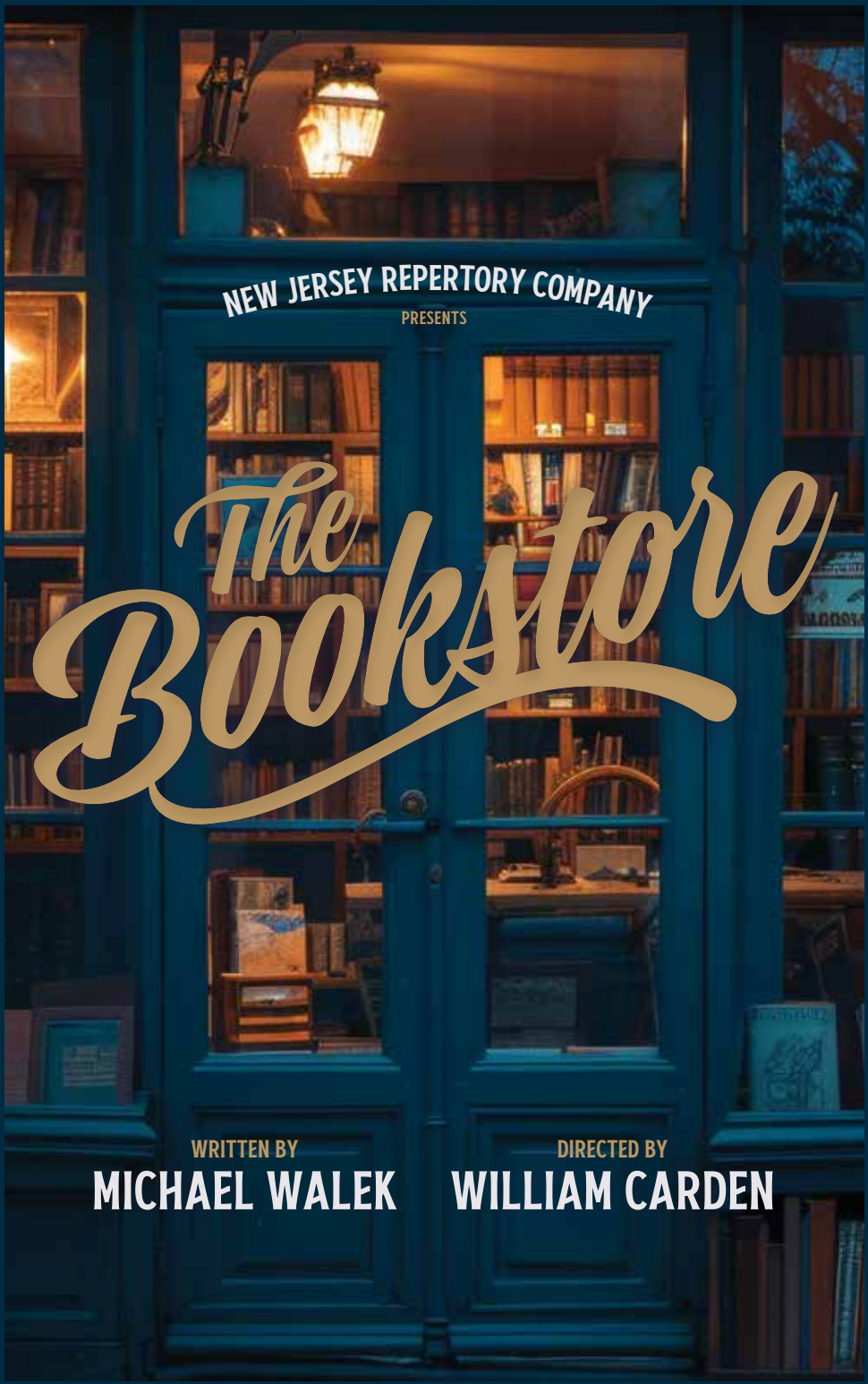
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Assistant Stage Manager	INGRID PIERSON
Wardrobe Supervisor	MOESHA PEREZ
Props Coordinator	MARISA PROCOPIO
Primary Electrician	BEANIE LAWRENCE
Assistant Primary Electrician	JIMMY DEWHURST
Audio Head / A1	MIKE LEE
A2	LINDSAY DIVERT

Run time: 2 hours, 15 minutes, including an intermission

The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States

†Member of United Scenic Artists.

The Director is a member of the Stage Directors aqnd Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.


NEW JERSEY REPERTORY COMPANY
PRESENTS
The Bookstore
WRITTEN BY
MICHAEL WALEK
DIRECTED BY
WILLIAM CARDEN

NOTES ON *The Bookstore*

We live in a time when independent bookstores are under threat and books are viewed as archeological artifacts. An online company advertises that it has millions of books in its inventory to serve homeowners and interior decorators and that one can purchase hundreds of feet of books of any color, any period, any genre, and if they are not the right size, the company will cut them down to fit the dimensions of your shelves. At the same time we live in an unprecedented moment when technology holds sway and when theaters are under siege, and many have been closing. Live theater, books, and the arts are a repository of mankind's soul and spirit that has evolved, for good or ill, over thousands of years, and only time will tell if we are ready to surrender this for the seductive allure and artifice of what else we have created of circuits and machines. We, and all the creatures of the earth, are at a crossroads.

GABOR BARABAS

Executive Producer, New Jersey Rep

QUENTIN CHISHOLM

(Spencer; he/him)



TV/Film: *FBI* (CBS), *Evil Lives Here* (HBO Max/Investigation Discovery), an upcoming film opposite Jamie-Lynn Sigler, *Born2Lose* (dir. Carlos Cardona), *West* (dir. Micah Stuart). Theater: ***Make Believe***, ***The Bookstore*** (NJ Rep); ***Almost, Maine*** (HB Playwrights). Quentin has studied acting at Terry Knickerbocker Studio, HB Studio, Stella Adler Studio of Acting, and Atlantic Acting School. He received his BA from Dartmouth College, where he played Division 1 soccer.

ARI DERAMBAKHSH

(Brittany)



Recent credits: Hermia in ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** (Guthrie Theater), ***Pride & Prejudice*** (Cleveland Play House), ***English*** (The Old Globe, Berkeley Repertory), ***The Bookstore*** (NJ Rep). Ari has appeared in readings and festivals at The Kennedy Center, Shakespeare's Globe, EST, CPH, Amphibian Stage, Crossroads, FaultLine, and more. Upcoming: *109 Billion Followers* (opposite JK Simmons), *The Savant* (AppleTV+), Blue Sapphire in the English release of *Rainbow Bubblegem*. Training: BFA, Rutgers University; Shakespeare's Globe Theater.

@arideram

www.arideram.com

ARIELLE GOLDMAN

(Abby)



An award-winning actress & filmmaker, Arielle's directorial films include: *Kiss My Ass, Day One, Hungry Hearts.* Credits: ***The Matriarchs*** (Theaterlab), ***Let's Call Her Patty*** (LCT3), ***The Pianist*** (GSP), ***Birthright*** (MiND), ***The Bookstore*** (NJ Rep), *The Knick* (HBO), *Fishkill* (Pilot), *Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (Amazon). Arielle voices Irene Adler opposite Dame

Helen Mirren in Audible's *Moriarty: The Silent Order*. Best Actress, *Consider the Lilies*, NY WomenInFilm. Upcoming Films: *I Want To Go To Moscow, Bench Seats*. MFA, NYU.

www.ariellegoldman.com

JANET ZARISH
(Carey)



Janet Zarish has worked in New York at The Public, Roundabout, Primary Stages, Minetta Lane, DR2, and Ensemble Studio Theater. She has worked extensively in regional theater, television, and film. TV includes: *The Object of my Affection, Malcolm X, Mystic Pizza,* and *Without A Trace*. Television includes: *The Blacklist, Blue Bloods, Law & Order,* and *Seinfeld*. Janet has directed plays for The Acting Company, Juilliard, NYU, and Ensemble Studio Theater, and is co-head of Acting at NYU's Graduate Acting Program.

MICHAEL WALEK
(Playwright)

Michael Walek is a playwright based in New York City. ***The Bookstore*** is his first play. It received its world premiere at New Jersey Repertory Company in 2024 before transferring to 59E59. His second play, ***Have You Met Jane Goodall and Her Mother?*** was produced at the Ensemble Studio Theatre in 2025.

WILLIAM CARDEN
(Director)

As artistic director of Ensemble Studio Theatre (2007-2022): ***Lenin's Embalmers***, ***Please Continue***, ***Against the Hillside***, ***Headstrong***, ***Lucy***, ***The Good Muslim***, ***PTSD***, ***Zero***. Off Broadway starring Uta Hagen: ***Mrs. Klein and Collected Stories***. As artistic director of HB Playwrights Foundation: ***The Habitation of Dragons***, ***Burnt Piano***, ***Voir Dire***, ***Another Vermeer***. Playwrights Horizons: ***The Young Girl and the Monsoon***. Stratford Festival: ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf***, ***Collected Stories***. Faculty: Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers.

JESSICA PARKS
(Scenic Designer)

Jessica has been resident scenic designer for NJ Repertory Company since 2010. Recent designs include ***Can't Run Can't Dance*** by Gregg Henry, José Rivera's ***Your Name Means Dream***, and ***Comfort*** by Neil LaBute. I would like to dedicate this show to my dear friend, my assistant in chaos and a wonderful artist, Donna Stiles. None of these shows and countless others would have been possible without you. We miss you every day and look forward to a time when we will see each other again.

SUZANNE CHESNEY
(Costume Designer)

Recent productions include ***A Christmas Story*** (Syracuse Stage), ***The Christine Jorgensen Show*** (Cleveland Play House, HereArts, and 59E59 Theaters), ***Have You Met Jane Goodall and Her Mother?*** (Ensemble Studio Theatre, NY). Regional: Syracuse Stage, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, The Hangar, Cleveland Playhouse. Upcoming Productions: ***The Roommate*** (Arizona Theatre Company), ***Freak the Mighty*** (Cleveland Play House and Seattle Rep).

www.Suzannechesney.com
www.michaelmooreagency.com

JILL NAGLE
(Lighting Designer)

New York City credits include designs at Theatre Row, 59E59 Theaters, Daryl Roth, The Westside Arts, La MaMa, Bank Street, The Pulse, and the NY Shakespeare Festival. Jill is the resident lighting designer at NJ Repertory Company and technical director at Montclair Kimberly Academy. Jill has also designed shows for Chester Theater, Luna Stage, Dreamcatcher Repertory, The Theater Project, Montclair State University, and New Jersey City University.

NICK SIMONE
(Sound Design)

NJ Rep resident sound designer and chief audio engineer for Fenix Studios in Staten Island. Shows include: ***A Progressive Love Story***, ***The Norwegians***, ***North to Maine***, ***IYOM***, ***Wild Children***, ***Time Travelers Trip to Niagara***, ***The Diorama***, Shakespeare's ***Hamlet*** at Bryant Park, ***Extreme Weather***, ***Don't Dress for Dinner***, ***Villainous Company***, ***Capone***, and ***Romantic Trapezoid***. Teaching artist: Roundabout Theatre Company, Apollo Theater, and Sundog Theatre specializing in sound design and musical disciplines. He has credits on multiple albums, films, broadcasts, streaming, music videos, and mobile apps and has worked with up-and-coming talent and platinum selling artists in different genres from Lorde to Coldplay.

ROSE RICCARDI
(Production Stage Manager)

Off Broadway: ***Pen Pals***, ***What Doesn't Kill You***, ***Butler***, ***Terms of Endearment***, ***Martin Luther on Trial***, and ***In The Pocket "A Sideman's Tale"***. Riccardi has been a NJ Rep company member since 1998 and has worked on over a hundred productions for them including: ***The Bookstore***, ***How My Grandparents Fell in Love***, ***A Tailor Near Me***, ***Adult Fiction***, ***Whores***, and ***Donna Orbits The Moon***. Rose has also been a proud member of Actors' Equity since 1999.

INGRID PIERSON
(Assistant Stage Manager; she/her)

NYC: ***All The Devils Are Here***, ***Ghost of John McCain***, Disney Theatrical Group, 59E59 Theaters, Signature Theatre Company, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Origin Theater Company, Page 73, Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, Jewish Plays Project. National tour: ***Aladdin***, Theatreworks USA. Regional: Riverside Theatre (FL), Theatre by the Sea, Gateway Playhouse, Sharon Playhouse, Gloucester Stage Company, Theater at Monmouth, Argyle Theatre, Luna Stage, Triad Stage, Mill Mountain Theater, Weathervane Repertory Theatre. Proud member of AEA.

DREW FRANCIS
(Production Manager)

Recent productions: ***False Steps***, ***Beau***, ***Storm of Forgetting***, ***The Worthy***, ***Bathhouse PPTX.***, ***WERK! The Patio Series***, ***Hang Time***, ***BLUE*** by Raja Feather Kelley, ***The Lucky Star*** at 59E59 Theaters, ***Songs About Trains***, ***The Hang*** by Taylor Mac (Drama Desk), feature film *Beau* (Montreal Film Festival), *Rescue Rue*, NYU Steinhardt from 2014-present. Phonemophonic Alphabet Brass Band, Park Street Armory. Wheelhouse Theater, Directors Company, BAM, Lincoln Center, JACKArts, Bushwick Starr, New York Music Festival, Queens Orchestra, RipeTime, Japan Society, St. Ann's Warehouse, NYU Creative Design Fellowship.

KATIE ROSIN
(Marketing Director, Kampfire PR)

Off Broadway highlights include ***Slam Frank***, ***Diversion***, ***Ashes and Ink***, ***Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground***, ***The Creeps***, ***KHAN!!! The Musical***, ***Daughter of the Wicked***, ***The Lucky Star***, ***She Like Girls*** (GLAAD Award nominee), ***Glimpses of the Moon***, ***Elizabeth Rex*** (IT Award), and ***Triple Threat: (mis)UNDERSTANDING MAMMY*** (Drama Desk nominee). A seasoned director of communications, she has led initiatives for Broadway Podcast Network, Spruce Peak Arts, New Place Players, and now serves as publicist for The York Theatre and CMO for Stage Time.

www.Kampfirefilmspr.com

EVAN BERGMAN
(Executive Producer/NJ Rep Associate Artistic Director)

Evan Bergman has directed sixteen productions for New Jersey Rep—many of them world premieres—and is proud of the company's commitment to discovering exceptional playwrights. His theater credits include work at Jane Street, The Duke, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Daryl Roth, Barrington Stage, Bay Street, Arclight, The Tiffany, and 59E59 Theaters. His films include *Different Than Yesterday*,

the award-winning *Winner* (Amsterdam International Film Festival), *Day Zero*, and *Dig a Hole, Find a Finger*. He is currently developing *The Alternative* and *Life on the Flats*.

LEAH MICHALOS

(General Manager/Executive Producer)

Broadway: ***Chicken & Biscuits***. Lead Producer: ***Beau the Musical***. General manager: Red Bull Theater's ***Richard II***. Upcoming Off Broadway: ***Seagulls on Sullivan Street*** (with Sarah Jessica Parker), ***How My Grandparents Fell in Love***. Select past credits: ***The Orchard*** (with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Jessica Hecht), ***The Lucky Star***, ***My Life on a Diet*** (Lortel & OCC noms), ***Terms of Endearment***, ***On a Stool at the End of the Bar*** (GLAAD nom), ***Butler*** (for NJ Rep), ***Jericho***, ***Almost Home***.

HEATHER ARNSON

(Associate General Manager)

Off Broadway: Ivan T. Productions' ***Chekhov + Turgenev***, ***About Love*** (General Manager); Red Bull's ***RICHARD II***, ***The Lucky Star*** (Associate General Manager). Upcoming: ***How My Grandparents Fell in Love***. Select credits: Ephraim Sykes' ***Blessins 'n Lessons*** (Director/Developer), NYCC's ***Chez Joey, Pal Joey*** (Associate Director). TV/film/digital: Director, Writer, Co-creator of the docuseries *Here's to the Ladies Who...*; Director and Concept Creator for the Writers Guild of America (WGAE + WGAW) Awards. Literary: Author of "EMMA: Portrait of A Girl Lost and A Woman Found" (debut novella, 2026 release).

SUZANNE BARABAS

(Artistic Director)

SuzAnne Barabas graduated from Villanova, summa cum laude with a BA in Theater. In the 70s-90s she founded the Cincinnati Repertory Company, the Cincinnati Children's Repertory Company, the American Repertory Theater of Philadelphia, Peanut Butter Theater (a luncheon theater for children), and the Matheny Arts Access Program for disabled children and adults, a model for programs in US. Member of AEA, DG, SDC. Co-founder New Jersey Rep and director of over fifty world premieres.

GABOR BARABAS

(Executive Producer)

Gabor Barabas graduated from NYU with a BA in English Literature and University of Cincinnati School of Medicine. Trained in neurology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and founded Division of Pediatric Neurology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Practiced over thirty years and also served as medical director of the Matheny Medical and Educational Center for disabled children and adults. Co-founder of New Jersey Rep, producer of over 150 plays including Off Broadway. Poet and translator.

DEE DEE IRWIN

(Managing Director)

Dee Dee Irwin served as director of marketing and communications/associate producer for Laguna Playhouse, spent 12 years as part of Nederlander's Broadway in Hollywood box office team, and part of the gang that produced ***Brian Henson's Puppet Up!*** ***Uncensored*** at the legendary Jim Henson Company Lot. Originally from Los Angeles, Dee Dee holds an MA in Humanities, a BA in Theater, and is a proud member of IATSE 857.

JOEL STONE

(Literary Manager)

In 1998, Joel's play ***Horrors of Doctor Moreau*** was NJ Rep's first script-in-hand reading. He has been an adjunct professor of playwriting at Monmouth University for over ten years and was commissioned by NJPAC to write ***The Calling***, a new play that debuted at NJ Rep. His short plays ***Doodle-Lee Doo*** and ***The Hot Roll*** were published in collections by Smith & Kraus. He won New Jersey Theatre Alliance's Award of Excellence in 2024.

BRIAN SNYDER
(Technical Director)

Brian is currently the technical director for New Jersey Repertory Company. He has a BA in Studio Art from Montclair State University and is a NJ Certified Teacher of Art. Though his passion is sculpture, he has over 20 years of experience in building trades, education, theater, tv, and film - including (but not limited to) NJ Rep, Two River Theater, George Street Playhouse, 59E59 Theaters, CBS Studios, Netflix, HBO, and Disney.

McCORKLE CASTING LTD.
(Casting Agent)

Pat McCorkle, CSA, Jeffrey Dreisbach, and Katie Dietrich of McCorkle Casting, Ltd. have cast hundreds of projects, including over 100 features, 65 TV projects, 55 Broadway productions, and hundreds of regional theater plays. McCorkle cast members have garnered SAG, ACE, Tony, and Emmy awards/ nominations, and the company is noted for discovering new talent like Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Samuel L. Jackson, and Calista Flockhart.

www.mccorklecasting.com

JANEY HUBER
(Assistant Lighting Designer)

Janey began her relationship at NJ Rep in 2004 as a patron, quickly becoming a subscriber. She then brought 30 years of administrative experience in community college and graduate nurse-midwifery education, women's healthcare, and theater management to her 5-year role as managing director. Since retiring, she remains in the NJ Rep family volunteering as artistic associate, assistant lighting designer, and assistant director. Her BA and MS degrees, from East Stroudsburg University, are in aquatic biology.

MARISA PROCOPIO
(Properties Coordinator)

Regional: ***Mad Love***, ***The Jag***, ***Multiple Family Dwelling***, ***& Juliet***, ***Halftime with Don***, ***F Theory***, ***Theatre Brut 2017***, ***Mutual Philanthropy***, ***The Calling***, ***Wild Horse***; ***Issei, He Say*** (New Jersey Repertory Company). ***Beautiful, The Carole King Musical***; ***Rock of Ages***, ***Hedwig and the Angry Inch***, ***Steel Magnolias*** (Axelrod PAC). Other credits: ***How I Learned to Drive***, ***1776*** (NJACT award nominee), ***Evil Dead*** (NJACT award winner), and many others.

BEANIE LAWRENCE
(Production Electrician; they/she)

Beanie Lawrence is a Brooklyn-based creative. They spend most of their time at NYU Steinhardt where they work as the theatrical lighting technician or on the road as a touring technician.

JIMMY DEWHURST
(Assistant Production Electrician)

Jimmy is a NYC-based freelance production electrician, lighting programmer, and pyro apprentice. Recent work at Powerhouse Arts, National Sawdust, and Kings Theater. Jimmy is delighted to be back working at 59E59 Theaters working alongside Beanie, Drew, and the rest of the crew! Enjoy the show!

SPECIAL THANKS

The Shubert Foundation
New Jersey State Council on the Arts
The Stone Foundation of New Jersey
Community Foundation of New Jersey
Darien Family Fund
Jason Baruch
Ben Izzo
Ensemble Studio Theatre
Lisa Dozier
LDK Studios

NEW JERSEY REPERTORY COMPANY

NJ Rep was founded in 1997 with the mission to produce new plays and make a lasting contribution to the American Stage. In 28 seasons it has produced over 150 world premieres. Productions at 59E59 Theaters have included ***The Housewives of Mannheim*** (2010), ***Jericho*** (2013), ***Poetic License*** (2012), ***Butler*** (2016), and ***What Doesn't Kill You*** (2024). ***The Bookstore*** and the upcoming production of ***How My Grandparents Fell In Love*** are both a part of this journey.

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THREE ICONIC LOCAL BOOKSTORES

We've partnered with these three independent bookstores as part of an initiative to build relationships with local businesses. We're grateful for this partnership that highlights the enduring importance of literature, and are thrilled to have a place where bookstores, theaters, and the people who frequent them can unite at a time when brick and mortar stores and the performing arts need their patrons the most.

ARGOSY BOOK STORE

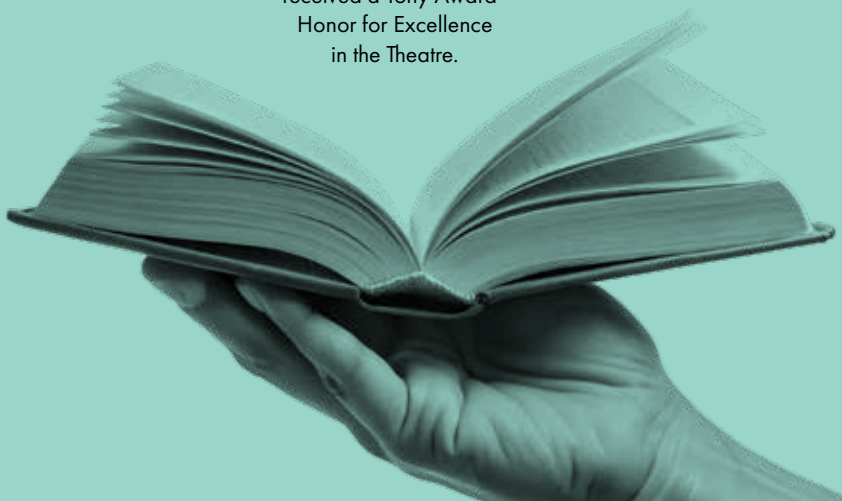
Founded in 1925, Argosy Book Store has been a staple for rare book lovers in New York City — just steps away from 59E59 Theaters. Now in its third generation of family ownership, Argosy specializes in Americana, modern first editions, autographs, art, photography, and antique maps and prints.

THE DRAMA BOOK SHOP

Founded in 1917 by the Drama League, the Drama Book Shop became an independent book store in 1923 and since that time has been deemed a quintessential New York City cultural institution. Over the past 100 years, the Drama Book Shop has secured its reputation as the city's best source for theatrical works, with over 8,000 plays regularly in stock. In 2011, the Drama Book Shop received a Tony Award® Honor for Excellence in the Theatre.

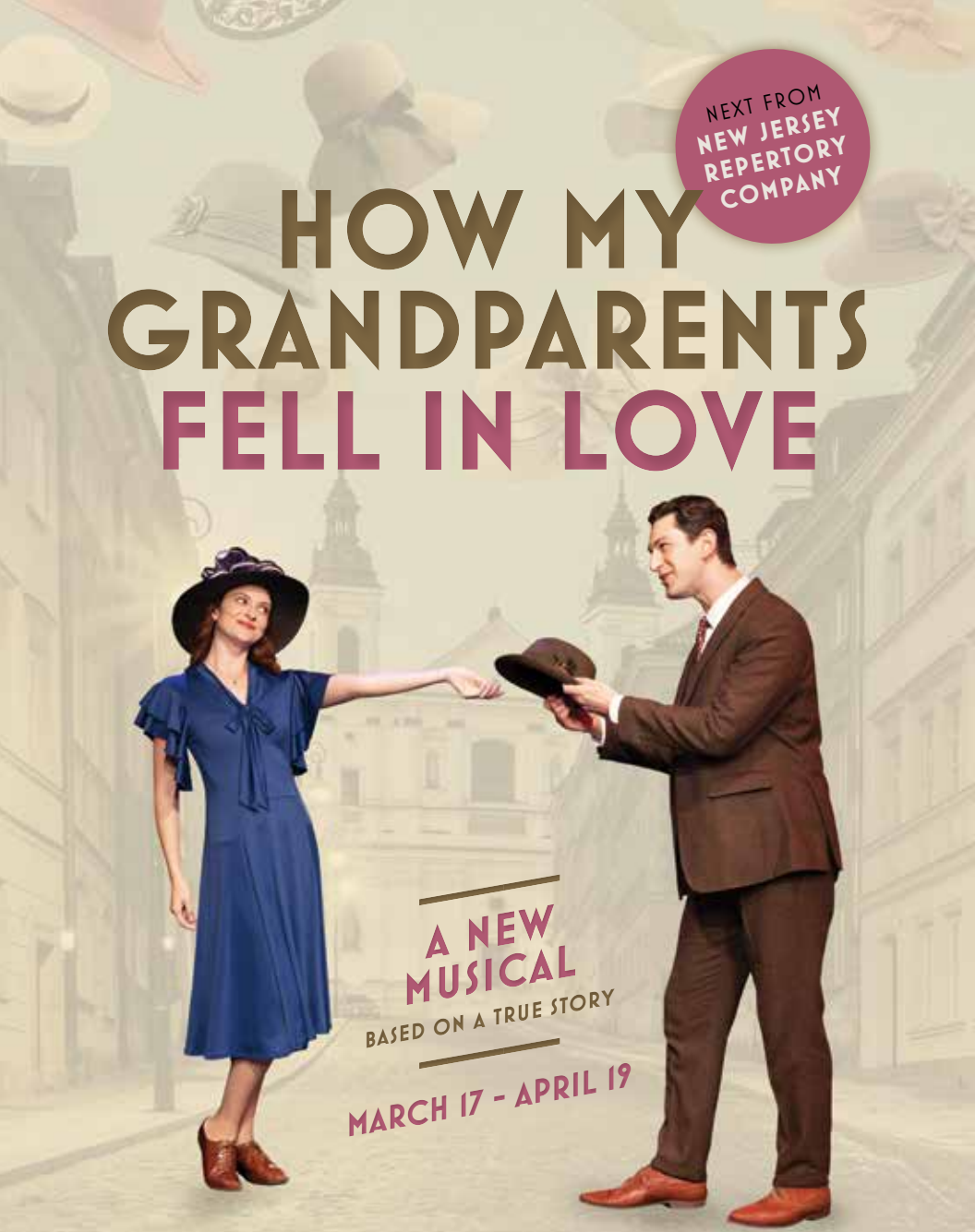
McNALLY JACKSON BOOKS

McNally Jackson Books was founded in 2004 by Sarah McNally. McNally has used a combination of traditional insight with cutting-edge literary practices and figured out a way for booksellers to succeed in a time when print has gone through seismic changes with online retailers.



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CURATOR'S NOTE

Welcome back to good friends, New Jersey Repertory Company! I know how important small bookstores are, perhaps more intimately than most. Back in the late 80s, two close friends and I launched a bookstore and coffee shop in South Florida. We carefully curated our selection to create a hub for dreamers, poets, artists, and cappuccino lovers.

Regrettably, economic realities necessitated the closure of our beloved venture after just five years. The experience of starting this business and independent bookstores everywhere will forever hold a special place in my heart. So, when New Jersey Rep's Artistic Director SuzAnne Barabas invited me to see this play, I couldn't say yes fast enough. I hope this story resonates with you, deepens your appreciation of these essential cultural spaces, and inspires you to support your favorite small businesses.



VAL DAY
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

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Theater Technicians
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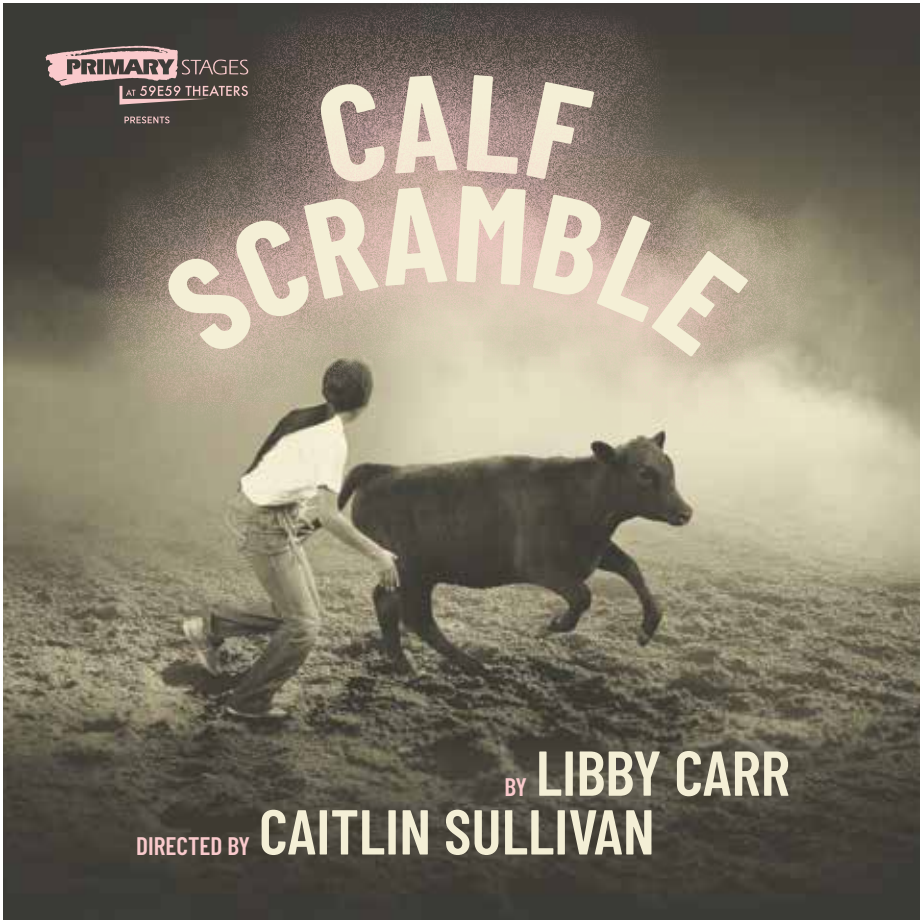
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OUR MISSION

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.

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