NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT
AND PENDRAGON THEATRE
PRESENT

LEAN–TO

WRITTEN BY
STEPHEN SHEFFER

DIRECTED BY
JESSE JOU

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NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT
AND PENDRAGON THEATRE
PRESENT

LEAN-TO

WRITTEN BY **STEPHEN SHEFFER**

DIRECTED BY **JESSE JOU**

— CAST —

Xavier ..... JOHN ALEJANDRO JEFFORDS *
Yvonne ..... LARISA OLEYNIK *
Zed ..... JOSHUA DAVID ROBINSON "JDR" *

— CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM —

Playwright ..... STEPHEN SHEFFER
Director ..... JESSE JOU
Scenic Design ..... CONNOR GALLERANI
Costume Design ..... KRISTA GREVAS
Lighting Design ..... ELAINE WONG
Sound Design ..... JENNIE GORN
Props Design ..... PEGGY ORMAN
Dramaturgy ..... LYNDE ROSARIO
Production Stage Manager ..... CAT COPELAND *
Assistant Stage Manager ..... ELI BETTMANN *
Press Representative ..... DAVID GIBBS/DARR PUBLICITY
Artistic Director ..... SARAH NORRIS
Managing Director ..... MICHAEL AGUIRRE

Run time: 95 minutes with no intermission

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

JOHN ALEJANDRO JEFFORDS
(Xavier; he/him)



John is always the most delighted when he is a part of creating new works!! Other recent works include ***The Year That Never Was: A Trash Day Special*** (book by Pulitzer Prize winner Michael R. Jackson), ***An Axemas Story*** (at the iconic Players Theatre), and ***Discovery*** (Drama Club Productions). Other recent credits: ***Jesus Christ Superstar*** (Riverside Theatre), ***Waitress*** (A.C.T. of CT). To Stephen - Thank you for bringing me down this path.

LARISA OLEYNIK
(Yvonne; she/her)



Larisa started her career at age eight in a San Francisco production of ***Les Miserables***. TV and film include: *The Secret World of Alex Mack, The Baby-Sitters Club, 10 Things I Hate About You, 3rd Rock from the Sun, Mad Men, Hawaii 5-0,* and currently *Erin & Aaron* on Netflix. Favorite recent theater: west coast premiere of ***Miss Lily Gets Boned*** at LA's Rogue Machine, one-woman show ***I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti*** at the Hangar in Ithaca, ***POTUS*** at Santa Fe Playhouse, and Off Broadway musical comedy ***Who's Your Baghdaddy***, a *New York Times* Critic's Pick.

JOSHUA DAVID ROBINSON "JDR"
(Zed; they/them)



JDR is a multi-hyphenate performer, writer, teacher, and creator. As a theater performer they have worked on Broadway, Off Broadway, and in regional theaters across the country. JDR works extensively as a voice actor. You've definitely heard their voice selling you something, and you probably bought it. You can listen to them anytime as co-host of the *When Crit Happens* Dungeons and Dragons podcast available on all platforms. They are always working to use the art of storytelling as a means to engage with their community and to learn more about what it means to be alive.

@JDRloveU

STEPHEN SHEFFER
(Playwright; he/him)

Protect our planet! Stephen is a Canadian-born, Brooklyn-based playwright, screenwriter, performer, and teaching artist whose work explores the wild worlds inside and all around us. Other plays include the freshly-penned ***SOS*** (staged reading at 59E59), ***Private Property*** (Out of the Box Theatrics), the award-winning ***Back To Mine***, and the one-acts ***The Spark*** (The Barrow Group) and ***IRMPOV SHOW***. For the screen, he writes both independently and with collaborator Meghan Hemingway on projects including ***Geri Atrick Mayor*** (Bell Canada), ***The Innkeepers***, and ***Archipelago***. His work has been seen at Ars Nova, Rattlestick Theater, Cherry Lane Theatre, HERE Arts Center, Hartford Stage, The Flea and at the Sundance and Cannes Film Festivals. As an improviser, Stephen is a founding member of NYC's Dirty Little Secrets Improv Show, which has been running in the East Village since 2015, and is the co-creator and co-host of the triviatastic Feelz Right Quiz Night.

www.stephensheffer.com

JESSE JOU
(Director; he/him)

Jesse is a director of new and contemporary plays and musicals. Favorite projects include ***Bruise & Thorn*** by C. Julian Jiménez (world premiere, *New York Times'* Critic's Pick), ***I Wanna F*ck Like Romeo & Juliet*** by Andrew Rincón (world premiere, New Light Theater Project), ***Cebollas*** by Leonard Madrid, and ***The Betrothed*** by Dipika Guha (*Boston Globe* Critic's Pick). He is an alumnus of the Cherry Lane Mentor Project, the Drama League's Directors Project, the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab, and the Civilians' R&D Group. He received his MFA in directing from the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale.

CAT COPELAND

(Production Stage Manager; they/she)

Cat is a multi-faceted, Brooklyn-based theater-maker. She graduated from the University of Montevallo with a BFA in Theatre. They have worked at New Light and Pendragon for five years as the technical director and/or stage manager. Some of their favorite shows include ***Twelfth Night***, ***Spelling Bee***, and ***Tracks***.

ELI BETTMANN

(Assistant Stage Manager; they/them)

Eli is an actor, costume and makeup artist, and now stage manager. They are a recent graduate of SUNY Purchase, earning a BA in Theatre and Performance. Recent production credits include: ***Twelfth Night***, ***The Little Mermaid Jr.*** (wardrobe supervisor), ***The Haunting of Campbell House*** (costume designer), ***Angels in America Part I*** (makeup designer).

CONNOR GALLERANI

(Scenic Designer; they/he)

Connor is a scenic designer, carpenter, and technical director based in Queens. An alum of NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Connor is currently an adjunct professor of stagecraft for their Production & Design program. Pendragon: ***Violet***, ***Twelfth Night***, ***Treasure Island***, ***The Marvelous Wonderettes***, ***The Little Mermaid Jr***. This is their third summer with Pendragon, and first production with New Light, and they are thrilled to be back designing shows with these lovely people! Upcoming productions: ***Dirty Bird*** (Twenty-Somethings), ***Soon*** (OOTB). In their free time Connor enjoys hiking, photography, and long walks on the beach.

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 Government***, ***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).

KRISTA GREVAS

(Costume Designer; she/her)

Krista is a theater creative currently based in New York City. Recent credits: costume design for ***This Is Government***, ***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.

PEGGY ORMAN

(Props Designer; she/her)

Peggy joined the ranks of Pendragon actors in 2003, adding stage managing to her resume with 2011's production of ***The Mousetrap***, and has continued in either or both capacities to the present day. She 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 productions as well as Adirondack Stage Rats and Community Theatre Players (CTP). She has been incredibly excited to design/produce props for Pendragon since the 2024 season.

ELAINE WONG

(Lighting Designer; she/they)

Elaine is from Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, and received her MFA in Lighting Design from Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts. She is currently the assistant operations manager with MossLED, occasional freelance lighting designer, and the resident lighting designer with Resolve Productions NY. Previously, she served for four seasons as the resident lighting designer for the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, and for five years as a faculty master electrician for Montclair

State University's Department of Theatre and Dance. Previous design work with New Light includes: ***Room 1214***, ***War Words***, ***The American Tradition***, and ***Everything is Super Great***. In addition, Elaine's design work has been seen with Resolve Productions, Box Period Productions, Thingamajig Theatre Company, Mile Square Theatre, The Flea, Snapped Productions, American Theater Group, The State Repertory Opera of NJ, The Princeton Festival, Access Theatre, Black Angus Productions, LSNelson Productions, Preface Theatre, and others.

www.ElaineWong-lx.weebly.com

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: ***This Is Government*** (Nina Kissinger), ***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: ***This Is Government***, ***Tracks***, ***Friends With Amenities***.

www.PendragonTheatre.org
@pendragontheatre

SPECIAL THANKS

Caroline Castle, Molly Delaney, Bethany Fitch, Courtney Knysch, Caroline Pritchard, Ben Watson, Adirondack Stage Rats, Sarah McVie, Angelo Rosso, Sarah Strasser, Ariela Morgenstern, Stephanie Cousins, Jamie Agnello, Tasha Ames, Larisa Oleynik, Thomas Duplessie, Carrie Heitman, Anthony Minto, Jennifer Farrugia, JDR, Tyler Nye, Nayib Felix, Rachel Kemp, John Jeffords, Meghan Hemingway, Sarah Walsh, Allison Jean White, Daniel Ball, Jill Usdan, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Adirondack Center for Writing, Hopeton Shaw, Merrick Morgan, Amanda Gray, Anna Graham, Winter Tekenos-Levy, Kleo Mitrokostas, Grady Barker, and Ngozi Anyanwu.

CURATOR'S NOTE

Pendragon Theatre and our Co-Op Resident Company, New Light Theater Project, are frequent collaborators, and Artistic Director Sarah Norris has a remarkable gift for discovering bold, exciting new voices. When she shared this play with me, it was immediately clear that she'd hit the bullseye once again. I was so locked in that I read it in one sitting, needing to know where it would land. What initially appeared to be an off-kilter comedy gradually revealed deeper and deeper layers with every page. I'm delighted to share this enjoyable and surprising journey with you.



VAL DAY
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

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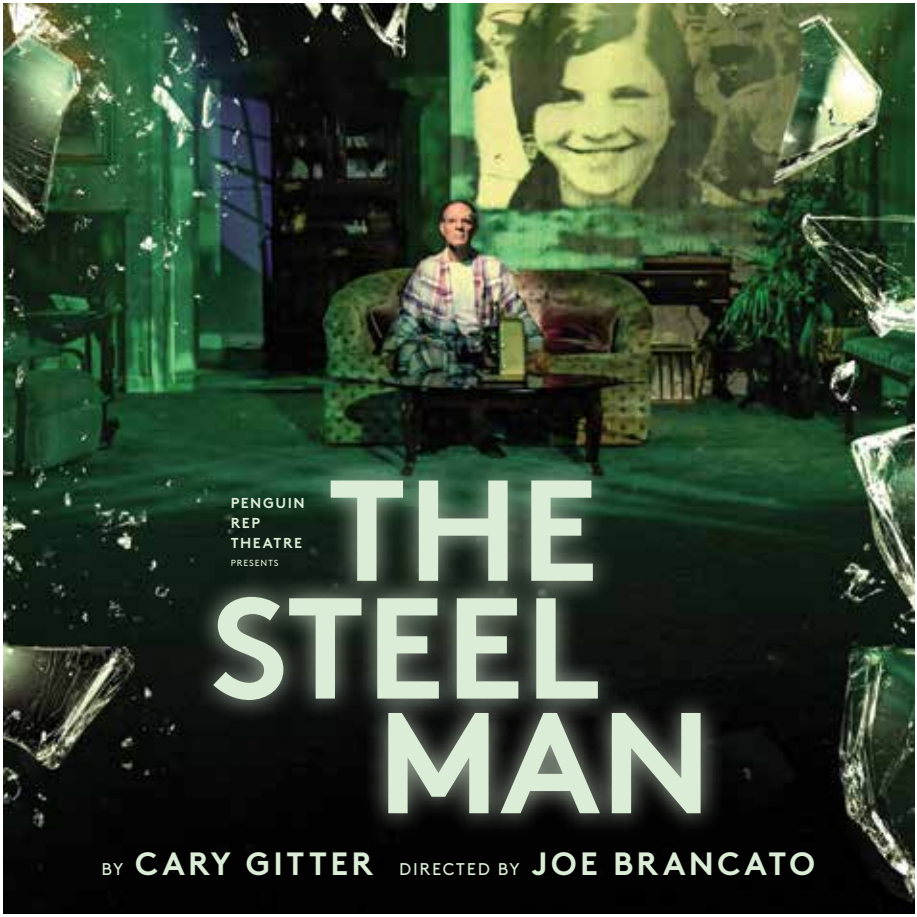
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OUR MISSION

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.

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.