59 59

A RED ORCHID NYC
IN ASSOCIATION WITH BISNO PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

THE NEW YORK PREMIERE OF

THE OPPONENT

BY BRETT NEVEU
DIRECTED BY KAREN KESSLER

JULY 31 - SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

E:BILL THEATER C



A RED ORCHID NYC in association with BISNO PRODUCTIONS presents

THE OPPONENT

BY **BRETT NEVEU** DIRECTED BY **KAREN KESSLER**

Tremont "Tre" Billiford	GUY VAN SWEARINGEN*
Donell Fuseles	KAMAL ANGELO BOLDEN*

Set Design	JOEY WADE
Costume Design	MYRON ELLIOTT
Light Design	MIKE DURST
Sound Design	JOE COURT
Fight Director	JOHN TOVAR
Stage Manager (Chicago)	CHRISTA ROLF VAN BAALE*
Stage Manager (New York)	KARA KAUFMAN*
Boxing Trainer	SAM COLONNA
Assistant Director	C. MEAD JACKSON
Production Assistant	JESSE ROTH
Artistic Director	KIRSTEN FITZGERALD
Managing Director	REBECCA EATON
Development Director	JENNIFER SULTZ
General Press Representative for A Red Orchid NYC	O&M CO. RICK MIRAMONTEZ, PHILIP CARRUBBA

FOR BISNO PRODUCTIONS

Executive Producers	DEBBIE BISNO, ROBERTA PEREIRA
Associate Producers	JENNIFER SCHOPPE, SARAH WALKER
Producing Assistant	JOSH DEL BRANDT

The running time of *The Opponent* is 100 minutes with an intermission.

The Opponent was originally developed through Center Theatre Group's Writers Workshop and had its World Premiere at A Red Orchid Theatre in October, 2012.

* Members, Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION (AEA) founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, producing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and isaffiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. **www.actorsequity.org**

KAMAL ANGELO BOLDEN

(Donnell)



Kamal was last seen playing a fierce drag queen in ***Hit The Wall*** (The Inconvenience). He originated the roles of Chad Deity in ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*** and Black Man in ***We Are Proud to Present...*** (Victory Gardens) and was directed by Phylicia Rashad in ***Immediate Family*** (Goodman). He's earned Jeff Nominations for ***The Opponent*** (A Red Orchid) and ***Jitney*** (Court Theatre). Regional: Actors Theater of Louisville, Nashville Shakes, Tennessee Repertory, Northlight. National commercials: KFC, WalMart, BP, Budweiser, Old Navy. Television: ***Chicago Fire***, ***Crisis, Betrayal***, ***Low Winter Sun***, ***Boss***, ***Lights Out***. He is represented by Suskin Management.

GUY VAN SWEARINGEN

(Tre)



Guy is a founding Ensemble Member and former Artistic Director at A Red Orchid Theatre, where he was last seen there in ***Simpatico*** and has appeared in 14 other productions, including the World Premiere of ***The Opponent***. Guy has worked with many theaters in Chicago, including Steppenwolf, Lookingglass, Plasticene, Defiant Theatre, and Mary-Arrchie. Television: ***Chicago Fire***, ***Underemployed***, ***Detroit 1-8-7***, ***The Beast***, ***Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story***, ***Early Edition*** and ***TURKS***. Film: ***The Dilemma***, ***Take Shelter***, ***Janie Jones***, ***Public Enemies***, ***The Merry Gentleman***, ***Mad Dog & Glory***, ***The Negotiator***, ***Ali***, ***The Weatherman*** and Adam Rapp's ***Blackbird***.

BRETT NEVEU

(Playwright)

Upcoming and recent productions include ***Red Bud*** with Signal Ensemble and ***Detective Partner Hero Villain*** with SkyPilot. Past work includes productions with The Royal Court Theatre, The Royal Shakespeare Company, The Goodman Theatre, Writers Theatre and A Red Orchid Theatre. A Sundance Institute Ucross Fellow, Brett received the Marquee Award from Chicago Dramatists and the Ofner Prize for New Work. He has developed plays with The Atlantic Theatre Company, The New Group, Steppenwolf Theatre and Victory Gardens, is a resident-alum of Chicago Dramatists, an ensemble member of A Red Orchid Theatre and teaches at Northwestern University.

KAREN KESSLER

(Director)

Karen is an ensemble member of A Red Orchid where, along with ***The Opponent***, she directed the US premiere of ***Solstice*** by Zinnie Harris, the Midwest premiere of ***Louis Slotin Sonata***, the Midwest premiere of ***Pumpgirl*** by Abbie Spallen, the Chicago premiere of Sarah Kane's ***Blasted***, the US premiere of ***Gagarin's Way*** by Gregory Burke, and the Midwest premiere of ***Mr. Kolpert*** by David Gieselmann. Other favorites: ***A Going Concern***, ***This Lime Tree Bower***, ***The God of Hell***, ***Hamlet***, ***The Taming of the Shrew***, ***Cyrano de Bergerac***, and, for the Northern Stage in Newcastle, England, ***Glengarry Glen Ross***.

JOEY WADE

(Set Designer)

An award-winning theatrical designer and educator with over 20 years' experience in professional theater, Joey Wade was most recently nominated for a Joseph Jefferson Award for his scenic design for ***The Fall of the House of Usher*** for The Hypocrites Theater in Chicago. Most recently he designed the set for ***Russian Transcript*** (Steppenwolf Theater, Chicago). Joey taught theatrical design at the University of Illinois and just relocated to DC to be near his family. Joey will be teaching at St. Stephens & St. Agnes School in VI and at Sidwell Friends School in DC.

MYRON ELLIOTT

(Costume Designer)

Chicago: ***The Opponent***, ***In A Garden*** (A Red Orchid); ***The Heart is a Lonely Hunter***, ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** (Steppenwolf for Young Adults); ***Oblivion***, ***Ski Dubai***, ***Honest***, ***Sex with Strangers*** (Steppenwolf First Look); ***Dental Society Midwinter Meeting*** (Chicago Dramatists); ***Eclipsed*** (Northlight Theatre); ***I Do, I Do***, ***Phantom***(Theatre at the Center); ***Speech & Debate*** (American Theatre Company). Collaborations include productions with Stages St. Louis, Ohio Light Opera, Cincinnati Playhouse, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Aurora University, College of Wooster, and Berkshire Theatre Festival. Myron is the Costume Shop Manager at The Theatre School at DePaul University.

MIKE DURST

(Lighting Designer)

A Red Orchid ensemble member whose previous designs for the company include ***Simpatico***, ***The Opponent***, ***Solstice***, and ***Mud Blue Sky***. Other Chicago theaters include Lookingglass, Profiles, Theater Wit, and Neo-Futurists. Off-Broadway credits include ***Secrets of the Trade*** (starring John Glover) for Primary Stages at 59E59 and ***Extinction*** (starring James Roday and Michael Weston) for Red Dog Squadron at Cherry Lane. Also, the national tour of ***It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia: The Nightman Cometh***. Mike is a lighting consultant for theatrical renovations including the Gray Center at University of Chicago and Circle Theater in Los Angeles.

JOE COURT

(Sound Designer)

Joe is excited to return to AROT. Past designs include ***The Unseen*** (Jeff nom), ***Abigail's Party***, ***Megacosm***, and ***The Butcher of Baraboo***. Joe spent 4 years as sound engineer for the Chicago production of the Tony Award winning musical ***Million Dollar Quartet***. He is a company member with Mary-Arrchie Theatre Company. His designs have been heard at many theaters including Great Lakes Theatre, The Clarence Brown Theatre in Knoxville, TN, and The Illinois, Idaho, and Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festivals. Joe is adjunct faculty in Sound Design at Ball State University.

JOHN TOVAR

(Fight Director)

John is thrilled to be back working with the wonderful people at AROT. Other companies John has choreographed violence for include The Gift, Steppenwolf, Drury Lane Oakbrook, About Face, Griffin, Route 66, Mary-Arrchie, Fox Valley Repertory, and Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. John is a Certified Teacher and Fight Director with the Society of American Fight Directors. He is also the Executive Director of MACE (Movement and Combat Education), whose focus is movement education in the performing arts.

CHRISTA VAN BAALE

(Stage Manager, Chicago)

Recent stage management credits include ***Simpatico***, ***The Opponent***, and ***Megacosm*** with A Red Orchid Theatre, ***Hit the Wall*** with the Chicago Commercial Collective, ***25 Saints*** with Pine Box Theatre, ***Houdini Box*** with Chicago Children's Theatre, ***The Glass Menagerie*** with The Gift Theatre, and ***A Clockwork Orange*** with Defiant Theatre. Christa is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and alumnae of the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign MFA program. Thanks to C.W., E, M&W.

KARA KAUFMAN

(Production Stage Manager)

Kara is a New York City native and a Harvard grad and is excited for her first collaboration with A Red Orchid Theatre. Favorite New York credits include: ***The Mysteries***, ***Restoration Comedy***, ***These Seven Sicknesses*** and ***Kaspar Hauser*** (The Flea Theater), ***Dani Girl*** (EPBB), ***Neva*** (Public Theater), ***Really Really*** (MCC Theater), ***Lush Valley*** (HERE Arts Center), ***Paternity*** (Cherry Lane) and ***Hold, Music*** (Living Theater/Sightline). Thanks and love to her friends and mom!

SAM COLONNA

(Boxing Trainer)

Sam has been training boxers for over 30 years. He guided Chicago Boxing Club to the Chicago Golden Gloves Tournament Team Championship Trophy 5 years straight from 2008 to 2012. Sam was head trainer at the legendary Windy City Boxing Gym. Trainer of multiple World Champions, Sam worked the corner for Andrew Golota, Angel Manfredy, Angel Hernandez and Vaughn Bean. His work with hundreds of amateurs has cultivated scores of Chicago Golden-Gloves, Illinois State and National Golden-Gloves champions. Sam trains boxers of all ages at his gym in Chicago including Chicago Boxing Club team members, Golden Glove amateurs, and experienced professionals.
www.samcolonnaboxing.com

C. MEAD JACKSON

(Assistant Director)

C. Mead is thrilled to be returning to ***The Opponent***, her first official NYC show. Past credits include ***Pins and Withers***, ***Waiting for Godot***, ***The Opponent*** (Chicago) and Spring Dance. Many thanks to Karen Kessler and the creative team, as well as her sister, Emma.

JESSE ROTH

(Production Assistant/ASM)

Jesse is thrilled to be joining ***The Opponent*** team in New York. She is the Assistant to the Artistic Director at A Red Orchid Theatre. Primarily a director and dramaturg, she has also worked at The House Theatre, Collaboraction, The New Colony, and First Floor Theatre. She is a graduate of the Theatre and Performance Studies program at the University of Chicago.

A RED ORCHID THEATRE

Since 1993 A Red Orchid Theatre has been an artistic mainstay of the Chicago theater community; known and praised for its powerful ensemble, creative design and its gripping, intimate productions. The resident Ensemble maintains the conviction that live theater is the greatest sustenance for the human spirit and that passionately committed theater will draw passionately committed audiences.

A RED ORCHID THEATRE IS:

Lance Baker, Kamal Angelo Bolden, Dado, Mike Durst, Jennifer Engstrom, Kirsten Fitzgerald, Joseph Fosco, Steve Haggard, Mierka Girten, Larry Grimm, Karen Kawa, Karen Kessler, Danny McCarthy, Shade Murray, Brett Neveu, Michael Shannon, Guy Van Swearingen, Doug Vickers and Natalie West.

A RED ORCHID THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Christian Chadd Taylor, Michael Fatall, Mary Gail Fitzpatrick, Darren Guccione, Pamela Harrington, Ann McCartney, Rebecca Mills, Mark Pearson, Cyrus Rab, Michael Shannon, Giulia Sindler, Tamara Solarich, Mollie Stromberg, Guy Van Swearingen.

A RED ORCHID NYC is an extension of our mission to introduce our work and ensemble to New York Audiences. This also marks the launch of our new partnership with Bisno Productions.

www.aredorchidtheatre.org

BISNO PRODUCTIONS

Headed by Debbie Bisno and Producer Roberta Pereira, recent productions include Terrence McNally's ***Mothers and Sons*** (Tony nom;) ***ANNIE***; Stephen Sondheim's ***Merrily We Roll Along*** in the West End (Olivier Award); Peter Nichol's ***Passion Play*** on the West End; the Broadway premiere of Craig Wright's ***Grace***, starring Paul Rudd, Michael Shannon (AROT ensemble member), Ed Asner & Kate Arrington; and ***War Horse*** (Tony Award.) BP recently developed a musical for young audiences- ***Mr. Chickee's Funny Money*** - adapted from the book by Christopher Paul Curtis, with a score by Motown legend Lamont Dozier. Other Broadway: ***Merchant of Venice*** (Tony Award) with Al Pacino; ***HAIR***; ***Priscilla Queen of the Desert***; David Mamet's ***A Life in the Theatre*** and ***Speed the Plow***; ***Finian's Rainbow***. Off Broadway: ***Through a Glass Darkly*** with Carey Mulligan in association with the Atlantic Theater. www.bisnoproductions.com

THE NEW YORK PRODUCTION OF THE OPPONENT IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY:

(as of July 10, 2014)

HEAVYWEIGHT LEVEL: Guy Van Swearingen

CONTENDER LEVEL: Pamela Harrington, Karen Pritzker, Michael Shannon, Christian Chadd Taylor

GOLD LEVEL: John C. Maguire, Mauricio & Simoni Morato, Dr. & Mrs. Michael D. Walker

SILVER LEVEL: Walter F. Bandi, Jr., Steven & Pippa Colvin, Nina & Christopher Evison, Nancy Timmers

BRONZE LEVEL: Jim & Patty Babin, Michael & Jill Pytosh



A RED ORCHID NYC
in association with
BISNO PRODUCTIONS
presents

THE OPPONENT

BY **BRETT NEVEU** DIRECTED BY **KAREN KESSLER**

NEXT IN THEATER C — SEP 11 - OCT 5



★★★★ CRITIC'S PICK *TIME OUT NY*

Smoke & Mirrors Collaborative Presents

NDEBELE FUNERAL

BY ZOEY MARTINSON
DIRECTED BY AWOYE TIMPO

FRINGENYC OVERALL EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR BEST PLAY

Ndebele Funeral pulls audiences into the music, dirt, and dreams of South Africa's past and its present by examining the world of three characters whose lives intersect in a Soweto shantytown. Poignant, darkly funny, and heartbreaking, Smoke & Mirrors Collaborative's powerfully physical production is unforgettable.

Ndebele Funeral features original music from Spirits Indigenous, and gumboot dancing from the mines in Johannesburg.

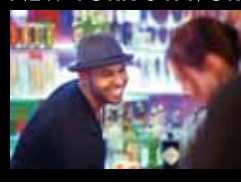
$25 (59E59 MEMBERS **$17.50**)
TUE, WED, THU AT 7:30, FRI 8:30, SAT 2:30 & 8:30, SUN 3:30

BUY TICKETS: IN PERSON 59E59 THEATERS BOX OFFICE 59 EAST 59TH STREET (PARK/MADISON)
BY PHONE 212-279-4200 **ONLINE** WWW.59E59.ORG

THE ANDERSONS JAZZ BAND - EVERY THURSDAY - FREE IN THE E:BAR



NEW YORK'S FAVORITE



AFTER HOURS



THEATER BAR



59E59 THEATER STAFF

ELYSABETH KLEINHANS President and Artistic Director
PETER TEAR Executive Producer
BRIAN BEIRNE Managing Director
JAMES SPARNON Production/Facility Manager
GINGER DZERK Director of Ticketing Services
KENNY NUNEZ House Manager
GINA YETNER Office Manager/Accounting Associate
SPONDEE House Guy
CHRISTINE HUERTAS Theater Technician
SARAH ARNOLD Theater Technician
ZACH SCHMIDLEIN Theater Technician
KAREN GRECO Press Representative
JACKIE LaVANWAY Associate Producer/Marketing
KYLE JOHNSON Press and Marketing Assistant
BARBARA IAMS KOREIN Archivist
JOHN ROTONDO Membership Coordinator
WILLIAM BENJAMIN Box Office Manager
PETER CARRIER Box Office Supervisor
LEAH GABRIEL Box Office Supervisor
OCTAVIA DRISCOLL Box Office Associate
DEIRDRE HERLIHY Box Office Associate
BEN HOOVER Box Office Associate
GREGORY ISAAC Box Office Associate
JOEL STIGLIANO Box Office Associate
ALBERTO ROSARIO E:BAR Manager
MOLLY GROOME E:BAR Staff
EVELYN JEREZ E:BAR Staff
ALICE JOHNSON E:BAR Staff
WILFREDO FELIZ Assistant House Manager
ANDY BAUTISTA Front of House Assistant
QUENTIAN DIEGO Front of House Assistant
COLLIN McCONNELL Front of House Assistant
DEMI AGAPITOS Usher
ANDY BAUTISTA Usher
SANTOS COLLADO Usher
KIMBERLY FLORES Usher
STEPHANIE FOSTER Usher
CHRISTIAN JAIME Usher
ERIK DE JESUS Usher
RUDDY DE JESUS Usher
CHASTITY JIMENEZ Usher
JOHN KARCHER Usher
CHRISTOPHER LANTIGUA Usher
JASMINE LEWIS Usher
JASMIN MORALES Usher
GENESIS NERY Usher
EDWIN POLANCO Usher
IASIS TEJADA Usher
HANDRIEL TORRES Usher
CANDY VAZQUEZ Receptionist
JUNIOR GOMEZ Facilities Supervisor
JASON HOPKINSON Facilities
TYRONE SAPP Facilities

5A SEASON

NEW AT 59E59 THEATERS!

THE NEW 5A SEASON

TWO WAYS TO BECOME A 59E59 MEMBER!

PICK UP A BROCHURE
JOIN US AND OUR 3,500 MEMBERS
FOR AN EXCITING RIDE INTO OUR NEXT DECADE!

59 59

Graphic Design: www.musedesign.co.uk

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 Peter Tear, Executive Producer. The use of cameras and other recording devices in this Theater is prohibited by law. There is no smoking in this Theater or any part of the Theater Building.