

By Kate Douglas and Grace McLean Directed by Sarna Lapine

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Amber Gray as CELINE Scott Stangland as TAFT Kuhoo Verma as GENEVA Andrew Kober as RUDOLPH Heath Saunders as JAMES Natalie Walker as LILA & Katrina Lenk as BRIDGET

Against Women & Music! was developed in part at Rhinebeck Writers Retreat. Additional support has been provided by Theater Latté Da.

Special thanks to The Civilians R&D Group.

Creative Stage Manager - Lisa Ann Chernoff Music Director - Simone Allen Assistant Director - Kristolyn Lloyd Music Transcriptions - Jessie Rosso Video Editor - Preston Martin

About the Cast:



Amber Gray (Celine) Theatre: *Hadestown* (Broadway, The National Theatre London, The Citadel, New York Theatre Workshop); *Natasha, Pierre, and The Great Comet of 1812* (Broadway, Kazino, Ars Nova); *An Octoroon* (Theatre for a New Audience, Soho Rep, PS 122), Daniel Fish's *Oklahoma!* (Bard SummerScape), Taylor Mac's *A 24 Decade History of Popular Music: 1900's-1950's* (New York Live Arts with Under the Radar), The TEAM's *Mission Drift, Primer for a Failed Superpower*, and the upcoming *Reconstruction*; and 15 years with *Reverend Billy and The Church of Stop Shopping.* TV/Film: Showtime's *Escape At Dannemora;* Amazon's upcoming limited series *Underground Railroad* and movie *Master*. MFA: NYU Graduate Acting



Kuhoo Verma (Geneva) is set to lead the cast of Hulu's upcoming film Plan B. She previously starred in Dave Malloy's *Octet* at the Signature Theatre (Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical, Drama Desk Award for Best Ensemble). Her film credits include the Oscar-nominated The Big Sick. Instagram: @therealkuhoo



Andrew Kober (Rudolph) Broadway: *Beautiful, School of Rock, Sunday in the Park with George, She Loves Me, Les Miserables,* and *Hair.* National Tour: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.* Off-Broadway and regional: Roundabout Theatre Company, The Public Theatre, MCC, New York Theatre Workshop, The Old Globe, Yale Rep, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Bucks County Playhouse, The Denver Center Theater, Barrington Stage Company, and four summers at Shakespeare in the Park, TV: "Fosse/Verdon" (FX Network), "Ray Donovan" (Showtime), "House of Cards" (Netflix), "Boardwalk Empire" (HBO), "Blue Bloods" (CBS), "Pan Am" (ABC), "The Plot Against America" (HBO), "Pose" (FX Network). Twitter: @andrewkober



Heath Saunders (James) is an actor, composer, multi-instrumentalist, director, teacher, producer, and diversity dramaturg. All of their free time (in the past) was devoted to readings, workshops, and new works, and their new world is mostly populated by aural experimentation. They provided the music and the sound design for a recent digital reading of the genre bending horror play *The Things are Against Us* by Susan Stanton at MCC. They were featured on the original cast recording of Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater's new musical *Alice By Heart*. They

spent much of 2018 involved in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, including at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, as Jesus, and in *Jesus Christ Superstar Live* in Concert on NBC. They made their Broadway debut in *Great Comet*, and their musical *Newton's Cradle* won Best in Fest at NYMF 2016. Their EP "Does Not Play Well With Others (I Hope You're Not 'Others')" can be heard wherever you stream music, except maybe Tidal--they don't know, they don't have an account. <u>thesaunderscollective.com</u> @feeltheheath



Natalie Walker (Lila) is a performer and writer. Screen: Search Party, BoJack Horseman, The Other Two. Stage: *Alice By Heart* (MCC), *Dogfight* concert (Second Stage), *Cabaret* (Secret), *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* (Hangar). Writing featured in Bookforum and Vulture.



Katrina Lenk (Bridget) will soon be seen in a recurring arc on the final season of "Ozark" on Netflix, and as Bobbie in the upcoming revival of Company on Broadway. Other Broadway credits: The Band's Visit (Tony and Grammy Award), Indecent, Once, Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark, The Miracle Worker. Additional theater credits: Indecent (Vineyard, La Jolla Playhouse, Yale Rep), iWitness (Mark Taper Forum), Lost Land (Steppenwolf), Caucasian Chalk Circle (South Coast Rep). Other TV credits: "Little Voice," "Tommy," "The Village," "The Good Fight," "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "The Get Down," "Elementary," and "The Blacklist." She is the creator and member of the band moxy phinx.



Scott Stangland (Taft) is a New York-based actor and musician. Broadway: *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (Pierre); *Once* (Eamon). Off-Broadway: *Cyrano* (New Group Theater). Regional: *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (A.R.T.); *The Wheel* (Steppenwolf Theatre). Select TV: The Blacklist (FOX); The Deuce, Vinyl (HBO); Wu Tang: An American Saga (Hulu); New Amsterdam, FBI Most Wanted, Crisis, Chicago Fire (NBC); Jessica Jones (Netflix); Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story (TNT); Select Film: Contagion,

and End of the Tour. Scott received his MFA from The Theatre Conservatory at Roosevelt University. Scott also plays in the band Youth in a Roman Field, with fellow Eastland castmates, Claire Wellin and Tiffany Topol. <u>www.scottstangland.com</u>

Creative Team:

Grace McLean (Writer) is a performer, writer and composer. Broadway: Natasha, Pierre... (also Off-Broadway, ART). Off-Broadway: New Group, MCC, LCT3, Public, Vineyard, La MaMa, among others. Grace McLean & Them Apples performed in the 2015 and 2016 seasons of Lincoln Center's American Songbook, and Grace toured Pakistan and Russia as an artistic ambassador with the US State Department. 2017 Emerging Artist Award Lincoln Center; 2020 Civilians R&D Group; Lincoln Center Theater Writer-In-Residence where her original musical In The Green was commissioned and produced, earning the 2020 Richard Rodgers Award and a Lucille Lortel for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical. <u>www.gracemclean.com</u>

Kate Douglas (Writer) is a writer, composer and performer. Recent work includes THE NINTH HOUR, her operetta with Shayfer James at The Met Cloisters, her immersive play EXTINCT (produced with support from a LMCC Engagement Grant) and her upcoming audio experience HOLD, PLEASE. Her work has been developed at The Orchard Project, New Victory Theater, SPACE on Ryder Farm, Rhinebeck Musicals and the Writer's Colony at Goodspeed. She is currently a member of The Orchard Project Greenhouse, Gingold Theatrical Group Speakers' Corner Writers Group and the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. Most recently, Kate signed with Kobalt Music Publishing. <u>www.katedouglasprojects.com</u>

Sarna Lapine (Director) is a New York-based director. Upcoming: the West End transfer of the acclaimed Broadway production of Sunday in the Park with George, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Annaleigh Ashford and Puccini's Madama Butterfly (Boston Lyric Opera). Recent credits include the world premiere of Kate Hamill's Dracula (Classic Stage Company); the New York premiere of Kate Hamill's Little Women (Primary Stages); as well as The Rape of Lucretia (Boston Lyric Opera), named Best Opera of 2019 by the Boston Globe. In addition to working on Broadway, Sarna has worked regionally, Off-Broadway and internationally, including the Japanese premiere of Anna Ziegler's Photograph 51. Touring productions include: the North American tour and Japanese premiere of The National Theatre's WarHorse; Dirty Dancing North American tour; as well as the second national tour of Lincoln Center Theater's Tony Award winning revival, South Pacific. Sarna holds an MFA from Columbia University.

Lisa Ann Chernoff (Stage Manager) Broadway: The Great Society, My Fair Lady, Oslo, The King & I, The Bridges of Madison County, Golden Boy, Catch Me If You Can, Women on the Verge.., Ragtime, Shrek. Off-Broadway: Unknown Soldier, Pocatello; Detroit; Rapture, Blister, Burn; Prayer for My Enemy (Playwrights Horizons); Mary Jane (NYTW), Kingdom Come (Roundabout), King Lear (Public). National Tour: Spamalot.

Simone Allen (Music Director) is a singer/songwriter, composer/lyricist for musical theater, music director, pianist, and arranger based in Brooklyn, New York. She grew up in San Rafael, California and she graduated from Tufts University (Medford, Massachusetts) in May 2017 with a B.A. in Music. She is a composer in the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop. simoneallenmusic.com

Kristolyn Lloyd (Assistant Director) Grammy and Emmy Award Winner. Directing Credits: Nick and the Prizefighter (Urbanite Theatre Modern Works Festival), Dainty (BOLD Works Festival), A Patriots Place (B Street Theatre) Assistant Dir. Cabin in the Sky (Encores City Center). Her Acting credits include Broadway; Dear Evan Hansen. Off Broadway; Blue Ridge (Atlantic) Paradise Blue, The Liquid Plain (Signature Theatre) Little Women (Primary Stages) Invisible

Thread (Second Stage Theatre), Heathers The Musical (New World Stages), Cabin In The Sky (Encores City Center), Selected Regional; Paradise Blue (Williamstown), Witness Uganda (A.R.T.), Hairspray and Rent (Hollywood Bowl). TV includes: "Random Acts of Flyness" (HBO), Elementary, Madam Secretary" (CBS), "ER" (NBC) and "Lie to Me." (FOX).

Preston Martin (Video Editor) is a queer actor, director, writer and budding video artist. He has performed in eight countries and in over sixty venues across New York City. Preston is also the creative director of The Reality Show: NYU, a global program created by Liz Swados now in its seventeenth year. The Reality Show devises musical and theatrical experiences for and by NYU students centered around identity, mental health and wellness. The project has been presented at Radio City Music Hall, Madison Square Garden, Barclays Center, as well as in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai. For more on Preston's work, visit <u>www.prestonmartin.com</u>.

Jessie Rosso (Music Transcriptions) (she/her) is an NYC-based Music Director, Pianist, and Copyist. Notable credits include Ratatouille: the TikTok Musical (Music Associate) and Soft Power (Music Assistant). She has also worked with companies such as Encores! Off Center, 5th Avenue Theatre, and the Atlantic Theater Company. Website: jessierosso.com

COMING UP...

BLACK FEMINEST VIDEO GAME: ON-DEMAND: MAY 3-9, 2021.

Written by Darrel Alejandro Holnes & Directed by Victoria Collado

When Jonas, a biracial teenager with autism, invites his gamer best friend, Sabine, on a video game adventure in hopes of foiling his bullies and winning over his crush, he discovers he must confront his own misperceptions of the women in his life, or risk losing not only the game but also his first chance at love! In this mashup of live performance, video game design, and online interaction, you'll help (or hinder!) Jonas and Sabine's progress by responding in real time to the choices they make on their path through the game together.

SPRING BENEFIT CONCERT: May 20 @ 8:00PM

This year's livestreamed event – LIFE STUDIES – will feature Civilians' artists and celebrity guests in brilliant live performances. We'll celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Civilian's <u>R&D Group program</u>, our new work laboratory that has supported a diverse community of over 150 writers, directors, and composers. "Civilian of the Year" Mimi Brown, Founder of Spring Workshop in Hong

THE R&D FINDINGS SERIES: June 16 - 30th

The tenth annual FINDINGS Series will run from June 16 - 30 and will be streamed online. All of these worksin-progress readings are free and will require a reservation.

The members of the <u>2020-21 R& D Group</u> are Galia Backal, Nana Dakin, Isabella Dawis, Jacinth Greywoode, Jaime Lozano, Emily Lyon, AriDy Nox, Reynaldo Piniella, Tylie Shider, Tidtaya Sinutoke, Rachel Stevens, Ken Urban, Noelle Viñas, Ikumi Kuonaga, and Florencia Cuenca

About The Civilians

Founded in 2001, The Civilians is dedicated to making new theater at the intersections of art and real life. Its signature work is "investigative theater," projects created through field research, community collaborations, and other methods of in-depth inquiry. Centered in a group of Associate Artists, the company also works with the theater field as a whole. Shows originated by The Civilians include Anne Washburn's *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*, Lucas Hnath's *Dana H.*, José *Rivera's Another Word for Beauty*, and many works with composer Michael Friedman: *Gone Missing, Pretty Filthy, Paris Commune* and more. The Civilians has participated in several BAM Next Wave Festivals, has been produced at many major regional and Off-Broadway theaters, and was the first theater company to be Artist-in-Residence at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. With Ghostlight Records, The Michael Friedman Recording Project is creating nine albums of our founding member's works. To hear the first five albums, visit here. The company supports a number of emerging and established artists each year through its new work programs which include the R&D Group new works lab, and a cabaret series of new musicals. The Civilians produces a podcast on SoundCloud; publishes *Extended Play*, an online journal about its work and the broader theater field; and sustains an active Education Program. www.thecivilians.org

THE CIVILIANS ANTI-RACISM COMMMITMENT

The Civilians strives to be a vibrant company of artists whose work reflects our celebration and investigation of diverse human experiences. We believe that our work and our lives are infinitely more complex, rewarding, illuminating, and nearer to truth when we have a wider variety of human experiences in our room, at our table, and on our stages. We have work to do to get there. The Civilians commits to interrogate and act to dismantle racist and oppressive practices in the theatrical community, and to embody anti-racism practices. To read about this work and our commitments please visit – www.thecivilians.org/anti-racism-committment/

The Civilians Staff Steve Cosson - Artistic Director Margaret Moll - Managing Director Dan Balkin – Development Director Ilana Becker – Artistic Associate & R&D Program Director Phoebe Corde - Literary Associate Sarah Boess – Artistic Intern Leah Putnam - Editorial Intern Danielle Allen - Social Media Intern Hanna Rable - Admin Intern James La Bella – Literary Intern

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In Memoriam Michael Friedman

Against Women & Music! is part of The Civilians annual cabaret series featuring new works made from creative investigations into real life; the series is supported by The Axe-Houghton Foundation.