

THE DEFEAT OF JESSIE JAMES

Book by
Jeffrey Hatcher

Music and lyrics by
Chan Poling

Directed by Richard D. Thompson

APRIL 29-MAY 28, 2023

history theatre

FOR MORE INFO:
SCAN QR CODE



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historytheatre.com

history theatre

2023-24 Season



9th Annual Vail Place and
History Theatre collaboration

Our Stories

May 3, 6:30 pm
History Theatre

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Land Acknowledgement

History Theatre sits on the ancestral, traditional and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native nations in Minnesota and beyond. We recognize that this acknowledgement itself is not enough, and only serves as a first step towards decolonization.



FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to History Theatre,

I am honored and humbled to have been chosen to lead History Theatre into its next chapter by building on the theatre's legacy of success to continue to make it a vital and celebrated part of the lives of the people of Minnesota.

I am looking forward to working together with Managing Director Karen Mueller to see the rest of the current season through and begin planning for next season. History Theatre's mission speaks directly to my heart. I appreciate the company's passion for bringing historical events and iconic figures to life in ways that touch our hearts and move us to action. History at its essence is about our shared stories, ideas, hopes and dreams and creating theatre that draws on our collective past allows us to reflect our world and illuminate our present in ways that enlighten, educate, and entertain our audiences.

I have been part of the History Theatre community for many years and directed productions including *The Meeting* (1991-92), *The Brotherhood* (1995-96), *Summer in the Shadows* (2001-02), *Joe* (2003-04), *Nellie* (2012-13), and just last season *Not in our Neighborhood!* (2021-22). In the time I've been associated with History Theatre, I've truly come to treasure the amazing work and the spectacular community of theatre professionals who have built and sustained it. I look forward to working in my new role with the talented staff and artists who have worked with History Theatre in the past, as well as engaging new and emerging artists from the theatre community.

Enjoy *The Defeat of Jesse James* and I hope to see you at the theatre again soon!

Richard D. Thompson



FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Greetings all and Happy Spring!

Thanks for joining us for *The Defeat of Jesse James* by Jeffrey Hatcher and Chan Poling. Set as a one-night-only farewell concert starring America's most notorious desperado, Jesse James brings us into his head and heart, and leads us to that fateful day in Northfield.

We are excited to have commissioned and developed this new work and, and we are even more thrilled to present this new musical adventure back-to-back with *Glensheen*, the duo's award-winning musical that will return to History Theatre this summer for a seventh time!

As we bring this season to a close, let me take a moment to thank you all for your enthusiasm and support of History Theatre throughout the years, but especially the last three years. As we go past a period of post-pandemic, economic volatility and social changes, we are all challenged to create a "new normal" in the Twin Cities, which is blessed with excellent theater.

We hope that you and your family are doing well, and that History Theatre will continue to be a destination for you and yours to laugh, learn and be inspired by the stories of real people and events that make up our shared history.

Karen Mueller

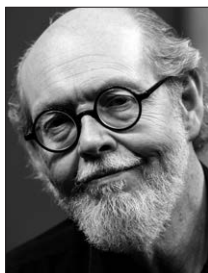
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Thank you for your support!



SCAN ME

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FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

Jesse James isn't the first robber and murderer to become a pop culture phenomenon. The earliest version is probably Macheath in John Gay's "The Beggar's Opera", written in 1728, based on the real life highwayman Jonathan Wild. So, by the time Jesse James and his gang became part of America's consciousness in the 1860s, there was already a template for fictionalizing and romanticizing true crime tales in story and song, a template that would be used over and over for Billy the Kid, John Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, Bonnie and Clyde, Charles Starkweather and Caril Ann Fugate. America has always had a fondness for desperados, but we have a tendency to clean them up and make their crimes palatable, sometimes even noble. That's why we often prefer the fictionalized versions to the real thing: Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway, Marlon Brando, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis and Johnny Depp (we love them until we don't).

Previous eras saw Jesse James as a doomed hero, the kind of sympathetic outlaw played by actors like Tyrone Power, Robert Wagner and Brad Pitt. Today, it's tempting to dismiss him as irredeemable, deplorable. Jesse James is what is now called a problematic character, inseparable from the politics and culture of his time: slavery, the Civil War, the brutality of the border state militias, and the Lost Cause. But the theater is filled with problematic characters, often based on real people: Oedipus, Richard III, Hedda Gabbler, Willy Loman, Mama Rose, Troy Maxson, and Roy Cohn. To write about history is to wrestle both with the past and with our own incomplete grasp of it. What we can say with certainty is that whatever Jesse James was, everything changed when he and his gang rode into Northfield, Minnesota on September 7, 1876 – which is why our show is called "the defeat of Jesse James."

Jeffrey Hatcher



FROM THE COMPOSER

I'm so honored and happy to be here with everyone at the premiere of "The Defeat of Jesse James."

It's been a winding road, to say the least. Once again, Jeff and I were challenged with having a less-than-sympathetic lead. It took us a couple of drafts to remember that you can be entertained by and learn from, anyone... as long as they're interesting. And Jesse James is not the iconic, notorious, celebrity outlaw for naught. Beyond that, his story resonates so very much for us today with its setting in the post-Civil War failed Restoration of the South (and the results of that legacy) as well as the media trappings and Cult-of-Personality celebrity worship that cemented his notoriety. It's a world filled with rich characters and extreme stakes. We found all that worth thinking about, laughing about, and singing about.

I'd like to thank Ron Peluso for believing in Jeff and me as a writing team. I so enjoy working with Jeff, and all the folks at History Theatre. It's especially satisfying to have Richard Thompson direct our new show as his first project under his new title as Artistic Director. Lots of new going on here!

Thanks, everyone.

Chan Poling

THE DEFEAT OF JESSE JAMES

Book by Jeffrey Hatcher
Music and Lyrics by Chan Poling

Directed by Richard D. Thompson
Music Direction by Raymond Berg
Music Arrangements by Robert Elhai

TIME/PLACE

Now and Then
The United States

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

Content warning: Haze, fog, gunshot sound effects, strobes, and strong language

THE CAST

Jesse James	Adam Qualls*
Zee, Ensemble	Suzie Juul*
Frank James	Dane Stauffer*
Mother Zerelda, Ensemble	Angela Timberman*
Perry Samuel, Ensemble	Jordan Leggett
Clell Miller, Robert Ford, Ensemble	Sasha Andreev*
Bill Chadwell, Kitty, Allen Pinkerton, Ensemble	Jen Burleigh-Bentz*
Bloody Bill Anderson, John Newman Edwards, Ensemble	James Ramlet
John Sheets, Heywood, Ensemble	Randy Schmeling*
<i>Understudy, Ensemble</i>	McKinnley Aitchison
<i>Understudy, Zee, performing 5/18-5/28</i>	Hope Nordquist
<i>Understudy, Jesse James</i>	Randy Schmeling*
<i>Understudy, Frank James</i>	Sasha Andreev*

THE MUSICIANS

Piano/Keyboard	Raymond Berg
Guitar	Christian Wheeler
Bass	Kameron Markworth
Drums	Mick LaBriola

SPECIAL THANKS
Wells Piano



National
New Play
Network



The Director is a member of the
STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS
SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.

^ United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE is the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.
* denotes a Member of Actors' Equity Association
‡ denotes a Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Inc.
• denotes a Member of American Federation of Musicians Local #3073

THE DEFEAT OF JESSE JAMES

Song List

ACT I

Jesse James	Jesse James, Company
Don't Blink	Mother Zerelda
I Am The Gun (Intro)	Jesse James
Brothers	Jesse James, Frank James
We Gonna Do Some Damage	Bloody Bill, Jesse James
.....	Frank James, Bushwhackers
The South Won't Rise Again	Carpetbaggers
Robbin' Banks	Instrumental
Boys Will Be Boys	Jesse James, John Newman Edwards, Company
Zerelda, Zerelda	Jesse James, Mother Zerelda, Zee, Company
Don't Blink (Reprise)	Mother Zerelda
You Cut Like a Rose	Zee
I Am The Gun	Jesse James, Company

THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

Mankind	The Northfield Choir
The Raid	James Younger Gang, Northfield Residents
Two Unlucky Stiffs	Bill Chadwell, Clell Miller
Ridin' Into History	Jesse James
Big Mouth	Frank James, Company
House Full of...	Mother Zerelda
That's Me	Perry Samuel
The End of the Story	Robert Ford, Company
Jesse James Coda	Perry Samuel, Company

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director	Richard D. Thompson
Music Director	Raymond Berg-
Music Arrangement	Robert Elhai-
Stage Manager	Lee Johnson*
Choreographer	Austene Van
Costume Designer	Sonya Berlovitz
Scenic Designer	Joel Sass
Lighting Designer	Karin Olson
Video Designer	Leslie Ritenour
Properties Designer	Kirby Moore
Sound Designer	C Andrew Mayer
Assistant Stage Manager	Jaya Robillard
Intimacy Coach	Elizabeth M. Desotelle*

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Electricians	Dante Benjegerdes, Sasha Blinnikoa, Noah Davis, Nick Fetting,
Spotlight Operators	Richard Graham, Andrew Glischinski, Loren Lochen, Parker Love, Corrine Steffens
Master Carpenter	Q'ori Goerd, Rhu VanVactor-Lee
Carpenter	Zachary Morgan
Apprentice Carpenter	Brian Hesser
Scenic Charge	Ian Iosso
Costume Assistant	Erika Soukup
ASL Interpreters	Meghan Kent
Audio Describer	Linda Gill, Maria Dively
Open Captioner	Laurie Pape-Hadley
	Shelia Bland



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is allowed.

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FROM THE EDUCATION MANAGER

Welcome back to History Theatre. Is it spring yet? After a long and snowy winter, it feels good to hear the latest from the creative team behind *Glensheen*. Something to savor while we defrost and embrace new life again. Theater excels at this by bringing people together to celebrate the familiar and welcome fresh beginnings.

The Education Department also encourages individuals to think about the stories of their own lives in a different light; just as our performance tonight examines a well-known narrative in a fresh way. We are fortunate that we have partners around the Twin Cities who invite us to collaborate with them to tell their stories year after year.

On May 3, Vail Place members will share a presentation of works based on their personal history with a live audience. You can be a part of that too! You will hear from these members who generously and bravely share stories of living with a mental health diagnosis. We have been working with Vail Place and its members since 2014, and this presentation never fails to inspire and move the audience. Do yourself a favor and check it out.

Our engagement with Minnesota Independence College and Community comes to a close in May as well. All of these college-age students are members of the neurodiverse community and find ways to talk about the everyday experience of living life that are surprising and delightful.

Last but not least, we are proud to start the 11th consecutive year of taking our Seats to Stage program into metro high schools in the spring. At AGAPE, Humboldt High School, and Avalon School, we try to help young people see their life as a tale they and no one else can tell.

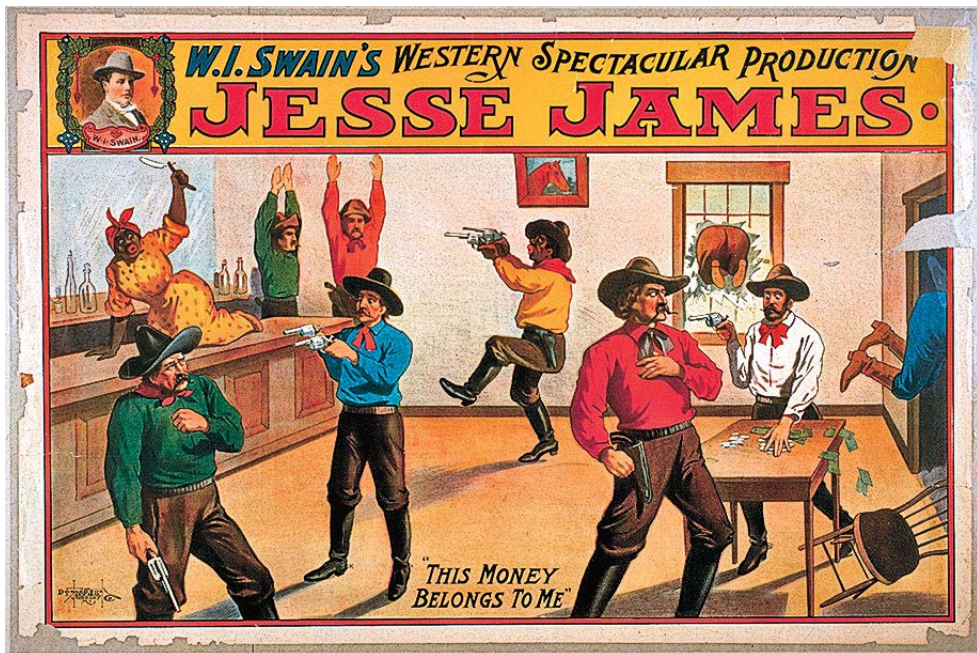
Paul de Cordova



Our Stories
May 3, 6:30 pm

Vail Place
History Theatre

Buy Tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/ourstories23>



Tent shows and minstrel entertainment by Kansan Col. William I. Swain were well known across the Midwest and South in the early decades of the 20th century. His stage show, *Jesse James*, included a black outlaw in its promotions. Source: Courtesy Library of Congress

As playwrights well know, a dastardly villain can make for compelling drama and enduring appeal. Minnesota has known its share of villainous individuals, from the incidental to the iconic: Titanic cardsharp George Brereton was born in Madelia; George “Bugs” Moran, Al Capone’s chief rival, was raised in St. Paul; John Dillinger slept here; Bonnie and Clyde may have robbed banks here; and would-be 9/11 terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui took flight lessons here. **There is one character, though, who has stood front and center on Minnesota’s stage, perhaps like no other: Jesse Woodson James.**

Jesse, of course, was the leader of the eight-man James-Younger gang that attempted to rob Northfield’s First National Bank on September 7, 1876. “From its opening to its closing shot,”

wrote Professor George Huntington in his estimable account of the raid, “it had occupied but seven minutes.”

As the townsfolk rallied to safeguard the bank’s employees and protect its monetary assets, the outlaws were forced to exit stage left in a decidedly ignominious manner, Jesse included. The raid was brief but the ensuing discussion and disputation down through the years have been anything but.

Nearly six years after the attempted robbery, Jesse James was assassinated by fellow gang member (though not a Northfield raider) Robert Ford. In the decades that followed, stories occasionally appeared in print that questioned whether James had indeed been killed. In about 1933 a certain J. Frank Dalton, a man who claimed to have “soldiered” with Jesse as a Civil

War raider, responded to just such a story in the *Denver Post*. Like James, Dalton would later become the unlikeliest of Northfield protagonists.

Excerpt from “How Jesse James Nearly Robbed Northfield...in 1948,” by Christopher G. Welter, *Minnesota History*, Winter 2011-12.

Outlaw brothers: the infamous Jesse (left) and Frank James, about 1863.

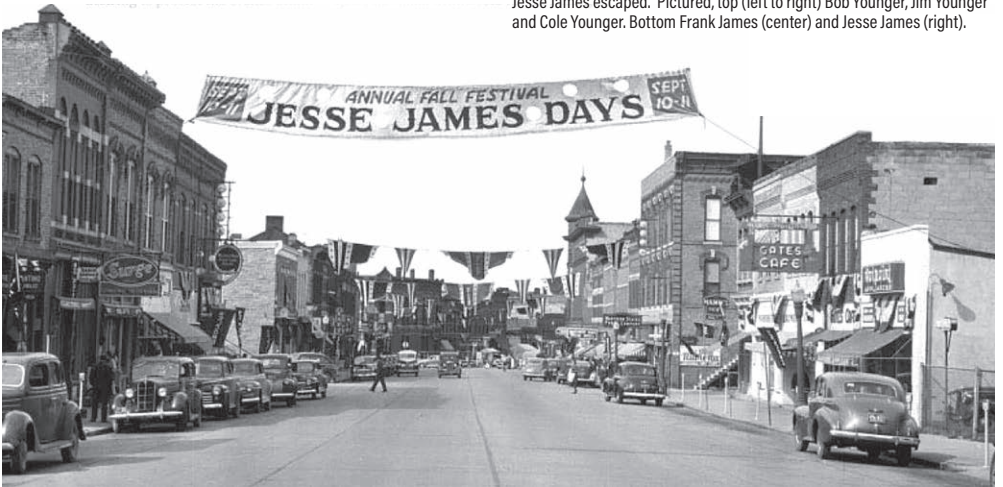




Where the raid took place. Source: "The Northfield Raid" by Northfield News, Inc.



1876. The Jesse James Gang before they held up the 1st National Bank in Northfield, MN on Sept. 7, 1876. The 3 Youngers were captured but Frank and Jesse James escaped. Pictured, top (left to right) Bob Younger, Jim Younger and Cole Younger. Bottom Frank James (center) and Jesse James (right).



Northfield, decorated for its first Jesse James Days celebration, 1948.



For decades after his death, Jesse James' mother, Zerelda James Samuel (center), charged tourists a fee to tour her famous son's home and farm adjacent to her own property northeast of Kearney, Missouri.

Source: Jesse James Farm Tourist Brochure Courtesy Library of Congress/Photo of Zerelda James Samuel Courtesy True West Archives

The Cast



SASHA ANDREEV* (he/him)

Clell Miller, Robert Ford, Ensemble
History Theatre: *Runestone! A Rock Musical, Raw Stages.* **Theater:** Theater Latté Da: *All is Calm* (National Tour/ Off-Broadway/Minneapolis), *12 Angry Men, Ragtime, Steerage Song.* Asolo Repertory Theatre: *Ragtime.* Guthrie Theater: *Sunday in the Park with George,*

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Edgardo Mine. Pillsbury House Theatre: *Jimmy and Lorraine: A Musing.* Frank Theatre: *The Cradle Will Rock.* Trademark Theatre: *Understood.* Mixed Blood: *Corazon Eterno.* Park Square Theatre: *Sons of the Prophet.* Hennepin Theatre Trust: *Buyer and Cellar.* **Film/TV:** *Bezos: The Beginning, A Taste of Love, Best Man Down, Stranger Things* (Netflix), *I Was There* (History Channel), *In an Instant* (ABC); Host of *Operation Build* (A&E), *Curb Appeal* (HGTV), and on *ShopHQ.* **Training:** Vassar College, National Theater Institute, Actors Theatre of Louisville Apprentice Company. **Upcoming:** Guthrie Theater: *Into the Woods.*



JEN BURLEIGH-BENTZ* (she/her)

Bill Chadwell, Kitty, Ensemble
History Theatre: *A Servants' Christmas, Christmas of Swing, Sisters of Swing* (tour), *Beyond the Rainbow, Working Boys' Band, Hormel Girls.* **Theater:** Broadway: *Mamma Mia!*, National Tour: *Buddy Holly Story.* Fitzgerald Theater:

Wild Party (Lippa). Ritz Theatre and Theatre L'Homme Dieu: *Disenchanted.* Old Log Theater: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels.* Duluth Playhouse (Norshor): *Mamma Mia!, Sweeney Todd, Into the Woods.* Ordway: *Buddy Holly Story, Into the Woods, Bingo!* Guthrie Theater: *Music Man, The Winter's Tale.* Minnetonka Theatre: *Annie Get Your Gun, Sound of Music, 9 to 5, Hello Dolly!* Vocalist, Star of the North Jazz Orchestra and runs "Jen BB 'n Friends Cabaret" at Metronome Brewing in St. Paul the last Sunday of every month. jenburleighbentz.com



SUZIE JUUL* (she/they)

Zee, Ensemble
History Theatre: *Glensheen, Debutante's Ball workshop, Kim Loo Sisters workshop.* **Theater:** Children's Theatre Company: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas.* Chanhassen Dinner Theatre: *The Music Man, Grease.* Ordway: *The Sound of*

Music, Pirates of Penzance, A Christmas Story. Old Log Theater: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder.* Walking Shadow Theatre Company: *Marie Antoinette, The Coward.* Open Eye Theatre: *Log Jam! A Paul Bunyan Musical.* Artistry: *Mary Poppins, Candide.* Theater Mu: *Man of God, A Little Night Music, Into the Woods.* **Training:** Augsburg University **Upcoming:** Guthrie Theater: *Into the Woods.* Suzie sends <3 to her mom and dad for their constant support!



JORDAN LEGGETT (he/him)

Perry Samuel, Ensemble
History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** Theater Latté Da: *Hello, Dolly!, Jelly's Last Jam.* Jungle Theater: *Ride the Cyclone.* Artistry: *Footloose.* Children's Theatre Company: *Matilda.* Uprising Theatre Company: *Line of Sight.*

DalekoArts: *Godspell.* **Training:** A.S. in Musical Theatre, Florida School of the Arts; B.M. in Vocal Performance, Southeastern Louisiana University.



ADAM QUALLS* (he/him)

Jesse James
History Theatre: *Glensheen, Runestone! A Rock Musical, Lord Gordon Gordon.* **Theater:** Children's Theatre Company: *The Grinch, Shrek the Musical, Alice in Wonderland.* Theater Latté Da: *Peter and the Starcatcher, Cabaret.* Park Square Theatre: *Great Expectations, Oliver Twist.* Ordway: *Annie.* **Awards:** 2016 Best Supporting Actor, *Lavender Magazine* (*The Normal Heart*, New Epic Theater). **Training:** BFA Acting, Millikin University. **Upcoming:** Children's Theatre Company: *The Grinch.* IG: @quallsj



JAMES RAMLET (he/him)

Bloody Bill Anderson, John Newman Edwards, Ensemble
History Theatre: *Lord Gordon Gordon, Sweet Land, the musical, Baby Case.* **Theater:** Off-Broadway: *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914.* American Repertory Theater: *Orphée.* Asolo

Repertory Theatre: *Sweeney Todd.* Guthrie Theater: *A Christmas Carol, The Music Man, 1776, The Home Place, Little House On The Prairie.* Theater Latté Da: *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914, Sweeney Todd, Ragtime, C., Oliver!* Children's Theatre Company: *Jackie and Me.* Old Log Theater: *Five Presidents.* Six Points Theater: *New Jerusalem.* Ordway: *Jesus Christ Superstar.* **Other:** *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914,* PBS. **Awards:** 2019 Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience, *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914.* **Training:** Indiana University. **Upcoming:** Next Festival, Theater Latté Da, *Life Sucks,* Girl Friday Productions/Open Eye Theater



RANDY SCHMELING* (he/him)

John Sheets, Heywood, Ensemble
History Theatre: *Glensheen, Dirty Business, The Great Society, Lord Gordon Gordon.* **Theater:** Theater Latté Da: *All is Calm, Violet, Gypsy.* Illusion Theater: *Only One Sophie, A Night in Olympus.* Open Window Theatre: *The World Over.* Ordway: *Jesus Christ Superstar, Damn Yankees, A Christmas Story, Annie, The Pirates of Penzance.* **Awards:** TC Theater Bloggers Favorite Musical Performance (*Jesus Christ Superstar*, Ordway). **Training:** BA Theater, Gustavus Adolphus College. **Upcoming:** *Glensheen.*



DANE STAUFFER* (he/him)

Frank James
History Theatre: *Glensheen, Happy Holi-Dane.* **Theater:** Ordway: *Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas, Breaking Barriers Cabaret.* Park Square Theatre: *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol.* National Tour Ireland: *Triple Espresso.* Asolo Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre, San Diego Rep, Bucks County Playhouse, Children's Theatre Company, Jungle Theater, Minnesota

BIOS continued, page 13



^ United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE is the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.
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Dance Theatre, Crown City Theatre LA "All in the Timing."
Other: Film: *Marmalade, Oh My Stars, I am not a serial Killer.*
TV: *Wicked Games, Fashion House, Civil War Homecoming.*
Awards: *Glensheen:* Ivey Award/ Overall Excellence, 2016; Best Actor in a Musical, BroadwayWorld.com, 2016; Best Performances of the Year, *Star Tribune*, 2015; *All in the Timing:* Best Actor in a comedy, L.A. Stage Scene, 2012.
Training: BFA New York University. **Upcoming:** *Glensheen* and *Crooners.* danestauffer.com



ANGELA TIMBERMAN* (she/her)
Mother Zerelda, Ensemble
History Theatre: *Radio Man, Hormel Girls.* **Theater:** As an actor: Guthrie Theater: *The Tempest, As You Like It, Guys and Dolls.* Children's Theatre Company: *The Magic Mrs. Piggie Wiggle.* Jungle Theater: *A Doll's House, Part 2, Annapurna, You Can't*

Take It With You. Park Square Theatre: *The Humans, Sons of the Prophet, Good People.* Artistry: *Noises Off, Little Women.* Ordway, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Illusion Theatre, and Playwrights' Center. As a director: Park Square Theatre: *Airness, Sometimes There's Wine.* Yellow Tree Theatre: *Cry It Out.* Jungle Theater (co-director): *Georgianna & Kitty; Christmas at Pemberley.* Artistry: *Shrek, Legally Blonde, The Music Man, Talley's Folly.* Gremlin Theatre: *Bakersfield Mist.* Jungle Theater, Lyric Arts: *Steel Magnolias.* **Awards:** Minnesota Fringe Festival Encore Performance (*A Pickle*). **Other:** Member, Actors' Equity Association, Artistic Cohort at Jungle Theater.

The Musicians

RAYMOND BERG• (he/him)

Music Director, Piano, Keyboard

History Theatre: *Sisters of Swing.* **Theater:** Ordway: *Beauty and the Beast, 42nd Street, West Side Story, Mamma Mia!, Love, Janis, A Chorus Line, Songbook Series, Damn Yankees, Grey Gardens.* Guthrie Theater: *A Christmas Carol, Stage Kiss.* Mixed Blood: *Interstate.* **Awards:** Ivey Award Best Musical Direction *Urinetown*, Jungle Theater 2013, *Love, Janis* Ordway 2007. **Other:** Teaching SPCPA, McNally Smith, Children's Theatre Company, Minnesota Opera.
Upcoming: Artistry: *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.*

MICK LABRIOLA•

Drums

History Theatre: *Dogs in the Hot Moon, Tubal and the Yankee.* **Theater:** Theatre 55: *Rent, Jesus Christ Super Star, Rocky Horror Picture Show, Hair, Urine Town, Pippin.* Zanya Theater: *Second Chance, Challenge to Change.* In the Heart of the Beast Puppet & Mask Theater; Mayday Ceremony Cue Director (1987-2019). **Other:** *Mighty Ducks 2,* Jamaican Dance Company Music Director 1985-89; Ethnic Dance Theater 1985-92, Ensemble Espanol Spanish Dance Theater, 1992-2012, Songs of Hope co music director 1990-2010, Oregon Renaissance Festival Music Director 2013/14, Judge Judy show 2019. Performed with Simon Shaheen, Sakhar Hattar, Deepak Bajracharya, Mitch Walking Elk, Floyd Westerman, Pansequito, Devon Evans, Rita Mustaphi, Rani Ramaswamy, Clyde Morgan, The Urban Bush Women, Samuel Torjman Thomas & recently Tziporah Johnson. Bands include the Maroons, Mojo Roots, Ancestor Energy, Beau Koo Jacks,

Voices of Sepharad, Karibuni, Maqam, Twin Cities Egyptian Ensemble & Positive Vibrations. **Awards:** New World Beat Award-The Maroons 1987, Artist of the Year 2004 Young Audiences of MN, Compas Jim Dusso Artist Award 2011.
Training: The American Conservatory of Music, University of Colorado, National Music Conservatory in Amman Jordan, Rhythm Riders Institute in Gujarat, India. **Upcoming:** Theatre 55 *A Chours Line, Zanya Theater Challenge to Change,* Rhythm Roots Workshop. micklabriola.com.

KAMERON MARKWORTH• (he/him)

Bass

History Theatre: Debut. **Other:** Bassist, composer, teaching artist, and bandleader. He can be found performing with a diverse array of musical artists throughout the Midwest on both upright and electric bass. While Kameron is happy to fit into almost any musical situation, he has found a strong passion for both interpreting standards from the Great American Songbook and collaborating with contemporary artists to craft compelling arrangements of original compositions. **Teaching:** Coaches small and large ensembles. Teaches Improvisation, Jazz History, and Popular Music History, and maintains a private lesson studio. **Training:** Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University (MM), Augsburg University (BM), and McNally Smith College of Music (AAS).

The Understudy



HOPE NORDQUIST (she/her)

History Theatre: Mainstage Debut, *The Boy Wonder (Raw Stages).* **Theater:** Duluth Playhouse: *Into The Woods, Footloose.* Park Square Theatre: *The Rocky Horror Show.* Theater Mu: *Charles Francis Chan Jr.'s Exotic Oriental Murder Mystery, The Untold Yet Spectacular Story of (A Filipino) Hulk*

Hogan, Twelfth Night, A Little Night Music. Ordway: several cabarets. **Other:** Cast member/host of Hot Pink at The Saloon. **Training:** Stella Adler Studio NYC.

The Creative Team

JEFFREY HATCHER (he/him)

Playwright

History Theatre: *Glensheen* (Ivey Award), *All the Way with LBJ, A Piece of the Rope, Tyrone and Ralph* (Ivey Award), *Lord Gordon Gordon* (with Chan Poling). **Theater:** Jeffrey's plays have been produced in hundreds of theaters in the U.S. and around the world, including Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theaters. **TV/Film:** Screenplays for *Stage Beauty, Casanova, The Duchess, Mr. Holmes, The Good Liar.* Television work includes episodes of *Colombo* and *The Mentalist.* **Grants/Awards:** NEA, TCG, Lila Wallace Fund, Rosenthal New Play Prize, Frankel Award, Charles MacArthur Fellowship Award, McKnight Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Barrymore Award Best New Play, Ivey Life Achievement Award. He is a member and/or alumnus of The Playwrights' Center, the Dramatists Guild, the WGA, and New Dramatists.

CHAN POLING (he/him)

Composer

History Theatre: *Glensheen, Lord Gordon Gordon.* **Theater:** Theatre de la Jeune Lune: *1779: The French Revolution, The*

BIOS continued, page 14



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Nightingale, Cyrano, Children of Paradise. Illusion Theater: *A Night in Olympus.* Guthrie Theater: *Heaven.* **Other:** founding member The Suburbs and The New Standards. **Author:** *Jack & the Ghost*, and the forthcoming book, *The Moons.* **Awards:** The Ivey for *Glensheen* (also voted "Best of the Decade" *Star Tribune*), The Sage Award for Music for *Heaven*, an Emmy and a Cine Golden Eagle for his documentary film scores. The Suburbs were voted as one of the "Greatest Minnesota Musical Entities of the 20th Century" by the *Star Tribune*, and the MN Music Awards bestowed Chan with their lifetime "POP" (Perpetually Outstanding Performer) Award. chanpolingmusic.com

ROBERT ELHAI • (he/him)

Arranger

History Theatre: *Dirty Business* (composer), *Lord Gordon Gordon, Sweet Land, the Musical, Glensheen.* **Theater:** Jungle Theater, Fortune's Fool Theater, Nautilus Music Theater, Theater Latté Da, *The Lion King* (Broadway production). **Other:** Orchestrator on 200 movies, + tv shows, concerts, even the Olympics! **Awards:** Ivor Novello, Grammy for *The Lion King*, also nominated for Drama Critics and Tony awards. **Training:** Carleton College BA, Yale School of Music DMA. **Upcoming:** Fortune's Fool Theater: *Cold Planet Warm Heart*, Theater Latte Da: *Johnny Schicchi.*

AUSTENE VAN (she/her)

Choreographer

History Theatre: *Lonely Soliders* (acting). **Theater:** Founder/Executive Artistic Director, New Dawn Theatre Company; Executive Artistic Director, Yellow Tree Theatre. **Directing:** Guthrie Theater: *A Raisin in the Sun.* New Dawn Theatre: *Crowns.* Yellow Tree Theatre: *In the Next Room, Passing Strange, Skeleton Crew, The Royale.* Ordway: *Annie, Blues in the Nigh.* Ten Thousand Things: *Intimate Apparel.* Park Square Theatre: *Rule of Thumb, Gee's Bend, Lady Day...* Penumbra Theatre: *Black Nativity.* **Acting:** Guthrie: *Steel Magnolias, Familiar, Disgraced, Trouble in Mind, Crowns, The Darker Face of the Earth.* McCarter Theatre Center/ Milwaukee Repertory Theatre: *Disgraced.* Penumbra Theatre: *Weathering, Wedding Band, The Owl Answers, Detroit '67, Spunk, The Amen Corner, Ain't Misbehavin', Dinah Was, Blues for an Alabama Sky, Seven Guitars.* Theater Latté Da: *Aida.* Indiana Repertory Theatre/Cleveland Play House: *Radio Golf.* Ten Thousand Things: *A Streetcar Named Desire, Henry IV, Into the Woods.* Jungle Theater: *In the Next Room.* Park Square Theatre: *To Kill a Mockingbird.* Children's Theatre Company: *Shrek, Once on This Island.* Ordway: *Singin' in the Rain.* Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: *Hair.* **Awards:** McKnight Theater Artist Fellowship, Ivey Award.

JOEL SASS (he/him)

Scenic Designer

History Theatre: *Dirty Business, Gloria, The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin, Runestone! A Rock Musical; Courting Harry* (directing and designing). **Theater:** Guthrie Theater, Theater Latté Da, Park Square Theatre, Jungle Theater, Artistry, Open Eye Theatre, California Shakespeare Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival and others.

KARIN OLSON (she/her)

Lighting Designer

History Theatre: *Runestone! A Rock Musical, River Road Boogie, Debutante's Ball.* **Theater:** Minnesota Opera:



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SONYA BERLOVITZ (she/her)

Costume Designer

History Theatre: *Nellie, Lord Gordon Gordon, Sisters of Peace and Runestone! A Rock Musical.* **Theater:** Over 60 productions at Theatre de la Jeune Lune. Since 2008 Sonya has worked with The Moving Company at South Coast Repertory, Playmakers Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, and the Lab Theatre (Mpls). Elsewhere have included Children's Theatre Company, Guthrie Theater, American Repertory Theatre, Skylight Music Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Jungle Theatre, Theatre Latté Da, and Park Square Theatre. **Awards:** The Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (*The Green Bird* 2000, *Tartuffe* 2015) and a McKnight Theatre Artists Fellowship (1998, 2016).

BIOS continued, page 19



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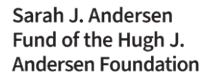
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C ANDREW MAYER (he/him)

Sound Designer

History Theatre: Over 80 shows including *Not for Sale*, *Not in our Neighborhood!*, *Gloria: A Life*, *Dirty Business*, *Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story*, *All the Way*, *Watermelon Hill*, *Glensheen*, *Hiding in the Open*, *Tyrone and Ralph*, *A Piece of the Rope*, *Hmong!* *The CIA Secret Army*. **Theater:** Jungle Theatre, Pillsbury House, Theatre Latte Da, Theater Mu, Illusion, Six Points, Lyric Opera Kansas City, Opera Colorado, Everyman (Baltimore), ACT (San Francisco), many others. **Awards:** McKnight Theatre Artist Fellow, Audelco Award for Carlyle Brown's *Pure Confidence*. **Other:** Producing Director, Acadia Repertory Theatre, Mount Desert Island, Maine.

KIRBY MOORE (he/him)

Properties Designer

History Theatre: *Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story*, *Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story*, *Coco's Diary*, *Courting Harry*, *Lombardi* and *Christmas of Swing*. Kirby's professional career spans 40 years of stage, film, and commercial production in Minneapolis, Chicago, and Los Angeles. He's grateful to Circa 21' Dinner Playhouse, in Rock Island Ill., and to Children's Theatre Company for their design internship programs which gave him his start in the professional arts.

JAYA ROBILLARD (she/her)

Assistant Stage Manager

History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** Park Square Theatre: *The Snowy Day*, *Airness*, *Pride & Prejudice*. Minnesota Opera: *Daughter of the Regiment*. Artistry: *Songs for a New World*. Sandbox Theatre: *Light My Way*, *Words Do Move*, *Queens*. Theater Mu: *Peerless*.

ELIZABETH M. DESOTELLE* (she/her)

Intimacy Coach

History Theatre: *Diesel Heart* (Intimacy Coach), *Not for Sale* (understudy), *Glensheen*, *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Assistant Stage Manager). **Training:** Consent Forward Artist certification from Intimacy Directors and Coordinators in New York City. Her credits include over 100 hours of combined studies in workshops and classes at Intimacy Directors and Coordinators in NYC, and Theatrical Intimacy Education in North Carolina. bethdesotelle.com

LESLIE RITENOUR (she/her)

Video Designer

History Theatre: Media Designer: *The Defeat of Jesse James*; Associate Designer: *The Root Beer Lady*, *Diesel Heart*. **Theater:** Media Designer: UMN-TAD *She Kills Monsters*, *Silent Sky*. Training: University of MN - B.A. Theatre Arts, B.S. Psychology. IG: Babybeanlettuce_art BabyBeanLettuceArtLLC.com



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