

OCT 31 —
NOV 17

RIFFE CENTER
STUDIO TWO

WIFE OF A SALES MAN

BY
ELEANOR BURGESS

DIRECTED BY
LEDA HOFFMANN



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Theatre of Ohio

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We seek to inspire a community of empathy and have a responsibility to recognize the ways in which we benefit from colonization, both historical and ongoing. A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and celebrates the resilience and strength that all Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

We acknowledge that in Central Ohio, we are on the traditional homelands of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe, and Cherokee Indigenous nations who have strong ties to these lands. Today, individuals from a broad range of Indigenous backgrounds call Columbus and central Ohio home.

We recognize generations who contributed their traditions, hopes, and spirit to make the history that led to this moment. While some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted, others arrived here hoping for a better life, while others were forcibly taken and brought here against their will. Acknowledging the truth of these realities is critical to building mutual respect and connection.

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Some of my favorite moments in the theatre are with new work. As the third theatre company to get to produce Eleanor Burgess's play *Wife of a Salesman*, I am honored to be bringing this new play to Columbus.

This is a play for the women who came before us, the women of the present, and the women who will come after us. Embracing the complexities of the evolving ideas of what it means to be a woman, *Wife of a Salesman* asks us to think about the expectations placed on us both historically and in the present. What are the ideas we put on ourselves and others about work? About marriage? About motherhood? How do the choices we make change how we are perceived? What choices do we have to make?

I spent a lot of time with Arthur Miller's work – especially *Death of a Salesman* – as a young woman. Arthur Miller's writing shaped the American Theatre. They gave my younger self the opportunity to witness some incredible performances – but always with a man as the protagonist and women in his orbit. How exciting to be reexamining his characters from a new perspective. Who are the women in *Death of a Salesman* really? What would they say to each other if they had a chance?

The conversations in *Wife of a Salesman* are refreshingly honest, surprising, and complex. They make me think of my grandmothers, my mom, my aunts, my cousins, my teachers, my friends – so many women who have their stories to tell and who have made it possible for me to tell mine.

I hope you connect with the characters in this story like I have. May we continue to tell the stories left behind so they are not forgotten.



Leda Hoffmann

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Leda Hoffmann
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Christy Farnbauch
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WIFE OF A SALES MAN

By Eleanor Burgess
Directed by Leda Hoffmann

Laura Carlson Tarantowski
SET DESIGNER

Angelina Herin
COSTUME DESIGNER

Marly Wooster
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Dave Wallingford
SOUND DESIGNER

Lonelle Yoder
PROPS DESIGNER

Jessica Morgan
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Christine Brunner
DIALECT COACH

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JINGLES COMPOSER

Kaitlyn Pfeifer*
STAGE MANAGER

Ellie Price
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

Tony Koehler
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Mark Coldiron
MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Set Built by CCT Scenic

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CAST

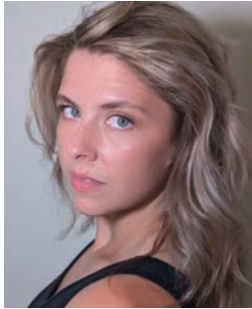
**WIFE /
HEATHER**



**TERI CLARK
LINDEN***

she/her

**MISTRESS /
VIOLET**



**MEGAN
LEAR**

she/her

JIM



**ALAN
TYSON**

he/him

VOICEOVER ACTORS

**Alexa Baker, Chad Baker, Jordan Fehr,
Justin King, Shanelle Marie**

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CAST BIOS

MEGAN LEAR [SHE/HER] (**MISTRESS/VIOLET**) is beyond thrilled to be making her debut at The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio. She has worked on stage and off at Actors' Theatre of Columbus, Columbus Children's Theatre, Shadowbox Live and more. Some of her favorite onstage roles include Dogberry & Hero (*Much Ado About Nothing*, Actors' Theatre of Columbus), Horatio & Ophelia (*Hamlet*, Exit Left Productions) and Renfield (*Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*, ATC). Unending love to Lily, Mom, and her loving partner. Really, really.

TERI CLARK LINDEN* [SHE/HER] (**WIFE/HEATHER**) The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio Debut! Selected regional: *Reindeer Sessions* (world premier) *A Christmas Story* Human Race, *What Springs Forth*, *Leaving Iowa* & Mitch Albom's *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel* (all world premieres) Purple Rose Theatre, *Kong's Night Out* (with Laverne & Shirley's Cindy Williams) Meadowbrook, *One Flea Spare* ATL Humana Festival & many Chicago stages including Court, Piven & Bailiwick. Favorite Shakespeare roles: Rosalind, Helena & Margaret. Selected TV/Film: AMERICAN RUST (Amazon Prime) BAD GUARDIAN (Lifetime) ARCHIVE 81 (Netflix) DARK WATERS, UNSINKABLE, I SEE YOU, AFTERMATH, SUPER 8 & JACK REACHER. Narrated audiobook titles available on Audible. Training: RU, Chicago & Stella Adler, NY. Proud member AEA. Instagram @tericlarklindenitsme Dave/Sam you are my light!

ALAN TYSON [HE/HIM] (**JIM**) is thrilled to return to The Contemporary. He wants to thank his loving God, because without Him none of this would be possible, his amazing friends, and his loving and supportive family. His most recent acting credits include Reggie in *Skeleton Crew* by Dominique Morisseau, Charity Man in *A Christmas Carol* adapted by Thom Christopher Warren (CAPA & Short North Stage), Walter Lee Younger in *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry (Actors Theatre of Columbus), and Eddie in *...but you could've held my hand* by Jucoby Johnson (The Contemporary). Also, he starred in the delightful horror comedy film, *Obstacle Corpse*, as the loveable Ezra which is out now on Amazon Prime & Tubi. He is so grateful to The Contemporary for being his second home and this beautiful cast for allowing him to help create! Remember to live your life, love yourself and others, and laugh like no one is watching - one day at a time! All Socials: @AlanELTyson / www.Alan-Tyson.com

PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

LEDA HOFFMANN [SHE/HER] (Director and Artistic Director) is in her fifth season as The Contemporary's Artistic Director. The Contemporary directing credits include *Big Fish*, *Ride the Cyclone*, *POTUS*, *9 to 5 The Musical*, *Indecent*, *Head Over Heels*, *Mr Burns: a post-electric play*, *An Iliad*, the reading of *George and the Hidden Dragon*, and the virtual production of *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. Previously, Leda was Artistic Director at Strawdog Theatre Company in Chicago. Before that, Leda served on Milwaukee Rep's artistic staff for seven years, working in the Education and Literary departments and founding Milwaukee Rep's Community Engagement Department. Leda's work as a director has been seen across the country at Milwaukee Rep, Provincetown Theater, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Door Shakespeare, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Jedlicka Performing Arts Center, Northbrook Theatre, The Alchemist Theatre, Max and Louie Productions, Riverside Theater Iowa City, Case Western, Ohio State, and University of Miami. Leda is a proud graduate of Grinnell College, a former Milwaukee Rep directing resident, Hartford Stage apprentice, SDCF Observer and a member of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. www.ledahoffmann.com *For my grandmas.*

LAURA CARLSON-TARANTOWSKI [SHE/HER] (Set Designer) is the resident Scenic Designer and Lecturer at Oberlin College. Recent work at Oberlin includes *L'Orfeo*, *Ancestra*, *Pipeline*, *Or*, and *The Moors*. Recent designs in the Cleveland area include *Breakfast at the Bookstore* for Karamu House, *POTUS*, *Little Women* and *Make Believe* for Dobama Theatre, *Erma Bombeck: at Wits End* for The Cleveland Playhouse, *Rent* at Cain Park and *Everybody* for the Case Western Reserve - Cleveland Playhouse MFA Acting Program. She holds an MFA in Scene Design from the University of Wisconsin- Madison.

ANGELINA M. HERIN [SHE/HER] (Costume Designer) is a Cleveland, Ohio based costume, wig, and makeup designer with roots in the Pacific Northwest. She is pleased to have her work presented at many venues, including Cleveland Play House, the Seattle Opera, Cleveland Public Theatre, Northern Sky Theatre, Montana Repertory Theatre, Texas Shakespeare Festival, The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, and Theater at Monmouth. In addition, Angelina has worked with several television/ production companies as a makeup artist and stylist for national and regional programming. Since 2011, she has been the Resident Costume Designer and an Associate Professor of Theater at Case Western Reserve University. As an educator, Angelina has received numerous nominations for her teaching and mentorship. www.angelinaherin.com

PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS (CONT'D)

MARLY WOOSTER [SHE/HER] (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to return to The Contemporary where she previously designed *POTUS*, *Head Over Heels*, and *Mr Burns: a post-electric play*. She received a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Lighting Design from Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre from Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa. Marly has designed lighting for productions across the Midwest. Some highlights include *Late Night Catechism* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* for Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, *Camp Siegfried* at the Know Theatre, *Stellaluna* and *The Lightning Thief* at Children's Theatre of Madison, *Hamlet* and *Q Gents* at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and *Into the Woods* and *Drowsy Chaperone* for the Clinton Area Showboat. Marly is an associate professor at Miami University.

DAVE WALLINGFORD [HE/HIM] (Sound Designer) is a freelance sound designer, audio engineer, and founding company member of Available Light Theatre. When not in a theatre, he can be found either running sound in a TV production truck at a professional sports arena for the likes of Fox Sports, CBS, NBC, Bally Sports, Red Bull, ESPN, and Apple TV; or in a race car. Some shows he has designed at The Contemporary include *Big Fish*, *Ride the Cyclone*, *9 to 5*, *Head Over Heels*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Avenue Q*, *Story of My Life*, *Evil Dead: The Musical*, and *The Last Smoker in America*.

LONELLE YODER [SHE/HER] (Properties Designer) has been loitering about the Columbus theatre scene, in various capacities, for many years - first at the Phoenix Theatre for Children and BlueForms Theatre Group, and, more recently, at Available Light Theatre Company, The Contemporary, Opera Columbus, and Columbus Children's Theatre. When she's not having fun building props, Lonelle gardens, dabbles in wildlife rehab, and makes jam out of foraged wild fruits.

JESSICA MORGAN [SHE/HER] (Violence Director) is thrilled to be in her fourth season with The Contemporary having previously worked on *Indecent*, *Head Over Heels*, *9 to 5: The Musical*, *POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive*, and *Ride the Cyclone*, and most recently, *Big Fish*. She is a central Ohio native and has a BA in Theatre from Kent State and an MFA in Acting from Ohio State. Jessica is now based in Morgantown, West Virginia where she is the Head of Graduate Acting and Associate Professor of Stage Movement for the BFA/MFA Acting programs at West Virginia University. Additional professional work includes The Contemporary American Theatre Festival (CATF), Cumberland Theatre Company, and she is the Resident Intimacy Director for Vintage Theatre Company. In addition to her production work, she teaches workshops on consent and intimacy practices for theatre training programs and companies. Jessica has trained with the Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD), is a Certified Intimacy Director with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators (IDC), and is a member of Actors' Equity Association (AEA).

PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS (CONT'D)

CHRISTINE BRUNNER [SHE/HER] (**Dialect Coach**) SAG/AFTRA, AEA, hails from Dayton, OH, where she is a Resident Artist at the Human Race Theatre Company, and the founder of Limelight Studio, where she teaches voiceover artistry, auditioning for college, acting the song, is a private acting coach to students ages 11-71, and works with actors on stage and screen all over the USA virtually. Dialect Coach: *Clue: On Stage, The Play that Goes Wrong, Disney's Newsies, Spitfire Grill, 26 Pebbles, Beauty and the Beast, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, and Peter and the Starcatcher*, among others, and she has appeared on many regional stages where she is known for her dialects. She will be starring as Noel Claus this holiday season in the World Premiere of *A Frosty Night*, at the Human Race Theatre Company. Congratulations to the cast, crew, and design team at The Contemporary!

JONATHAN FULLER [HE/HIM] (**Jingles Composer**) is a pianist, music director and singer-songwriter based out of Cleveland. He musically directed the 2007 regional premiere of Damon IntraBartolo's *bare*, and more recently musically directed table readings for Disney Theatrical. Jonathan's original music was heard in the promotional materials for the Broadway production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and in 2020, his song "Gathering Tide" won "Best Modern Rock Song" at the Just Plain Folks awards. His most recent LP, *When Did You Get So Damn Scared*, was released in November 2023, and was showcased live at SXSW and Rockwood Music Hall in NYC.

KAITLYN PFEIFER* [SHE/HER] (**Stage Manager**) is happy to be returning to The Contemporary, where her previous productions include *The Worries of Wesley, The Wolves, 9 to 5 the Musical, Prima Donna, Head Over Heels, Luchadora*, and *Hershel*. Other credits include *Cry it Out* at Available Light Theater; *Carmen* at Opera Columbus; and *The Last Match* and *Charlotte's Web* at B Street Theater in Sacramento, CA.

ELLIE PRICE [THEY/THEM] (**Assistant Stage Manager**) is so excited to work with The Contemporary again. They are currently a Senior studying Theatre at the Ohio State University. Ellie would like to thank their siblings, parents, and friends for always supporting them.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION BIOS

TONY KOEHLER [HE/HIM] (**Production Manager**) is a director and designer, who recently directed *The Day the Music Came Back* here at The Contemporary. Formerly in Washington D.C. Tony served in several roles including production manager at GALA Hispanic Theatre, resident props designer at The Folger Shakespeare Theatre and teaching artist at The Theatre Lab School of Dramatic Arts. Tony has designed props for Otterbein University, Opera Columbus, Constellation Theatre Company and Rainbow Theater Project in Washington, D.C., and Piven Theatre Workshop, Redmoon Theatre, and Northwestern University in Chicago. A graduate of the University of Kentucky with a BA in theatre, he has received numerous awards including a 2019 Helen Hayes Award for Best Musical and Broadway World's 2019 regional award for Best Musical for *FAME: The Musical*, and a 2017 Helen Hayes Award for the Spanish language premiere of *In the Heights*.

MARK GOLDIRON [HE/HIM] (**Master Electrician**) Most recently from Dayton OH, Mark is excited to bring decades of professional technical experience with him to the Lead Electrician position with The Contemporary Theater of Columbus. Having worked for many years as an IATSE #66 stagehand as well as a shop manager for a theatrical lighting and event management company, Mark has had the opportunity to work with a diversity of arts groups including the Kenley Players, The Human Race Theater Company, STOMP, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and numerous other professional and community organizations. When not making the world a better place to look at, Mark loves to travel with his partner, Jeni.

THE CONTEMPORARY STAFF BIOS

CHRISTY FARNBAUCH [SHE/HER] (**Executive Director**) became The Contemporary's executive director in April 2020. She is a highly respected leader in central Ohio's arts and cultural sector, as well as nationwide. Her professional journey has included managing funding and programs for the Ohio Arts Council, building community partnerships for Hilliard City Schools, managing a first-of-its-kind national study of jazz audiences, and serving as executive director of an association for women business owners. She founded her consulting business in 2006 to support nonprofits and small businesses through strategic planning, board development, and fundraising. Her entrepreneurial and innovative mindset has led to the creative transformation of organizations while strengthening their governance structures. Christy holds degrees from Otterbein University in music performance and business administration.

STEVE HILLER [HE/HIM] (**Education Director**) became The Contemporary's education director in April 2023. He has over 15 years experience working in non-profit with a focus on youth and family programming and development, training and leadership and fostering community partnerships. Steve has chaired and served on different advisory boards and currently serves as a board member for a Columbus non-profit organization. He also has over 10 years of experience working in secondary and post-secondary education. Steve was born in Seoul, Korea and has lived most of his life in Ohio. He has a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State and is a buckeye for life. In his free time, Steve enjoys playing piano and acoustic guitar, various outdoor activities, trying new foods and spending time with family and friends.

ALEXA BAKER [SHE/HER] (**Marketing Manager**) is a Columbus-based multi-hyphenate artist. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Gettysburg College and a Masters in Classical Vocal Performance from the Manhattan School of Music. She is currently on faculty at Ohio Dominican University, teaching theatre and acting, and is an active teaching artist. As a performer, she has been seen on stage throughout Columbus with companies such as The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, Available Light Theatre, CCT, and Actors' Theatre of Columbus. Prior to moving to Columbus, Alexa was the Associate Director of Youth Programs at Steps on Broadway dance studio in New York, NY. In addition to her arts background, she was the Events Coordinator for two-Michelin Starred restaurant Aquavit and managed social media for brands that include Zaftig Brewing Company and The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

THE CONTEMPORARY STAFF BIOS *(CON'TD)*

JOY HEINO [SHE/HER] (**Education Coordinator**) is a highly skilled artist educator, with more than five years' experience facilitating after-school learning, pre-school, and early age childcare programs. Additionally, she works in various elementary and middle schools in central Ohio as the director of their school musicals. Joy has worked in the Columbus theatre scene with companies such as CCT, The Actor's Theatre of Columbus, and Short North Stage. She is a member of the Actor's Equity Association as a Stage Manager and Assistant Stage Manager. Prior to joining The Contemporary as Education Coordinator, Joy has worked as a sound designer on recent productions. Joy also serves as the Founder and Producing Director of Free Range Productions, whose mission is to educate and introduce young people living in rural communities to the arts. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wittenberg University in Theatre, Technical Theatre, and Music.

LESLIE WRIGHT [SHE/HER] (**House Manager**) joins The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio team with previous experience in customer service and hospitality. She is the Owner and Creative Director for Whimsical Designs, a bakery and custom event decor shop in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Leslie holds a Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design from Southern New Hampshire University and a Culinary Arts Degree specializing in pastry arts. She is a Columbus native, currently residing in Reynoldsburg with her husband, seven children, and two fur babies. Being an active member of various organizations helped shape and develop her passion for working with others.



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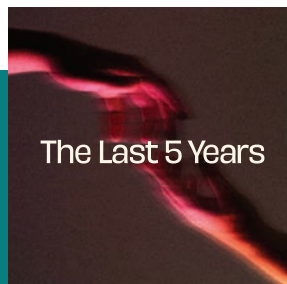
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