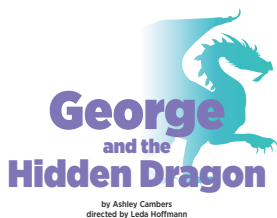


New Works Festival

CATCO

JAN 30-FEB 13, 2021



SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1 PM



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 7 PM



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 7 PM

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NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

CATCO JAN 30-FEB 13, 2021



George and the Hidden Dragon
by Ashley Cambers
directed by Leda Hoffmann

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1 PM



Prima Donna
by Chris Leyva
directed by Laura Gordon

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 7 PM



20K Leagues Under the Sea
adapted for our time
from the novel by Jules Verne
by Alexandria Rayford West, Carlos Washington, and Matt Foss
directed by Kenneth Brown

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 7 PM

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The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

CAST

George and the Hidden Dragon

GeorgeOwen White
Ginny Simone Dean
Colin Kaylee Yaw
Mom Kerri Garrett
Alice/Mysterious Woman Jackie Seijo
Drakon Benetta Hartman

Prima Donna

Irene Adler Carolyn Demanelis
Pamela Proctor Cassandra Bissell*
Wilhelm von Ormstein Andrew Carlyle
Godfrey Norton Thomas Russell
Sherlock Holmes Christopher Vizurraga
John Watson Josh Krause

20K Leagues Under the Sea

Aronnax Jasmine Jackson
Captain Nemo Ernaisja Curry*
Ned Land Vero Maynez
Worldbuilder Christopher Austin
Worldbuilder Nadja Simmonds

PRODUCTION STAFF

George and the Hidden Dragon

Director Leda Hoffmann
Playwright Ashley Cambers
Stage Manager Becky Barger-Amato
Assistant Director/Stage Directions Julia Kelley

Prima Donna

Director Laura Gordon**
Playwright Chris Leyva
Dramaturg Anne G. Morgan
Stage Manager Rachel Heine*
Stage Directions Reader Julia Kelley

20K Leagues Under the Sea

Director Kenneth Brown
Playwright Alexandria Rayford West
Playwright Carlos Washington
Playwright Matt Foss
Stage Manager Rachel Heine*

Interim Production Manager Caroline Dittamo
Casting Coordinator Rowan Winterwood

*Member of Actors' Equity Association



Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers nationwide. Equity seeks to foster 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.

**Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society



The Director is a Member of the
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SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

DC is the theatrical union that unites, empowers, and protects professional Stage Directors and Choreographers throughout the United States. Its mission is to foster a national community of professional stage directors and choreographers by protecting the rights, health, and livelihoods of all its members; negotiating and enforcing employment agreements across a range of jurisdictions; facilitating the exchange of ideas, information, and opportunities; and educating current and future generations about the critical role of directors and choreographers in leading the field.

PLAYWRIGHT BIOS

ASHLEY CAMBERS (*George and the Hidden Dragon*) is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she focused on performance and cultural studies, and New York University, where she recently completed her MA in educational theatre in colleges and communities. As a multi-passionate creative, Ashley believes in the importance of the arts and enjoys working with children in theatre. Over the last few years, she has directed *Madagascar Jr.* for the Perrysburg Youth Summer Theatre as well as *The Most Epic Birthday Party Ever* and *The Grunch* for Perrysburg Musical Theatre. Her plays can be found on New Play Exchange. Ashley is a member of SAG-AFTRA and the Dramatists Guild.

CHRIS LEYVA (*Prima Donna*) is grateful to be part of the CATCO New Works Festival. Chris' previous plays have been commissioned and developed by CATCO, CLIMB Theatre, MadLab Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Curtain Players New Play Initiative, Great Plains Theatre Conference, and the Columbus School for Girls, among others. His plays *The Throne of Oz* and *Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras* both premiered at CATCO is Kids. Chris has been an artist educator for CATCO and is a playwright mentor for MadLab Theatre's Young Writers Short Play Festival. He received an MFA from the Playwrights Workshop at The University of Iowa, a BA in directing from Coe College, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

ALEXANDRIA RAYFORD-WEST (*20K Leagues Under the Sea*) is a senior performance theatre major at the University of Toledo. Since being

at UToledo, Alexandria has had the pleasure of portraying Muller in *All Quiet on the Western Front*, Ona in *The Jungle*, Matt in *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, Rose in the student written play, *The Binding*, and in UToledo's first year getting to present at the Tennessee Williams Festival in Clarksdale, Alexandria performed in a piece titled "Poems For Rose." In the 2020 UToledo adaption of *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, that Alexandria co-wrote, co-directed, and choreographed, she also portrayed Captain Nemo. The piece speaks to her value of theatre being a mirror to the world, and her job as an actor being to portray the world in all its states of being. She is excited to get more acting experiences under her belt and hopes to further her education so she can teach theatre at a college level.

CARLOS WASHINGTON (*20K Leagues Under the Sea*) is in his fourth and final year as a theatre major at the University of Toledo. He has performed in the award-winning *All Quiet on the Western Front*, as well as Annie Baker's *The Flick* as Avery Sharp. Recently he was a part of the writing and directing team on *20K Leagues Under the Sea* and performed as Professor Arronax and puppeteer for Ned Land. Carlos also will be studying at the Moscow Art Theatre through UToledo's Study Abroad program in the near future.

MATT FOSS (*20K Leagues Under the Sea*) is an associate professor of theatre at the University of Toledo. He received his MFA in acting from Chicago's Roosevelt University and

PhD in theatre studies and directing from Wayne State University in Detroit. Recent professional credits include Red Tape Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Oracle Theatre, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, American Blues Theatre, The Jewish Ensemble Theatre, and Tipping Point Theatre. In 2016, his touring production of *The Glass Menagerie* performed at Russia's Moscow Art Theatre. He adapted and directed Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* for Oracle Productions in Chicago in 2014. The production received Chicago Jeff Award Nominations for Outstanding Production, Director, Ensemble, and won for Best New Adaptation. In 2012, his production of *Six Characters* at Iowa State University received the

Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival's National Award for Outstanding Production of a Play and Outstanding Director of a Play. In 2019, his adaptation of *All Quiet on the Western Front* received the Kennedy Center's David Mark Cohen Playwriting Award. The play had its professional premiere in Chicago in 2019, winning 6 Jeff Awards including Best Production, Best Ensemble, and Best New Work. Foss was the recipient of the ATHE/KCACTF Prize for Innovative Teaching in 2013 and the 2020 University of Toledo Edith Rathburn Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award.

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PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

LEDA HOFFMANN (Director—*George and the Hidden Dragon*, Artistic Director) is excited to be working on this new work for young audiences. Before coming to CATCO, Leda was the artistic director of Chicago-based Strawdog Theatre Company and, before that, was a member of Milwaukee Rep's artistic staff for seven years, working in the education and literary departments and founding Milwaukee Rep's community engagement department. Her work as a director has been seen nationwide at Milwaukee Rep, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Texas Shakespeare Festival, University of Miami, Door Shakespeare, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Jedlicka Performing Arts Center, Northbrook Theatre, The Alchemist Theatre, Max and Louie Productions, and Riverside Theater Iowa City. She has also been a teaching artist for more than 10 years, directing youth and teaching with Hartford Stage, Milwaukee Rep, Mudlark Theater, Northbrook Park District, and Skyline Studios. www.ledahoffmann.com

LAURA GORDON (Director—*Prima Donna*)** is a Milwaukee-based actor and director, and she is very pleased to be working with CATCO for the first time. A longtime member of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's resident acting company, her credits there include Margie in *Good People*, Linda Loman in *Death of a Salesman*, Mrs. Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*, Sister Aloysius in *Doubt*, Stevie in *The Goat*, Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, Elizabeth in *Richard III*, Hannah Jarvis in *Arcadia*,

and Queen Elizabeth in *Mary Stuart*. Directing credits include productions at American Players Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Renaissance Theaterworks, Forward Theater and Actors' Theatre of Louisville. A member of SDC and Actors' Equity Association, she received her MFA in acting from the University of Iowa and is a Lunt-Fontanne Fellow.

KENNETH BROWN (Director—*20K Leagues Under the Sea*) is a Columbus-based renaissance artist with acting, singing, dancing, writing, choreography, and directing credits. He has recently had the opportunity to be involved locally in many aspects of performance art including as an actor, singer, dancer, assistant choreographer for Renaissance Magic; actor, singer, dancer and choreographer in several productions with Thioissance West African Dance Institute; a dancer for Onyx Productions' *The Colored Section*; and a Theatre Roundtable "Excellence In Choreography" award-winning turn as choreographer for State of The Arts Productions' *The Color Purple*. While he has always had a passion for art that speaks to the injustices in our political, ethnic, and socioeconomic climate, during the current pandemic and time of civil unrest he has become dedicated to anti-racist artistic endeavors including a collaboration with New Vision Dance Company, "Forward," his own filmed spoken word piece "Round 1," and short plays with both CATCO and Theater For All People for the HeART of Protest.

ANNE G. MORGAN (Dramaturg—*Prima Donna*) is a dramaturg, literary manager, and new play advocate based in Staunton, VA. She received the 2019 Elliott Hayes Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dramaturgy for her work on Shakespeare's New Contemporaries, the American Shakespeare Center's groundbreaking initiative to discover, develop, and produce new plays inspired by and in conversation with Shakespeare's work. At ASC, Anne dramaturged the world premieres of *16 Winters or the Bear's Tale* by Mary Elizabeth Hamilton, *Anne Page Hates Fun* by Amy E. Witting, and *Emma* by Emma Whipday; dramaturged workshops of *The Defamation* of Cicely Lee by Emma Whipday and *Keene* by Anchuli Felicia King; and regularly provided dramaturgical support for other ASC productions. Anne collaborates regularly with the Playwright's Lab at Hollins University, Great Plains Theatre Conference, the Playwrights Realm, and more, and also works with playwrights on an individual basis. She serves on the executive board of the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas and is an ambassador for the National New Play Network.

BECKY BARGER-AMATO (Stage Manager—*George and the Hidden Dragon*) is a graduate from Capital University with her BA in theatre studies. Previous theatre experience includes working with Gallery Players, CCT, Evolution, NPAC, PCT, LCP, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and Weathervane Playhouse (where it all started, Thank You Matthew!). This is her fourth production with CATCO. Becky enjoys playing her clarinet and

euphonium and any other instrument she can get her hands on. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support! RIP Mommy, this year is for you!

RACHEL HEINE* (Stage Manager—*Prima Donna/20K*) is excited to return to CATCO after stage managing *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. National Tours: *Rock of Ages 10th Anniversary Tour*, *The Illusionists*, *42nd Street*, *Once*. Off-Broadway: *The Body of an American*, *Daddy Long Legs*. Other NYC Credit: The Flea Theatre, NYC Fringe Festival. Regional: Alley Theatre, Columbus Children's Theatre. Education: Otterbein University.

JULIA KELLEY (Assistant Director—*GatHD*, Stage Directions—*GatHD/Prima Donna*) is the New Works Festival intern from Hilliard, OH. This is Julia's first time working with CATCO, and she couldn't be more thrilled! She is currently a junior at Otterbein University getting her BFA in design/technology for theatre and a minor in arts administration. Some of her Otterbein credits include *The Theory of Relativity* (Assistant Stage Manager) and *The How and The Why* (Stage Manager). Julia would like to thank Leda and Christy for the amazing opportunities with CATCO, and everyone she's met on this project!

CAROLINE DITTAMO (Interim Production Manager) has worked in opera, theater, and music as a stage manager, master electrician, and lighting designer, both in Ohio and Kansas. Her favorite recent shows include CATCO/Evolution's *Breaking the Code*, CATCO is Kids' *Babe*, *The Sheep Pig*, and Evolution's *The Turkey*

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ROWAN WINTERWOOD (Casting Coordinator) is a designer, technician, stage manager, and occasional actor and director. She holds a dual degree in cognitive and linguistic sciences and theatre studies from Wellesley College, where she was a member of the Wellesley College Shakespeare Society.

She is an ensemble member of Actors' Theatre of Columbus, where recent credits include *Romeo & Juliet* (stage manager), *Mystery-Bouffe* (director, staged reading), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (sound board operator). Recent CATCO credits include sound design for *Babe* and *The Christmas Schooner*, and lighting design for *Sunshine*.

CAST BIOS

OWEN WHITE (George—George and the Hidden Dragon) is excited to be playing the role of George in his first role at CATCO! He has appeared in several productions including *Matilda the Musical* (Bruce) and *A Christmas Story: The Musical* (Ralphie) at the Weathervane Playhouse, near his home in Granville, OH. Most recently, he appeared in *Quarantine with the Clauses* with Short North Stage. In addition to hobbies related to musical theatre (such as tap dancing), Owen enjoys chess, robotics, card tricks, golf, and playing the violin. He is grateful to his friends, family, and dogs for their support!

SIMONE DEAN (Ginny—George and the Hidden Dragon) is thrilled to have the privilege of playing Ginny. She has performed in CATCO is Kids' productions of *The Water Gun Song* (Sam), *Annie JR.*, (Tessie), *Alice in Wonderland JR.*, (March Hare), and *Madagascar JR.*, (Zookeeper Zelda). Simone has always called Columbus home and attends Columbus School for Girls, loves dancing at BalletMet, and singing with the Columbus Children's Choir. She also enjoys creative writing,

drawing, playing the piano and French horn, and spending time with her Havapoo dog, Anya. She has plans to have a Grand Dane as her next dog.

KAYLEE YAW (Colin—George and the Hidden Dragon) is an eager, enthusiastic teen actress, multi-instrumentalist, dancer, and YouTuber, originating from Columbus, OH. She can't live a day without expressing herself creatively! She also wants to go vegetarian, loves to travel and try new food, and volunteers in her community! She has been cast in live theater productions across theaters in Ohio, including the Cleveland Public Theater, The Abbey Theater of Dublin, and Trinity Theater Company, among others. She has been trained on-camera and onstage and has individually studied acting techniques from Stanislavski, Strasburg, Meisner, and currently Hagen.

KERRI GARRETT (Mom—George and the Hidden Dragon) is an interdisciplinary artist from Columbus, OH, based out of Atlanta, GA. A Clark Atlanta University alumna, she intertwines the art forms of dance,



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acting, and film to create compelling narratives about the black experience. Some of Kerri's theatrical credits include: *360 Degrees of Blackness* (directed by Melissa Alexander), *Salt City: An Afro-futuristic Choreopoem* (directed by Aku Kadogo), and *Hands Up* (directed by Keith Arthur Bolden). A trained dancer, Kerri has studied at Theatre Street Dance Academy, Spelman Dance Theatre, and Staib Dance. She has worked with choreographers such as Victor Rojas, T Lang, Dacia James, and George Staib. In 2020, Kerri received Fulton County's Virtual Arts Initiative Grant for her project, *Longshot: Atlanta*. She executive produced, directed, and co-choreographed the five-part dance visual series. Currently, Kerri is developing numerous projects with her production company and artist collective, House of Productions.

JACKIE SEIJO (*Alice/Mysterious Woman—George and the Hidden Dragon*) is thrilled to be joining CATCO during their New Works Festival! Ohio born and raised, Jackie currently resides in Chicago, IL and works as a professional actor in the city. Last seen on television on *Chicago P.D.* episode "white knuckle" and is currently in the second workshop for the development of a new play with The New Colony in Chicago. Jackie is happily represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent, Inc.

CAROLYN DEMANELIS (*Irene Adler—Prima Donna*) is originally from Northeast Ohio, and moved to Columbus in September 2018. Central Ohio credits include: *Grounded*, *The Eight*, *In The Next Room* (Red Herring Productions); *The Vultures*, and *The View Upstairs* (Evolution Theatre

Company); *Chamber Music* (ad hoc theatre); *A Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas Tail* (CATCO is Kids); and *Mamma Mia!* (Renaissance Theatre). Other regional credits of note: Alma in *Summer & Smoke* (Virginia Repertory Theatre); Lucy in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Heritage Theatre Festival); Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* (The Wit Theatre Company); and stage manager in *Our Town* (University of Virginia). All her love to Zach, Tiernan, and Ladybird.

BENETTA HARTMAN (*Drakon—George and the Hidden Dragon*) is so excited to be performing her first role with CATCO! Benetta, a freshman in homeschool high school, has appeared in a number of other local productions, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Peter/Wendy*, and loves performing of all kinds. She would like to thank her friends and family for all their love and support.

CASSANDRA BISSELL* (*Pamela Proctor—Prima Donna*) is excited to play at CATCO for the first time. Regional (LORT) credits: Actors' Theatre of Louisville, Arizona Theatre Company, Cleveland Play House, Court Theatre, Great Lakes Theater, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Indiana Repertory, Milwaukee Repertory, Northern Stage, Northlight Theatre, People's Light, and the Utah Shakespeare Festival. Chicago (CAT) credits: Chicago Shakespeare Theater, First Folio, Rivendell Theatre, and Steppenwolf. Small Professional Theatre (SPT) credits: Company of Fools (Hailey, ID), freeFall Theatre (St. Petersburg, FL), Next Act Theatre and Renaissance Theaterworks (Milwaukee, WI.) Cassandra holds a BA in gender studies from the University of Chicago.



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ANDREW CARLYLE (Wilhelm von Ormstein—Prima Donna) is thrilled to be a part of CATCO's New Works Festival and thankful for the chance to work on such a fresh, stimulating play. Originally from the southwest suburbs of Chicago, Andrew studied acting at Illinois State University. He's since performed at The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Door Shakespeare, and Mainstage Shakespeare, among others. He'd like to thank Laura, Leda, and the team at CATCO for the opportunity.

THOMAS RUSSELL (Godfrey Norton—Prima Donna) is a Chicago-based actor and fight choreographer. While attending Illinois State University, he appeared in shows like *Eurydice*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, and *She Kills Monsters*. His interest in movement and martial arts led him to study fight choreography, and he's choreographed violence for the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Victory Gardens, and TimeLine Theatre Company. He's grateful to the team at CATCO for bringing him on to this project, and to his family and friends for the unending support!

CHRISTOPHER VIZURRAGA (Sherlock Holmes—Prima Donna) is originally from Athens, GA and has been working on stages in Chicago for the last eight years. Selected Credits: Illinois Shakespeare Festival (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *I <3 Juliet*), Chicago Shakespeare Theater (*Q Brothers' Christmas Carol*), First Folio Theater (*Captain Blood*, *Women in Jeopardy*), Lifeline Theatre (*Miss Buncle's Book*, *Lester's Dreadful Sweaters*, *Lyle Lyle Crocodile*), Remy Bumppo (*Pirandello's*

Henry IV), and Haven Theatre (*Titus Andronicus*).

JOSH KRAUSE (John Watson—Prima Donna) most recently appeared in *W.N.S.S.* and *The Gardens* by Gaetano Marangelli, two one man shows performed for audiences of one or two people. Regional theater credits include *She Stoops to Conquer* (Tony Lumpkin), *Man of Destiny* (Lieutenant), and *Book of Will* (Boy Hamlet) with American Players Theater; *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* (Adam) with Two Crows Theater; *A Christmas Carol* (Mr. C/Narrator) with Children's Theater of Madison; *Jeeves at Sea* (Crumpet), *Miracle on South Division Street* (Jimmy), and *Great Expectations* (Pip) with Milwaukee Chamber Theater; *Equivocation* (Sharpe/Wintour/James) with Next Act; and *Visiting Mr. Green* (Ross) and *Jeeves at Sea* (Crumpet) with Artists' Ensemble in Rockford, IL. Josh lives in Menomonee Falls, WI with his wife, Rachel, and their two cats, Tweak and Brioche.

JASMINE JACKSON (Aronnax—20K Leagues Under the Sea) is an Atlanta, GA native who discovered her love for the arts and their power of expression at an early age. Regional Credits: Pearl in *Miss You Like Hell* (Aurora Fox Arts Center); Mabel in *Crowns* (Vintage Theatre); *A Christmas Carol*, *Elf The Musical*, and *Mamma Mia!* (Arvada Center); *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* (Belhaven Opera); Dance Credits: DAMAGEDANCE Company; *Love, Ruth* (Soul2Sole); Kinetic Etchings Artist; *BREAK OUT!* (Amalgamate Dance Company). Training: B.A. in Dance; Belhaven University. Awards: Marlowe Award for Best Ensemble and Vintage Award for Outstanding Ensemble—



Crowns; BU People's Choice Award—Original Screendance.

ERNAISJA CURRY* (Captain Nemo—20K Leagues Under the Sea) is excited to return to CATCO after making her company debut in *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. Since completing Cincinnati Playhouse's Bruce E. Coyle Acting Internship, the Florida native has performed on stages across Cincinnati/Northern KY and signed with Heyman Talent Agency. When not on stage or screen, she is teaching, directing, and choreographing students as a teaching artist. Her favorite recent credits include *The Ballad of the Dying Body* from Missing Front Plate Productions, *Skeleton Crew* at Ensemble Theatre, and *Lawbreakers* at StageOne Theatre. She is eternally grateful to her family, friends, and mentors for their continuous love, faith, and support. www.ernaisjacurry.com

VERO MAYNEZ (Ned Land—20K Leagues Under the Sea) is a queer, Mexican-American, Chicago-based actor and a recent MFA Acting Graduate at The Theatre School at DePaul University. Regional credits include *The Mathematics of Love* (Brava Theatre), *The Christians* (SF Playhouse), and *October Playlets*

(Stage West). Vero has also performed in *The Carnival of New Latinx Work*, Berkeley Repertory Theatre's *Breaking the Binary*, and Broken Nose Theatre's *Bechdel Fest*—a part of Steppenwolf's LookOut series. Vero holds a BA in theater and performance studies with a minor in Spanish from UC Berkeley, and has additional training from American Conservatory Theater. She is represented by Paonessa Talent Agency and Manager Tim Angle of Shelter Entertainment.

CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN (Worldbuilder—20K Leagues Under the Sea) majored in theatre at Otterbein University and has worked in voice over, film, and stage productions. He has received awards for his stage performances of *Othello* and *The Whipping Man*. Christopher has worked with local artists this year to raise anti-racism awareness with virtual performances of Malcolm X's "The Ballot or the Bullet," as the character Shylock from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, and in CATCO's production of Idris Goodwin's *The Water Gun Song*, as well as *A Columbus Christmas Carol*.

NADJA SIMMONDS (Worldbuilder—20K Leagues Under the Sea) a

Milwaukee-based actor, is excited to be back in her home state of Ohio! After receiving degrees in theater and digital media from Marquette University, she acted in regional theaters around Wisconsin including Forward Theater, First Stage Children's Theater, The Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Northern Sky Theater, Summit Players Theatre,

and the Children's Theater of Madison. Recently, she proudly participated in the inaugural Milwaukee Black Theater Festival and appeared in CATCO's *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. Lots of love goes to her family and those continuously fighting for justice and equality. Black Lives Matter. www.nadjasimmonds.com

ADDITIONAL STAFF BIOS

CHRISTY FARNBAUCH (Executive Director) became CATCO's executive director in April 2020. A graduate of Otterbein University, with degrees in music performance and business administration, Christy spent many years of her career in arts education. She is a highly respected leader in central Ohio's arts and cultural sector, and nationwide. Christy is no stranger to CATCO, having served as a trained audio describer. Additionally, she and her family were 10-year subscribers to The Phoenix Theatre for Children, the predecessor to CATCO is Kids. She believes deeply in the power of theatre to help us creatively solve complex challenges, support children in their learning, and make space for shared experiences that foster joy and escape.

ANDREW PROTOPAPAS (Interim Education Director) is an alumnus of both Capital University and CATCO's acting apprenticeship program. He holds bachelor's degrees in English literature, creative writing, and theatre studies. As an educator, Andrew has facilitated and planned workshops, classes, and residency programs in schools both inside and outside of Columbus. Apart from providing education through theatre, Andrew

enjoys acting, directing, and writing for the stage.

JACQUELINE S. BATES (House Manager) has served as house manager for CATCO since 2012 and loves welcoming patrons to CATCO productions. Jackie has been active in local theatre for many years and has performed roles for Players Theatre, CATCO, Red Herring, Actors' Theatre, and OSU Summer Theatre. Most recently she appeared as Katherine in CATCO's *Mothers and Sons* and Quiser in *Steel Magnolias*. She also does audio description.

SARAH MILLS BACHA (Press Representative) is a professional writer and communications/marketing consultant. As president of her own firm, SMB Communications Ltd., which she founded in 1994, she has assisted numerous national and central Ohio companies and organizations with their marketing and communications needs. Before becoming a consultant, she worked as a journalist at daily newspapers. Previous positions include business reporter at *The Columbus Dispatch* in Columbus, OH, comment page editor at *The Journal-Gazette* in Fort Wayne, IN, and stringer for *Reuters*.

KRISTA LIVELY STAUFFER (Artist Educator) is a graduate of Otterbein University's Theatre Department, and a local professional actor on stage and screen. A casting associate/in-house artist with Boxland Media, Krista has been seen and heard in several commercials and voice overs. Some of her favorite stage credits include *Avenue Q* (Kate/Lucy), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Nurse/Harriet/Mrs.), and *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes). Krista is an artist educator with CATCO is Kids, working as the director for the Saturday Morning Musical experiences.

PATRICA WALLACE-WINBUSH (Artist Educator) is a highly-respected actress and director on the Columbus theatre scene. She has performed with local theatre companies most notably CATCO, Players Theatre, Gallery Players, Red Herring Theatre Ensemble, Short North Stage, and PAST Productions Columbus where she is also co-founder and co-producer. Patty recently performed as Ebony Scrooge in CATCO's *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. She is proud of her one-woman show entitled *Thank God I Look Good in Pink*, which chronicles her journey as a breast cancer survivor. Patty thanks her family for supporting her dreams, especially her husband Truman Winbush Jr.

JAMIE PAVLOFSKY (Artist Educator) is a Dayton native currently serving a School Residency at Dublin Scioto High School where she works with a class of special education students. She has served as a teaching artist for many organizations both in Dayton and virtually and is thrilled to be with CATCO! When not teaching, Jamie is an active performer in the Dayton area.

DUSTIN ASHLEY BEAM (Artist Educator) is a singer, writer, storyteller, actor, and teacher. He released his debut single, "I Am Not a Shadow," in 2019. His novel of the same name will be released in 2021 with a short album entitled *Songs from the Quarantine*. He has written the children's musicals, *Sleepily Ever After*, *The Titan Trinity*, and *The Space Case*; and the children's plays, *Where's My Scare?* and *The Unexpected Quest of Unlikely Friends*. His first full length album, *Playground of the Phoenix*, will be released in early 2022. His favorite roles include The Scarecrow (*The Wizard of Oz*), Leaf Conebear (*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), and Mary Sunshine (*Chicago*). His dream role he has yet to play is Buddy, the Elf (*Elf The Musical*). Dustin currently resides in Arkansas with his magical dog, Charlie.

QUINTON "QUE" JONES (Artist Educator) has been a music director and costume designer in Columbus, OH since 2008. A native of the city, Que received two bachelor's degrees from Capital University and went on to receive his master's degree in music composition from The Ohio State University. Que began costume designing shortly after working with the West Family, Nina and Virginia West, costuming their main stage production shows. These shows feature hundreds of unique looks and represent thousands of hours of building. Que has been a music director and accompanist with CATCO since 2013 and has recently costumed the entire 2019/2020 season.

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