

2017/18 SEASON



FIRST SEASON PRODUCTION

BIG NIGHT

Written by Paul Rudnick Directed by Walter Bobbie World Premiere Sep 10 – Oct 8, 2017 SECOND SEASON PRODUCTION

SPAMILTON

Created, Written, and Directed by Gerard Alessandrini West Coast Premiere **Nov 5 – Dec 31, 2017** THIRD SEASON PRODUCTION

ELLIOT, A SOLDIER'S FUGUE

By Quiara Alegría Hudes Directed by Shishir Kurup Jan 27 – Feb 25, 2018 FOURTH SEASON PRODUCTION

BLOCK PARTY Celebrating Los Angeles Theatre Mar 29 – May 20, 2018





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MICHAEL RITCHIE Artistic Director | STEPHEN D. ROUNTREE Managing Director | DOUGLAS C. BAKER Producing Director GORDON DAVIDSON Founding Artistic Director

Presents the World Premiere of

BIG NIGHT

Paul Rudnick

With

Brian Hutchison Luke Macfarlane	Max Jenkins Wendie Malick	Kecia Lewis Tom Phelan	
Scenic Design	Costume Design	Lighting Design	Original Music & Sound Design
John Lee Beatty	William Ivey Long	Ken Billington	Karl Fredrik Lundeberg
Casting	Associate Producer	Production Stage M	anager

James Calleri, CSA and Paul Davis, CSA Associate Producer

Brooke Baldwin

Directed By

Walter Bobbie

SEPTEMBER 10 – OCTOBER 8, 2017 KIRK DOUGLAS THEATRE

CAST (In Order of Appearance)

Cary	Max Jenkins
Michael	
Eddie	Tom Phelan
Esther	Wendie Malick
Eleanor	Kecia Lewis
Austin	Luke Macfarlane

Intermission

Big Night will be performed without an intermission.

Time/Place

A deluxe Beverly Hills hotel suite the day of the Academy Awards.[®] At the Academy Awards.

Stage Manager

Maggie Swing

WHO'S WHO



BRIAN HUTCHISON (*Michael*) has appeared on Broadway in *Man and Boy, Looped, Exit the King, Proof,* and *The Invention of Love.* Off-Broadway credits include the World premiere of *How to Transcend a Happy Marriage* at Lincoln Center, *Smokefall, Pocatello, Regrets, Spirit Control, From Up Here,* and *Go Back to Where You Are.* Film and television credits include *Jessica Jones,*

Elementary, Vinyl, Show Me a Hero, Killing Kennedy, Vino Veritas, Winter's Tale, Love and Other Drugs, Do No Harm, Person of Interest (recurring as FBI Agent Moss), The Good Wife, Law & Order: SVU, and Criminal Intent. Brian holds an MFA in dramatic arts from The Old Globe/University of San Diego.



MAX JENKINS (*Cary*). Off-Broadway: *Carnival Kids* (Lesser America) and *Unnatural Acts* (Classic Stage Company), which he also co-wrote (Drama Desk nomination for Best Play). Regional: Williamstown Theatre Festival and Arkansas Rep. Film: *Those People, Are You Joking?, Fort Tilden,* and the upcoming *Perception.* TV: *The Mysteries of Laura, High Maintenance, Orange Is the*

New Black, Gossip Girl, and 30 Rock. Cabaret: Tom Hennes & Max Jenkins are Sisters (Joe's Pub).



KECIA LEWIS (*Eleanor*). From Off-Broadway to on, Kecia Lewis has made a career out of tackling the lives of formidable women. On Broadway, she originated the roles of Asaka, Trix, and Ida Mae in *Once on This Island, The Drowsy Chaperone,* and *Leap of Faith,* respectively. Additionally, she has graced Broadway in *Chicago, Big River, Ain't Misbehavin', The Gospel at Colonus,* and in her

debut in *Dreamgirls*. Other selected: *Marie and Rosetta* at the Atlantic Theater Company (Obie winner, Lortel/Drama League nomination), *Mother Courage* at CSC, *Skin of our Teeth* at TFNA (Obie winner), *The Secret Life of Bees* at NYSF, and *Dessa Rose* at Lincoln Center (Drama Desk nomination). Television: *Madam Secretary, Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt, Blue Bloods, Conviction, Limitless,* and *Royal Pains.*



LUKE MACFARLANE (Austin). Broadway: The Normal Heart (Drama Desk winner, Ensemble). Off-Broadway: The Busy World Is Hushed, Where Do We Live, Juvenilia. Regional: Reverberations, Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir, The Normal Heart. Film/Television: Killjoys, Mercy Street, The Night Shift, Smash, Person of Interest, Brothers & Sisters, Satisfaction, Supergirl, Over

There, Tanner on Tanner, Kinsey. Graduate: Juilliard School.



WENDIE MALICK (*Esther*). Off-Broadway: North Shore Fish (WPA), Burleigh Grime\$ (New World Stages). Los Angeles: The Underpants (Geffen), Vagina Monologues (Canon), Road Trip (Ventura Court), Santaland Diaries (Coast), Questa (Coronet). Regional: Blithe Spirit, What is the Cause of Thunder? (Williamstown), Don't Blame Me, I Voted for Helen Gahagan Douglas (Woolly

Mammoth), The Guys (Studio Arena), Closure (New Jersey Rep), Love Letters (Laguna Playhouse). Film: Adventureland, About Fifty,

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Waiting, The American President, Racing Stripes, The Goods, Jerome, A Little Sex, The Emperor's New Groove, Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. TV: Dream On (four CableACE Awards), Just Shoot Me! (one Golden Globe, two Emmy nominations), Hot in Cleveland (People's Choice Award, SAG nom Best Ensemble), Mom, Pitch, NCIS: New Orleans, Law & Order: SVU, Frasier, NYPD Blue, The X-Files, Seinfeld. Animation: BoJack Horseman, Jimmy Neutron, SpongeBob SquarePants.



TOM PHELAN (*Eddie*). Center Theatre Group debut. Off-Broadway: *Hir* (Playwrights Horizons). Readings and workshops: *Narwhals: Unicorns of the Sea* (Public Theater), *Pin* and the Blue Fairy* (Dixon Place), *Eat And You Belong To Us* (The Center). TV: *The Fosters.* Tom is a sophomore at Columbia University.

PAUL RUDNICK's (Playwright) plays have been produced on- and Off-Broadway and around the world, and include I Hate Hamlet, Jeffrey, The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told, Valhalla, Regrets Only, and The New Century. He has won an Obie Award, two Outer Critics Circle Awards, and the John Gassner Playwriting Award. His novels include *Social Disease* and *I'll Take It*, along with two Young Adult novels, Gorgeous and It's All Your Fault. HarperCollins has published Mr. Rudnick's *Collected Plays* and a group of essays entitled / Shudder. Mr. Rudnick is rumored to be quite close to Libby Gelman-Waxner, a film critic for both Premiere and Entertainment Weekly, whose collected columns have been published under the title If You Ask Me. Mr. Rudnick's articles and essays have appeared in The New York Times, Esquire, Vogue, and Vanity Fair, and he's a frequent contributor to The New Yorker. His screenplays include In & Out, the screen adaptation of Jeffrey, and Addams Family Values. He's currently writing the book and lyrics for a stage adaptation of The Devil Wears Prada, with music by Elton John.

WALTER BOBBIE (*Director*) directed the New York productions of Bright Star, Venus in Fur, The Landing, Golden Age, School for Lies, Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Chicago, The Submission, Cabin Pressure, The Savannah Disputation, New Jerusalem, High Fidelity, The Other Woman, The Marriage of Bette and Boo, Sweet Charity, Twentieth Century, Footloose, Durang/Durang, For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls, and A Grand Night for Singing. He was artistic director of City Center Encores!, where he also directed Fiorello!, Chicago, Tenderloin, Golden Boy, No, No, Nanette, and Zorba! as well as the Carnegie Hall concerts of South Pacific and Carousel. Mr. Bobbie served for 12 years on the Board of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. He is the recipient of Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, and Tony Awards.

JOHN LEE BEATTY (*Scenic Design*). Broadway: 113 productions including *Sweat, Disgraced, The Nance* (Tony Award), *Outside Mullingar, Venus in Fur, Other Desert Cities, Good People, Rabbit Hole, Chicago, The Color Purple, Doubt, Proof, The Sisters Rosensweig, A Delicate Balance, The Heiress, Dinner at Eight, Footloose, The Last Night of Ballyhoo, The Royal Family, Burn This, Talley's Folly* (Tony Award), *Fifth of July, Crimes of the Heart, Ain't Misbehavin'.* Other New York: *Lips Together, Teeth Apart, Sylvia, The Substance of Fire, A Life in the Theatre* as well as multiple seasons for Lincoln Center Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Shakespeare in the Park, City Center Encores!. Regional: The Guthrie, Arena Stage, The Goodman, Hartford Stage, Steppenwolf, Cincinnati Playhouse, Seattle Rep, The Old Globe, Oregon Shakespeare, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Long Wharf Theatre, Alliance Theatre, and more. For Center Theatre Group and The Music Center: Since 1976, 22 productions at the Taper, Ahmanson, and Chandler, including *Poor Behavior, My Old Lady, The Most Happy Fella, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Proposals, Picnic.*

WILLIAM IVEY LONG (*Costume Design*). Previous collaborations with Walter Bobbie include *Chicago*, now in its 21st year on Broadway, *The School for Lies, Cabin Pressure, Sweet Charity, Twentieth Century,* as well as *Zorba!, Golden Boy,* and *Fiorello!* for Encores. Previous collaborations with Paul Rudnick include *Regrets Only, Cabin Pressure, The New Century, Valhalla,* and *Poor Little Lambs.* Mr. Long has also worked with Center Theatre Group on *9 to 5, Leap of Faith, Curtains,* and the recent tour of *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella.* He has designed over 70 Broadway productions, and has been nominated for 15 Tony Awards, winning six times. Mr. Long was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in 2005, and recently completed a four year elected term as Chairman of The American Theatre Wing. www.williamiveylong.com

KEN BILLINGTON (*Lighting Design*) has almost 100 Broadway shows to his credit including such theatre milestones as *Sweeney Todd* and the current production of *Chicago*, the longest running American musical in history. Current tours: *Chicago* (worldwide), *Dirty Dancing, Waitress,* and *White Christmas.* L.A. projects this year: *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Bowl), *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Wallis), and *Crazy for You* (Ahmanson). Other projects: *Hugh Jackman in Concert, Fantasmic* at Disneyland, and from 1979 to 2006 the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular. Ken's many awards include the Tony, NY Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards, the Ace Award for television lighting, and the Lumen for his architectural lighting for New York's Tavern on the Green. In 2015 he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.

KARL FREDRIK LUNDEBERG (Original Music and Sound Design) is a CBS/Sony recording artist who has recorded four albums with his jazz/world music group Full Circle. Karl's works have been performed at music festivals throughout the world. Theatre and ballet music includes scores for ACT, Geffen Playhouse, American Repertory Theater, BAM, Seattle Rep, Center Stage, South Coast Rep. Odvssev Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company. Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, Kirk Douglas Theatre, and Mark Taper Forum (Death and the Maiden, Bandido!, Hysteria, Skylight, Enigma Variations, The Poison Tree, Closer, The Molière Comedies, The School for Scandal, The Talking Cure, Ten Unknowns, Stuff Happens). He was composer in residence at the Mark Taper Forum and served as musical director for the Shakespeare Repertory Measure for Measure and Midsummer Night's Dream, and composer/musical director for *Romeo and Juliet*, all directed by Sir Peter Hall at the Ahmanson Theatre.

CALLERI CASTING (James Calleri, Paul Davis, Erica Jensen). Broadway: Fool for Love, Hughie, The Elephant Man (also West End), Hedwig and the Angry Inch, The Visit, Of Mice and Men, Venus in Fur, Living on Love, 33 Variations, A Raisin in the Sun, Chicago, James Joyce's The Dead. Off-Broadway selects: Buyer & Cellar, Murder for Two, All in the Timing, Passion, Lobby Hero, *Fuerza Bruta, Silence! The Musical.* Casting for CSC, Long Wharf, McCarter, The Flea, Keen, Playwrights Realm, Rattlestick, Humana Festival/ATL, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Berkeley Rep, City Theater, OSF, Playwrights Horizons (ten seasons). TV: *The Path* for Hulu, *Army Wives, Lipstick Jungle, Monk, Hope & Faith, Ed.* Lots of film including Mike Cahill's Sundance winners *Another Earth* and *I Origins.* Awarded 13 Artios Awards for Outstanding Casting Achievement. Member CSA. www.callericasting.com

BROOKE BALDWIN (*Production Stage Manager*). Center Theatre Group: *Good Grief, Vicuña, Disgraced, Women Laughing Alone With Salad, Kansas City Choir Boy, Girlfriend, Chavez Ravine, Luna Gale, Race, different words for the same thing, The Nether, The Convert, Second City's A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens, Venice, Burn This, The Night Watcher, Waiting for Godot.* Dodger Theatricals: *Duck Commander Musical* at the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas. Cabrillo Music Theatre: *Bye Bye Birdie, In the Heights, Kiss Me, Kate.* Moonlight Stage Productions: *The Little Mermaid, The Wizard of Oz, The Most Happy Fella, Cats, The Foreigner, Swingtime Canteen.* Geffen Playhouse: *Shipwrecked, Time Stands Still, Through the Night,* and *Love, Loss, and What I Wore.* She was also on the stage management team at Universal Studios Hollywood. Love to my family and Cullen!

MAGGIE SWING (Stage Manager). Center Theatre Group: King of the Yees, Block Party, Vicuña, Throw Me on the Burnpile and Light Me Up. Geffen Playhouse: Big Sky, Barcelona, Guards at the Taj, Discord, The Country House, The Judy Show, American Buffalo. European Tour: The Apple Family Plays. Off-Broadway: Regular Singing, Sorry, Love's Labour's Lost, Sweet and Sad, Knickerbocker, Compulsion, That Hopey Changey Thing (The Public Theater), Slowgirl (Lincoln Center Theater), Blood Knot, The Orphans' Home Cycle (Signature Theatre Company). Regional: Bell, Book and Candle (co-production with Long Wharf Theatre), The Orphans' Home Cycle, Dividing the Estate, To Kill a Mockingbird, A Christmas Carol, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore, The Bluest Eye, and Our Town (Hartford Stage Company).

Center Theatre Group

MICHAEL RITCHIE (*Artistic Director*) is in his 13^{TH} season as Center Theatre Group's Artistic Director, and has led over 190 productions to the Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, and Kirk Douglas Theatre stages, including the premieres of six musicals that moved to Broadway—*The Drowsy Chaperone, Curtains, 13,* 9 to 5: *The Musical, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson,* and *Leap of Faith*—and the Pulitzer Prize in Drama finalist *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo.*

STEPHEN D. ROUNTREE (*Managing Director*) joined Center Theatre Group in 2014 as Managing Director. He was previously the President and CEO of The Music Center (2002–2014) and concurrently the CEO of the Los Angeles Opera (2008–2012). He served the J. Paul Getty Trust for 22 years, starting in 1980 as Deputy Director of the Getty Museum, then Director of the Getty Center Building Program, and in 1998, the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Getty Trust. He currently serves as a trustee of Occidental College, The Ahmanson Foundation, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, and Polytechnic School.

DOUGLAS C. BAKER (*Producing Director*) is now in his 28[™] season at Center Theatre Group. He is an active member of the Broadway League, the Independent Presenters Network, and is a proud member of the Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers. In May 2013, Doug received the Broadway League's prestigious Outstanding Achievement in Presenter Management Award.

LINDSAY ALLBAUGH (*Associate Producer*) is a member of Center Theatre Group's artistic staff and has served in varying capacities for the past 13 years. Selected producing credits include—Mark Taper Forum: *Bent, What the Butler Saw, Steward of Christendom, Waiting for Godot*; Kirk Douglas Theatre: Block Party, *Good Grief, Vicuña, Throw Me On the Burnpile and Light Me Up, Endgame, Women Laughing Alone With Salad, Chavez Ravine, Race, different words for the same thing, The Nether.* Co-Artistic Director of the Elephant Theatre 2004–2014.

NAUSICA STERGIOU (*General Manager, Mark Taper Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre*) has worked professionally supporting artists in theatres of all shapes, sizes, and locales including many seasons at Center Theatre Group as General Manager and, previously, as Audience Development Director. She oversees mainstage productions at the Taper and Douglas, as well as new play commissions and developmental productions through Center Theatre Group's New Play Development. Nausica has taught at USC's School of Dramatic Arts, and advises and works with local nonprofits including Hollywood Orchard.

GORDON DAVIDSON (*Founding Artistic Director*) led the Taper throughout its first 38 seasons, guiding over 300 productions to its stage and winning countless awards for himself and the theatre including the Tony Award for theatrical excellence, Margo Jones Award, The Governor's Award for the Arts, and a Guggenheim fellowship. *The Kentucky Cycle* and *Angels in America (Part One)* won the Pulitzer in consecutive years and, in 1994, three of the four plays nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play were from the Taper (*Angels in America* won). In 1989, Gordon took over the Ahmanson and, in 2004, he produced the inaugural season in the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR BIG NIGHT

Associate Director	Katia Koziara
WIL Inc. Design Assistant	Donald Sanders
Assistant Costume Designer	Kat Patterson
Assistant Lighting Designer	Meghan Hong
Hair and Makeup Consultant	Morgan Sellers
First Hand	Pamela Walt
Stitcher	Bert Henert
Carpentry CrewAaron	Fish, Bo Foxworth, Joel Fullerton, Bryce Gil,
Kate Harrow, Ma	ry Karcz, Donavan Martinelli, Todd McGraw,
Kirsten Monson,	Marcelo Olivas, Randall Pound, Philip Rossii
Electrics Crew	Daniel del Busto, Evan Drane, Lucas Garrity,
Derek	Jones, Jennifer Kwan, Lunchbox, Alif Marchi
Scenic ArtistsJacquelyn	Gutierriez, Orlando de la Paz, Carolina Meza
Stage Supervisor	Richard Dunn
Assistant Prop Manager	Erin Walley
Prop Shopper/Artisan	Eric Babb
Prop Artisan	Marissa Bergman
Prop Carpenter	Donavan Martinelli

FRONT-OF-HOUSE LEADS

Trevor Algatt, Bradford Barnes, Stephen Lydic, AJ Meijer, Eduardo Fernandez-Baumann, Tarah Pollock

CONCIERGES

Olivia Choate, Eric Eberle, Carmen Echevarria, Amber Espinosa-Jones, Angela Garcia, Tara Griffo, Joan Kubicek, Sarah Lindsley, Adrienne Marquand, Chelsey Maus, Janice Motuapuaka, Nicole Naito, Daniel Rashid, Denise Reynoso, Leve Ross, Diana Spieller, Jor-el Vaasborg

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Chase Anderson-Shaw, Candice Clasby, Eduardo Fernandez-Baumann, Ian Julian-Williams, Jay Lee, Stephen Lydic, Isabella Petrini, Tarah Pollock

CONCESSIONS

Abilene Gonzalez, Monica Greene, Mike Lanahan, Jason Vaughn

STAGE DOOR ATTENDANTS

Ben Durham, Michael Hanson, Ian Ray, Cory Aycock

CREDITS

Costumes, props, and sets provided by the Center Theatre Group Shop. Men's Formalwear provided by JBClothiers. Heidi Johnson - Ms. Lewis' haircare. Rehearsal and production photography by Craig Schwartz.

SPECIAL THANKS

Jerry Bakhchyan—JBClothiers Robert Broadfoot

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	•
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DEANNA McCLURE	Art Director
IRENE T. KANESHIRO	Senior Design Manager
SANDI SILBERT	
TARA NITZ	Graphic Designer
JAVIER VASQUEZ	Graphic Designer

COMMUNICATIONS

JAMES SIMS	Director of Communications
JASON MARTIN	Head of Publicity
KRISTI AVILA	Junior Publicist
SARAH ROTHBARD	Senior Manager, Communications and Editorial
JOHN JOHNSON	Communications Coordinator
ARIELLE LAUB	Communications Coordinator
SARAH GOLDBAUM	Digital Media Specialist
HAL BANFIELD	Multimedia Producer

TICKET SALES AND SERVICES

TIGKET SALLS AND SERVICES	
SHAWN ROBERTSON	Ticket Sales Director
SKYPP CABANAS	
RACHYL UNDERWOOD	Ticket Operations Coordinator
MICHAEL ZOLDESSY	Account Sales Manager
	Account Sales Coordinator
SANDY CZUBIAK	Audience and Subscriber Services Director
JENNIFER BAKER, CHERYL HAWKER,	Services Director
RICHARD RAGSDALE	Audience Services Supervisors
ALICE CHEN	Audience Services Asst. Supervisor
GARY HOLLAND. DEBORAH REED	Audience Services
	Sales Associates
SAM AARON, JEREMIE ARENCIBIA, KIN	
CARLOS D. CHAVEZ, JR., KAITLYN GAL	
ANASTASHIA GARCIA, EILEEN PEREZ,	LEX SAVKO, Audience Services Representatives
	Subscriber Services Asst. Supervisor
	TALOCHSubscriber Services Senior Representatives
SARAH K. GONTA	Box Office Treasurer
ANGELICA CARBAJAL, KISHISA ROSS	Assistant Treasurers
MICHAEL KEMPISTY, KEVIN LAUVER, M	MICHAEL SALTZMAN,
CRIS SPACCA	Box Office Staff
KERRY KORF	Priority Services Director
SUSAN F. TULLER	Priority Services Operations Manager
CANDICE WALTERS	
	Priority Services Manager
	Priority Services Assistant Supervisor Representatives
BEALENE AHERN. CLAY BUNKER, JOHI	•
DRESSEL, SOFIJA DUTCHER, MARC "B	
FRANK ENSENBERGER, LOU GEORGE,	
JORDAN KRSNAK, IAN PRICE, MICHAEI	L SMITH,
JEFFREY STUBBLEFIELD, DIANE WARD	Representatives

INTERNS

TALIN ABADIAN, JESSICA BARRY, SAMANTHA CAVALCANTI, EUN SEO CHOI, ALLIE EMSLIE, MARIE-CLAIRE ERDYNAST, MATTHEW GIESBERG, JENNA HEO, MITCH LEITSCHUH, MARCELA PANIAGUA, RAMI PINCHASI, DIANA SANCHEZ, DUVIA SATHER, REMINGTON SHAHAN, WENDOLYN SIMS-RUCKER, ALEXANDER WAXLER, SAMANTHA WEST