





presents



BY PHILIP DAWKINS
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL MATTHEWS

Featuring

Joe Calarco+, Ben Campbell, Katie Canavan, June Carryl*,
Cristina Gerla, Kristina Johnson*, Zach Kanner, Margaret Katch,
Katie Kitani, Denver Milord, Gregory Nabours+, Kurt Quinn+,
Brandon Ruiter, Christopher Salazar*, Nicole Shalhoub*, Danni Spring,
Hannah Mae Sturges, Jack Sweeney, Neil Taffe*, Gina Torrecilla*,
Brittney S. Wheeler, Samantha Valdellion

Production Stage Manager Emily Abbott

Assistant Director Rebecca Eisenberg*+

Scenic Design JR Bruce

Costume Design Allison Dillard

Costume Assistant Sinclaire Ledhal

Props Design Michael O'Hara

Lighting Design Matthew Denman

Original Music & Arrangements Gregory Nabours +

Graphic Design Ryan Wagner *+

Scenic Painter Erin Walley

Press Representative Ken Werther Publicity

Production Photographers John Klopping +

Matthew Denman

"Johnny Weissmuller" dance number choreographed by **Janet Roston**

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. + Member of Coeurage Theatre Company.



The Cast

Nelly Fail Margaret Katch

Jenny June Fail Nicole Shalhoub*

Gertrude Fail June Carryl*

John N. Fail Joe Calarco+

Mortimer Mortimer Kurt Quinn

Chorus Cristina Gerla

Kristina Johnson*

Denver Milord

Gregory Nabours+

Neil Taffe*

Brandon Ruiter

Gina Torrecilla*

Brittney S. Wheeler

Alternates

Ben Campbell

Katie Canavan

Zach Kanner

Katie Kitani

Christopher Salazar*

Danni Spring

Hannah Mae Sturges

Jack Sweeney

Samantha Valdellion

Alternates never substitute for players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

Please turn off your cell phone.
Photography and audio/video recording are prohibited.

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The total running time is approximately 90 minutes without intermission.

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

Failure: A Love Story is a guest production at GTC Burbank. For more information on GTC Burbank check out www.gtc.org.



JOE CALARCO (John N. Fail) Past Coeurage credits include Presley in The Pitchfork Disney, Fick in Balm in Gilead, Eddie in The Rocky Horror Show, Jay in No. Saints Lane, as well as the one man show L.A. Lights Fire. Chicago credits include The 4th Graders Present an Unnamed Love-Suicide, Blood Wedding, Camille/La Traviata, and Leonce und Lena with The Hypocrites, among others. Be sure to check out The Sparrow, Joe's third directorial effort for Coeurage, this fall.

www.josephcalarco.com



BEN CAMPBELL (*John N. Fail Alternate*) is a graduate of NYU Tisch School of the Arts (Stella Adler Studio). Recent credits include *Paternus* (Rogue Machine Theater), *Peter Pan: The Boy Who Hated Mothers* (The Blank Theater), and *Phaedra's Lust* (Archway Theater). Ben is also a founding member of Equine Dell Arte, a theater company in Shadow Hills which performs Shakespeare on Horseback.



KATIE CANAVAN (Chorus Alternate) is pleased as punch to be taking her maiden voyage with the good ship Coeurage Theatre! After graduating from Michigan State University with a BA in acting & costume design, Katie spent time in Chicago, honing her skills as a director, actor, designer and musician. She's happy to be in LA where it's 75 and sunny every day (almost). Katie is also a textile artist and has a passion for the accordion. www.katiecanavan.com



JUNE CARRYL (Gertrude Fail) is originally from Denver and studied English literature and Political Science at Brown University and acting at American Conservatory Theater and the California Shakespeare Festival. Favorite theater roles include Adjua in The Liquid Plain at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Hecuba in The Trojan Women, and Venus in Venus with Thick Description. TV and film include The Millers, Parenthood and Sweet November.



CRISTINA GERLA (Chorus) Thrilled to make her Coeurage Theatre Company debut! Regional credits include: Kingdom City (La Jolla Playhouse); Red Barn (Independent Shakespeare Company); The Future Perfect (Pasadena Playhouse); The Grapes of Wrath (A Noise Within); Ionescopade (Odyssey Theatre); Legally Blonde, Little Women, Romeo & Juliet, A Christmas Carol (PCPA Theaterfest). Training: RADA; BA from UCLA's Ray Bolger Musical Theatre Program. Thanks to family, Mary Jo, and Anthony @ Stage9/DDO.



KRISTINA JOHNSON (Chorus) L.A.: Rabbit Hole (La Mirada), Parallelogram (Mark Taper), Home (Need Theatre). International: All the Happy People, Edinburgh. Regional: Goodman Theatre: Sweet Bird of Youth, The Long Red Road, The Ballad of Emmett Till; Reverb and Spirits to Enforce (New Stages). Chicago: A Streetcar Named Desire (Writers), Three Penny Opera (Steppenwolf Garage), State of the Union (Strawdog). Film: Trails of Gray, Black Web, Emmett's Last Stand, The Rocks. Up next: Hit The Wall! Love you, Bukauskas!



ZACH KANNER (*Chorus Alternate*) joins Coeurage a second time after appearing in *Andronicus* last year. Recent work includes The Fool in *King Lear* (Colonials), Trofimov in *The Cherry Orchard* (Pacific Resident Theater), and Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew* (Queer Classics). A graduate of Drew University, iO West, and Steppenwolf West; honored to be part of the LA theatre scene. Keep tabs at www.zachkanner.com.



MARGARET KATCH (Nelly Fail) is a recent LA transplant. Chicago: The School for Lies (Chicago Shakespeare); Les Liaisons Dangereuses; The Philadelphia Story (Remy Bumppo); The American Plan (Artistic Home); Three Sisters (Gift Theatre); Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Noble Fool). Regional: Bachelorette (Cardinal Stage), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Commonwealth Shakespeare); Fanny Kemble's Lenox Address (Shakespeare & Company). Film/TV: To Fall in Love With Anyone....; Bastard Son of a Thousand Fathers; Quick & Dirty. BFA in acting from Emerson.



KATIE KITANI (Chorus Alternate) Past credits include Chorus in Psyche: A Modern Rock Opera with Michael Matthews; Andrea/Archangel Michael in Jerry Springer: The Opera (Ovation Award winner - Best Musical (intimate theater)); Deb in Ordinary Days; Cinnamon Girl (swing); Marcy in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Carrie in Scary Musical: The Musical; Pirates of Penzance; and Once Upon an Opera. UCLA BA in English.



DENVER MILORD (*Chorus*) has a BFA in Music Theatre/Acting from Carnegie Mellon University. He has performed regionally at Hudson Valley Shakespeare, NY and Pittsburgh Irish and Classical. Has thrown punches at Tom Cruise in *Jack Reacher* and grew a big beard for *The Last Witch Hunter*. (theaters this fall!) Thank you to everyone involved in this beautiful production. Happy to be a part of the Fail story!



GREGORY NABOURS (*Chorus*) is a founding member of Coeurage, and lives and works in LA as a composer and music director. His work has earned him two Ovation Awards, an LADCC Award, an NAACP Award, and an LA Weekly Award. His original song cycle *The Trouble With Words* also picked up "Best Musical" at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. A night of Gregory's music was recently performed at the Kennedy Center as part of ASCAP's "Broadway: Today and Tomorrow" series.



KURT QUINN (Mortimer Mortimer) received a BA in acting from The University of Northern Colorado and studied commedia dell'arte with John Rudlin in Gros Bout, France. Past Coeurage credits include Cannibal! The Musical, The Yellow Boat, Translations, The 4th Graders Present..., and Is He Dead?. Kurt is also the newest member of The Reduced Shakespeare Company. Watch for his two national commercials currently airing for Yelp and Verizon. Kurt writes, produces, and performs with the sketch group Scottish Kurtsies. SAG-AFTRA. www.kurtquinn.com



BRANDON RUITER (*Chorus*) is a recent transplant to Los Angeles from the wonderful city of Chicago, IL, where he is a company member with The House Theatre of Chicago. Favorite stage credits include *Rose and the Rime* (House Theatre), *Punk Rock* (Griffin Theatre) and *Frat* (The New Colony). Favorite Film and TV credits include *Into the Storm* (Warner Bros.), *Crisis* (NBC), and *Garfunkel and Oates* (IFC). Thanks to his friends and family for making him feel way cooler than he actually is. SAG-AFTRA.



CHRISTOPHER SALAZAR (Mortimer Mortimer Alternate) holds an MFA from the Old Globe/USD. With Coeurage: Carlos in The Woodsman, Demetrius in Andronicus. Recent credits: Jack in The Importance of Being Earnest (A Noise Within), Edwin in Our Lady of 121st Street (Victory), MacDonald in Off The Rails (Native Voices), Dumaine in All's Well That Ends Well (Old Globe). In LA: Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, Theatricum Botanicum. Elsewhere: The Public Theater, Barter Theatre, American Shakespeare Center.



NICOLE SHALHOUB (Jenny June Fail) MFA Harvard/MXAT; Off-Bway: The Fifth Column (The Mint), Hell House (St. Ann's Warehouse), The Clean House (Lincoln Center). Regional: Five Mile Lake (SCR), American Night (Yale Rep), Arabian Nights (Berkeley Rep), Mirror of the Invisible World (The Goodman), Icarus (Lookingglass), Snow in June, A Lie of the Mind (ART), Murder of Crows (WTF). TV/Film: The Jim Gaffigan Show, Legends, The Mentalist, Scandal, Criminal Minds, The Good Wife, L&O, The International, Sex and the City 2.



DANNI SPRING (Jenny June Fail Alternate) is thrilled to be making her Coeurage debut! After receiving a BFA in musical theatre/dance from SUNY Fredonia, she made the trek to LA to pursue a career in film and television. You can find her face at her website, www.CleverGirlDanni.com and follow her sketch comedy group at www.onewordnocaps.com. Much love to the Wife and to all of you that have taken the time to read this far. Enjoy!



HANNAH MAE STURGES (Nelly Fail Alternate) is grateful to make her Couerage Theatre debut! Gaining a BFA Acting degree from CSU Fullerton, she played Anne Frank in The Diary of Anne Frank. Credits include Melissa Arctic and Sovereign Body with Road Theatre Company, and recently performed in Memphis as Hermia in Midsummer Night; a rock musical variation of Shakespeare's. Forever thankful to my parents for their constant love and support! www.hmsturges.com



JACK SWEENEY (Chorus Alternate) made his professional debut while a student at Loyola University Chicago where his credits include work with About Face, Fox Valley Repertory, and Next Theatre, among others. Regionally, Jack spent a season with the Rocky Mountain Repertory Theatre in Colorado and was nominated for Michigan's Equity Alliance Best Actor Award for his work in The Extraordinary Ordinary. Jack was last seen in Celebration Theatre's The Homosexuals (also by Phillip Dawkins). Follow him @JackSweeney.



NEIL TAFFE (Chorus) originally from England, recently left Vegas after singing with Gladys Knight for 12 years. Some credits: Psyche, Smokey Joe's Cafe, The Color Purple, Ain't Misbehavin, NBC's Las Vegas, a Geico commercial as a Pip, and the short film Bald. I am honored to be working with Michael Matthews again. He is also a Board Certified Licensed massage therapist, Makeup Artist and Bartender. Thank you God for your blessings.



GINA TORRECILLA (Chorus) Film & Television credits include: Scandal, Mad Men, Bones, Incredible Crew, Raising the Bar, Twinkies and Donuts, Britney Baby. Stage credits include: The Magic Finger, The Real Housekeepers Of Studio City, I Love Lucy- Live, The Next Fairy Tale, Assassins, Reckless, Twelfth Night, The Constant Wife, A Little Night Music, Communicating Doors. Gina has an MFA in drama and is a graduate of Second City-Chicago. Follow Gina on Twitter: @ginacilla and visit ginatorrecilla.com.



BRITTNEY S. WHEELER (*Chorus*) is an Ovation Award-winning actor and singer who has graced the stages of both the LA and Ventura Counties in over 30 productions. Coeurage Theatre debut. Classically trained, seasoned choral singer, and proud LA native. Company member of Celebration Theatre, 30 Minute Musicals and DOMA Theatre; BA in Theatre from Concordia University, Irvine. Love and thanks to her parents, the cast, Michael Matthews and #14. Check out her paintings at www.etsy.com/DepressionDiva!



SAMANTHA VALDELLION (*Chorus Alternate*) is thrilled to make her Coeurage debut! A NY native, she moved to LA to work on more film sets but always finds herself back on stage. Sammy can also be seen rockin out on her violin, especially in the bluesy rock band Blackcoat Duo. Much love and thanks to the Failures and my dear friends and family, www.samanthavaldellon.com.

MICHAEL MATTHEWS (Director) Sons of the Prophet (LA Premiere), Psyche; a Modern Rock Opera (World Premiere), Rabbit Hole (La Mirada), Funny Girl (3D Theatricals, Ovation Nomination Best Director), Peter Pan: The Boy Who Hated Mothers (LA Weekly Nominations Best Director and Best Production, Play; LA Premiere), Very Still and Hard To See (LA Weekly Nominations Best Director and Best Production, Play; World Premiere), The Color Purple, The Musical (Ovation and LA Weekly Awards Best Director and Best Production, Musical), What's Wrong With Angry? (Ovation Nominations Best Director and Best Production, Play), Take Me Out! (Ovation Nomination Best Director, NAACP Award Best Director) The Women of Brewster Place, the Musical (Ovation Nomination Best Director, NAACP Award Best Director, Ovation Award Best Production, Musical; West Coast Premiere), Stupid Kids (LA Premiere), Beautiful Thing (Ovation Nominations, Best Director and Best Production, Play), The Bacchae (Ovation Nominations, Best Director and Best Production, Play), Broadway: Butley (Assistant Director). Chicago: What's Wrong With Angry? (Jeff Nominations, Best Director and Best Production), In The Blood (Jeff Nominations, Best Director and Best Production), Porcelain (Jeff Nomination, Best Director), The Judas Kiss (Chicago Premiere), Being 11 (World Premiere), and ...for colored girls who have considered suicide.... International: The Bacchae (Edinburgh Theatre Festival, 2010)

PHILIP DAWKINS (*Playwright*) Philip Dawkins' work includes the world premiere of *Miss Marx: Or The Involuntary Effect of Living* (Strawdog Theatre), which won the Joseph Jefferson Award for Best New Work, as well as recent critically-acclaimed plays *The Homosexuals* and *Failure: A Love Story*, which both also received Joseph Jefferson Nominations for New Work after their world premieres with About Face Theatre (2011) and Victory Gardens Theater (2012) respectively. Mr. Dawkins' new play, *CHARM*, will have its world premiere this fall. His plays for young folks are published through Playscripts, Inc. A graduate of Loyola University, Chicago, Mr. Dawkins is an Artistic Associate of About Face Theatre and an Ensemble Playwright at Victory Gardens. Mr. Dawkins teaches playwriting at Northwestern University, his alma mater Loyola University Chicago, and through the Victory Gardens ACCESS Program for writers with disabilities.

EMILY ABBOTT (Production Stage Manager) is a graduate of Occidental College where she majored in theater and history. Stage management credits include Roger Guenveur Smith's Frederick Douglass Now (Bootleg Theater), O'Rejane (Bootleg Theater), Viral (Bootleg Theater), Circles (Bootleg Theater), Alice Through the Wormhole by Brenda Varda (Caltech Production). Other credits include assistant stage managing Happy Days at the Theater @ Boston Court as well as operating spot for Words by Ira Gershwin at the Colony Theatre. Thank you to Rebecca, Michael, the cast and the Coeurage crew for a wonderful production process.

REBECCA EISENBERG (Assistant Director) is a local director, stage manager and producer. This year she directed the first LA production of *The Pitchfork Disney, Smudge* for the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and *Elephant* for The Blank Theatre's Young Playwrights Festival. Rebecca has worked on many award winning world premiere productions and specializes in events and benefits. She also serves as the Producing Director for Celebration Theatre. Endless gratitude and love to MM, RB, her parents Mary and Kevin, and brother Jasper. www.rebeccaeisenberg.com

JR BRUCE (Scenic Design) Coeurage shows; Cannibal! The Musical, The Trouble With Words. Current projects include: When Stars Align (Leigh Fortier, Producer), Homefree (Road Theatre). Selected credits: Intimate Apparel (Ensemble Theatre Company), Woman of No Importance (Sacred Fools), Glorious!, Trying, Other Desert Cities, RED (ICT), Lonely Boy's Guide to Survival and Werewolves (La Jolla Playhouse), The Sound of Music (San Diego Musical Theater). JR is an adjunct professor at Vanguard University. MFA- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. www.JRBruceDesign.com

ALLISON DILLARD (Costume Design) has an MFA in costume design and technology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and works as a freelance designer and technician in Los Angeles and across the country. Recent local design work includes Sons of the Prophet (The Blank Theatre), Into the Woods and Seussical (Milken Community Schools), The Arsonists (Western Stage), The Homosexuals (Celebration Theatre), and Dream of the Burning Boy (Malibu Playhouse). www.allisondillard.com

MICHAEL O'HARA (*Props Design*) has been working in the field of props in Los Angeles since 2005. In that time his work has appeared in productions for Celebration Theatre, the Blank Theatre, Circle X Theatre, East West Players, Greenway Court, and NMI to name a few. He is proud to be working on this production with all the wonderful artists involved. This is his second show with Coeurage and he is happy to be back. He serves as Resident Properties Designer at Celebration Theatre and also serves as Managing Director.

MATTHEW DENMAN (*Lighting Design*) has designed lighting for productions across the country, most recently *Niagara Falls* at Theatre of Note, *Corpus Christi, revolver*, *What's Wrong With Angry, The Next Fairy Tale, [title of show], Becoming Butch, Women Behind Bars, Children of Eden, Reckless, Much Ado About Nothing, Simpatico, and Songs for a New World.* He has worked with 108 Productions, Celebration Theatre, Theatre J'Nerique, Cambridge Summer Stages, and Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

www.MatthewBrianDenman.com

KEN WERTHER PUBLICITY (*Press Representative*) has been a staple in the Los Angeles performing arts community since 1982. Public relations, producing, directing. As producer: *All Your Hard Work, The Good Boy, The Importance of Being Earnest,* and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Queer Classics). Assistant director: *Stop the World, I Want To Get Off* (Musical Theatre Guild), *The Women of Brewster Place* (Celebration Theatre), *The Woodsman* (Coeurage). For a listing of PR activities, visit www.kenwerther.com.



Mission Statement

Coeurage Theatre Company exists to make impassioned theatre accessible for all audiences through **Pay What You Want** admission and fresh, challenging productions.

The Coeurage Pay What You Want Policy

While "pay what you can" is based on patrons' *ability* to pay, **Pay What You Want** is based on their *desire*. It is a value placement as well as an economic decision, designed to eliminate cost as a factor in attending theatre. Each patron decides what a theatre experience is worth to him or her. After experiencing our work, some decide it was worth more than they had initially paid. For that reason, the box office is kept open during intermissions and after performances.

Thank you!

Coeurage Theatre Company's **Pay What You Want** policy has been in effect since our inception, fueled by our belief that theatre in Los Angeles should be accessible to all. This is achieved in no small part through the generosity and support of patrons like you!





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