



American Repertory Theater

LOEB DRAMA CENTER
64 brattle street,
cambridge, ma 02138

OBERON
2 arrow street
cambridge, ma 02138

617•495•2668 TEL
617•495•1705 FAX
617•547•8300 TICKETS

americanrepertorytheater.org

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Contact: Rebecca Curtiss 617.496.2000 x8841 | 617.872.8254

rebecca_curtiss@harvard.edu

NaTasha Yvette Williams, Gavin Creel, Carolee Carmello, and Elizabeth Stanley to Appear in Final Performances of American Repertory Theater's *ExtraOrdinary*

[Images available for download at amrep.org/2SZOohm.](http://amrep.org/2SZOohm)

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, under the leadership of Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, announces the final roster of featured guests that will appear in ***ExtraOrdinary***, a celebration of musical theater at the A.R.T. directed by Paulus.

NaTasha Yvette Williams will perform with the core company on Sunday, November 25 at 2PM and 7:30PM. She previously appeared at the A.R.T. in ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess***, as well as its Broadway transfer. She is currently performing on Broadway as Becky in ***Waitress***. Previous Broadway appearances include *A Night With Janis Joplin*, *The Color Purple*, and *Chicago*. She was named the first Kraft Foods New Voice of Gospel Winner in 2013. She recently appeared on the Netflix series "Orange is the New Black." Her album *For My Mother* was released by Roven Records earlier this year.

Gavin Creel will be the featured guest on Tuesday, November 27 at 7:30PM; Wednesday, November 28 at 2PM and 7:30PM; Thursday, November 29 at 7:30PM, and Friday, November 30 at 7:30PM. He previously appeared at the A.R.T. in the title role of ***Prometheus Bound***. He previously appeared in The Public Theater and Broadway productions of ***Hair*** and the Broadway productions of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *The Book of Mormon*, and *She Loves Me*. He recently appeared in *Hello, Dolly!* with Bette Midler and Bernadette Peters, for which he received the 2017 Tony Award Best Performance by an Actor in a Musical.

Carolee Carmello will join Creel and the core company on Thursday, November 29 at 7:30PM. She previously appeared at the A.R.T. in ***Finding Neverland*** as Mrs. du Maurier, continuing with the production when it transferred to Broadway (Drama Desk Award nomination). She previously appeared on Broadway in thirteen other productions including *Tuck Everlasting*, *Scandalous* (Tony Award and Drama Desk Award nominations), *The Addams Family* (Drama Desk Award nomination), *Lestat* (Tony Award nomination), *Mamma Mia!*, *The Scarlet Pimpernell*, and *Parade* (1999 Drama Desk Award).

Elizabeth Stanley will join Creel and the company for the closing performance of ***ExtraOrdinary*** on Friday, November 30 at 7:30PM. She appeared as Mary Jane Healy in the A.R.T.'s record-breaking production of ***Jagged Little Pill*** last spring. She has performed on Broadway in the 2014 revival of *One*

the Town, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Cry-Baby*, and the 2006 revival of *Company*, and in the First National Tours of *Bridges of Madison County* and *Xanadu*. Off-Broadway she appeared in *Merrily We Roll Along* at Encores! and *Hello Again* (Drama League Award, Best Ensemble) with Transport Group.

Williams, Creel, Carmello, and Stanley join a core company of seven artists from past A.R.T. productions in ***ExtraOrdinary***, which features songs and stories from the past decade of boundary-breaking musicals, including ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess***, ***Pippin***, ***Prometheus Bound***, ***Waitress***, and ***Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812***. The show's limited run began on Friday, November 16 at the Loeb Drama Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and ends on Friday, November 30, 2018.

The core company includes:

- **Melody A. Betts** from A.R.T.'s 2014 production of ***Witness Uganda*** (also *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert* on NBC)
- **Kathryn Gallagher** from A.R.T.'s 2018 production of ***Jagged Little Pill*** (also *Spring Awakening* on Broadway)
- **Terrence Mann** from A.R.T.'s 2012 production of ***Pippin*** and the 2013 Tony Award-winning Broadway revival, for which he received his third Tony Award nomination (also the original Broadway casts of *Les Miserables* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*)
- **Brandon Michael Nase** from A.R.T.'s 2018 production of ***The Black Clown*** (also *Ragtime* at Tulane Summer Lyric Theatre)
- **Bryonha Marie Parham** from A.R.T.'s 2011 production of ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*** and the 2012 Tony Award-winning Broadway revival (also *Prince of Broadway* on Broadway)
- **Mj Rodriguez** from A.R.T.'s 2017 productions of ***Burn All Night*** and ***Trans Scripts, Part I: The Women*** (also "Pose" on FX)
- **Matthew James Thomas** from A.R.T.'s 2012 production of ***Pippin*** and the Tony Award-winning Broadway revival (also *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark* on Broadway)

A five-piece band led by Music Director **Lance Horne** performs on-stage. Special guests during from the run include **Patina Miller** (November 16, 17, and 18), **Alicia Hall Moran** (November 19 and 21), **Norm Lewis** (November 20), **Rachel Bay Jones** (November 23), and **Lea DeLaria** (November 24).

During ***ExtraOrdinary***, the Loeb Drama Center is hosting a display featuring photographs, props, costumes, and memorabilia from the more than thirty musicals, music- and dance-theater pieces, and plays with music staged at the A.R.T. over the last decade.

EXTRAORDINARY CREATIVE TEAM

- **Diane Paulus**, Director (fourteen productions at A.R.T. including ***Jagged Little Pill***, ***The White Card***, ***In the Body of the World***, ***Waitress***, and ***Pippin***)
- **Nancy Harrington**, Associate Director (six productions at A.R.T. including ***Waitress*** and ***Pippin***)
- **Lance Horne**, Music Director (***Cabaret*** and ***Prometheus Bound*** at A.R.T., Music Director for Alan Cumming)
- **Abbey O'Brien**, Choreographer (***Jagged Little Pill*** at A.R.T. and ***Waitress*** on Broadway)

- **Dick Scanlan**, Writer (Artistic Advisor on *Invisible Thread* at Second Stage and book writer of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*)
- **Jason Sherwood**, Scenic Designer (A.R.T. debut; Sam Smith's world tour and *The Who's Tommy* at Denver Center Theatre Company)
- **Emilio Sosa**, Costume Designer (six productions at A.R.T. including *The White Card* and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*)
- **Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew**, Lighting and Projection Designer (A.R.T. debut; *Gloria: A Life* at Daryl Roth Theatre and *Relevance* at Lucille Lortel Theatre)
- **Jonathan Deans**, Sound Designer (five productions at A.R.T. including *Jagged Little Pill* and *Waitress*)
- **Julie Baldauff**, Production Stage Manager (four productions at A.R.T. including *Pippin* and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*)
- **Taylor Brennan**, Assistant Stage Manager (twenty-nine productions at A.R.T. including *The Black Clown* and *Jagged Little Pill*)

Production support of *ExtraOrdinary* is provided by **The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust** and **The Johnson Family**.

TICKETING INFORMATION

Tickets start at \$25 and are available now online at americanrepertorytheater.org, by phone at 617.547.8300, and in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Offices (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge). Discounts are available to Subscribers, Members, groups, students, seniors, Blue Star families, EBT card holders, and others.

PERFORMANCE DATES

7:30PM

November 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30

2PM

November 21, 24, 25, 28

Press performance: Sunday, November 18 at 7:30PM

Open Captioned performance: Thursday, November 29 at 7:30PM

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director in 2008. Under the leadership of Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries

of theater by producing transformative theatrical experiences, always including the audience as a central partner.

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for ***All the Way*** (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for ***Pippin*** (2013) and ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*** (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and sixteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards.

A.R.T. collaborates with artists around the world to develop and create work in new ways. It is currently engaged in a number of multi-year projects, including a collaboration with Harvard's Center for the Environment that will result in the development of new work over several years. Under Paulus' leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been an incubator for local and emerging artists and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, the A.R.T. catalyzes discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. The A.R.T. has trained generations of theater artists through its Institute for Advanced Theater Training, and also plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate concentration in Theater, Dance & Media.

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages more than 5,000 community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

Through all of these initiatives, A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience.

@americanrep #ExtraOrdinaryART

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