

Cast & Creative Details

Bruce Kimmel (Co-Author, Composer/Lyricist, Director)



Bruce Kimmel wrote, directed and starred in the cult movie hit, *The First Nudie Musical* (currently available in a Special Edition DVD). With David Wechter, he co-created the story for the hit film, *The Faculty*, directed by Robert Rodriguez and was a writer/producer on Penn and Teller's *Bullshit!* for Showtime. As an actor, Mr. Kimmel guest-starred on most of the long-running television shows of the 1970s.

Since 1993, Mr. Kimmel has been one of the leading producers of theatre music on CD, having produced over 150 albums. He was nominated for a Grammy for producing the revival cast album of *Hello, Dolly!*, and he also created the critically-acclaimed *Lost In Boston* and *Unsung Musicals* series. Mr. Kimmel has produced solo albums for many of today's best-known musical theatre performers, and he has also produced many off-Broadway and Broadway cast albums.

Mr. Kimmel is the author six novels – his acclaimed coming-of-age trilogy comprised of *Benjamin Kritzer*, *Kritzerland* and *Kritzer Time*, and his two mysteries, *Writer's Block*, which is set in the world of musical theatre in 1969, and *Rewind*, which is set in the world of the recording industry. His latest, *How To Write A Dirty Book and Other Stories*, was published in October 2006, and his new mystery, *Murder At Hollywood High* will be published in October 2007.

Mr. Kimmel directed (and wrote most of) a critically acclaimed musical revue, *What If?* and directed the world premiere of *The Brain From Planet X* in December of 2006. He has recently directed one-person shows for Linda Purl, Kevin Spirtas, and Joan Ryan.

David Wechter (Co-Author)

David Wechter co-wrote and co-directed the Disney cult film, *Midnight Madness*, and wrote and directed the film, *The Malibu Bikini Shop*. With Bruce Kimmel, he wrote the original screenplay for the hit film, *The Faculty*, directed by Robert Rodriguez. Mr. Wechter currently executive produces *Cowboy U* for CMT. He also executive produced *Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders: Making The Team*, *Scariest Places On Earth*, and was the supervising producer and writer of *Penn & Teller: Bullshit!* for Showtime, which won a Writers Guild Of America Award for Best Comedy.

Alet Taylor (Yoni)



Alet Taylor most recently appeared in the "Leo" tour of *The Producers*, and is just wrapping up her stint in the Las Vegas production of that show. In New York, she has appeared in *One Touch Of Venus*, *Sweet Adelaide*, *The Boys From Syracuse*, and *Li'l Abner*, all at Encores!. She also appeared in *Louisiana Purchase* and *Tip Toes* at Carnegie Hall. In Los Angeles, she performed in Bruce Kimmel's musical revue, *What If*, and created the role of Yoni in the world premiere of *The Brain From Planet X*. Miss Taylor has also sung on thirteen albums produced by Bruce Kimmel, including *Peter Pan*, *Sondheim At The Movies*, *Lost In Boston IV*, and *Unsung Musicals III*.

Cason Murphy (Zubrick)



Cason Murphy (Zubrick) has been performing on stage since age 3 when an impromptu "rabbit-pulling-out-of-his-hat" gave him a taste of fame - and he hasn't had the good sense to get off yet. He moved out to Los Angeles 3 years ago to attend Los Angeles City College's Theatre Academy, where among other shows, he created the role of Zubrick in the world premiere of "The Brain From Planet X."

Cason is thrilled to bring Zubrick to NYMF in his New York stage debut, and sends love to the two most important women in his life- his Mammy and his Honey Grace.

Barry Pearl (The Brain)



Barry Pearl (The Brain) is a 46 year theatre veteran, who's done hundreds of stage productions, including Broadway's BYE BYE BIRDIE, OLIVER! and THE PRODUCERS; the first national tour of GREASE, regional productions of KISS ME KATE, THE IMMIGRANT, NOISES OFF, TALLEY'S FOLLY, GUYS AND DOLLS, CRAZY FOR YOU, FORUM, LITTLE SHOP, FIDDLER, you name it; to scores of television shows ranging from ER to DAYS OF OUR LIVES. He's best known for playing "Doody" in Paramount's hit film, GREASE, and kids know Barry as "Professor Tinkerputt" from NBC's special, BEDTIME

WITH BARNEY: IMAGINATION ISLAND, and the live stage show, BARNEY'S BIG SURPRISE, as well as the videos of both. A Drama-Logue, Santa Barbara Independent Press and San Diego Playbill Award winner, Barry holds a BFA from Carnegie-Mellon University. www.barrypearl.com

Merrill Grant (Donna)



Merrill originated the role of Donna in the "The Brain from Planet X" in Los Angeles and also recorded the cast album. She is thrilled to be reprising the role and making her N.Y.M.F. debut. Last month she originated the lead role in "Slammer", a new women in prison musical, at Fringe Festival. Regional: leads in West Side Story, The Fantastiks, The Mikado, Wizard of Oz, Guys and Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof, A Chorus Line, and Evita (Mistress). Tours: The Music Man,

Cosi fan tutte (Despina), and Hansel and Gretel, as well as operetta concerts in Austria. She's a member of Third Eye Theatre Company (www.thirdeyetheatreco.com) "Thank you to all my excellent teachers and mentors who have helped me and to my family for their support." Proud member of Actor's Equity. www.merrillgrant.us

Benjamin Clark (Narrator/Professor Leder)



Benjamin Clark has appeared in Sand Storm, Fuddy Mears, Take Me Out, Working and Twelfth Night. Mr. Clark is a recent graduate of Los Angeles City College, where he created the role of Narrator/Professor Leder.

Steve Luker (General Mills)



Steve Luker has appeared in over 75 shows, including Broadway (42nd Street), National and European tours (Footloose, 42nd Street), Radio City, Off Broadway (The P Monologues), Regional Companies (North Shore Music Theatre, Goodspeed, TUTS, Gateway Playhouse, Crossroads, Mill Mountain, etc.) TV: Law and Order, Cosby, Hope and Faith, One Life To Live, commercials (currently appearing nationally in a Yellow Book spot with David Carradine) and voice-overs

Chad Harlow (Various roles/Ensemble)



Chad is thrilled to be making his NYMF debut. National tours: Show Boat, 42nd Street, The Music Man, and Cinderella. Regional: Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Ordway, St. Paul), Singin' in the Rain (Goodspeed), Thoroughly Modern Millie (Barter) and 42nd Street (Mill Mountain). Some favorites credits: Bobby in Crazy for You, Simeon in Joseph...Dreamcoat, Sparky in Forever Plaid, and Mickey/Mambo Dancer in Damn Yankees.

Joe Jackson (Various roles/Ensemble)



Joe Jackson (Ensemble) - Joe is excited to break his NYMF cherry with such a meaty piece! This Atlanta native and Ole Miss grad has worked nationwide on various tours and regional gigs. His favorites include: Dr. Dolittle (w/Tommy Tune), Carousel (Walnut

Street Theatre), She Loves Me (Arena Stage), & Camelot (North Shore Music Theatre). Joe would like to thank his family and friends for their wonderful, and most of all his inspiring wife for putting up with a Nut

Naomi Kakuk (Newscaster/Ensemble)



Broadway: The Producers, The Frogs (orig. casts and recordings). 1st National Tours: Spamalot, Annie...Gun, Dr. Dolittle, CATS (Cassandra, IV nat.). Film: The Producers, The Musical (Stenographer, Pearl Girl, Waitress) BFA in Ballet, University of Utah.

Denise Payne (Newscaster/Ensemble)



NY credits: Young Emily in Follies with City Center Encores! National tours: Doctor Dolittle (with Tommy Tune), 42nd Street, Footloose, and Titanic. Regional: Liza in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Papermill, TUTS, North Shore Music Theatre, TOTS), Ruby in Dames At Sea (Helen Hayes Theatre Co./Queens Theatre in the Park), Marty in Grease (DCT), Hope in Anything Goes (Artpark), Guys and Dolls (Macau, China).

Erin Webley (Various Roles/Ensemble)



Erin is so excited to be making her NYMF debut. She was recently seen as Little Sally in URINETOWN at the Geva Theatre and as Tommy Tune's tap dancing side-kick, Chee-Chee, in DOCTOR DOLITTLE. First National Tours include 42ND STREET and THOROUGHLY

MODERN MILLIE and regional credits include BABES IN ARMS (Goodspeed) and CINDERELLA (Papermill). Erin originated the role of Gloria in the Off-Broadway production of SUMMER OF '42. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan MT program and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

Steve Wenslawski (Various roles/Ensemble)

Larry Goldberg (Musical Director)

LAWRENCE GOLDBERG is a well-established music director, conductor and pianist for Broadway shows and touring and regional productions, as well as an accomplished composer and lyricist. Currently the Associate Conductor for The Drowsy Chaperone on Broadway, Larry has also conducted the Broadway productions of Thoroughly Modern Millie, The Phantom of the Opera, and Carousel, and he has Music Directed touring productions of The Producers, Les Misérables, Sunset Blvd., and Cats. Larry's regional theatre credits include shows at Prince Music Theatre (Philadelphia), Ahmanson Theatre (LA), Old Globe Theatre (San Diego), La Jolla Playhouse, American Musical Theatre

of San Jose, and Pittsburgh Public Theater.

Larry is also an accomplished composer/lyricist and arranger. He has written words and music for many cabaret songs, as well as the children's musical Big Bad Wolf and the Endangered Forest, and he was principal songwriter for the KDKA-TV (Pittsburgh) children's show Let's Read a Story in addition to appearing regularly on camera. His one-act chamber opera A Test of Faith was awarded 1st prize in the 1988 International Jewish Music Competition. His arrangements have been performed by the Boston Pops, Cincinnati Pops, and Pittsburgh Symphony orchestras.

Larry is proud to add "Author" to his résumé this year, with the publication of his new book, Broadway Musical Anagrami. Look for it in Theatre District gift shops.

Adam Cates (Choreographer)

ADAM CATES has danced alongside Tommy Tune as asst. choreographer for the national tour of Doctor Dolittle and Holland America's Paparazzi. In NYC, his choreography has been seen at the Cherry Lane Theatre (fringe), Galapagos Arts Space, and BB Kings. Internationally, his work was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and the Barbados Jazz Festival. This summer, Adam was the children's chorus choreographer for a tour of The Wizard of Oz (KC Starlight, ATL Theater of the Stars, Casa Manana). He choreographed The Magic of Eli Kerr, awarded "Best Production Show" in Reno/Tahoe that season. During NYMF's first season, he assisted on Jim & Bob Walton's The Eyes Are the First Thing To Go (Midlife!). Other associate/assistant choreographer credits: On the 20th Century (AMTSJ), Holland America's ms Oosterdam, Disney's Beauty & the Beast and, this fall, Peter Pan (Alabama Shakespeare). Adam continues to teach for various dance conservatories and conventions throughout North America. Thank you to my mentors: Patti, Peggy, and Tommy. www.adamcates.net

Larry Moore (Orchestrator)

Larry Moore was praised by the New York Daily News as "one of the most ingenious practitioners of his profession." His work has encompassed the theatre, choral, opera and recording industries. His restoration of Cole Porter's lost musical Jubilee has been performed by The New Amsterdam Theatre Company in New York, the 42nd Street Moon Company in San Francisco, Indiana University Opera Theatre, and by the BBC Radio 3 as a 1999 holiday broadcast. His work has been heard at the Goodspeed Opera, The New York State Theatre Institute, the Houston Grand Opera, and City Center Encores! His recordings include the complete Showboat for EMI-Angel, the Lost In Boston and Unsung Musicals series produced by Bruce Kimmel, Fine and Dandy and Jule Styne In Hollywood for PS Classics, and solo recordings for Liz Callaway, Jason Graae, John Barrowman, Caroline O'Connor, Sean McDermott, and others.

Heather Wolensky (Set Design)

Heather's recent design credits include Orpheus and Eurydice (Chashama), 'Nami' (Theatre row), Pincus, the Fish People, and The Great Flood (Dance New Amsterdam), Guys & Dolls (St. Bart Players), Breakfast for Dinner (NYC Fringe Festival), Fools in Love (BAM), and The Garden Party (Havel Festival). Assistant Design; Broadway: Well, Regional: Tale of Two Cities, Where's Charley? The Boy Friend and King Stag. Art Direction includes; Nickelodeon ME:TV, Denis Leary's Comics Come Home, BET Take5, 2007 FiFi Awards, and Hump day for ABC.com. Heather is a grad of SUNY Purchase and a member of USA-829.

Martian Entertainment (General Manager)

Martian Entertainment LLC is owned and founded by Carl D. White, and supported by a highly skilled staff including Lauren Yates as Assoc. GM, David van Zyll de Jong and Scott Delacruz. Producing/Management creds include: ALTAR BOYZ (NYC & B'way Nat'l Tour); NAKED BOYS SINGING!; MOTHER LOAD; [TITLE OF SHOW]; SAMMY & ME; DOG SEES GOD; THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (NYC & London); THE BLACK & WHITES BLUES; MATT & BEN; LOVE, JANIS; THE LAST SESSION; 21 DOG YEARS; CRISS ANGEL MINDFREAK; YORK THEATRE CO., many others. Next: Producing the new "MySpace Musical" TOP 8, by Jordan Beck & Jonathan May; A new Sci-Fi rock musical with composer Paul Murphy. www.MartianEntertainment.com

Michael Cassara (Casting Director)

Michael Cassara Casting (Casting) recent credits include The Molly Maguires (Pre-Broadway workshop, dir. Sheryl Kaller, mus. dir. John McDaniel), Clear Blue Tuesday (feature film, dir. Elizabeth Lucas), The Gig (benefit concert and cast recording), Breaking In (internet series), If This Hat Could Talk (national tour, dir. George Faison), Stephen Schwartz's Captain Louie (national tour), and countless readings and workshops. Regional credits include Goodspeed Musicals, the Paper Mill Playhouse, the Kitchen Theatre Company and the Hinton Battle Theatre Laboratory. Michael Cassara Casting is the resident casting office of the 2007 New York Musical Theatre Festival (NYMF). Upcoming: 11 shows in this year's NYMF and the inaugural 2007-2008 season of the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Arts in Fairfield, Iowa! For more information, please visit www.michaelcassara.net.

Rachel Maier (Production Stage Manager)

Off Broadway: The Awesome 80's Prom, My First Time. Favorite NYC credits: Don't Quit Your Night Job, White Noise (NYMF 06), The Fabulous Life of a Size Zero (DR2), Mr. Broadway benefit, Rags Benefit concert (Nokia Theater), Triple Threats (The Independent Theater), Aven'U Boys (Producers Club), Mettle (Studio Dante), All is Full of Love benefit concert, The Secret Garden benefit concert, Stuck in the Zipper concert, Based on a Totally True Story (MTC), Suddenly Last Summer (RTC), Monica ! The Musical (NYMF 05), Broadway Meets Country, and Captain Louie (Little Shubert). Workshops/Readings: In the Heights (37 Arts), Big Tent, Tom Jones (dir. Gordon Greenberg), White Noise. TV/Film: "Didn't this used to be fun" and "Breaking In." BA in Drama from the University of California, Irvine. Founding member of Coyote REP. Thanks to my family.

Joe Barros (Assistant Director)

Jay Scott (Lighting Designer)

Travis Walker (Technical Director)

Sun Productions, Inc. (Publicity - Sun Productions, Inc)

Sara Even (Sound Design)

Sara Even received her Bachelor's Degree in Sound Recording Technology from the University of Massachusetts – Lowell and completed her internship at the Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, NY. She has since gone on to work in Westchester county and NYC as both an engineer and designer. She has worked on such shows as Beauty and the Beast, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Oklahoma, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Julius Caesar, Saving Aimee and Geisha.

Matt DoCarlo (Assistant Stage Manager)