PLAYING
NOV 1 - DEC 8

MARY-KATE OLSEN IS IN LOVE

WRITTEN BY MALLERY AVIDON
DIRECTED BY KRISTAN SEEML
FEATURING THE BATS
THE FLEA THEATER

Jim Simpson Artistic Director Carol Ostrow Producing Director Beth Dembrow Managing Director

Presents the world premiere of

MARY-KATE OLSEN IS IN LOVE

Written by Mallery Avidon Directed by Kristen Seemel Featuring The Bats

Scott Tedmon-Jones Set Design John Eckert Lighting Design Ásta Hostetter Costume Design Kevin Brouder Sound Design Michael Wieser Fight Direction Anne Huston Stage Management
CAST
(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Grace...................................................... Katherine Folk-Sullivan
Tyler..................................................... Alex Grubbs
Ashley Olsen........................................... Kana Hatakeyama
Mary-Kate Olsen................................. Christine Lee
Soldier.................................................. Alex Mandell
The Amazing Girls............................... Crystal Arnette, Rachel Lin,
                                                 Elizabeth May, Vicki Rodriguez, Bonnie White

UNDERSTUDIES

Ashley Olsen......................................... Crystal Arnette
Grace.................................................. Rachel Lin
The Amazing Girls............................... Elizabeth May
Mary-Kate Olsen.................................... Bonnie White
Tyler, Soldier........................................ John Paul Harkins

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright.............................................. Mallery Avidon
Director............................................... Kristan Seemel
Set Designer.......................................... Scott Tedmon-Jones
Lighting Designer................................. John Eckert
Costume Designer................................. Ásta Bennie Hostetter
Sound Designer.................................... Kevin Brouder
Fight Director....................................... Michael Wieser
Actor Coach......................................... Jennifer McKenna
Stage Manager..................................... Anne Huston
Assistant to the Director....................... Rachel Levens
SPECIAL THANKS:
Mary-Kate Olsen is in Love was developed by:
Caitlin Sullivan & The Williams College Summer Theater Lab, Monica Hammond & The Attic Theater Co, David Perez & Pavement Group, David Herskovits & Target Margin Theater, Richard E.T. White & Cornish College of the Arts

Additional Thanks: Merlin Whitehawk, Jeff Bryant, Hans Vermy, Jon Regan, Adam Greenfield, and Dan Schneier

FLEA STAFF
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Producing Director......................................................Carol Ostrow
Managing Director....................................................Beth Dembrow
Technical Director.....................................................Liz Blessing
Company Manager.....................................................Erin Daley
Development Associate.............................................Alek Deva
Marketing Associate..................................................David Sernick
Audience Development Associate...............................Dominic Spillane
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Videographer.............................................................Crystal Arnette
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CAST

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

**Crystal Arnette** (Amazing Girl) has been happy to call The Flea home for the past 3 seasons and is utterly stoked to bring this badass play to life! The Flea Theater: #serials@theflea, Just Cause, Looking At Christmas. Elsewhere: Certifiable (FringeNYC), The House Of Von Macramé (The Bushwick Starr), The Consequences (Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater), F#@king Up Everything (Woolly Mammoth), Hamlet (Webster Hall). Films: You Can’t Kill Stephen King, Polaroid Girl, Requited, Dear Lucas, and Yesterday Is Here. When not biking around Bushwick Crystal plays with her band Ladybird and makes films with her production collective Adventure We Can (including the trailers for this show!) BFA: North Carolina School of the Arts. crystalarnette.com @crystalarnette

**Katherine Folk-Sullivan** (Grace) The Flea: Antigone in These Seven Sicknesses (Sean Graney), Office Hours (World Premiere by A.R. Gurney), Future Anxiety, as well as the world premieres of short plays by Will Eno, Nick Jones and many others. She has participated in readings and workshops at EST, Exit Pursued By a Bear, The Attic, The Assembly and others. B.A. in English from McGill University.

**Alex Grubbs** (Tyler) The Flea: a cautionary tail, These Seven Sicknesses, Passing Through, Sin in the City (The Dirty Blondes), Acedia (TheaterlabNYC), Tea Party (Columbia’s Schapiro Theater) over a dozen plays with #serials@theflea written by Chris Dimond,
Krista Knight, Willie Orbison, Christopher Sullivan, Eric Dufault and Tommy Smith. He’s participated in readings at Cherry Lane, Naked Angels, Culture Project NYC and Exit Pursued by a Bear. Other credits include: Ajax, Philoctetes and Women of Trachis (Theater of War), Rum and Vodka (Outside the Wire), The 39 Steps and Barefoot in the Park (Heritage Theater Festival) and The Merchant of Venice and Much Ado About Nothing (Oxford Shakespeare Festival) M.F.A in Acting from the University of Virginia.

John Paul Harkins (u/s Tyler, Soldier) has appeared in over 40 productions in New York City, favorite roles include: Richard II, Horatio, John the Baptist, and Ensemble in Judith Malina’s Here We Are at the Living Theater. Previous Flea credits include: Sarah Flood in Salem Mass, #serials@theflea, Just Cause, The Shakes (Madman, County Paris), I Hate Fucking Mexicans. John Paul also works in film, television, voice over, and modeling. He is also lead singer of the 90’s grunge cover band 90 Proof.

Kana Hatakeyama (Ashley Olsen) The Flea: Sarah Flood in Salem Mass, The Shakes: The Honest Whore (dir. Danya Taymor), The Flying Latke, #serials@theflea. Other NYC Theatre credits include: The Sonic Life of Giant Tortoises (La MaMa ETC), Tommy Smith’s Tangerine EP (The Brick). Film: Split(dir. Deborah Kampmeier). A Duke University graduate with a BA in Theater & International Studies, Kana also trained at The Eugene O’Neill Theater Center & Michael Howard Studios and has studied traditional theater in her native country of Japan.


Alex Mandell (Soldier) The Flea: Restoration Comedy, The Shakes: Romeo and Juliet, #serials@theflea; Other NY: Sleep No More (Punchdrunk); It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play (Queens Theatre); Regional: Shakespeare’s R&J (1st Stage); Macbeth and Twelfth Night (Allentown Shakespeare in the Park); Marisol (Boston Center for the Arts); Upcoming Regional: Pluto (Forum Theatre), Awake and Sing (Olney Theatre); Training: Boston University; LAMDA. Founding member: Marrow. www.alexmandell.com
Elizabeth May (Amazing Girl) The Flea Theater: Sarah Flood in Salem Mass, These Seven Sicknesses and #serials@theflea. New York: Stop the Virgens at St. Ann’s Warehouse, Missionary in Manhattan at Theatre for a New City, and Musical Chairs at The Brooklyn Lyceum. Regional: Steel Magnolias at Triad Stage, Missionary in Manhattan at Plays and Players, The Adrienne, Cirque de Vol, Elsewhere, and Marcus JCCA. Education: BFA in Acting from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Elizabeth is also a co-founder of The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Brooklyn. See more at www.GreatUke.com


Bonnie White (Amazing Girl) is thrilled to be a part of Mary-Kate Olsen is in Love, she was last seen on stage at The Flea in #serials@theflea and The Shakes: The Honest Whore. Other credits include The Oedipus Project (New Light Theater Project), The Last Tree on Easter Island (Berkshire Theater Festival reading). Bonnie performs often with her improv team The Works, for upcoming performances go to: www.facebook.com/theworksimprov. She is a graduate of Indiana University. www.BonnieRWhite.com
**CREATIVE TEAM**

**Mallery Avidon**’s play *O Guru Guru Guru, or why I don’t want to go to yoga class with you* received its world premiere at the 2013 Humana Festival of New American Plays, and will be produced by Carolina Actors Studio Theatre in November. Her play *queerSpawn* (a commission from the COLAGE foundation) premiered spring 2013, produced by a Collection of Shiny Objects at HERE Arts Center, NYC. Mallery’s work has been produced by Pavement Group and Target Margin Theater, among others. Mallery is an alumna of Soho Rep’s Writer/Director Lab, co-curator of The Bushwick Starr’s monthly reading series and a dramaturge for the company Saint Genet. She holds an M.F.A. in playwriting from Brown University.

**Kristan Seemel** (Director) has directed premieres of *The Electric Lighthouse* by Ed Himes (The Flea), *MUTT* by Lava Alapai and *The Vespiary* by Matthew Zrebski as well as Northwest regional premieres of Carlos Murillo’s *Mimesophobia* and Paula Vogel’s *The Long Christmas Ride Home*. Favorite recent revivals include *The Threepenny Opera, The Duchess of Malfi* and Gertrude Stein’s *Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights* (Portland Dramatic Critics Circle Award for Directing). Kristan has developed plays at Playwrights Horizons/Clubbed Thumb (SuperLab), Target Margin Theater, Brave New World Repertory Theatre and Portland Center Stage. He is an alumnus of the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab and a Resident Director at The Flea. MFA Directing Brown/Trinity Rep. www.kristanseemel.com

**Scott Tedmon-Jones** (Scenic Designer) NYC credits include *Rise and Fall of a Teenage Cyberqueen* (Access Theatre), *That Beautiful Laugh* (La MaMa E.T.C.), and *Harry and Pep* (Center Stage NY). Other credits include *The Rape of Lucretia* (Pittsburgh Opera),
Into the Woods (Carnegie Mellon University), and Deathtrap and Later Life (Snowy Range Summer Theatre). Working with Narelle Sissons, he has been associate designer for Juilliard Drama’s 4th Year Repertory since 2012. He has also worked extensively with Dane Laffrey as an assistant and as an associate designer since 2010. MFA: Carnegie Mellon University. www.stjdesign.com

John Eckert (Lighting Designer) Two New Hampshire Theatre Awards (Measure for Measure, Freud’s Last Session), LA Weekly Award (Iphigenia… A Rave Fable) Off Broadway: From White Plains (Fault Line Theatre). Other New York: Soulographie, How and Why I Robbed My First Cheese Store (La Mama), A Crucible, Atta Boy (Perfect Disgrace), Frogs, From The Same Cloth (Fault Line Theatre), Wait. She Waits. (HERE), Moonlight & Love Songs and The Loves of Mr. Lincoln (Gayfest NYC), If [Or When] the Roof Falls In (Rescue Agreement). Regional: A Christmas Carol 2011 & 2012 (Trinity Rep), This Verse Business (Merrimack Rep), From White Plains (Kitchen Theatre), What To Wear with Richard Forman (REDCAT), Miss Julie (Sledgehammer Theatre), Tartuffe (Boston Court), over 20 shows with Peterborough Players. MFA from CalArts. www.jeckert.com

Ásta Bennie Hostetter (Costume Designer) Recent work includes: This Great Country (600 Highwaymen, River to River), Hotel Colors (Bushwick Starr), Pinkolandia (dir. Jose Zayas, INTAR), Furry (William Burke,Jack), O guru guru guru… (dir. Lila Neugebauer, Humana Festival), (*) Inn (Target Margin Theater, Abrons Arts Center), Grimly Handsome (Julia Jarcho, Incubator Arts Project), Tube (Van Cougar, Incubator Arts Project). Glass Menagerie (dir. Anna Brenner,THEATREWORKS), Strange Cargo (Palissimo, PS 122). She received her MFA in Design from CalArts. www.astabennie.com
Kevin Brouder (Sound Designer) is a sound and video designer. Recent sound credits include And they say Romance is Dead (Structure XII) and Sousepaw: A Baseball Story (17 Frost). He has worked with Target Margin Theater, Pan-Asian Repertory Theater and the Submerged Collective. His last production at The Flea was sound and video design for Dirty Paki Lingerie by Aizzah Fatima. Kevin has a BFA from Sarah Lawrence College.

Anne Huston (Stage Manager) The Flea Theater: a cautionary tail, #serials@theflea, The Shakes: Romeo and Juliet, I Hate Fucking Mexicans. New York: The Importance of Being Ernest Hemingway (M-34), Ludic Proxy (The Play Company), R/evolution (Tisch School for the Arts), Curmudgeons in Love (EST Marathon), As You Like It (The New School), Staging Success (Atlantic Acting School). Regional: Avenue Q, Chicago, 39 Steps, Boeing, Boeing (Mason Street Warehouse).

Jennifer McKenna (Actor Coach) is an arts activist and consultant in the theatrical and artistic communities. She has worked directly with the The Flea for the past 5 years to cultivate a resource for the resident company in which the actors can equip and prepare themselves to live fully inspired lives on and off stage in New York City. She is striving to address and progress beyond the starving artist paradigm that so often adheres itself to creative people in our culture today. Jennifer also works privately outside The Flea with creators of varying artistic mediums.
THE FLEA STAFF

Jim Simpson (Artistic Director and Founder) Jim was a child actor in his hometown of Honolulu, as a teenager worked with Jerzy Grotowski in Poland, and holds degrees from Boston University School for the Arts and the Yale Drama School. He’s worked at many venues in New York City, Nationally and Internationally. Drama Desk cited for Downtown Adventurous Theater, Two-time OBIE-award winner, National Board of Review Excellence in Filmmaking, and cited for artistic leadership in Downtown New York by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.

Carol Ostrow (Producing Director) joined Jim Simpson at the helm of The Flea in 2001 and The Guys marked her return to Off-Off-Broadway. She was the OBIE-award winning Producing Director of the Classic Stage Company, where she produced The Merchant of Venice, directed by Jim Simpson, the world premiere of Ezra Pound’s Elektra, directed by Carey Perloff as well as the acclaimed 30th anniversary production of Pinter’s The Birthday Party, among others. She was also the founder and original Producing Director of The Powerhouse Theater at Vassar, now in its 28th season. In between, she has been an adjunct professor of theater at Vassar College, Chatham College and McGill University. For The Flea, Carol has produced dozens of world premieres and has been responsible for sound fiscal management of the theater’s $1M budget for eleven years. In addition to expanding and professionalizing infrastructure at The Flea, she helped to develop the theater’s current 18-member board of directors and has overseen the launch of a patron program that has raised more than $300,000 in the past three years. She has produced the theater’s successful galas and has helped The Flea win prestigious grants from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
Theater Program, The National Endowment of The Arts, The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, The Empire State Development Corporation and The Shubert Foundation, among many others. Carol is a graduate of Vassar College and the Yale Drama School. She is a board member of LAVA, an acrobatic dance collective, serves on the President’s Advisory Council of Vassar College and the Board of Advisors of the Yale Drama School, and on the executive committee of one of the oldest congregations in New York City, Central Synagogue. Married and the mother of four incredible young adults, she and her family count Pittsburgh, London, Montreal and now New York City once again as home.

**Beth Dembrow** (Managing Director) has been with The Flea since 2007 working on *Oh, The Humanity and other exclamation* by Will Eno, *Lower Ninth* by Beau Willimon, *Kaspar Hauser* by Liz Swados & Erin Courtney, *Love/Stories (or But You Will Get Used to It)* by Itamar Moses, *The Great Recession*, an evening of short plays by Thomas Bradshaw, Sheila Callaghan, Erin Courtney, Will Eno, Itamar Moses and Adam Rapp, *Girls in Trouble* by Jonathan Reynolds, *Parents’ Evening* by Bathsheba Doran, *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen, *These Seven Sicknesses* by Sean Graney and all other mainstage and downstairs productions. Prior to her arrival, she spent two and half years at Lincoln Center Theater where she worked on all mainstage and second stage productions, including the Tony-Award winning productions, *The Light in the Piazza* and Tom Stoppard’s *The Coast of Utopia*. Other management experiences include various Broadway and Off Broadway with Snug Harbor Productions (Steven Chaikelson and Brannon Wiles). Beth holds a B.A. from Cornell University and an M.F.A. in Theater Management and Producing from Columbia University.
Liz Blessing (Technical Director) Liz is happy to have found a home at The Flea Theater. Before coming to the Flea she was the Draftsperson for I. Weiss, creating construction drawings for rigging system installation on Broadway and beyond. Previous to that she was an Engineering Assistant for City Theatrical, Inc, where she helped test the W-DMX system. Liz has a B.S. from The College of William and Mary.

Erin Daley (Company Manager) comes to The Flea after spending last year producing Arena Stage’s Eugene O’Neill Festival in Washington D.C. Prior to this; she spent three years as a coordinator in Los Angeles working in film and commercials before her love of theater tore her away. After cutting her teeth as an independent producer and director, Erin is thrilled to have a found a home at The Flea where she can continue to work on exciting and innovative new theater. Erin is proud to have graduated from Skidmore College, Class of 2008.

Dominic Spillane (Audience Development Associate) began working with The Flea Theater in 2009 as an actor in The Great Recession performing in Sheila Callaghan’s Recess directed by Kip Fagan, Classic Kitchen Timer by Adam Rapp, and Severed by Erin Courtney. In 2011 he and partner Stephen Stout created and produced the hit late-night play competition #serials@theflea, now in its second year running. As a producer Dominic created the short film “Falling Down” which toured 4 international film festivals, and the one-act festival Dancing With Myself at the Working Stage theater in Los Angeles. In 2012 Dominic directed Bea Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table by Joe Tracz (Ars Nova’s ANT Fest), and Lighthouse by Charlotte Miller (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater’s TheaterJam). He has also directed short plays by Stacy Davidowitz and Leslye Headland.
David Sernick (Marketing Associate) graduated from Indiana University with a double BA in Political Science and Theatre & Drama along with a Certificate in Arts Administration. From 2009 – 2012 David was the Marketing Associate at Barrington Stage Company where he cultivated younger audiences with new media strategies thanks to a Future Audiences Grant from TCG. David founded Black Swan Theatre Project in Grand Rapids, MI and InPulse Productions in Bloomington, IN where he directed, produced and occasionally acted. Other directing credits include assistant directing at Barrington Stage Company and directing for Barrington Stage’s inaugural 10×10 New Play Festival.

Alek Deva (Development Associate) received a degree in English with a focus in Poetry Writing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During his tenure at UNC-CH, Alek worked nearly full time as the Master Electrician and in-house Lighting Designer at the University’s world-class Memorial Hall, the main performance venue of Carolina Performing Arts. After working with numerous theater, dance, and music artists from around the world, he decided to make the transition to the other side of the curtain. Alek studied for a year at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in their Performing Arts Management MFA program, during which time he produced a world premiere percussion and piano performance featuring award-winning percussionist Scott O’Toole and composer/pianist Alicia Willard. He most recently worked at the Weston Playhouse Theatre Company as their Marketing Associate, where he developed a dynamic and successful marketing campaign for world premiere musical Pregnancy Pact (by Gordon Leary and Julia Meinwald).
WHAT IS THE FLEA?

The Flea is our theater: two unique and intimate performance spaces, located here at 41 White Street in Tribeca. But The Flea is also an award-winning producing organization, founded in 1996, that offers more than 250 cutting-edge theatrical and multi-disciplinary performances each year and gives voice to some of the most exciting and innovative writers of our time.

Founded from the purely artistic impulse to create “joyful hell in a small space”, our body of work has earned us accolades from across the globe including two Obie Awards for Best Production, an Otto for Courageous Political Theater, and a Drama Desk Award Special Award for our commitment to adventurous theater. Our 2001 production of *The Guys*, a raw artistic response to the events of 9/11, became a phenomenon that played to sold-out houses for 13 months and quickly cemented our leadership role in the downtown, Off-Off-Broadway and Lower Manhattan communities.

The Flea is a beacon for adventurous audiences and creative artists of all stripes, from the young striver to the legendary veteran. More than 150,000 people have come to The Flea to witness the rare spark created when artists are given free rein to play, experiment and invent—often in ways that the commercial theater can’t support. And it is that spark that fulfills our mission, pure and simple: to embody the spirit of adventure and excitement that has defined Off-Off-Broadway since its inception.
WHO & WHAT ARE THE BATS?

The Bats is our critically acclaimed resident company, cast anew each year from over 1,000 aspiring young actors. Voted “Best Off-Off-Broadway Company to Act In” by Backstage, being a Bat offers young artists the rare opportunity to break into the field with real life experience, performing in front of an audience on a regular basis and working to support The Flea and its visiting artists. All in one night, a Bat may tear your ticket, pour you a drink and rivet your soul to the stage.

WHAT IS OFF-OFF-BROADWAY?

Dating back almost fifty years, Off-Off-Broadway began informally--an alternative, non-commercial environment where new ideas and projects were born out of energetic and often happenstance encounters. Hundreds of well-known artists credit this adventurous and free-spirited time with their falling in love with theater, and getting good at what they do.

Visit www.theflea.org for information on all things Flea!

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The Flea Circus Campaign

Fifteen years ago The Flea’s founders undertook an artistic experiment, renting an old TriBeCa factory in the wilds of Lower Manhattan and opening the doors to the most iconoclastic and talented artists they could find. Since then The Flea has evolved into an award-winning theater known for presenting the very best of Off-Off-Broadway theater, music and dance.

We have also become an emblem for the resilience of Lower Manhattan, drawing more than 150,000 people to the area since the 9/11 attacks. To continue in that leadership role, we recently purchased a site nearby that is soon to become our permanent new home. Our goal is to continue producing our own intimate and exhilarating work while providing stability to dozens of other artists and performance groups. We are grateful to the following for their lead gifts to the project:

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We apologize if you have been left off this list.
Please contact Alek Deva at alekd@theflea.org for any corrections.
For more information on our Capital Project, please contact Carol Ostrow, (212) 226-0051 x104
In June of 2009 The Flea launched a unique patron program called The Flea IPs - an elite and dedicated group that helps to make the dreams of The Flea a reality. Flea IPs gain insider access through exclusive events including private talk-backs, intimate artist dinners, master classes and first-look readings. Flea IPs commit their support for three full years, generously pledging $5,000 each year.

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Please contact Carol Ostrow at 212.226.0051 x104 or carolo@theflea.org for more information.

The Flea proudly salutes our Flea I.P. members and thanks them for their unwavering support:

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THE FLEA THEATER

Mary-Kate Olsen is in Love

PLAYING

NOV 1 - DEC 8

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French Bistro
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212-647-0202 / www.here.org
Theater
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