The Flea Theater presents the World premiere of **Squash**

...one of "Two Class Acts"

by **A.R. Gurney**

Directed by **Stafford Arima**

with **Dan Amboyer, Nicole Lowrance and Rodney Richardson**
THE FLEA THEATER
NIEGEL SMITH, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
CAROL OSTROW, PRODUCING DIRECTOR
PRESENTS
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF
SQUASH
BY A.R. GURNEY
DIRECTED BY STAFFORD ARIMA
FEATURING
DAN AMBOYER, NICOLE LOWRANCE,
& RODNEY RICHARDSON
JASON SHERWOOD SCENIC DESIGN
SKY SWITSER COSTUME DESIGN
JAKE DEGROOT LIGHTING DESIGN
MILES POLASKI SOUND DESIGN
ZACH SERAFIN PROP DESIGN
BEN ANDERSEN STAGE MANAGER
CAST

Dan Proctor ................................................................. Dan Amboyer
Becky Proctor .............................................................. Nicole Lowrance
Gerald Caskey ............................................................ Rodney Richardson

SPECIAL THANKS:


ABOUT THE PLAY:

A professor of classic literature finds himself questioning his identity when a student presents an intriguing take on Plato’s Symposium. Boundaries are tested and personal lives are upended as teacher and student grapple with sexuality, love, and sport.

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council.
CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright ................................................................. A.R. Gurney
Director ......................................................................... Stafford Arima
Scenic Design ................................................................. Jason Sherwood
Costume Design ............................................................. Sky Switser
Lighting Design ................................................................. Jake DeGroot
Sound Design ................................................................. Miles Polaski
Prop Design ................................................................. Zach Serafin
Production Stage Manager ........................................... Ben Andersen
Associate Director ........................................................... Jenn Andersen
Assistant Director ............................................................. Kate Moore Heaney
Assistant Costume Design ................................................. Sarah Lawrence
Associate Lighting Design ................................................ Becky Heisler
Assistant Sound Design ..................................................... Matthew Fischer
Assistant Stage Manager .................................................... Shannon L. Gaughf
Rehearsal Stage Manager ................................................ Michal V. Mendelson

All actors and stage managers appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association.

FLEA STAFF

Artistic Director ............................................................... Niegel Smith
Produce Director ............................................................... Carol Ostrow
General Manager ............................................................... Erica Laird
Capital Project Manager ..................................................... Tim Catlett
Company Manager ............................................................ Emilie Pass
Marketing Associate ......................................................... Olivia Lloyd Smith
Audience Development Associate ........................................ Kristin Slaney
Development Associate ...................................................... Charlie Madison
Technical Director ............................................................... Ali Akbarian
Assistant Technical Director ............................................... Carolyn Chadwick
Wardrobe Manager ............................................................ Sarah Lawrence
Graphic Designer ............................................................... David Prittie
Videographer ................................................................. Crystal Arnette
Photographer ................................................................. Joan Marcus
Accountant ................................................................. Joel Faden & Company, Inc.
Attorney ................................................................. Carol M. Kaplan/Loeb and Loeb
Development Consultant ................................................... Rachel Colbert
Theater, Technical & Production Consultant ......................... Kyle Chepulis
Press Representative ........................................................ Ron Lasko/Spin Cycle
**THE COMPANY**

**DAN AMBOYER** (Dan Proctor) Dan played Thad on the first two seasons of Darren Star’s hit TV series “Younger,” and will continue as twin brother Chad in the upcoming third season. Theatre: premiere of David Ives’ THE METROMANIACS (Shakespeare Theatre, dir. Michael Kahn), Orlando in AS YOU LIKE IT, Bertram in INHERIT THE WIND (both helmed by Adrian Noble) Henry VII in RICHARD III (dir. Lindsay Posner) all at the Old Globe, TWELFTH NIGHT (Bay Street Theatre), seasons at the Utah Shakespeare Festival, etc. Film/TV: “Brawl in Cell Block 99” (upcoming, starring Vince Vaughn), HRH Prince William in Hallmark’s “WILLIAM & CATHERINE: A ROYAL ROMANCE”, “BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE”, “LOVE THE COOPERS”, CBS’ “JOHN CUSACK” pilot, IFC’s “BENDERS,” “INSIDE AMY SCHUMER,” “PERSON OF INTEREST,” “UNFORGETTABLE,” “BODY OF PROOF,” “GRACELAND,” “LAW & ORDER,” “ALL MY CHILDREN.” He is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon. Follow Dan’s adventures at @DanAmboyer!

**NICOLE LOWRANCE** (Becky Proctor) Broadway: WHO’S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF (u/s), DIVIDING THE ESTATE. International: THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (Royal Shakespeare Company). Off-Broadway: PERMISSION (MCC); MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT (Keen Company); PETER AND THE STARCATCHER (New World Stages); THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, ALL’S WELL THAT ENDS WELL, ENGAGED, DON JUAN (Theatre for a New Audience); COLUMBINUS (New York Theater Workshop). Regional: DISGRACED (Long Wharf, Huntington Theater Co.) O.P.C. (American Repertory Theater); OLEANNA/SPEED-THE-PLOW (in rep) (ATC); BEDROOM FARCE, BEYOND THERAPY, DAVID COPPERFIELD (Westport Country Playhouse); STEEL MAGNOLIAS, THE 39 STEPS (Cape May Playhouse) CURSE OF THE STARVING CLASS (ACT); THE LEARNED LADIES OF PARK AVENUE (Hartford Stage); ROMEO AND JULIET (Folger Theatre); HAMLET, THE LITTLE FOXES (Shakespeare Theatre Company). TV: “LAW & ORDER,” “WHOOPI,” “GUIDING LIGHT,” “AMERICAN MASTERS.” She is a graduate of The Juilliard School.

CREATIVE TEAM

A.R. (“PETE”) GURNEY (playwright) was born in 1930 in Buffalo, New York. He graduated from Williams College in 1952, served as an officer in the Navy, and afterwards attended the Yale School of Drama. For many years he taught literature at M.I.T., but moved to New York in 1982 to devote more time to writing for the theatre. He has won a fair amount of awards during his career, and is now a member of the Theatre Hall of Fame, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and is a 2016 recipient of the Obie Lifetime Achievement Award. Gurney has been married to his wife Molly for 59 years. They have four children and eight grandchildren, and now live in Roxbury, Connecticut and New York City.

STAFFORD ARIMA (director) Selected work includes: Poster Boy (Williamstown Theatre Festival); Allegiance (Broadway); Total Eclipse (Toronto); Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living In Paris (Stratford Shakespeare Festival); Carrie (MCC Theatre); The Tin Pan Alley Rag (Roundabout Theatre Company); Candide (San Francisco Symphony); The Secret Garden (David Geffen Hall); Altar Boyz (Off-Broadway); Ragtime (West End); Spring Awakening (UC Davis); Bright Lights, Big City (Prince Music Theater); bare (2012 Off Broadway revival); and Bowfire (PBS television special). Arima graduated from York University, where he was the recipient of the Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Creative Work. He serves as Artistic Advisor for the Broadway Dreams Foundation, is an Adjunct Professor at UC Davis and a proud member of SDC. www.staffordarima.com

JASON SHERWOOD (scenic design) Recent: FROZEN for Disney Creative Entertainment. New York: HER PORTMANTEAU (New York Theatre Workshop, upcoming); Vox Lumiere’s PHANTOM (Daryl Roth Theatre, Upcoming);
SOJOURNERS (Playwrights Realm); SONGBIRD (59E59); CHARLES FRANCIS CHAN... (Walker Space, NAATCO); SEAWIFE (Naked Angels); WRINGER (City Center); THE MYSTERIES (The Flea), RING TWICE FOR MIRANDA (City Center, upcoming). Regional: FRANKENSTEIN (Denver Center), THE MOUNTAINTOP (Trinity Rep), CONSTELLATIONS (Portland Center Stage); TAMING OF THE SHREW (Shakespeare Theatre Company); PAINT YOUR WAGON (Seattle’s 5th Avenue Theater); CAKE OFF (Signature Theatre); THE CIRCUS IN WINTER (Goodspeed); JASPER IN DEADLAND (Seattle’s 5th Avenue Theater); THE WHIPPING MAN (Alliance Theatre); The CA Lyons Project (Alliance Theatre); COMPANY (Bucks County Playhouse), CHOIR BOY (Studio Theatre). Sherwood is the 2013 LiveDesign Magazine “Designer to Watch.” He has been a guest artist at NYU and for the Yale Dramat. NYU grad.

www.jasonsherwooddesign.com @JasonSherwoodDesign

SKY SWITSER (costume design) As the associate designer of ALADDIN on Broadway, Sky has also been responsible for mounting the subsequent productions in London, Tokyo, Sydney and Hamburg. Also as associate designer on Broadway: TUCK EVERLASTING, SIDE SHOW, LEGALLY BLONDE, THE DROWSY CHAPERONE, CYRANO DEBERGERAC, DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS; Regional: PEEPSHOW (Las Vegas Strip), MAME (Kennedy Center), MINSKY’S (Ahmanson). Design credits include PROPAGANDA! (Pearl), LEGALLY BLONDE (The Muny, St.Louis), BUBBLE BOY (film), SPANK (The Abbey, Orlando), PRISON DANCER (St. Clements), OUTLAWS (McGinn-Cazale), GORILLA MAN (P.S. 122) and costumes for the band the Fabulous Entourage. Film/ TV credits include assistant costume designer on SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, ROYAL PAINS, SMASH, and currently the new film OCEAN’S EIGHT.

JAKE DEGROOT (lighting design) Broadway: OH, HELLO. Off-Broadway: THE ROBBER BRIDEGROOM (Roundabout); SEAWIFE (Naked Angels, Drama Desk Nomination); FLY (New Victory); OH, HELLO (Cherry Lane); HERE’S HOOVER (Les Freres Corbusier); FORUM (Two River); COMPANY and NATIONAL PASTIME (Bucks County Playhouse); SPAM (Jack); Ars Nova; The Griffin, The Linney; The New Ohio; The Peter J. Sharp; The Beckett; The Lion; 3 Legged Dog; The Huntington; The Geffen; Cincinnati Playhouse; Repertory Theatre of St. Louis; Pasadena Playhouse; New York Stage and Film; Williamstown; Adirondack Theatre Festival; The Cape Playhouse; W.H.A.T.; ReVision; Yale Drama; Shanghai Centre Theatre. Co-Lighting Supervisor: Williamstown Theatre Festival 08-09. BFA, Carnegie Mellon. www.jakedegroot.com
ZACH SERAFIN (sound design) is a New York based scenic designer/carpenter/props master/artist/maker, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Buffalo State College. Currently, he is the Resident Set Designer for Red Monkey Theater Group and the Children’s Acting Academy. Previously Zach has propped NEIGHBORHOOD 3: REQUISITION OF DOOM for The Flea. Zach’s ambitions are expansive, with interests in the entertainment field as well as performance art, event and exhibit design, visual merchandising and theme park design. For more please visit www.zachserafindesigns.com

MILES POLASKI (sound design) is a NYC based designer and composer. He is excited to work with The Flea Theatre again where his design of FULFILLMENT received a Drama Desk nomination. Miles has also worked with Playwrights Realm, NAATCO, Ma-Yi Theatre, The Pace Gallery, MBL Productions and others. Before moving to NYC Miles was the resident sound and video designer at The Barter Theatre, in Abingdon, VA for 5 seasons where designed over 65 musicals and plays. Miles was previously based in Chicago and worked closely with many great theatre companies including Collaboraction, 2nd Story, The Goodman, Steppenwolf, Chicago Dramatists, The Gift, Steep, About Face, and many, many others. In 2010 Miles received a Joseph Jefferson Award for his sound design of Martyna Majok’s A MOUSE IN A JAR directed by William Davis.

MICHAL V. MENDELSON (production stage manager). Michal is glad to be back at The Flea. Her other NY credits include St. Anne’s Warehouse, The New School for Drama, New Georges, Red Fern Theatre, TerraNova Collective, New Dramatists, The Pearl Theatre, Studio 42, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Dog-Run Rep, and Worth Street Theatre. Regionally, she has stage managed for Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre, Berkshire Playwrights Lab, and Fairfield Theatre. She is a proud member of Actors Equity.

Knick (Cinemax), Royal Pains (USA), Happyish (Showtime), Z: The Beginning of Everything (Amazon). www.JennRapp.com

**KATE MOORE HEANEY** (assistant director) Kate Moore Heaney is a director, producer, playwright, and dramaturg committed to promoting empathy and investigating social, political, and human rights issues through theatre. She has directed and developed new work for Serials @ the Flea, Fundamental Theatre Project, The Director's Gathering Jam, Midtown International Theatre Festival, The Secret Theatre, The 24 Hour Plays: Nationals, TinyRhino, Rising Sun Performance Company, Playwrights at the Grand, and Yes Noise on the High Line. In addition to serving as a Resident Director at The Flea, Kate is also the Associate Artistic Producer at Noor Theatre and a Shakespeare Society Ambassador. She has worked, trained, and/or assistant directed at McCarter Theatre (2014-15 Directing/Producing Assistant), Second Stage, Clubbed Thumb, CRY HAVOC, Yale Institute for Music Theatre, and the Théâtre du Châtelet, assisting directors such as Emily Mann, Mark Brokaw, Portia Krieger, Adam Immerwahr, and Michael Unger.

BA: Yale University. katemooreheaney.com

**SARAH LAWRENCE** (assistant costume design) A recent graduate of Parson's The New School for Design, Sarah is a Brooklyn based artist, fashion maker, and costume designer. While pursuing freelance design work and creating her own sustainable hand-crafted fashion line (www.gravexsl.com), Sarah found her way into theater as Assistant Costume Designer for Thomas Bradshaw's Fulfillment produced by The Flea Theater. She has since joined the Flea Staff as Wardrobe Supervisor and continues to put her degree in Integrated Design to good use!

**BECKY HEISLER** (associate lighting design) is a Lighting Designer based in Queens. She has BFA in Lighting Design from Penn State in 2013. This is her third show with The Flea, the most recent being THE PLACE WE BUILT this spring. Her previous credits include Lighting Designer for BAMBOULA!, MUSICIAN’S BREW, MOR DANCE SPRING PERFORMANCE, and A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOVIET UNION. She has also acted as Assistant Lighting Designer on COMPANY! for the Bucks County Playhouse and A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM at Two River Theater.
MATTHEW FISCHER (assistant sound design) is an East Coast based audio engineer and sound designer. He is a recent graduate from the Yale School of Drama’s certificate program in Audio Engineering, and a graduate from The University of Northern Colorado’s Technical Design and Technology program. Since 2010, he has been working in theatrical audio while also dabbling in the world of costume design and direction. His work has been seen at several theatre companies around the country, including theatres in Colorado, Michigan, Connecticut, and his new home of New York. He most recently worked as the FOH mixer for Crashlight: a New Musical at Cherry Lane Studios and for Fiorello! at Classic Stage Company.

SHANNON L. GAUGHF (assistant stage manager) Shannon L. Gaughf is excited for her first show here at The Flea. Other credits include Eclipsed on Broadway, Bells Are Ringing (Berkshire Theater Group) The Caucasian Chalk Circle (Yale Repertory Theatre), and Hello Dolly! (Goodspeed Musicals). She also served as the production stage manager for Footlight Players in Indiana, Pennsylvania. Shannon holds an MFA in stage management from the Yale School of Drama and a BA in technical theater and design from Saint Mary’s College of California.

THE FLEA STAFF

NIEGEL SMITH (Artistic Director) is a theater director & performance artist. His theater work has been produced by Classical Theatre of Harlem, HERE Arts Center, Hip Hop Theatre Festival, The Invisible Dog, Luna Stage, Magic Theatre, Mixed Blood, New York Fringe Festival, New York Live Arts, Phoenix Theatre Ensemble, The Public Theater, Summer Play Festival, Todd Theatre and Under the Radar, and his participatory performances have been produced by Abrons Arts Center, American Realness, Dartmouth College, Elastic City, The Invisible Dog, Jack, The New Museum, Prelude Festival, PS 122, the Van Alen Institute and Visual AIDS. He often collaborates with artist Todd Shalom and playwright/performer Taylor Mac. Smith, a graduate of Dartmouth College, was the associate director of the Tony Award winning musical FELA!, assistant directed the off-broadway production of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and both the broadway and off-broadway productions of Tony Kushner’s Caroline, or Change. He has received residencies, grants and/or fellowships from Brooklyn Arts Council, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Sundance Theatre Lab, Theater Communications Group, Tucker Foundation, Van Lier Fund and VoxFest. Before surviving high school in Detroit, he grew up in the North Carolina piedmont, fishing with his dad, shopping with his mom and inventing tall-tale fantasies with his two younger brothers.
CAROL OSTROW (Producing Director) Carol Ostrow (Producing Director) joined founder 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 as well as the founder and original Producing Director of The Powerhouse Theater at Vassar, now in its 31st 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 15 seasons of world premiere productions and has been responsible for the sound management of the theater’s increasing programming and budget. She is also overseeing The Flea’s capital campaign that will result in a new performing arts center for The Flea to be launched in 2017. (Stay tuned!) Carol is a graduate of Vassar College and the Yale Drama School. She is a new trustee of Vassar and she also serves on the Board of Advisors of the Yale Drama School. Beyond her alma maters, she is a member of the board of Central Synagogue, the National Psoriasis Foundation, the MacDowell Colony and LAVA, an acrobatic dance collective in Brooklyn. She is also a Wall Street Journal Expert, where she writes on small business for the paper’s online edition. Married and the mother of four incredible and launched young adults, she and her family count Pittsburgh, London, Montreal and now New York City once again as home.

ERICA LAIRD (General Manager) Erica joins The Flea after seven years as Managing Director with The Builders Association where she oversaw all the company’s operations and produced the development, premieres and touring of HOUSE / DIVIDED, SONTAG: REBORN and ELEMENTS OF OZ. Previously she was Marketing and Residency Manager at the Cutler Majestic Theater in Boston (now ArtsEmerson), and Senior Associate at NYC international booking agency Micocci Productions, where she booked tours for companies including STREB, Big Dance Theater, SITI Company and Mabou Mines. Erica is a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles, and a native of Kailua-Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii.

TIM CATLETT (Capital Project Manager) Tim Catlett’s life has involved many twists and turns. A military upbringing took him around the world preparing him for the crazy life of a theater professional. Back in New York after almost 30 years, his time was spent in national touring, television, radio, independent and studio films, and no little amount of his first love; the stage, variously as designer, technical director, and/or director. He is a WI-certified Theater Teacher; a dearly loved 16 years of the hardest theater ever. He also has a passion for being creative safely, consulting and lecturing on theater safety programs. Additionally, he has been a magician and magic consultant for over 30 years. Most importantly, he is the proud father of a young lady who is a Shakespeare fanatic, and a young man who thinks working backstage would be
awesome. He relishes the prospects of his time to come with The Flea.

EMILIE PASS (Company Manager) Prior to The Flea, Emilie was Berkeley Repertory Theatre’s Company Management Fellow, the Box Office Manager for the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and an independent producer and director. She is passionate about creating opportunities for artists to take risks, and is thrilled to have the chance to do just that at The Flea! Emilie is a proud graduate of Wesleyan University and a Los Angeles native.

CHARLIE MADISON (Development Associate) Charlie is a recent graduate from Brandeis University, where he majored in both Psychology and Musical Theater Writing. While at Brandeis, Charlie wrote and directed an original play, LOST GIRLS, and an original full length musical, GRACE. Other notable accomplishments include music directing his undergraduate a cappella group, Company and serving as Programs Assistant in the Brandeis Office of the Arts. Charlie began his experience in not-for-profit theater as an Artistic Intern at Central Square Theater (Cambridge, MA); since then he has served as the inaugural Summer Apprentice at the Arden Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA) and was Manhattan Theatre Club’s Fall 2015 Institutional Giving Intern. Out the office, Charlie enjoys singing his heart out, writing musicals and plays, and thrifting: his inspirations include Jeanine Tesori, Janet Jackson, Adam Guettel, and the one and only Mariah Carey.

OLIVIA LLOYD (Marketing Associate) Olivia Lloyd Smith is a West Virginia native, based in Brooklyn since 2014. An alumna of The University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance (BFA Directing ’13), Olivia has worked in theater and non-profit marketing for four years. In her spare time, she directs, produces, and designs independent work.

KRISTIN SLANEY (Audience Development Associate) Kristin Slaney is a playwright, producer, dramaturg, and teacher originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia. Kristin is a recent graduate of Columbia University’s MFA Playwriting program and she is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre’s playwriting group Youngblood. She is also an Instructor in Columbia’s Undergraduate Writing Program. Kristin first became involved with The Flea as a Serials playwright in 2015, and she is so excited to become further involved with The Flea’s operations as Audience Development Associate.
**ALI AKBARIAN** (Technical Director) Born in Canada, Ali has always been captivated by the mechanics of his surroundings and curious as to how things work on the inside; logically and emotionally. After a glimpse of potential in 2006, Ali set out to the University of Florida and found a path in theatre. Immediately following his graduation at the top of his class in Scenic Design; he was contracted for a year long residency at one of the most successful regional theatres in the southeast, The Hippodrome. Ali was contracted as Production Manager by a leading Event Decor company in the southeast region months before the end of his residency. Excelling in the commercial market while managing over eight productions a week with over thirty staff members and over-hire in multiple spaces; Ali’s future in theatre was fading away quickly. On December 20th, 2015 this realization was cemented into his soul and so the following week he sold his motorcycle, car, and three quarters of his apartment. By December 27th, 2015 Ali moved home, Brooklyn, New York!

**CAROLYN V. CHADWICK** (Assistant Technical Director) Carolyn V Chadwick is thrilled to be working at the Flea! She’s a recent graduate of Fordham University and though she majored in Anthropology, she is an aspiring Scenic Designer and Carpenter. In addition to her time at the Flea, Carolyn freelances scenic design, carpentry, painting, lighting design and general technical assistance. In her spare time, she acts as a barber to herself and her friends. She enjoys authors like Virginia Woolf and Thomas Pynchon and artists like Bjork and Titus Andronicus.

**SARAH LAWRENCE** (Wardrobe Supervisor) A recent graduate of Parson’s The New School for Design, Sarah is a Brooklyn based artist, fashion maker, and costume designer. While pursuing freelance design work and creating her own sustainable hand-crafted fashion line (www.gravexsl.com), Sarah found her way into theater as Assistant Costume Designer for Thomas Bradshaw’s FULFILLMENT produced by The Flea Theater. She has since joined the Flea Staff as Wardrobe Supervisor and continues to put her degree in Integrated Design to good use!
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 over 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!

Find The Flea Theater on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter & Tumblr.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE FLEA I.P.’S

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 by generously pledging $5,000 each year.

Interested? We’d love to make you a Flea IP too!

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.

THE FLEA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Twenty 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:

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT
The Shana Alexander Charitable Foundation
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Booth Ferris Foundation
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Scott M. Stringer, President
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SQUASH

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A.R. & Molly Gurney

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Douglas Liebhafsky & Wendy Gimbel
Sigourney Weaver & Jim Simpson

GUARDIANS ($100K+)
Kenes Rakishev &
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Katherine & Samuel Weinhoff
Stephen & Cathy Weinroth
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Lauralee & Walter N. Howley
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	All The Way Foundation
Liam Neeson
	In Memory of Natasha Richardson
David Richenthal

DIRECTORS ($25K+)
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Andrea & George Miller
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Jeremy Smith
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Michael J. Chepiga & Pamela Rogers Chepiga  
in honor of Kathy White  
Marya Cohn  
Al & Roma Connable  
Blythe Danner  
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Robert & Marilyn Harbage  
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Fenita Bilgoraj Heyman  
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We apologize if you have been left off this list. Please contact Charlie Madison at charliem@theflea.org for any corrections.
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email: kslaney@theflea.org   phone: 212-226-0051 ext. 107
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