# EVANSTON SALT COSTS CLIMBING

by WILL ARBERY directed by DANYA TAYMOR

THE NEW GROUP

# THE NEW GROUP

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR SCOTT ELLIOTT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADAM BERNSTEIN

presents

# EVANSTON SALT COSTS CLIMBING

# WILL ARBERY

WITH

### Quincy Tyler Bernstine Jeb Kreager Ken Leung Rachel Sachnoff

SCENIC DESIGN

Matt Saunders

COSTUME DESIGN

Sarafina Bush

LIGHTING DESIGN
Isabella Byrd

SOUND DESIGN

Mikaal Sulaiman

VOICE, TEXT, AND DIALECT COACH

Gigi Buffington

INTIMACY COACH AND SENSITIVITY SPECIALIST Ann C. James

MOVEMENT COORDINATOR
Tilly Evans-Krueger

PRODUCTION
STAGE MANAGER
Rachel Denise April

Stephen Michael
Varnado

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Joan Sergay

CASTING DIRECTOR

Judy Henderson,

CSA

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PRODUCTION MANAGER

Cam Camden

# DANYA TAYMOR

Support for Evanston Salt Costs Climbing is provided by The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation.

World Premiere Production Presented by White Heron Theatre Company, New Neighborhood, Jay Alix & Una Jackman and Rebecca Kitt Lynne Bolton & Rolin Jones, Artistic Director Michael Kopko, Managing Director

Evanston Salt Costs Climbing was developed at the 2017 Ojai Playwrights Conference: Robert Egan, Artistic Director/Producer



### (in order of appearance)

Jeb Kreager	PETER
Ken Leung	BASIL
Quincy Tyler Bernstine	MAIWORM
Rachel Sachnoff	JANF JR

### **SETTING**

Evanston, IL Three Januarys: 2014, 2015, 2016

The running time is 95 minutes with no intermission.

This production contains strong language and discussion of suicide.

This production uses haze and a strobe light.

"Design is people."
- Jane Jacobs

### **Quincy Tyler Bernstine (Maiworm)**

Theater: Marys Seacole (Lortel Award); Our Lady of 121st Street; The Amateurs; As You Like It; Small Mouth Sounds; Peer Gynt; Grand Concourse; 10 out of 12; The Nether; Mr. Burns; Neva; We Are Proud to Present a Presentation...; born bad; Ruined (2009 OBIE, Derwent, Audelco Awards); In the Next Room; The Misanthrope. Film: The Tender Bar, White Noise, Manchester By The Sea, Still Alice, Rachel Getting Married. TV: "Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies," "Evil," "The Equalizer," "Julia," "Power Book II: GHOST," "Power," "Ray Donovan", "Modern Love," "High Maintenance," "The Leftovers," "Chappelle's Show." Education: Brown, UCSD. 2019 OBIE for Sustained Excellence in Performance, Cullman 3rd Award for Extraordinary Creativity (LCT, 2019); 2015 Lilly Award, Bowden Award (New Dramatists).

### Jeb Kreager (Peter)

Broadway: Oslo. Off-Broadway: Heroes of the Fourth Turning (Obie Award), Oslo (Obie Award), and The Sister. TV: "Mare of Easttown", "Mindhunter", "The Undoing", "Marvel's The Punisher", "One Dollar", "For Life", "Outsiders", "Boardwalk Empire", and "The Good Fight". Film: upcoming True Love (dir. Gareth Edwards), Armageddon Time (dir. James Gray), Hell House LLC, Funny Bunny, and Animal Husbandry. Regional theatre includes: Frozen (Barrymore Award), The Aliens, Mr. Marmalade (Barrymore nomination), and Recent Tragic Events (Barrymore nomination). Jeb is a founding member of and has co-created/performed in 15 original works with Obie Award-winning New Paradise Laboratories. He is a graduate of Virginia Tech and studied at Teatro Piccolo Orologio and Circle in the Square.

### Ken Leung (Basil)

Ken Leung last appeared in this building performing a monologue by David Henry Hwang in a repurposed shipping container for one audience member at a time (Theatre for One). In the mid 90s, he appeared in Jeff Weiss' downtown cult serial *Hot Keys* and subsequent *Come Clean*. Other plays include *Flipzoids* (Ma-Yi), *Ghost in the Machine* (Barrow Group), and *Corpus Christi* (MTC). Broadway: *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Films: *Old*, *Sucker Free City*, *Keeping the Faith*, *Rush Hour*. TV: "The Sopranos," "Lost," "High Maintenance," "Industry."

### Rachel Sachnoff (Jane Jr)

Rachel Sachnoff is thrilled to be making her Off-Broadway debut with The New Group. She originated the role of Jane Jr in the world premiere of *Evanston Salt Costs Climbing* at White Heron Theatre. She has developed new work at Playwrights Horizons, Clubbed Thumb, The Bushwick Starr, The O'Neill, Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Lark, and Mabou Mines. Originally from Chicago Rachel has studied improv with Second City, UCB and is a graduate of Kenyon college where she was the recipient of the Joanne Woodward award for best actress. Rachelsachnoff.com

### Rachel Denise April (Production Stage Manager)

Rachel Denise April is a Guyanese-American Stage Manager, who has studied Theatrical Design and Stage Management at the City College of New York. Select Credits include: soft (MCC) Chicken and Biscuits (Queens Theatre), Retreat Workshop (National Black Theatre), The Big Green Theater Festival (SuperHero Playhouse) The Hole (Zhailon Levingston), Neptune (Timothy DuWhite), The Genesis Plays (The In[heir]itance Project), Anaïs Nin Goes to Hell (MTWorks), and The Fire This Time Festival 2015 (The Kraine Theater). Rachel has worked on projects throughout the United States and internationally and is a Creative Partner of Different Translation.

### **Stephen Michael Varnado** (Assistant Stage Manager)

Off-Broadway: *Black No More: The Musical,* Wallace Shawn's *The Fever, Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice: The Musical, A Jewish Joke, Blue Man Group.* Love to Blake, Mom, Dad & Charles.

### Will Arbery (Playwright)

Will Arbery is a playwright from Texas and Wyoming and seven sisters. His play *Corsicana* had its world premiere at Playwrights Horizons in the summer of 2022 in a production directed by Sam Gold. His play Heroes of the Fourth Turning premiered at Playwrights Horizons in Fall 2019 and was a Finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and winner of numerous awards, including the 2020 Obie Award for Playwriting, the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Play, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play and the Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Playwriting Award. Arbery also won the Whiting Award for Drama in 2020. In addition to Evanston Salt Costs Climbing, Heroes of the Fourth Turning and Corsicana, Will's other plays include: Plano (Clubbed Thumb), You Hateful Things (NYTW Dartmouth Residency), and Wheelchair (3 Hole Press). He's currently under commission from Playwrights Horizons, MTC, and Audible. He's a member/alum of New Dramatists, The Working Farm at SPACE on Ryder Farm, Page 73's Interstate 73, Colt Coeur, Youngblood, and Clubbed Thumb's Early Career Writers Group. His plays have been developed at Clubbed Thumb, Playwrights Horizons, NYTW, The Vineyard, SPACE on Ryder Farm, Ojai Playwrights Conference, Cape Cod Theater Project, The New Group, EST/Youngblood, The Bushwick Starr, Alliance/Kendeda, and Tofte Lake Center. In television, he is a writer on HBO's Succession.

### Danya Taymor (Director)

Danya Taymor is an Obie-award winning New York-based director. Recent direction includes the Broadway production of Antoinette Chinonye Nwandu's *Pass Over* at the August Wilson Theater. Other recent work: Will Arbery's *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* (Playwrights Horizons, Pulitzer Prize Finalist, Lortel Outstanding Play), Samuel Beckett's *ENDGAME* (Gate, Dublin), Jeremy O. Harris' "DADDY"

(Almeida, London and New Group/Vineyard), Korde Arrington Tuttle's *Graveyard Shift* (Goodman Theater), *Pass Over, Familiar* (Steppenwolf), Martyna Majok's Queens (Lincoln Center Theater), Justin Kuritzkes' The Sensuality Party (The New Group), Susan Soon-He Stanton's Cygnus (Women's Project), Brian Watkins' Wyoming (Lesser America) and My Daughters Keeps Our Hammer (The Flea), and Sarah Gancher's *The Place We Built* (The Flea). Her production of Antoinette Nwandu's *Pass Over* was filmed in collaboration with Spike Lee and premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Awards and fellowships include the Cullman Award for Extraordinary Creativity from Lincoln Center, Joe A. Callaway Award for Outstanding Direction, Time Warner Directing Fellowship at Women's Project, 2050 fellowship at New York Theatre Workshop, Van Lier Directing Fellowship; Gates Foundation Grant, Rough Draft Residency at the Drama League and the Lincoln Center Directors Lab. Upcoming work includes: The Outsiders at La Jolla Playhouse (Book by Adam Rapp, Music & Lyrics by Jamestown Revival and Justin Levine).

### Matt Saunders (Set Design)

Recent Off Broadway: Catch As Catch Can (Playwright's Horizons), Daddy (New Group & Vineyard) \*Drama Desk Award, Pipeline (Lincoln Center), Venus (Signature), Futurity (Soho Rep and Ars Nova), Good Person of Szechwan (Foundry and the Public), The Tempest (Public Theater / Delacorte). Over 100 regional credits including: Guthrie, Mark Taper Forum, Huntington Theatre Company, Long Wharf, Berkeley Rep, Yale Rep, Wilma Theater and Kennedy Center. Training: MFA, Yale School of Drama. Saunders is a Pew Fellow and a Hodder Fellow, Princeton University. Associate Professor of Design at Swarthmore College. www.mattsaunders.net

### Sarafina Bush (Costume Designer)

Broadway: For Colored Girls... (Tony Award Nominee), Pass Over. Off-Broadway: To My Girls (2nd Stage), Heroes of the Fourth Turning (Obie Award: Playwrights Horizons), Broadway Bounty Hunter (Greenwich House), Plot Points, Pass Over (LCT3). Regional: How to Dance in Ohio (Syracuse Stage), Life After (Goodman Theatre), Afterwords (5th Avenue), Nina Simone: Four Women (Berkshire Theatre Group), Slow Food (Geva Theatre), Cry It Out and The Royale (Kitchen Theatre Company. Education: BA, Adelphi University.

### Isabella Byrd (Lighting Design)

With Will Arbery: Corsicana, Heroes of the Fourth Turning (Playwrights Horizons), and PLANO (Clubbed Thumb.) additionally with Danya Taymor Endgame (Gate, Dublin) DADDY: A Melodrama (New Group, Almedia, Vineyard.), Everybody (Juilliard). Select designs: Cabaret (West End, Olivier nomination), Lighting Shining in Buckinghamshire, (New York Theatre Workshop.) Epiphany (Lincoln Center). Awards: Obie, Lortel, and Henry Hewes, Critics Circle. Nominations: Olivier,

Drama Desk. Proud union member (USA829) and pay equity advocate. www.isabellabyrd.design

### Mikaal Sulaiman (Sound Designer)

Broadway: Macbeth (Tony nom.), Thoughts of a Colored Man. Off-Broadway: Sanctuary City (Drama Desk nom.), On Sugarland (Premiere), Fairview (Drama Desk nom.), Rags Parkland (Drama Desk, Lortel, noms.), Passage (Premiere), Continuity (Premiere), By The Way Meet Vera Stark, Thanksgiving Play, Light Shining in Buckinghamshire, Underground Railroad Game, The Institute of Memory, Skittles The Broadway Musical. Recipient: Creative Capital Award, Henry Hewes Award, and CTG Sherwood Award, Head of Sound Design MFA program at Yale University. www.mikaal.com

### **Joshua Yocom** (Properties Designer)

Joshua Yocom marks his premier at The New Group with *Evanston*! Some of his memorable New York premiers include *The Humans* (Roundabout and Broadway), *The Sound Inside* (Studio 54), *Hangmen* (Atlantic and The Golden), *The Bedwetter, Halfway Bitches Go Straight to Heaven, Secret Life of Bees, Between Riverside and Crazy, Guards at the Taj, The Night Alive* (Atlantic Theater Co.), *Heroes of the Fourth Turning, Corsicana, The Pain of my Belligerence, Tambo and Bones* (Playwright's Horizons) *Epiphany* (LCT), *Collective Rage* (MCC), *Do You Feel Anger* (Vineyard), *Lazarus* (NYTW), *Mary Paige Marlow* (Second Stage), *For All the Women Who Thought They Were Mad* (SoHo Rep), *Epiphany* (LCT), and Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play*. He is eternally grateful for the continued love and support of his husband Roberto.

### **Evan Cook** (Additional Sound Design/Assistant Sound Designer)

Brooklyn-based sound designer. The New Group + Off-Broadway design debut. He has previously designed for imissmycafe.com, Santa Fe Playhouse, Fringe & Fur, Adventure Theatre-MTC, Mosaic Theater, Theater J, and Theater Alliance. He is recently known for building circuits, modifying telephone handsets, being online, being in the vc, and trucking. Thanks to Lee, Megumi, Elliot, Hayden, the crew, and the design team for their tremendous support during this process. USA-829 Off-Broadway Membership Candidate. IATSE Local 635. www.evancook.audio.

### Gigi Buffington (Voice, Text and Dialect Coach)

Broadway: Cost Of Living, The Minutes, Clyde's, Slave Play (remount), Pass Over, Linda Vista, Straight White Men, King Kong; Selected off Broadway: Evanston Salt Costs Climbing, Downstate, Catch As Catch Can, Corsicana, The Devil Wears Prada, OnSugarland, Prayer For The French Republic, Heroes Of The Fourth Turning, The Thin Place, Our Dear Dead Drug Lord, Mary Page Marlowe; Six seasons Steppenwolf Theater Company; One season Royal Shakespeare Company; Text consultant for Spike Lee and Ron Wimberly's screenplay, Prince Of Cats; Arts Professor, Tisch Drama, NYU.

### Ann C. James (Intimacy Coach and Sensitivity Specialist)

Ann C. James has an extensive career in international stage direction and theater education spanning three decades. James recently made her debut as the first Black Intimacy Coordinator of Broadway for Antoinette Nwandu's *Pass Over*. She served as Intimacy Director and Sensitivity Specialist\* for the Off-Broadway productions of Moises Kaufman's *Seven Deadly Sins* by Tectonic Theatre Project, *Seize the King* produced by Classical Theatre of Harlem, *Twilight Los Angeles: 1992* at Signature Theater and ART, *F\*cking A* at Fordham University and most recently for Dominique Morisseau's *Confederates* also at Signature Theater. Mx. James is pleased to be working on several new shows slated for the 2023 Broadway season.

### Tilly Evans-Krueger (Movement Coordinator)

Tilly Evans-Krueger hails from Madison, WI. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wright State University with her BFA in Dance. She is currently a swing with the company of *Moulin Rouge! Broadway*. They have choreographed for numerous artists including but not limited to; Joshua Henry and Kat Cunning. Choreography for short films; "Mover," Jackson Jarvis, "BoyHoarder," directed by Gabrielle Carrubba and "Elle," Kyle Morrison. Tilly was a chosen choreographer for Dance Lab New York's March 2021 cycle of Nexus Lab. They are now the Associate Choreographer of *The Outsiders*, a new musical premiering at La Jolla Playhouse in March 2023.

### **Joan Sergay** (Associate Director)

Joan Sergay is a Brooklyn-based director, originally from Washington, D.C. She has directed and developed work at Clubbed Thumb, Ensemble Studio Theater, Penguin Random House, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Westport Country Playhouse, Geffen Playhouse, Colt Coeur, New York University, Columbia University, and The University of California San Diego. She has associate and assistant directed at Playwrights Horizons, Vineyard Theatre, The Play Company, Primary Stages, Actors Theatre of Louisville, and Studio Theatre. Joan is a New Georges Affiliated Artist and a former Directing Fellow at Clubbed Thumb, Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Theatre Club, and Actors Theatre of Louisville. BA: Northwestern University.

### **Judy Henderson** (Casting Director)

Judy Henderson has been honored as one of the top 20 US Film Casting Directors. Highlights: EMMY AWARD, 6 ARTIOS AWARDS. 9 ARTIOS nominations. Select Film credits: *L.I.E.* (6 Spirit Award Nominations) *Before Sunrise*. Select TV credits: "Homeland" (Emmy Award and 2 Artios Awards), "City On A Hill". Broadway: *Barefoot In The Park, Anna Karenina* (4 Tony Nominations). Off-Broadway: *Forever Plaid* (MAC Award for best cast album), *Invasion* (Obie Award), *Lie Of* 

The Mind, The Kid (5 Drama Desk Nominations), Hurlyburly and Daddy. Member of CSA and the Teamsters Theatrical Union. New Group CD since the beginning.

### Candi Adams PR (Press Representative)

Broadway: Freestyle Love Supreme with Lin-Manuel Miranda and Thomas Kail (Special Tony Award; National Tour); The Merchant of Venice with Al Pacino; Man of La Mancha; Fortune's Fool; Fiddler on the Roof; Jane Eyre. Other: Fiddler on the Roof in Yiddish directed by Joel Grey; NY Stage & Film; 54 Below; Richard Nelson Plays. Press for award-winning Public Theater: Hamilton, Fun Home, Hair, Latin History for Morons with John Leguizamo, Eclipsed with Lupita Nyong'o, Seawall/A Life with Jake Gyllenhaal, Dry Powder with Claire Danes and John Krasinski, Hamlet with Oscar Isaac, Grounded with Anne Hathaway, Privacy with Daniel Radcliffe, The Library directed by Steven Soderbergh, Sting's The Last Ship, David Byrne's Here Lies Love.

### The Pershing Square Signature Center

The Pershing Square Signature Center, the permanent home of Signature Theatre, is a three-theatre facility on West 42nd Street designed by Frank Gehry Architects to host Signature's three distinct playwrights' residencies and foster a cultural community. The Center is a major contribution to New York City's cultural landscape and provides a venue for cultural organiza-tions that supports and encourages collaboration among artists throughout the space. In addition to its three intimate theatres, the Center features a studio theatre, rehearsal studio, a bookstore, and the Signature Café + Bar. For more information on renting the Center, please visit www.signaturethe-atre.org/rentals.

The New Group (Scott Elliott, Founding Artistic Director; Adam Bernstein, Executive Director) is an award-winning, artistdriven company with a commitment to developing and producing powerful, contemporary theatre. While constantly evolving, we strive to maintain an ensemble approach to all our work and an articulated style of emotional immediacy in our acting and productions. In this way, we seek a theatre that is adventurous, stimulating and most importantly "now," a true forum for the present culture. We have received nearly 150 awards and nominations for excellence. In addition to live mainstage productions, the organization's Off Stage division develops and presents theatrical expressions in different media; the New Group/New Works play and musical development program champions original works by emerging and established authors; and a range of programs from teen acting ensembles to college access programs, and a college-level acting studio in collaboration with LIU-Brooklyn, support ongoing performing arts education. thenewgroup.org

First performance: Wednesday, October 26 Opening Night: Wednesday, November 16

### **EVANSTON SALT COSTS CLIMBING STAFF**

Assistant Stage Manager	Stephen Michael Varnado
Associate Director	Joan Sergay
Properties Designer	Joshua Yocom
Assistant Scenic D	Colin McIlvaine
Additional Sound Design	Evan Cook
Assistant Costume Designer	Martín Lara Avila
Assistant Lighting Designer	Emily Schmit
Assistant Sound Designer	Evan Cook
Production Assistant	Sydneii Colter
Assistant to the Playwright	Jacob Kyle Robinson
Greek Dialect Consultant	Erato A. Kremmyda
Head Carpenter	Tane Muller
Asst. Head Carpenter	Sam Spear
CarpentersColin Colford, Sean	Bertrand, Rachel Behrman,
•	n Berkley, Howard Moncada
Production Electricians Dan Mullins, Jo	
Asst. Production Electrian	
Electricians Ja	
•	neron Filepas, Julio Collado
-	ordan Acosta, Chad Williams
-	Jamie Johnson, Jason Kelly
-	copher Robinson, Evan Roby
-	Schweizer, Emma Sheehan
	k Woods, Cassandra Zeugin
Lightboard Programmer	_
Audio Supervisor	
Five Ohm Project Manager	
Production Audio Tech	
Audio Crew	
, ,	son Cadence, Emilie Canino
	nnius Dowling, Thomas Fico
	Giovino, Clement Goodman
	n, Daniel Massey, Jose Rivas,
	maria, Joshua Weidenbaum
Props Sampson Hollander, A	
Deck Carpenter Wardrobe Supervisor	
Lightboard Operator	
Soundboard Operator	
Box Office Associates	
	Jackie ivers, Megali Molali

### **SERVICES**

The Numad Group /	Graphic Design Services
Ted Stephens III, Brendan Whipple	
Monique Carbon	Production Photography
Natalie Powers	Additional Photography
Proof Productions, Inc	Scenery constructed
Infinite Scenic	Additional scenic art
Hayden Production Services	Lighting equipment
Martin Lighting	Additional equipment
PRG	Sound equipmen
Argon Props	Additional prop construction
J&M Special Effects	Special effects equipment

### **MUSIC CREDITS**

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"Knock" by Elise Kibler.
Used with permission from the composer.

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

AKA NYC, Ben Beckley, Thomas Bradshaw, Jess Chayes, Eva Dickerman, Ned Eisenberg, Robert Egan, Yi Huang, Rolin Jones, Justin Kirk, Kate Dakota Kremer, John MacGregor, Keira Naughton, Adam O'Byrne, Howard Overshown, Rosanna Plasencia, Larry Powell, Michael Shannon, Rachel Spitz-Lieberman, Olivier Sultan, Casey Stangl and Dustin Wills.

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lan Morgan	Associate Artistic Director
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Shariffa Chelimo Ali	Director of Artistic Projects
Cam Camden	Production Manager
Adrian Alea	Artistic Line Producer
Ruth Hollander	Business Manager
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The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of **Actor's Equity Association,** the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United Stages.



The director and choreographer are members of the **Stage Directors and Choreographers Society,** a national theatrical labor union.



**United Scenic Artists • Local USA 829** of the I.A.T.S.E. represents the Designers & Scenic Artists for the American Theatre.

If you or someone you know may be struggling with suicidal thoughts, you can call the **U.S. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (8255)** any time day or night, or chat online.

### **WARNING**

The photography or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violations may render the offender liable for money damages.

### FIRE NOTICE

The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run—WALK TO THAT EXIT. Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas during the performances and intermissions. This violates a city ordinance and is punishable by law.

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The New Group acknowledges that the work we do in our offices, classrooms, rehearsal rooms and theaters across New York City takes place on Lenapehoking, the Homeland of the Lenape. We acknowledge that this country, and this city in which we work, were established on a foundation of theft, genocide and enslavement, and that much of our work takes place on unceded lands.

We pay respect to the past, present and future generations of the Lenape whose land we occupy and we honor the continued cultural, artistic, spiritual and intellectual contributions of Indigenous peoples.







Generous support for The New Group is provided by The Shubert Foundation and The Howard Gilman Foundation.

### \$50,000+

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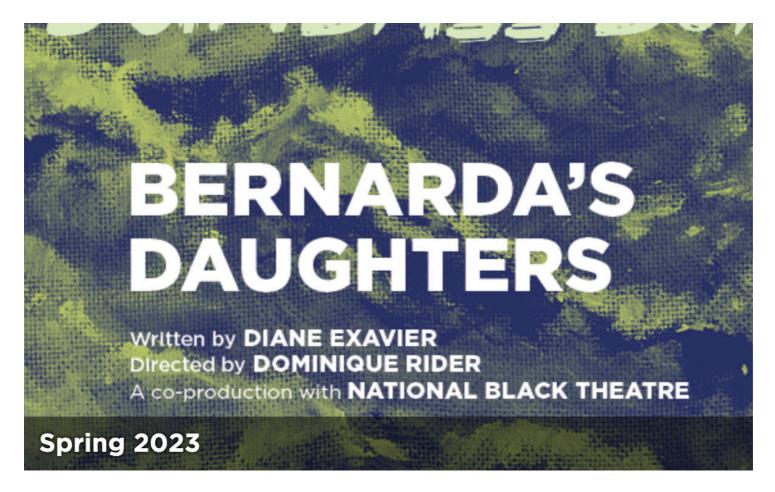
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# 2022-23 SEASON



**Thomas Bradshaw** returns to The New Group stage with a modern take on this tragicomic classic; bringing fresh, fun emphasis to **Chekhov**'s sharp satirical eye for the self-absorption and emotional volatility of ambitious artists.



Amid gentrifying construction, street protests and a sweltering summer in Flatbush, debut playwright **Diane Exavier** creates a sensual and entrancing portrait of a family at a crossroads, freely inspired by **Lorca**'s *The House of Bernarda Alba*.

# THE NEW GROUP. WWW.THENEWGROUP.ORG