

CAST



Natascia Diaz (Monica)* Born to opera bass Justino Diaz and ballerina Anna Aragno, Natascia has performed professionally since the age of nine. Initially training at the School Of American Ballet, she received her BFA, graduating with honors from Carnegie Mellon University. Shortly after graduating, she received a featured role on *Another World* (NBC). Coming to New York, she performed in Lincoln Center's revival of *Carousel*. Her performance as Anita in *West Side Story* (National Tour) has won her Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Award and a 2006 Kevin Klein Award. Among her Broadway credits are the original Broadway companies and cast albums of Paul Simon's *The Capeman* (Yolanda) and *Seussical* (Bird Girl). She performed in the original production of Paul Scott Goodman's *Bright Lights, Big City* (Vicky), the world

premiere of Steven Sondheim's *Saturday Night* (Dakota Duran) at Second Stage and in *tick, tick...BOOM!* (Susan), directed by Scott Schwartz. Favorite regional credits include Catherine in *Pippin* (Papermill Playhouse), Petra in *A Little Night Music* at the Kennedy Center and Elektra in *Agamemnon and His Daughters* at Arena Stage. Natascia was last on Broadway in the 2004 revival (and cast album) of *Man of La Mancha* (Antonia). In 2006, she starred in the Off-Broadway revival and subsequent cast recording of *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*. Television credits include, *Law & Order SVU*, *CSI*, *The Jury*, *Damages*, and HBO family channel movie "Leonardo Da Vinci: A Dream In Flight." Film credits include independent films *Tiny Dancer* and *How to Seduce Difficult Women*, opening in NY this August. Most recently, Natascia starred as the Spiderwoman in *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (Signature Theatre). She is thrilled to be back in DC for this world-premiere production of *ROOMS*, grateful to be a part of this loving collaboration, unprecedented show, in this amazing part. This is what it's all about. Thank you to the whole team for every moment passed in rooms with all of you. And to Andrew, for gracing the space in my life with his. www.NatasciaDiaz.com



Doug Kreeger (Ian)* has come to MetroStage directly from Signature Theatre's sold-out and critically acclaimed production of Kander and Ebb's new musical, *The Visit*. Born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, Doug attended the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and RADA in London. He recently appeared on Broadway in the original revival cast of *Les Miserables* (Jean Prouvaire - Marius u/s) and has toured internationally as Danny Zuko in *Grease* and Berger in *Hair*. Doug's performance as Richard Loeb in Off-Bway's *Thrill Me: The Leopold and Loeb Story* was called "compelling" by both the New York Times & the New York Post and "riveting" by Rex Reed in The New York Observer. He has performed regionally at Arkansas Rep,

Barrington Stage, Bay Street Theatre, and The Old Globe. Doug is most proud of his collaborations with a varied list of theatrical artists including Twyla Tharp, Chita Rivera, Terrence McNally, John Kander, Ann Reinking, Lea Salonga, Dapne Rubin Vega, Gary Beach, Michael Rupert, Ann Harada, George Hearn, Mark Jacoby, Alex Gemignani, Norm Lewis, Judy Kuhn, Chip Zien, John Caird, and Frank Galati. Visit www.DougKreeger.com.

BAND

Jenny Cartney (Conductor/ Keyboard) Conductor: *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Saving Aimee* (Signature Theatre), *Tick, Tick...Boom!* (MetroStage), *Nevermore* (Kensington Arts Theatre); Music Director: *My Fair Lady*, *Nevermore* (Signature Theatre), Reading of Frank Loesser's *Señor Discretion Himself* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *A Year With Frog and Toad* (Virginia Music Theatre), *The Brand New Kid* Workshop (The Kennedy Center) *Going the Distance*, *Black Diamond* (Discovery Theatre), *The Robber Bridegroom* (American Century Theatre), *Rough Crossing* (MetroStage), *Chicago* (Montgomery College); Assistant Music Director: *Shenandoah* (Ford's Theatre), *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Into The Woods*, *The Highest Yellow*, *Allegro*, *Follies*, *The Christmas Carol Rag* (Signature Theatre), *Señor Discretion Himself* (Arena Stage), *Tell*

Me On a Sunday, A Little Night Music (Kennedy Center); Rehearsal Pianist: *Mame, Company* (Kennedy Center) Keyboards: *The Visit, Assassins, Pacific Overtures* (Signature Theatre), *Big River* (Ford's Theatre), *Carnival, Little Women*, Disney's *Aida* (Kennedy Center) Cabarets: Euan Morton (NYC Town Hall), *By Heart* (Sam's in NYC), *George Dvorsky, Jacqui Piro, Stephen Gregory Smith, Donna Migliaccio, Last Garage Hurrah, Ebony and Ivory* (Signature Theatre); Incidental Music: *The Clandestine Marriage* (Folger Theatre), *The Blue Room* (Signature Theatre), *Robin Goodfellow* (Shenandoah Conservatory). Love always to Jess.

David Cole (Guitar) is a native Washingtonian who has accompanied such R&B Legends as: Percy Sledge, Archie Bell, The Clovers, The Jewels, Baby Washington, The Orioles, Dee Clark and Roberta Flack. He is currently a music teacher in the Washington DC Public School System. David is the leader of a professional blues band that have performed at the Historic U Street Bohemian Caverns, the Westminster Presbyterian Church, The Islander Restaurant, Downs Park in Pasadena MD, the Casino at Charles Town Race Track and at the 2005 Annual Blues Festival hosted by the DC Blues Society of which David is a member. Past performances he has done for MetroStage include *Cookin' at the Cookery, Nat King Cole: King of Cool* and *Bricktop*.

Jon Jester (Drums) Recent theatre credits include Signature Theatre's premiere of *Glory Days; Dizzy Miss Lizzie's Roadside Revue* @ Capital Fringe Festival '08; *The Oresteia; tick, tick...BOOM!* (MetroStage); *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (ATW @ Nation nightclub), *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (Signature Theatre @ The Warehouse DC). Jon is a full time session and touring drummer performing and recording internationally with various artists including Driving East, All Time Low and James McKenna. Future plans include continued work within the incredible DC theatre scene, and extensive stays in the Los Angeles area recording for various artists.

Dennis Turner (Bass) a new-comer to the music theater scene, having been a substitute band member for *tick, tick...BOOM!* last year (MetroStage). He began his musical career 13 years ago in Washington, DC and has been able to travel around the nation and abroad to Asia and Africa performing with artists from a variety of genres. He went to study at Norfolk State University to double major in Music Education and Music Media. While attending NSU, Dennis was a member of the NSU "Marching Spartan Legion" Band, where he played trombone for 2 years. Dennis was also active in other university bands including the Jazz Big Band, the Concert Band and the Percussion Ensemble. He has since relocated back to his hometown and has been building his reputation as a musician/musical director/ producer. www.myspace.com/mrdennistryrelturner

Steve Walker (Guitar) is a freelance guitarist native to DC. He received degrees in jazz studies and mathematics from Bowling Green State University where he studied with Chris Buzzelli. During this time, he also performed on bass, guitar, and vocals in rock and country shows at Cedar Point Amusement Park. Since returning to the DC area, Steve has played for *tick, tick...BOOM!* (MetroStage) and *Glory Days* (Signature). He has worked with R&B and Gospel artists including Res, Steve Lawrence, Urban Nation and Levi Stevens. He has spent time on the local Go-go scene, most notably with Backyard Band. He performs solo concerts (guitar and vocals) for the WPAS Enriching Seniors' Experiences program. Steve has recently begun work with up-and-coming pop/punk artist Ruthe Charles. Check out www.myspace.com/stevewalker1 for more information.

PRODUCTION & DESIGN

Scott Schwartz (Director)** BROADWAY: *Golda's Balcony* and *Jane Eyre* (co-directed with John Caird). OFF-BROADWAY: *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle awards, Outstanding Off-Broadway Musical; Drama Desk nomination, Outstanding Director of a Musical), *tick, tick...BOOM!* (OCC Award, Outstanding Off-Broadway Musical; Drama Desk nomination, Outstanding Director of a Musical), *The Foreigner* starring Matthew Broderick for Roundabout Theatre Company, *Franz Kafka's The Castle* (OCC nomination, Outstanding Director of a Play), *Miss Julie* and *No Way to Treat a Lady*. He also directed *Golda's Balcony* on tour, in London, in Los Angeles at the Wadsworth Theater, and in San Francisco at A.C.T. He collaborated with legendary director Harold Prince as the director of "Lavender Girl" as part of 3HREE, which played at the Ahmanson Theater. Recently, he directed *Othello* and *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Alley Theater in Houston; *Curvy Widow* starring Cybill Shepard at the Post Street Theatre in San Francisco; and a new reinvisioning of *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* which played at TOTS, Papermill Playhouse, TUTS and North Shore Music Theater (2008 IRNE Award, Outstanding Director of a Musical). Other regional theaters include: Alliance, Berkshire Theater Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, La Jolla Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, Prince Theater, Rubicon, Signature Theater, Studio Arena, TheatreWorks, Virginia Stage Company. For radio broadcast, he directed the Grammy-nominated recording of *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, starring Richard Dreyfus and Marsha Mason, for L.A. TheatreWorks. Member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Associate Artist at the Alley, and a graduate of Harvard University.

Paul Scott Goodman (Music, Book and Lyrics) was born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1984, he relocated to NYC after a year of performing in Los Angeles. Paul wrote the book, music, and lyrics for *Bright Lights Big City*, which was presented at the New York Theater Workshop (dir. Michael Greif), The Guggenheim Museum, the Prince Music Theater and recently licensed worldwide by The Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization. Paul's other produced musicals include: *Him & Her* (Prince Music Theater, March 2007, New York International Fringe Festival 2002 Best Performance Award); *ROOMS*, produced by the University of Michigan, and the New York Musical Theatre Festival in September 2005 (dir. Scott Schwartz), Van Hill Entertainment at The Zipper Theatre in 2006; *Alive in the World* produced by Van Hill Entertainment at NYMF 2006; *God Save the New Wave* (Bottom Line, West Bank Theater); *Metropolitan Music* (Marymount Manhattan College); *Just East of Broadway* (The Duplex). Paul was the first recipient of the Songwriters' Hall of Fame Best New Songwriter Award, winner of the Backstage Bistro Award for *Domestica* (book, music and lyrics), first solo recipient of the Jonathan Larson Foundation Award, and winner of the Gilman Gonzalez-Falla Theater Foundation Commendation Award. In London, Paul's musicals have also been produced at the National Theater, The New End Theater, and twice on BBC television. He has performed with John Cougar Mellancamp, Joan Armatrading, David Essex, and The Average White Band. He lives in Soho, Manhattan with his wife and three children.

Miriam Gordon (Book) co-wrote the book with Paul Scott Goodman and directed the musical *Him & Her - Tiny Dancer and Domestica*, which won a NYC International Fringe Festival 2002 Award, and was also produced at Musical TheaterWorks (NYC), Theater One (NYC), The New End Theater in London, 2005, and at the Prince Music Theater, 2007. She was co-book writer with Paul Scott Goodman and director of *God Save the New Wave* (Bottom Line, and West Bank Theater, NYC) and *Marathon* by Paul Scott Goodman (New York Theater Workshop). Miriam directed the musical *I've Got to See You Again* by two time Grammy Award winner Jesse Harris, whose title song was recorded on Norah Jones' Grammy Award winning album. Miriam is co-writer and co-lyricist with Wendy Federman for a new musical, *Not for Better*, and is the writer and director of a new musical, *The Kid Who Ran for President*, which received the Allan S. Gordon Foundation Performing Arts Program Award. Her other directorial credits include, *When Heaven and Earth* (Circle Rep East, NYC), and *In Audela* (Cherry Lane Theater, NYC) and *ROOMS* (Theater One, NYC- starring Raul Esparza). She has written, directed and produced political programming for NYC television. Miriam is the recipient of a Stella Adler Talent Award, and trained with Ms. Adler, and at the London

Academy of Dramatic Arts, with Anthony Hopkins, Alfred Molina, Wynn Handman, and has performed in the Yiddish Theater. Born in Detroit, MI, the child of Holocaust survivors, she now lives in NYC with her husband Paul Scott Goodman and their three children.

Jesse Vargas (Music Director/Arrangements) BROADWAY: *Glory Days* (Music Supervision, Arrangements & Orchestrations); *The Ritz* (Orchestrations); OFF-BROADWAY MUSIC DIRECTION: *Saved; bare-A Pop Opera*; OTHER: *Dreamgirls; Bright Lights, Big City* (both Prince Music Thtr); *Up In The Air* (Henry Krieger/Bill Russell); *Hurricane; Radio City Christmas; Sunfish* (NAMT). ORCHESTRATIONS: *Asphalt Beach* (Andrew Lipka); *Bright Lights, Big City; Seth Rudetsky's Broadway 101; Hair 2004; Junie B. Jones; Chess; BC/EFA Easter Bonnet* (4 years); *Pippin* (Dance Arr.- 2006 Tour). Currently, Music Director/ Arranger for Clay Aiken (3 years). RECORDINGS: *Hair* (Grammy nominated); *Dreaming Wide Awake- The Music of Scott Alan , bare-A Pop Opera*.

Matt Williams (Choreographer)** Most recently, Matt choreographed his third production for the New England Tour of Circus Smirkus. Last Fall, he received the New York Musical Theater Award for Best Choreography for his work in *Platforms* starring Ted Levy (*Jelly's Last Jam*) and Deborah Yates (*Contact*). Matt is also the resident co-producer for the Broadway choreographic showcase, *Dancebreak*. In 2006, Matt's choreographed for the Tony award-winning Alley Theatre in Scott Schwartz's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. On Broadway, Matt interned for and assisted Jerry Mitchell on the revival of *Gypsy*. Matt's day job is the "Big Piano Choreographer" at FAO Schwarz Toy Store in New York City where he recreates and reinvents the world famous piano dancing scene from the hit film, *Big*. Currently, Matt is developing his first full length dance play, *Ward 9*, which will premiere at the 2008 New York Musical Theater Festival in September. www.mattwilliamschoreographer.com

Adam Koch* (Set Designer)** Recent REGIONAL: *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (Signature Theatre, dir: Eric Schaeffer), *A Tuna Christmas* (Human Race Theatre Company), *tick, tick...BOOM!* (MetroStage, dir: Matthew Gardiner), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Paper Mill Playhouse), *Frozen, Brooklyn Boy, The Sound of Music*. UPCOMING: the 30th anniversary production of *The Colored Museum* (Crossroads Theatre Company), *Godspell* (Syracuse Stage), *See What I Wanna See* (Signature Theatre), the Chicago premiere of *The Million Dollar Quartet* at the Goodman Theatre (dir: E. Schaeffer). Carnegie Mellon: *Side Show, Hello Again* (dir: M. Gardiner), *Trust*. Additional: *The Little Prince, The Mousetrap, Death of a Salesman, The Secret Garden, The Odd Couple, The Music Man, Rumors, Woyzeck* (costumes). AWARDS: United States Institute of Theater Technology 2007 Oren Parker Award for Excellence in Scene Design and the 2007 Kennedy Center Design Fellowship.

Alejo Vietti* (Costume Designer)** NEW YORK: *Grace, Make Me a Song, Tryst, Roulette, The Last Sunday in June, 16 Wounded, 2 X Tennessee, The Wau Wau Sisters, Servicemen, Waiting for Godot, Five Flights, Love's Labour's Lost, Measure for Measure, Othello, Of a White Christmas*, and works at the New York Musical Theatre Festival and New York Fringe Festival. REGIONAL: Alley Theatre Houston, Arena Stage, Arizona Theatre Company, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Barrington Stage Company, Cincinnati Playhouse, Cleveland Playhouse, Colorado Ballet, Columbia University, Florida Stage, Ford's Theatre Washington DC (*Meet John Doe*), Goodspeed Opera, Hangar Theatre, Hartford Stage, Longwharf Theatre, New York Stage and Film, Northlight Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Rockland Opera, San Diego Repertory Theater, Saint Louis Repertory Theatre, Signature Theatre Washington (*The Witches of Eastwick*), Theatreworks Hartford, Westport Playhouse, Williamstown. INTERNATIONAL: The Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Donetsk Opera in the Ukraine. Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Gold Unit 2007.

Herrick Goldman* (Lighting Designer)** Herrick's work has been seen all over the world, including Shanghai, Manila, Frankfurt, and exotic Canada. OFF-BROADWAY: *Flamingo Court; Godspell 2000; Crash Test Dummies; Serenade; All is Love*. TOURS: *A Chorus Line; Firedance*. Broadway: *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*; benefit concert for the actor's fund. REGIONAL: *Edges; Side Show; Over The Top* (with Jim Steinman); *Cabaret; Glass Menagerie*; many more... OPERA: *Magic Flute; Turandot; Alice in Wonderland*

(world premiere). CASINOS: *Chinese Grammy's; Nonsense; Frankenstein... Do You Dream, a rock opera*. He designed the first production of *ROOMS* at NYMF with Scott Schwartz and is excited to be back with the show. Herrick is the LD for *AntiGravity* and has taught lighting design at MIT. A member of USA/IATSE 829, his work may be seen at www.HGLightingDesign.com.

Daniel Erdberg (Sound Designer) OFF-BROADWAY: *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You* (Public Theater-American Premiere), *The Rockae, Tock Tick* (Prospect), *Magpie* (Amas), *Painted Ladies* (Symphony Space), *Triple Threats, Your Mom's Feet* (Interarts), *Bath Party* (HERE). NYMF: *White Noise, Party Come Here, Magpie, River's End, The Children*. TOURS: *Circus Smirkus*. READINGS/BENEFITS: *Alive in the World, Big Tent, Mr. Broadway, Rock This House, Pure Country, Rooms*. AS ASSISTANT: *White Christmas* (Sony Centre, Toronto), *New Jerusalem* (Classic Stages), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Delacorte). Daniel has been nominated for an Audelco as well as a NYMF Excellence in Design Award. As a director, his work has appeared at HERE, The 4x4 Festival and Theaterworks USA. He is a member of the Lincoln Center Director's lab and Graduate of Northwestern University.

Doug Honorof (Dialect Coach) Recent projects include Mandarin on the Season Two finale of *30ROCK* (NBC), linguistic consulting on *Pirates of the Caribbean III* (Disney), North coast Colombian Spanish for *Towards Darkness* (America Ferrera, now out on DVD at Blockbuster), international localization of commercials in multiple languages and just about every accent for stage productions including many New York and world-premieres. In previous work for Van Hill Entertainment, Doug coached a period Kentucky accent for "Saint Heaven." Doug has taught at the Yale School of Drama, NYU/Tisch (CAP 21) and in non-conservatory settings. Contact: dialectdoug@yahoo.com.

Jessica Lee Winfield* (Stage Manager) Credits include *The Stephen Schwartz Project, Three Sistahs, tick, tick...BOOM!, Cookin' at the Cookery* (MetroStage), *Raisin the musical* and *Ragtime* (Morgan State University). She is also a freelance lighting designer and theatre electrician. She currently works at Arena Stage as an electrician and received Honorable mention in Broadwayworld.com for her design for Run of The Mill's production of *Blood Wedding*. Other design credits include *Man of La Mancha* (Spotlighters Theatre) *Miss Evers Boys, Black Nativity, Story Train* (Morgan State University), *Night of January 6, Dreamgirls*- Assistant Lighting Designer (ARTSCENTRIC). She would like to thank her mother and sister for being supportive, Dannielle and Tonisha Keyinta for always coming through for her, the cast and crew for being terrific and Shirley Basfield Dunlap and Cheryl Williams for being great teachers and mentors.

Dannielle Hutchinson+ (Assistant Stage Manger) is pleased to return to MetroStage for a second season. Her previous assistant stage management credits include MetroStage: *Three Sistahs, tick, tick...BOOM!, Cookin' at the Cookery* and *The Stephen Schwartz Project*; Morgan: *Ragtime* and *Raisin the musical*. She graduated from Morgan State University in 2006 with BA in Theatre Arts. She would like to thank Jessica and Carolyn for this wonderful opportunity.

Brandon Guilliams (Technical Director) has built sets for Washington Shakespeare Company, JourneymanTheatre, Actors Theatre of Washington, Imagination Stage, Theatre J, Kennedy Center, as well as MetroStage. He also designed MetroStage's Nat King Cole and Duke Ellington shows. He got his start at the West End Dinner Theatre where he did it all from Kitchen Manager to tech to actor. Brandon's roots are in cooking as he has an Associates degree in culinary arts from Johnson and Wales University. He also currently works at the Kennedy Center answering the information line. Enjoy!

Kevin Laughon (Production Manager) has worn many hats at MetroStage for three and a half years. He works on the technical teams at many DC area theatres. A graduate of Syracuse University, he is also an actor/singer/dancer and an accomplished choreographer/teacher who has worked at local theatres, schools and dance studios for over 15 years. Kevin will performing in *The Producers* at Toby's this Fall. Films he worked on include *Burn After Reading* (with George Clooney), *State of Play* (with Ben Affleck) and *Night at the Museum 2*.

Carolyn Griffin (*Producing Artistic Director*) has been with MetroStage since its founding in 1984 and has produced over sixty mainstage productions, including four plays and three musicals that were world premieres. She is committed to producing the best contemporary writing and showcasing the best regional artists for a broad-based audience from the Washington metropolitan area. She is the co-founder of the Alexandria Arts Forum, which she chaired for five years, and has served on many regional panels for area arts commissions. Awards include the Actors' Center Award of Distinction, the Cultural Affairs Award from the Alexandria Commission for Women, the Award of Harmony from the Alexandria Harmonizers and the 2005 ALEX Award. She is on the Board of The Playwrights Forum and was chosen by the Canadian Embassy and the Helen Hayes Awards to travel to Canada in 2004 as part of the Canadian/Washington Theatre Partnership. She holds a Masters degree in Psychology from Catholic University and an MBA from Georgetown University. Her four children live in Washington DC, New York City, Savannah, Georgia, and Alexandria.

Cindi Rush Casting (*Casting Director*) NEW YORK: *The Time of Mendel's Trouble, Peaceman, Jacques Brel, Six Dance Lessons In Six Weeks, The Thing About Men, Showtune, I Sing, Urinetown, Say Goodnight Gracie.* REGIONAL: Triad Stage; Northern Stage Company; Cape Cod Theatre Project; NOHO Arts Center; Actors Theatre of Louisville. FILM: *Offspring, Made For Each Other, Home Movie, Jack Ketchum's: The Girl Next Door, Headspace, Funny Valentine, Master Class.* OTHER: *Hats* (Denver, New Orleans, Chicago). Casting Society of America Member, Consultant for National Alliance For Musical Theatres, Consultant for NYU Graduate Program for Musical Theatre Writing.

*Member of Actors Equity Association (AEA). Founded in 1913, AEA represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theater as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.

**Member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc. (SSDC), an independent national labor union.

***Member of The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), United Scenic Artists #829.

+Equity Membership Candidate (EMC.)