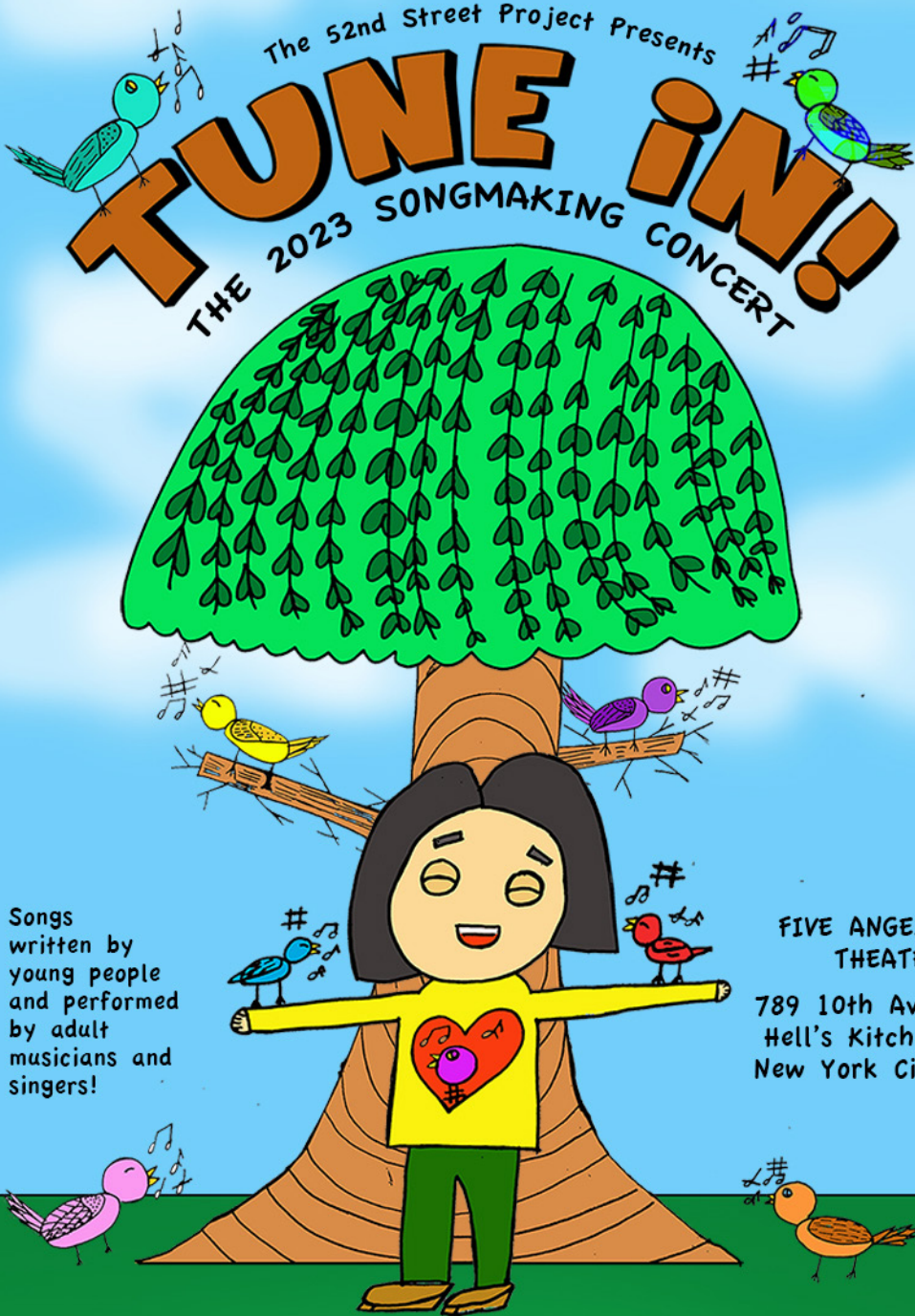


The 52nd Street Project Presents

TUNE in!

THE 2023 SONGMAKING CONCERT



Songs
written by
young people
and performed
by adult
musicians and
singers!

FIVE ANGELS
THEATER

789 10th Ave.
Hell's Kitchen
New York City

Friday, October 27
at 7:30 p.m.



THE LYRICISTS

Angel Drew Welsh

Anthony Zappa

Bella Galindo

Jaelannie Rodriguez

Josiah Perez

THE COMPOSERS/MUSICIANS

Adam LaPorte

Paige Menneci

Jonja Merck

Madeline Mondrala

Mikey Rosenbaum

Percussion: Ajay Raghuraman

THE SINGERS

Jessica Carvo

Major Curda

Angel Desai

Ali Ewoldt

Bella Galindo

Yonatan Gebeyehu

Kendal Hartse

Doron JéPaul

Jared Loftin

Mallory Portnoy

Michael Potts

Angie Toledo

Natalie Walker

Tatiana Wechsler

Mitchell Winter

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Avi A. Amon

SONGMAKING DIRECTOR

Garrett Kim

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Aaron Conover

PHOTOGRAPHY

Deneka Peniston

STAGE MANAGER

Bri Weintraub

FALL 2023 INTERNS

Chris Rubingh

Abby Dziura

AUDIO ENGINEER

Chopin Indra-Payoong

LIVESTREAM CAMERA

Abby Dziura

THE CONCERT

LIFE LIKE THIS

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Tatiana Wechsler

THE FIGHT

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Jared Loftin

GARY'S DOJO

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Doron JéPaul



MY LIFE SONG

Lyrics by Bella Galindo
Music by Madeline Mondrala
Sung by Angie Toledo

ANIMAL SONG

Lyrics by Bella Galindo
Music by Madeline Mondrala
Sung by Bella and Madeline

YOUNG AGAIN

Lyrics by Bella Galindo
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Sung by Jessica Carvo



NEW THINGS

Lyrics by Josiah Perez
Music by Jonja Merck
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THE FEELING LONELY TO EXCITING

Lyrics by Josiah Perez
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Music by Paige Menneci
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Sung by Ali Ewoldt

JUMPING FROGS

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BIRD CITY

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Music by Adam Laporte
Sung by Natalie Walker

TRAITORS

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TAPE THE PHONE TO MY FACE

Lyrics by Angel Drew Welsh
Music by Adam Laporte
Sung by Kendal Hartse

The 52nd Street Project is a non-profit community-based arts organization that brings children from the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood together with professional artists to create original art. The Songmaking program partners 52nd Street Project kids with adult composers to create original songs. Over the seven weeks of Songmaking, led by Avi Amon and Program Director Garrett David Kim, these young lyricists explore how their own words and ideas fit together with their composer's music to create songs. Near the end of the program, we bring in a company of singers to perform the completed songs, and share them with an audience.

The 52nd Street Project Staff

Kat Almirañez, Associate Artistic Director

Avi A. Amon, Musical Director

Ahmed Attia, Development Manager*

George Babiak, Director of Design and Production

Liz Bell, Clinical Consultant

Natalie Hirsch, Artistic Director

Garrett Kim, Program Director

Kristina Nungaray, Marketing and Events Manager

Carol Ochs, Executive Director

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Caylyn Wan-Creager, Education Associate

Bri Weintraub, Production Manager

Iris A. Brown, Graphic Design Consultant

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Wendy vanden Heuvel

Alexandra Vassilaros

Mark Whatley

Want to make a donation to The 52nd Street Project?
Just visit www.52project.org and click "You Can Help."

Or make a gift via



@Fifty-Two-Project

LIFE LIKE THIS

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Tatiana Wechsler

My name's Bud, the palm tree
And I live on an island in the
 sea
I bask in the sunlight
And have all the fun

I ain't got no troubles, I'm living
 at ease
Life like this is a breeze
I got no jobs, I watch the trees
 grow all day
Life like this is a-okay

Living on an island is the best
You'll never be put to the test!
Sippin' on coconuts, it's easy to
 rest.

Boats and planes pass me by
 every day
But it don't make me feel afraid
Cause life like this is a-okay
When you live like me, you'll
 always be free
Every day will feel like May
Cause life like this, life like this
 is a-okay

So as you can see, I'm truly at
 ease
I hope nobody takes this feeling
 away from me
People been gettin' awfully
 closer
I hope I don't turn into a poster
But I've got to stay calm
Cause life's the best when
 you're a palm

Think of everything, think of
 everything
Think of everything in a life like
 this
Think of everything that could
 happen
Think of everything that could
 happen
Think of everything that could
 happen in a life like this



THE FIGHT

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Jared Loftin

It was all so silly
This fight with Billie
She asked "What's better,
carpets or rugs?"
Then out came Doug, looking
so smug
Saying "You seriously think a
carpet's better than a rug?"
"Yes I do, what's wrong with
that?"
Ask anyone, even my cat!"
That was his final straw!
Everyone started to shout
Billie even got smacked with a
trout
Chairs were flying
I was crying
When will this madness end!

Oh why, oh why do my
roommates have to be like
this
They can never go a day
without throwin' a fist
They're constantly shouting
After that they're always
pouting
Oh why do my roommates have
to be like this?

Doug said, "We're definitely
going to need a broom"
This caused a laughing fit
Then Billie said, "I think our
battles should quit.
I'm sorry for fighting with you."
Billie said, "Maybe we should
stop losing our heads."
Then Doug said "That was a
very dumb fight.
I feel so embarrassed I could
have died."

I'm so glad that my roommates
ended their fight
We can finally relax and have a
good night
We should celebrate and eat
some pizza
I'm so glad that my roommates
ended their fight
I'm so glad that my roommates
ended their fight
We can finally relax and have a
good night
We should celebrate and eat
some pizza
I'm so glad that my roommates
ended their fight

But suddenly the fighting
ceases
Have they finally made peace?
As soon as he looked around
the room



GARY'S DOJO

Lyrics by Anthony Zappa
Music by Mikey Rosenbaum
Sung by Doron JéPaul

Welcome to Gary's Dojo
Where everything is fun!
Kids of every age can join
Where you'll love us a ton!
You can kick, box, fight or scream!
Just make sure to follow your dream!
For a low low price of twenty dollars
With a price like that you'll scream and holler

Gary's Dojo is the best!
Gary's Dojo is the best!
Gary's Dojo is the best Yippee!
Call 1-800-Gary's Dojo!



MY LIFE SONG

Lyrics by Bella Galindo
Music by Madeline Mondrala
Sung by Angie Toledo

I love it when I see the moon
I love to see the sunset too
I speak with my gorgeous voice
By taking my Polaroids

I sit by my windowsill
I see the moon bright and still
I go through my photographs
They always make me laugh

These memories are mine to
keep
My camera and me, we are
besties
Photos of my mom and dad
My dogs and cat
My brothers and sister
Summer and winter
These memories were made for
me
They're mine to keep

I love when we go to the beach
I go there with my family
We take pictures of the sea
We smile in the summer breeze

I look up at my ceiling
My photographs appear to me
They each have their own
meaning
That give me a good feeling

These memories are mine to
keep
My camera and me, we are
besties
Photos of my mom and dad
My dog and cats
My brother and sister
Summer and winter
These memories were made for
me
My school semester
My joy and laughter
My soul, my pride
My whole life
These memories were made for
me
They're mine to keep



ANIMAL SONG

Lyrics by Bella Galindo
Music by Madeline Mondrala
Sung by Bella and Madeline

I'm friends with the animals
They see what I see
They sit with me
They look at me
They listen when I speak
They don't judge me at all
Cus they can't even talk

That's why I'm friends with
animals
They treat me better than most
people
But I love cats the most
Because they're cute and small

My black cat is my spirit friend
She sees what I hear
Her yellow eyes look at me
And then she appears
Some might say she's bad luck
But we have so much fun

She's my favorite animal
She treats me better than most
people
I love the way she meows
When I'm feeling down

Animals are so sweet and kind
You can be your true self
And they won't mind
Whether you're out or inside
They will be with you
And they love you

You can take them out for a joy
ride
Or a road trip
You can pick

They hide in tiny places
Like in a box
Or under your bed
Sometimes when they get the
zooms
They go really fast
And jump at you
Also dogs are cool too

That's why I'm friends with
animals
They treat me better than most
people
But I love cats the most
Because they're cute and small



YOUNG AGAIN

Lyrics by Bella Galindo

Music by Madeline Mondrala

Sung by Jessica Carvo

Before I died

I wished I was young again

The trees are turning back into saplings

I look in the mirror and see my young self again

When I look at others they seem so small

Now I wish I was a child

Connected to the memories of my old life

My smile brings my joy

My joy brings my smile

The light I share goes on for miles and miles

As time goes by

I think of the ones I love

They each have their own meaning to me

My mom took care of me in another life

The love we share spans all of time

Now I wish I was a child

Connected to the memories of my old life

My smile brings my joy

My joy brings my smile

The light I share goes on for miles and miles



NEW THINGS

Lyrics by Josiah Perez

Music by Jonja Merck

Sung by Mitchell Winter

I see a lot of farms
I hear a lot of cars
I'm at a new place
I'm at a new place

I smell a farm
I smell fresh mango and coconuts
I'm at a new place
I'm at a new place

Hey my name is Ozzy
And I'm at a new place
I smell, I hear, I have no fear
I also taste fresh food
No, I'm not done, I feel all the pools
I walk through to the pools
Next thing you know
I feel very cool

I'm at a new place
I'm at a new place
I felt cool from the swimming pool
After I feel lazy as a daisy

But then I wake up to realize
It was just a dream
Wait! It's just a dream?
Come on, now I'm so angry!



THE FEELING LONELY TO EXCITING

Lyrics by Josiah Perez

Music by Jonja Merck

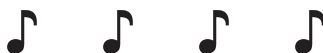
Sung by Yonatan Gebeyehu

I was just a lonely person, lonely
I waited all this long
I was just a lonely person,
I waited all this long
It's so lonely, lonely

I wish somebody can just find me
It's so lonely, lonely
But I just keep going on and on, and on and on and on

Somebody came for me...why?
I thought was gonna stay lonely
Why did this miracle happen?
I was just a lonely boy
Sike! Not no more

I was just a lonely boy
I'm so excited!
Oop! My mom came!
Okay bye!



KING OF THE HELP

Lyrics by Josiah Perez

Music by Jonja Merck

Sung by Michael Potts

I just want to complete my wish
Have some fun, play around
Because I need to become King of the Signs!

So I help and I try and I try and I try to conquer my wish
Not to wash the dish
But to become King of the Help!
King of the Help

Yes my name is Max!
I just want to become famous
So people can respect me, know me,
And they can know how nice I am

I try to conquer my wish
Not to wash the dish
I'm zero years old
But I still want to become King of the Help!
King of the Help!
King of the Help!
King of the Help!



HI, I'M ROSIE

Lyrics by Jaelannie Rodriguez

Music by Paige Menneci

Sung by Angel Desai

“Hi I’m Rosie!”

I’ve been out here for so long
I can’t wait to be picked
You should pick a flower
Why don’t you come join me

Kids always see me, all by myself
In the garden at the car wash
They never pick me
But they pick flowers like the white daisies
But I want my exciting moment
Remember Rosie you just want your exciting moment



IS IT MY TIME YET?

Lyrics by Jaelannie Rodriguez

Music by Paige Menneci

Sung by Ali Ewoldt

Is it my time yet?
I don't quite know
Is it too late
I don't want to go yet
I can't do this

I'm scared my mom won't like that
I'm scared if I don't move out my mom won't be proud of me
Scared I'm gonna lose my job
I'm scared I'm gonna be homesick
Homesick

I wanna go because I need that important feeling
To see the kids have fun because of me

But I'm scared my mom won't like that
I'm scared if I don't move out my mom won't be proud of me
Scared I'm gonna lose my job
I'm scared I'm gonna be homesick
Homesick

Mm, mm

Don't worry
It's okay if you mess up
Just go and try it
I'll like it or not
As long as I try



JUMPING FROGS

Lyrics by Jaelannie Rodriguez

Music by Paige Menneci

Sung by Mallory Portnoy

“Uh where am I?
Is this where the party is?”

I smell pizza
Where’s my sister’s party!
But first
Let’s go get pizza

Mm that was good
The bread bubbles and the pepperoni made it even better
Should I go to the front desk
I don’t know
Fine I’ll just go

So I go to the front desk
And I ask for songs
They give me Jumping Frog socks
They’re not really soft
But they’re Jumping Frog socks

I see trampolines
Where’s my sister’s party!
But first
Let’s go jump on trampolines
Phew that was tiring
Let’s go get water

Where’s my sister’s party?
Where’s my sister’s party?

“Oh it’s mom
I’m at the wrong Jumping Frogs!
Are you serious?!”



BIRD CITY

Lyrics by Angel Drew Welsh

Music by Adam LaPorte

Sung by Natalie Walker

Well this is bird city
I'm at the bird gate
All I have to do is
Show my bird passport to the
bird

I show my passport
The bird takes it and flies away
But the bird bumps into the
gate
And it opens anyway

I see a sign that says
'Come to bird city
We got birds we got bird
houses
We got bird trees and bird food
Come to bird city
We got bird free pillows
We've got crows and robins,
pigeons, chicken and eagles
too'

I go to the restaurant
And it's made for birds
It's not very pleasant
There's bird poop and bird food

There's too many pigeons
And way too much bread
And when I try to order I realize
All the food is on the floor

I don't think Bird City lives up to
the chirping

I think I have to go
I think that my friends were up
to something
And maybe they were joking
but I don't know

Everything looks like garbage
Everything smells like a zoo
Everything feels as soft as a
feather
And I also hate that too

It sounds like I'm in the amazon
forest
And there's too many trees
I don't think this is very good
For a human like me

Wait just a minute, to my
surprise
I see a bird house except its
human size
Maybe bird city isn't so bad
Now I have a home here and
there's no reason to be sad

"Come to bird city
We got birds we got bird
houses
We got bird trees and bird food
Come to bird city
We got bird free pillows
We've got crows and robins,
pigeons, chicken and
humans too"



TRAITORS

Lyrics by Angel Drew Welsh

Music by Adam LaPorte

Sung by Major Curda

You and me were two brothers
We weren't making enough
money
We decided to make a new car
I made the plans but you stole
them
Went and started your own
company
Left me hanging, this is so
unfair

How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams
How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams

You were my brother, now
you're a traitor
You stole all your ideas from
me
Now you'll see me taking back
control
You made millions off my
brilliance
But I have something up my
sleeve
All will see who you really are

How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?

Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams
How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams

I'll take all my worst ideas and
leave them where you can
find them. They're all yours.
You won't realize they're
horrible until it's too late.
And then you'll be the one
saying...

How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams
How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams
How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams
How could you do this to me?
How could you do this to me?
Your own brother,
You crashed my dreams



TAPE THE PHONE TO MY FACE

Lyrics by Angel Drew Welsh

Music by Adam LaPorte

Sung by Kendal Hartse

I got a new phone, I always
wanted it
I'll never be alone with
electronics
But I can't ever put it down
Yeah I'm getting addicted now
It's a problem, but I am solving
it

It's always in my hands
But I have got a plan

I'm gonna tape, tape my phone
to my face
Put this phone in its place
That will solve the case
I'm gonna tape, tape my phone
to my face
Put this phone in its place
With a lotta lotta buncha tape

I've solved the problem, hold on
now wait a minute
The phone is stuck to my face, I
didn't think about this
My eyes are burning now
Yeah this is concerning now
I am panicking, is this gonna
be it?

I know what to do
I know what to do!

I'm gonna break, break this
phone off my face
No need to take off the case
It was really just a waste
I'm gonna take, take this
hammer and break
This phone right off my face
This phone will be erased

After I was done picking glass
out of my skin
I decided to go outside and
take a deep breath in
I saw a group of people,
thought that I might make a
friend
When I walked up to them
Oh no!
They're all on their phones!!

I'm gonna ask, ask my mom for
a phone
Tell her mine is broke
I don't wanna be alone
Then I'm gonna tape, tape that
phone to my face
Put my phone in it's place
And I'll always be up to date
With a phone stuck to my face



BIOGRAPHIES



AVI A. AMON (Music Director, *he/they*) is a Turkish-American composer, sound artist, and educator. He has written hundreds of songs with the young people at The 52nd St. Project over the years and continues to be inspired each time he sets foot in the building. Outside of The Project, Avi is a sought-after collaborator in theater, film, dance, and experiential art. Recent work includes music, songs, and sound design for projects with: Ars Nova, Atlantic Theater, The Civilians, Disney, HBO Films, HERE Arts, Hulu, The Kennedy Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, New York Theater Workshop, The New Victory, PlayCo, Roundabout Theater, SoHo REP, Spotify/Gimlet, St. Louis REP, and Tribeca Film Festival, among others. Avi is the recipient of the Thom Thomas Award and a Jonathan Larson Grant. He is also a Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow, a New Jewish Culture Fellow, and an inaugural fellow with THE WORKSHOP. Avi teaches a variety of collaborative art-making courses at NYU Tisch, where he received his MFA in Musical Theatre Writing. www.aviamon.com.



JESSICA CARVO (Singer, *Young Again*) is a singer, songwriter, and producer with a musical journey encompassing classical, jazz, rock, and electronic genres. She first gained recognition as an artist under the EMI Manhattan/Blue Note label, with notable PBS television performances. Subsequently, her versatile musical talents opened doors to high-profile opportunities, including appearances on NBC's 'The Sing-Off' and collaborations with esteemed composers for TV and film. Jessica finds inspiration in creative interactions both in the writing room and on stage. In 2015, she formed the duo Satellite Mode, which quickly gained viral acclaim with its first independent record release, accumulating over 30 million streams. The duo has gone on to tour nationally with artists such as The Band Perry, Guster, LAUV and more. After a nine-year hiatus from solo work, Jessica is gearing up to release her EP 'Cold Case', in 2024. She is absolutely thrilled to be working with the 52nd Street Project!



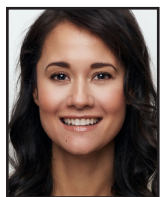
AARON CONOVER (Lighting) is a freelance lighting designer and digital performance technician based in New York City. He is so grateful to be working again at The 52nd Street Project on TUNE IN! His designs last graced the Five Angels stage during Penny for Your Thoughts, the 2022 Playmaking production.



MAJOR CURDA (Singer, *Traitors*) is a multi-disciplinary storytelling artist who has appeared & collaborated on various projects for Theatre, Tv/Film, and Voiceover. Recently, Major finished filming “You Don’t Belong Here” a new horror film with Shane West (SAG-AFTRA IA), had their Off-Broadway debut as Romeo in NAATCO’s off-broadway production of *Romeo & Juliet*, and showed off their live-camera skills in the Original Broadway Cast of *KPOP!* Major can be seen in the CW’s hit series *RIVERDALE* as Dilton Doiley, and in Netflix’s *ATYPICAL* as Arlo. In addition to other Broadway, touring, regional, and developmental theatre credits, Major has recurred on multiple Nickelodeon shows, starred in web-series, and hosted an AwesomenessTV game show. Major is a recent graduate of the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama and a member of One Year Lease Theatre Company. Instagram: @Majorly.MC. Website: MajorCurda.Art



ANGEL DESAI (Singer, *Hi, I’m Rosie*) has been a volunteer with the 52nd St Project since 2002. Her recent TV credits include “Poker Face”, an upcoming Amazon series, “Blue Bloods”, “Law and Order” (reboot), “For Life”, “NCIS: NOLA”, “FBI: Most Wanted”, “City on a Hill”, “Bull” and many others. Film includes: “*Peas and Carrots*” (upcoming), *klutz.*, “*Lady Apsara*”, *The Oh-Gees*, *This Time Next Tuesday*, *The Clique*, *The War Within*, *Heights*, *Black Knight*, *Robot Stories*. She is the voice of Dana Singh in Hulu’s 2nd season of “*Dicktown*” and First Minister Jinn in “*Gears of War*” 4 & 5. Broadway: “*Company*” (2006 Revival). Off-Broadway: MTC, MCC, NYTW, CSC, Playwrights Horizons, The Public/NYSE, The Women’s Project, Ma-Yi Theatre Company. Regional: Yale Rep, George St. Playhouse, Berkshire Theater Festival, Old Globe, McCarter Theater, Cincinnati Playhouse, Long Wharf, Arena Stage, Playmakers Rep. Angel co-founded the Asian American Performers Action Coalition, AAPAC, which won a 2020 Obie and a 2022 Tony Award for excellence in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.



ALIEWOLDT (Singer, *Is It My Time Yet?*) has appeared as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway, Cosette in *Les Miserables* (Broadway, National Tour), in *The King and I* (Lincoln Center, Lyric Opera of Chicago), and as Luisa in *The Fantasticks* (Off-Broadway). Regionally, she has played Amalia in *She Loves Me* (Signature Theatre, Helen Hayes nomination), Yook Mei in *Gold Mountain* (Utah Shakes), Rose in *The Secret Garden* (CTG; FITC concert with Rebecca), Philia in *A Funny Thing... (The Muny)*, Fan/Mrs. Bonds in *A Christmas Carol* (McCarter Theatre), and Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* (Sacramento Music Circus). Concert/symphony work includes: Alice Tully Hall, The Town Hall, NY Pops at Carnegie Hall, APO, Houston Symphony, Kaohsiung Symphony and The Boston Pops. TV/Film credits include “The Michael J. Fox Show,” *Yield*, and the short films *Mia* and *The Cactus*. Ali has a BA in psychology from Yale University and is a proud Filipina American. @aliewoldt



BELLA GALINDO (Songmaker, Singer, *Friends with the Animals*) joined the Project in the fall of 2022. Her first play was *The Witch's Cat*, dramaturged and directed by Ciana Proto with Morgan Everitt as Mary, a witch and Noah Gaynor as Jacob, a werewolf. It was part of the production *OFF THE WALL, The Zany Plays*, in December 2022. Bella starred in *Love Is Like an Ocean*, by Stephanie Jean Lane, who also co-starred and directed as part of *ON THE MOVE, Plays That Will Transport You*, in July 2023. Bela and Ciana became Smart Partners in October 2023. Bella can also be heard on the PROJcast (episodes 41 & 47).



YONATAN GEBEYEHU (Singer, *The Feeling Lonely to Exciting*) is an actor based in Brooklyn, New York. In New York, he's performed at TFANA, Moliere in the Park, Bedlam, New Georges and MTC. On TV, he's appeared on *Prodigal Son* on Fox, *Elementary* on CBS, and *Madame Secretary* on CBS. He has an MFA in acting from University of California San Diego, and a B.A in English from Columbia University.



KENDAL HARTSE (Singer, *Tape the Phone to My Face*) loves The 52nd Street Project and couldn't be happier to be here tonight! Credits include Broadway/National Tours: *The Band's Visit* (Iris), *Summer, Cinderella*, *On a Clear Day...*, *Cabaret*. Select Regional/NYC: *Once* (Reza), *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (Yitzhak), *Pericles* (Thaisa), *Taming of the Shrew* (Baptista/Lucentio), *Cabaret* (Sally Bowles). Kendal has developed work with Vineyard Theatre, Roundabout Theatre Company, New York Stage and Film, and Center Theatre Group. She has a BFA from The Boston Conservatory and was a student of Michael Howard.



CHOPIN INDRA-PAYOON (Engineer) Born and raised in Bangkok, Thailand, Chopin's musical interests started from his father, who was a guitar collector. Chopin's first instrument was piano at age 6; he switched to guitar at age 8. He attended Bangkok Patana School in Thailand, where he got the support that he needed in order to pursue his musical dreams. In middle school, he was in Jazz Band where he also further developed his music theory and guitar playing. From 2014-2015, he was selected by Thailand's Ministry of Culture to represent the country as a guitarist in Thailand's top youth big band "Ruam Smai Bigband", playing international venues in Japan and Hong-Kong. He attended Berklee's five-week program in 2018 on scholarship and got his first taste of a contemporary music school. He was a part of the funk-fusion ensemble and the production workshop in which he fell in love with music production and engineering. He graduated with a magna cum-laude with a bachelor's in music production & engineering at Berklee College of Music and a Master's of creative media and Technology with a concentration in songwriting & production.



DORON JÉPAUL (Singer, *Gary's Dojo*) is a Creative Architect: using acting, writing, directing and producing to tell innovative and thought-provoking stories that expand the kingdom of God in an avant-garde way. Originally an aspiring mathematics teacher and basketball playing carpenter from Colorado by way of Germany, he forwent a doctorate scholarship to pursue an artistic career in

New York City. He graduated from NYU Graduate Acting Program and has performed on Broadway in *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *The Piano Lesson*, as well as starred in award-winning films, all while writing and producing for theater, television and film. His production company Thermostat Media specializes in producing both scripted and unscripted content that not only entertains but also inspires and provokes. He loves finding opportunities to go fishing, drink coffee, and expand the curiosity and joy of the communities he comes in contact with.



GARRETT KIM, (Program Director, *he/him*) is a theater-maker and educator based in New York City. He joined the staff in 2015 after interning and volunteering at The Project. He has taught at First Stage Children's Theater in Milwaukee for their Theatre Academy and their Next Steps program for students on the autism spectrum. As a playwright, Garrett has developed work with Ars Nova, Rattlestick Theater, The New Harmony Project, The Parsnip Ship, Leviathan Lab, and Piper Theatre Company, to name a few. When he's not involved with theater-related shenanigans, Garrett can be found tending his plants, cooking, or playing tabletop games with his friends. B.A. Fordham University.



ADAM LAPORTE (Composer/Band, team Angel) is a composer, lyricist, and playwright originally from Murfreesboro, TN. He is the author of six musicals and two plays, including *The Baseball Play* (Freshpaint Performance Lab), *June by the Sea* (OCU Stripped), and *Courtship* (The Tank). He received his Bachelor of Music from Oklahoma City University in 2020 and a Masters of Fine Arts from

NYU's Graduate Musical Theater Writing Program in 2023.



JARED LOFTIN (Singer, *The Fight*) OFF-BROADWAY/NEW YORK: *The Panic of '29*, *Gigantic* (Vineyard Theatre), *Saturday Night* (York Theatre), *Gary Goldfarb: Master Escapist* (NYMF). REGIONAL: *AD16* (Olney Theatre), *Nikola Tesla Drops the Beat* (ATF), *Peter Pan*, *All Shook Up*, *Fame*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Artpark). FILM/TV: *tick, tick...BOOM!* (Netflix), *Little America* (Apple), *Red Oaks* (Amazon).



PAIGE MENNECCI (Composer/Band, team Jaelannie) is a New York-based composer/lyricist and a second year MFA candidate at the NYU Tisch Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. She is passionate about using the power of theatre to create funny stories about empathy, growth and faith using rock influences. Currently

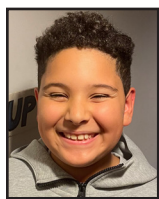
under development, her thesis musical explores the intersection of art, authenticity and body image. It follows a woman (and the younger versions of herself) who travels to her hometown to address the unresolved relationships she left behind in her search for identity as an artist. Paige has a B.S. in Music Industry from the College of Saint Rose where she recorded, produced and released her debut pop-rock album, *Hell of a Start*. Paige music-directed her debut song cycle *Laws of Motion*, about the obsessive fear of wasting time and potential, at the Saint Rose Musical Theatre Workshop in 2021, and is developing it as a narrative piece. Paige has years of experience as a Music Ministry leader at multiple churches across New York. She also serves as the Special Projects Manager for the national nonprofit, *Music to Life*, which connects socially conscious artists with the resources to create music-driven community change projects. @paigemenneci



JONJA MERCK (Composer/Band, team Josiah) is a music director, pianist, composer, and conductor from Berlin, Germany. He is a second year composer at NYU's Musical Theatre Writing Program. He has volunteered as a music assistant for BCEFA's *Broadway Backwards* since 2020. His first original musical, *An Artist, Now* premiered at the Fisher Center at Bard in February 2022. Two new original musicals are currently under development. Jonja is a proud member of MUSE (Musicians United For Social Equity). Bachelor of Arts from Bard College, NY. @jonjamerck



MADELINE MONDRALA (Composer/Band team Bella) [she/they] is a singer/songwriter and content creator based in Brooklyn New York. Madeline has a degree in Studio Composition from The Music Conservatory at SUNY Purchase, and is currently getting her Masters in Musical Theater Writing and Design at Berklee NYC. As a creator she is best known for her viral TikToks featuring her celebrity vocal impressions and comedic sketches. Madeline's solo music project "That Brunette" has garnered critical acclaim from noteworthy blogs such as Ladygunn and Billboard among others. Her latest EP "Dark Cute" dropped in 2021 under the moniker "That Brunette." Her newest collection of songs comes out later this year.



JOSIAH PEREZ (Songmaker) joined the Project in the spring of 2023. His first play was *Lion and Bear Friend Problems*; dramaturged and directed by Michael Propster; with Daiva Deupree as Ms. Bear, a bear; and Carl Hendrick Louis as Isaac, an older lion. It was part of the production *A WHALE OF A TALE, Plays That Make a Splash*, in March/April 2023. Josiah can also be heard on the PROJcast (episodes 42 & 47).