

Friday, March 1, 2024, 8pm
Saturday, March 2, 2024, 2pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 3, 2024, 2pm and 7pm
Zellerbach Playhouse

ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE

Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge

Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge
Conceived by Greig Sargeant with Elevator Repair Service
Directed by John Collins

with
Greig Sargeant* *James Baldwin*
Scott Shepherd *William F. Buckley, Jr.*
Daphne Gaines* *Lorraine Hansberry*
Gavin Price* *Mr. Heycock*
Christopher-Rashee Stevenson *Mr. Burford*

The role of William F. Buckley, Jr. was created by Ben Williams.
The role of Lorraine Hansberry was created by April Matthis.

*The Actor appears through the courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association,
the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Jessica Jahn	<i>Costume Design</i>
Alan C. Edwards	<i>Lighting Design</i>
Ben Williams	<i>Sound Design</i>
dots	<i>Scenic Consultant</i>
Earon Chew Nealey	<i>Wig Design</i>
Alexander Le Vaillant Freer	<i>Associate Lighting Design</i>
Jasmine Canjura	<i>Assistant Costume Design</i>
Maurina Lioce	<i>Assistant Director and Stage Manager</i>
Hanna Novak	<i>Producer</i>
Aaron Amodt	<i>Production Manager</i>
Jason Sebastian	<i>Sound Engineer</i>

"That's All I Ask"

Performed by Nina Simone • Words and Music by Horace Ott (BMI)
Courtesy of Verve Records under license from Universal Music Enterprises and Wellmade Music

*Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge was produced for
On Demand Streaming by Montclair State University (NJ) for PEAK Performances.*

*This program will be performed without intermission
and last approximately 65 minutes.*

*Leadership support for LGBTQ+ programming at Cal Performances
is provided by Michael P. N. A. Hormel.*

*Cal Performances is committed to fostering a welcoming, inclusive, and safe environment for all—
one that honors our venues as places of respite, openness, and respect.*

Please see the Community Agreements section on our Policies page for more information.



Dramaturgical Notes

With the exception of the final scene, the text of this production is taken verbatim from a debate between James Baldwin and William F. Buckley, Jr. at the Cambridge Union on February 18th, 1965. Text from the final scene is taken from several letters, interviews, and other writings of James Baldwin and Lorraine Hansberry and compiled by Greig Sargeant and April Matthis, with additional text from Daphne Gaines and Stephanie Weeks.

The idea for *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge* was born out of a dinner that Greig Sargeant and I had in 2019. Greig and I were hoping to work together on a different ERS production, but a perfect storm of frustrating outside factors was making that particular collaboration impossible. Greig is a longtime ERS ensemble member and someone whose creative input I treasure, so I wanted to find a way for us to work together. With the original plan in jeopardy, I asked Greig what *he* wanted to work on: did he have an idea that could be the start of a new ERS piece? His answer was that he wanted to play James Baldwin. From there, we began researching and watched the BBC film of this

debate. Greig and I agreed that it sounded hauntingly like a conversation that could be happening right now.

—John Collins, director

The question of this debate—“Is The American Dream at the expense of the American Negro?”—is just as relevant today as it was in 1965, just as it was 150 ago. For those who think much has changed for the better in the United States regarding attitudes and behavior about race, I am telling you that, from my perspective, nothing has fundamentally changed. Police killings, voter suppression, systemic racism, and the lack of opportunity for people of color in our society is proof enough. It deeply troubles me that, as a nation and as a society, we are moving backwards. The brilliant and insightful James Baldwin fearlessly confronted these injustices in his own time, injustices that continue today. I was deeply moved when I discovered this debate. Its relevance is undeniable. The time has come again, as Baldwin said, to “wake the children sleeping.” His words must be heard and the conversation must continue for our society to evolve.

—Greig Sargeant, conceiver/actor

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Elevator Repair Service (ERS) is a New York City-based company that creates original works for live theater with an ongoing ensemble. The company's shows are created from a wide range of texts that include found transcripts of trials and debates, literature, classical dramas, and new plays. Founded in 1991, ERS has created an extensive body of work that includes upwards of 20 original pieces. These have earned the company a loyal following and made it one of New York's most highly acclaimed experimental theater companies. The company is best

known for *Gatz*, its award-winning verbatim staging of the entire text of *The Great Gatsby*. ERS has received numerous awards and distinctions, including Lortel awards, a “Bessie” Award, and an OBIE Award for Sustained Excellence, as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship and Doris Duke Performing Artist Award for Artistic Director John Collins. ERS's current project is a staging of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, which will receive its world premiere at the Fisher Center at Bard College in summer 2024. Visit ERS online at www.elevator.org.

Aaron Amodt

Production Manager

ERS: *Ulysses*; *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge*; *Seagull*; *Gatz*; *Everyone's Fine With Virginia Woolf*; *The Select (The Sun Also Rises)*; *Fondly*, *Collette Richland*. Elsewhere: *The Play that Goes Wrong*; *Slave Play*; *What the Constitution Means to Me*; *Othello*; *Hadestown*; *Lazarus*. Tours: *A Billion Nights on Earth* (Lucidity Suitcase Intercontinental); Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. Outside of theater, Amodt collects commemorative telecom postage stamps and makes ghost photographs that can be found on IG @amodttech.

Jasmine Canjura

Assistant Costume Design

Jasmine Canjura (she/her) is a Latina artist and costume designer based in New York who works in theater, opera, and film. She graduated from New York University with a BFA in costume and scenic design. Canjura is currently Assistant Costumes Manager at The Public Theater. Recent credits include Assistant Costume Designer for *Hamlet* at Free Shakespeare in the Park (The Public); Costume Design Assistant for *Tina – The Tina Turner Musical* US tour; Assistant Costume Designer for *Angelique* (Manhattan School of Music); Associate Costume Designer for *Amahl & the Night Visitors* (Onsite Opera); and Assistant Costume Design for *The Passion of Mary Cardwell Dawson* (Glimmerglass Opera Festival).

John Collins

Director

John Collins founded Elevator Repair Service in 1991. Since then he has directed or co-directed all of the company's productions while also serving as Artistic Director. Collins is also an experienced sound designer and has worked for the Wooster Group, Richard Foreman, Target Margin Theater, and others. Other recent projects with ERS include *Ulysses* (a staging of the James Joyce

novel) and a new adaptation of Chekhov's *The Seagull*. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a United States Artists Fellowship, and a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award.

dots

Scenic Consultant

dots is a multi-disciplinary design collective creating environments for theater, film, commercials, and immersive experiences. Hailing from Colombia, South Africa, and Japan, dots is Santiago Orjuela-Laverde, Andrew Moerdyk, and Kimie Nishikawa. As collaborators, they believe that the whole is greater than the sum of its individual parts. Recent credits: *Seagull* (Elevator Repair Service); *Madame Butterfly* (Cincinnati Opera); *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* (Broadway: James Earl Jones Theater, BAM); *Dark Disabled Stories* (The Public); *Public Obscenities* (Soho Rep, NAATCO, Drama Desk nomination); *Kate Berlant is KATE* (Connelly Theater); *You Will Get Sick* (Roundabout Theater, Lucille Lortel nomination). designbydots.com.

Alan C. Edwards

Lighting Design

ERS: *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge*. Broadway: *The Testament of Mary* (associate to Jennifer Tipton). Off-Broadway: *Harry Clarke* (Vineyard, Lortel Award); *Kill Move Paradise* (NBT, Drama Desk nomination); *Fires in the Mirror* (Signature, Lortel nomination); *Twilight*: LA 1992, *The Hot Wing King* (Signature); *White Rose* (LDK Productions); *Bluebird Memories* featuring Common (Audible Theatre); *Twelfth Night* (Classical Theatre of Harlem). Regional: *Paradise Blue*, *Lights Out: Nat King Cole* (Geffen Playhouse); *Sally & Tom, Sweat, A Raisin in the Sun* (The Guthrie). Dance: *Where We Dwell*, *Chasing Magic* (Ayodele Casel); *In the Same Tongue* (Dianne McIntyre); *Lifted* (Christopher Rudd for American Ballet Theatre). Edwards is a

graduate of the Yale School of Drama.
alancedwards.com.

Jessica Jahn

Costume Design

Jessica Jahn's (she/her) Off-Broadway credits include: *Hamlet* (The Public); *Gloria: A Life* (Daryl Roth Theatre); *Die Mommie Die!* (New World Stages); *Monodramas* (New York City Opera). Regional: American Repertory Theater, McCarter Theatre, Kennedy Center, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera. International: Gran Teatre de Liceu, Wexford Opera. Upcoming: *Loving vs VA* (Virginia Opera).

Alexander Le Vaillant Freer

Associate Lighting Design

Alexander Le Vaillant's (he/him) work has been seen across the United States as well as internationally. He holds an MFA in lighting design from California Institute of the Arts, and a BFA from Stephens College. Previous design credits include: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (Le Petit Theater, New Orleans LA); *#Unwanted* (The Shed, NYC); *GLOW Holiday Light Festival* (St. Paul, MN); *Miracle on 34th Street* (Pasadena Playhouse, Pasadena CA); *Cirque Swan Lake* (Mesa PAC, Mesa AZ); and *Fantômas—Revenge of the Image* (Whuzen, China). Associate Credits: *Poor Yella Rednecks* (Manhattan Theatre Club, New York NY); *Coast Starlight* (Lincoln Center Theater, New York NY); *A Grand Night for Singing* (Goodspeed Opera House, East Haddam CT). Assistant Credits: *Habibati Man Takoun* (Riyadh Seasons, Riyadh Saudi Arabia); *Fires in the Mirror* (Signature Theatre, NYC); *Lights Out: Nat King Cole* (The Geffen, Los Angeles CA).

Daphne Gaines

Lorraine Hansberry

ERS: *The Sound and the Fury* (The Public); *The Select* (Teatro Municipal, Chile, Shakes-

peare Theatre Company, D.C.); *Ulysses* (Symphony Space). New York: *Goethe's Faust* (Classic Stage Company); *The Lily's Revenge* and *Orpheus* (Here Arts); *A Walk Across America...* and *Yokasta's Redux* (LaMama); *Three Sisters* (Classical Theatre of Harlem); *The Mystery of the Charity...* (Target Margin Theatre); *Nightvision: A Vampyre Opera* (Joe's Pub, BAM, Here Arts). Regional Theater: *Ruined*, *American Night*, and *Gee's Bend* (Denver Center); *A Raisin in the Sun* (Geva Theater); *Breath & Imagination* (Cleveland Playhouse); *Three Children* (Hong Kong Fringe Theater); *O Guru Guru...* (Actor's Theater of Louisville); *The Ashes Under Gait City* (CATF). Film/Television: *Bull* (CBS), *Orange is the New Black* (Netflix), *Deception* (ABC), *God Friended Me* (CBS), *Royal Pains* (USA), *Milestones*. Voiceover: *Succession*, *True Detective*, *Blue Bloods*. Training: Circle in the Square Theater School; University of Georgia: BA in theater and psychology.

Maurina Lioce

Assistant Director and Stage Manager

With ERS: *The Sound and the Fury*; *Arguendo*; *The Select* (*The Sun Also Rises*) (tours); *Gatz* (tours); *Fondly*, *Collette Richland*; *Measure for Measure*; *Everyone's Fine with Virginia Woolf*; *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge*; *Seagull*. NYC: Stage management for *Half Straddle*, *Adrienne Truscott*, *Alex Tatarsky*, *Becca Blackwell*, *Jim Findlay*, *David Byrne*, *Sibyl Kempson*, *Mike Iveson*, *Andrew Ondrejcek*, *Erin Markey*, *Suzanne Bocanegra*, and *Young Jean Lee*. Lioce has been a member of Elevator Repair Service since 2014.

Earon Chew Nealey

Wig Design

Off-Broadway: *Fat Ham*; *Cullad Wattah*; *Mojada*. Broadway: *Macbeth* (associate hair designer); *Chicken and Biscuits* (associate wig and makeup designer); *Sweat* (associate makeup designer). Other design: *Dames at*

Sea, Kinky Boots (Bucks County Playhouse); *Last Super* (SOPAC); *Twelfth Night* (Marcus Garvey Park); *On Killing* (Soho Rep); *Little Girl Blue* (Goodspeed, New World Stages); *Meet Vera Stark*, *Matilda* (Colorado University); *On Sugarland* (NYTW); *Nina Simone: Four Women* (Berkshire Theatre Group); *Once on This Island* (Pioneer Theatre Company); *Little Women* (Dallas Theater Center); *Oklahoma!*, *Patsy Cline* (Weston Playhouse); *Memphis*, *Dream Girls* (Cape Fear Regional Theater); *Cadillac Crew*, *Twelfth Night* (Yale Rep).

Hanna Novak
Producer

Recent producing credits with ERS include *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge* (Festival d'Avignon and The Public) and *Seagull* (NYU Skirball Center). Novak is currently producing the company's staging of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, which will receive its world premiere at the Fisher Center at Bard College in summer 2024. She is also a playwright and director. Her plays have been presented/developed in New York City at Clubbed Thumb, the New Ohio, the Performing Garage, and Ensemble Studio Theatre. Novak is a member of EST/Youngblood, a New Georges affiliated artist, and a member of the Off-Broadway League. MFA in Playwriting; Hunter College, under Annie Baker and Branden Jacobs-Jenkins.

Gavin Price
Mr. Heycock

Gavin Price has performed and designed with Elevator Repair Service since 2013. He is a comedian, filmmaker, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist, and is certified in full stack web development. Film projects include the award-winning short *Boccamazzo Construction* and Fritz Michel's recent music video "On the Rocks." Design and performance with: Met Museum, New Mu-

seum, MCA Chicago, Mabou Mines, Tectonic Theater, CabinFever, Kaufman Center's Face the Music, 7 Daughters of Eve, Pandora Boxx & Mrs. Kasha Davis, Theater in Quarantine, and with Emily Pacilio in The Basics. Saint Fortune, co-founder. Spotify & iTunes: Witch Ones, Tender Band, CabinFever.

Jason Sebastian
Sound Engineer

ERS: *The Select*; *Gatz*; *Arguendo*; *Measure for Measure*; *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge*; *Seagull*. The Public: *Gatz*; *Measure for Measure*. Some New York venues: St. Ann's Warehouse, PS 122, 3LD, Dance Theater Workshop (NYLA), Skirball Center, New York Theater Workshop and The Public Theater. Various NY companies: Elevator Repair Service, Young Jean Lee, MV Works, Tara, O'Con, Radiohole, Banana Bag and Bodice. Southern Ohio: Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Contemporary Art Museum. Teaching: College Conservatory of Music (Cincinnati, OH), Miami University (Oxford Ohio), Xavier University (Cincinnati, OH).

Scott Shepherd
William F. Buckley, Jr.

Scott Shepherd has been a member of ERS since 1994, when he played a drunk passed out on a radiator in *McGurk: A Cautionary Tale*. Other ERS appearances include *Ulysses*; *Measure for Measure*; *Gatz* (Obie Award); *No Great Society*; *Total Fictional Lie*; *Cab Legs*; and *Shut Up I Tell You*. He has worked with the Wooster Group since 1997, playing Hamlet in *Hamlet* and other roles in *The Town Hall Affair*; *Vieux Carré*; *Poor Theater* (Obie Award); *To You, The Birdie!*; *Brace Up!*; and others. His screen credits include *Killers of the Flower Moon*, *The Last of Us*, *First Cow*, *El Camino*, *True Detective*, *The Young Pope*, and *Bridge of Spies*.



Greig Sargeant and Daphne Gaines in the New York premiere production of Elevator Repair Service's *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge* at The Public Theater. Photo credit: Joan Marcus.

Greig Sargeant

James Baldwin

Greig Sargeant is an actor and associated artist of the Obie Award-winning Target Margin Theater and a company member of the internationally renowned Obie Award-winning theater ensemble Elevator Repair Service. Recent credits include: *Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge*; *Measure for Measure*; and *The Sound and the Fury* (The Public Theater); *Gatz* (REDCAT); *Fondly, Collette Richland*; *Bonnie's Last Flight*; and *The Little Foxes* (NYTW); *The Parable Conference* (BAM); *Please Bury Me/Go Forth* (Baryshnikov Arts Center); *Uncle Vanya*; *Mamba's Daughters*; *Strictly Dishonorable*; *Dido*; *Queen of Carthage*; *Cymbeline*; and *Measure for Measure* (Target Margin Theater). Film: *Help Me Mary* (dir. Annie Tippe), *The Bad Infinity* (dir. Graham Sack). Sargeant has also been published in *American Theatre* magazine, having written an article regarding agency and race in the theater. Greig was a W.E.B. Dubois Fellow at West Virginia University, where he received his MFA in acting.

Christopher-Rashee Stevenson

Mr. Burford

Christopher-Rashee Stevenson is an experimental theater artist from Baltimore, Maryland. Recent credits: the marathon reading of *The Autobiography of Malcolm X As Told to Alex Haley* at the Metropolitan Opera, as well as Elevator Repair Service's *Ulysses* at the Fisher Center at Bard & PRELUDE '23. He is a former SUITE/SPACE (2020–21) artist at Mabou Mines and an alum of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab 2018. Stevenson's work as a performer and/or director has been featured at the Performing Garage, DeSingel International Arts Center, Festival d'Avignon, Philadelphia Fringe, JACK, HERE Arts Center, The Public Theater, the Actor's Studio, Williams College, REDCAT, American Repertory Theater, Millennium Film Workshop, Lincoln Center Education, LaMaMa, Art House Productions, Symphony Space, and the Eubie Blake Jazz Institute. Upcoming: *Hamlet* (July 2024, Collapsible Hole).

Ben Williams

Sound Design

Ben Williams is an actor and sound designer. He produces and curates category: other (category-other.com), an award-winning platform for experimental audio. Collaborators include: Elevator Repair Service, Minor Theater w/Julia Jarcho, Christina Masciotti, Suzanne Bocanegra, Kate Benson, and many others. Recent projects include *Ulysses* (Theater Basel); *Studio Créole* (Manchester International Festival); and *Lost Sea*, a video arcade art installation with Victor Morales. Awards for sound design: OBIE, Lortel, Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle, and Third Coast International Audio Festival's inaugural Audio Unbound Award (for *Songs of Speculation*, co-produced with Jillian Walker). benwilliams-dotcom.com.

ERS Staff

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Credits

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Elevator Repair Service is a member of the Alliance of Resident Theaters/New York.

Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the US labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theater as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.