



Sons of Levi By Randy Redd

Adapted for the stage from the novel *How to Survive a Summer* by Nick White

A Virtual Play Reading

November 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Presented in the MS New Play Series as part of the Eudora Welty New Play Series.



COLIN ANDERSON (Will Dillard) is originally from Oklahoma City and is an actor and performance coach based in New York City. Before moving to NYC, he had the rare privilege of studying voice with the legendary Florence Birdwell, as well as multiple other remarkable educators at Oklahoma City University. Currently, Anderson is leading the Lovely Quartet in the National Tour of Lincoln Center Theater's production of *My Fair Lady*. He was previously seen on Broadway in the 2018 Revival of *Carousel* as a Swing and Enoch Snow; covering Anthony, Tobias, and Beadle in the critically acclaimed 2017 Off-Broadway production of *Sweeney Todd*; Quasimodo in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at The Argyle Theatre; Elder Smith in *The Book of Mormon* second National Tour; and Ensemble in the Lincoln Center/New York Philharmonic production of *Sweeney Todd*. colinanderson.net

COLE BURDEN (Larry) National Tour: *The Bridges of Madison County* (Robert u/s Performed), 25th Anniversary *Les Miserables*. Off-Broadway: Priest/Giorgio in *Himself and Nora* (Minetta Lane), *Applause* (Encores!), *Bonnie and Clyde* (NYMF). Regional: Lank Hawkins in *Crazy For You*, Revival (Signature Theatre), Buddy Rocky/Roy Bacon in *Honeymoon in Vegas* (Marriott Theatre), Percy/Travers in *The Ballad of Little Jo* (Two River Theatre, Original Cast Recording), Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls* (Asolo Repertory Theatre), Tom in *Murder Ballad* (Studio Theatre), Archibald Craven in *The Secret Garden* (Capital Repertory Theatre), Joe Kennedy/Jerry in *Grey Gardens* (Philadelphia Theatre Company), Warner Huntington III in *Legally Blonde* (Marriott Theatre), Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Arvada Center), Che in *Evita* (Mason Street Warehouse), *Slaughterhouse Five*, *The War Department* (Eugene O'Neill Theater Center). Concerts: Andrew Lippa's "I Am Harvey Milk" (Avery Fisher Hall), "Uprising of Love: A Benefit Concert for Global Equality" (Gershwin Theatre), Lynn Aherns and Stephen Flaherty's "The Human Heart, We Are the Song: After the Storm" (Joe's Pub), The Actors Fund's "Nothing Like a Dame" (Imperial Theatre). Film & TV: "Beautiful Creatures," "The Rainbow Bridge Motel," "30 Rock," "As The World Turns," and "One Life to Live." Baldwin-Wallace University. @coleburden

WARD EMLING (Father Drake) was last seen at New Stage as Stan in *Sweat* and Monsieur Bouc in *Murder on the Orient Express*. A 1976 graduate of Millsaps College, he trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He made his debut appearance at New Stage in 1973 in *Jimmy Shine*, followed by *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. With the Millsaps Players under the direction of Lance Goss, he appeared in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Vivat! Vivat Regina!*, *Conduct Unbecoming*, *Hamlet*, *Robert and Elizabeth*, *Hotel Universe*, *The Lady's Not for Burning*, and others. In Los Angeles, he appeared in *Sand Mountain* at the Back Alley Theatre, and in several series from the ancient age of television: "Beulah Land," "The Mississippi," "Matt Houston," "St. Elsewhere," "Knot's Landing," "Our House," and "Matlock." Previous New Stage productions include *Peg O My Heart*, *The Little Foxes*, *What The Butler Saw*, *The Diviners*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, the folk opera *The Ponder Heart*, *Shakespeare in Love*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

ANNIE FUNKE (Bevy) Broadway: *Hairspray*, *Wicked*. Off-Broadway: *If There Is...* (opposite Jake Gyllenhaal; Lucille Lortel Award Winner), *Punk Rock*, *Silence! the Musical*. Regional: The Kennedy Center, Papermill Playhouse, Studio Theatre, Lyric Theatre of Okla., STAGES St Louis, Music Theatre Wichita. TV: "This is Us," "Criminal Minds," "Beyond Borders," "Grey's Anatomy," "Lucifer," "Chicago Fire," and "Gone." Studied at School at Steppenwolf and University of Oklahoma.

DALTON HARROD (Christopher) a New York City native, is ecstatic to join this fantastic cast. Film/TV: "Nos4a2" (AMC); "The Miseducation of Cameron Post" (Sundance Grand Jury Prize); "Second Act" (STX); "The OA" (Netflix). Theatre: *On Your Toes* (City Center Encores!); *Spring's Awakening* (The Barrow Group); and *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. This ones for C&A. @daltonharrod; Innovative Artists Agency

RACHEL BAY JONES (Mother Maude) is best known for originating the role of Heidi Hansen in the Original Broadway Cast of *Dear Evan Hansen*, and received a Tony Award, Emmy Award, Grammy Award, Lucille Lortel Award, and Drama League Nomination for her performance. She can currently be seen on the hit ABC series "Modern Family," CBS' "God Friended Me," and in the feature film "Ben Is Back," opposite Julia Roberts. She stars in the upcoming feature film "Critical Thinking," directed by and opposite John Leguizamo, and in the upcoming Amazon television series "Panic." Additional Broadway credits include *Pippin*, *Hair*, *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*. Off-Broadway and Regional/National Tour include *Next To Normal* (Kennedy Center), *Dear Evan Hansen* (Drama Desk Nomination) at Second Stage, *First Daughter Suite* at The Public Theater, *Hello Again*, *A Christmas Story*, *Pippin*, *Sylvia*, and *The King and I*. On Television, Bay Jones recently appeared on NBC's "Law & Order: SVU," ABC's "Grey's Anatomy," "The Family," and the FX series "Louie." She is currently touring her new solo concert series "Something Beautiful," and her debut solo album "Showfolk" can be purchased on iTunes and Amazon.

Ben Kahre (Rick) is an actor, fight director, and teacher. He performed in *The Who & the What* (Milwaukee Rep), *A Loss of Roses* (Off- Broadway), *The Commons of Pensacola* (Manhattan Theatre Company), *Higher* (American Conservatory Theater), *Noises Off* (Idaho Rep), and New Stage's *Sweet Potato Queens*. He can also be seen on the small screen in "The Blacklist," "Jessica Jones," and "The Mysteries of Laura." As a fight director, he has choreographed stage violence in numerous productions for both stage and screen, most recently coordinating the stunt work in *Holmes and Watson* at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. He was certified in 2018 as a Dueling Arts International Stage Combat Teacher and teaches workshops throughout the United States. Kahre is a proud graduate of the American Conservatory Theater and the University of Evansville.

MARCUS OWENS (Sparse) is a free spirited person, who loves acting, singing, dancing, art, and a bit of makeup now and then. When Owens learned of his role, he thought the character reminded him of himself, but Owens thinks he's is a bit more calm than Sparse.

SAM POON (Rumil) Broadway: *Sing Street, Macbeth, The King and I*. Off-Broadway: *Sing Street* and *Runaways*. National Tours: *Les Miserables, Billy Elliot*. Select Regional: *Fly, Miss Saigon, Oliver, The Jungle Book, Soldier Songs*, and *The Secret Garden*. Select Film & TV: "Boychoir," "Crazy Famous," "Generation Wrecks," "Snowy Bing Bongs Across the North Star Combat Zone," "Carson Daly," "The Today Show," "David Letterman," and "FBI." www.Spoonuel.com; www.SamPoonOnline.com.

KYLE PRICE (Zeus) is so excited to be doing this reading for *Sons of Levi*. Recent work includes *The Gorgeous Nothings* at Joe's Pub and Piper in the stage premiere of *Fat Kid Rules the World*. Off-Broadway: *Pip's Island*. National Tour: *Pete the Cat*. Proud CAP21 alum. @kp.price

MARSHALL ROBERTSON (Dale) is a tenth grade honor roll student at Leake Academy where he plays both junior varsity and varsity football and tennis, and is a member of the Junior Christian Organization. At New Stage he is a four-year performer in the Youth Acting Troupe and a member of the Youth Council. He has also participated in numerous acting classes at New Stage and four Broadway Jr. productions. Robertson made his debut at New Stage in the 2015 production of *A Christmas Carol*. Other performances include *A Christmas Story, The Musical* (New Stage Theatre), *A Christmas Story* (Meridian Little Theater), and various productions at Newton Little Theater and Leake Academy.

RANDY REDD (Writer/Director) Broadway and Off Broadway credits include *Parade, Ring of Fire, Million Dollar Quartet, Smoke on the Mountain*, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *By Jeeves*, Terrence McNally's *Some Men, The Burnt Part Boys*, Randy Newman's *Faust, Pump Boys & Dinettes* (City Center Encores), Alain Boublil's *Manhattan Parisienne, Allegro* directed by John Doyle, and Max Vernon's *The View Upstairs*. Film/TV: "Beautiful Creatures," "The Last Five Years," "After the Storm," "Kinsey," "From Broadway With Love" (PBS), "The Wright Verdicts" (CBS), "All-American New Years" (FOX), and the Tony Awards. Directing credits include *Sweet Potato Queens* and *Million Dollar Quartet* (New Stage Theatre), *Swing Wings* (York Theater), *Extraordinary Joe* (Abrons Arts Center), and *Fiction In Photographs* (New World Stages). His first play, *Mississippi Sugar*, was developed and produced at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. Other original works include *Awful/Good, Touché* (NYMF), *What's That Smell: The Music of Jacob Sterling* (Atlantic Theater Company). Recordings: "Wearing Someone Else's Clothes" with Jason Robert Brown, "The Burnt Part Boys," "Ring of Fire," "Lucky Stiff," "Parade," "The View UpStairs," "NEO," "House of Love," "Songs from a Failed Play," and "ShowFolk" with Rachel Bay Jones. He is the co-founder and artistic director of JOOKMS - Locally Sourced Devised Theatre for the Mid-South. www.randy-redd.com

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS,

AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS, SAG-AFTRA

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Taylor Newby (Asst. Director/JOOKMS Co-Founder), Clara Seitz (Stage Manager),
Alberto Meza, Jr. (Video Producer/Zoom Technician), Bronwyn Teague (Production Manager),
Shannon Frost (Technical Assistant), Melissa Tillman (Customer Support)

Thursday Nights Virtual Plays, Conversations, and Cocktails Upcoming Events

November 19 at 7 pm: *Under the Lantern Lit Sky* by Jaclyn Bethany;
Play reading co-directed by Jaclyn Bethany and Michelle Bossy