

LA MAMA⁵⁶

EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB

presents

CONQUEST OF THE UNIVERSE OR WHEN QUEENS COLLIDE

Written by Charles Ludlam

Directed by Everett Quinton



Ellen Stewart Theatre
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003
November 2 - 19, 2017

CONQUEST OF THE UNIVERSE OR WHEN QUEENS COLLIDE

Written by Charles Ludlam

Directed by Everett Quinton

"He's The Conqueror" Composed by Peter Golub

Arrangement of Original Music by Sean Carmichael

Costume Design by Ramona Ponce

Set Design by Robert Savina

Lighting Design by Christopher Weston

Sound Design by Tim Schellenbaum

Props Design by Cricket Epstein

Choreography by John Gutierrez

Stage Manager: Karen Oughtred

Assistant Stage Manager: Jillian A. Goldstein

Assistant Costume Designer: Elaine Bledsoe

Production Assistants: Luisa Alarcón, Peter Gawelko, Michael Zarra

Video Projections: Jerry Marsini

Carpenter: Alex McCarron

Set Decorator: Kevin Fernandez

DRAMATIS PERSONAE (In order of appearance)

TAMBERLAINE, President of Earth	Grant Neale *
BAJAZETH, King of Mars	Lenys Samá
ALICE, First Lady of Earth	Brian Belovitch *
ZABINA, Queen of Mars	Everett Quinton *
EBEA, her maid	Jeanne Lauren Smith
FIREWOMEN	Géraldine Dulex *, John Gutierrez, eugene the poogene, Jillian A. Goldstein
Tamberlaine's men:	
TECHELLUS	Shane Baker *
USUMCASANE	Sommer Carbuccia
VENUS, Queen of Venus	Géraldine Dulex *
CONSUELA, her maid	Sommer Carbuccia
COSROE, brother of Zabina, a Martian prince	Everett Quinton *
MAGNAVOX, King of Mercury	eugene the poogene
ORTYGIUS, Caliph of Jupiter	John Gutierrez
NATOLIA, Queen of Saturn	Beth Dodye Bass *
WITCH OF ENSOR	Sommer Carbuccia
WAR	Sommer Carbuccia
HUNGER	John Gutierrez
PESTILENCE	eugene the poogene
WOMAN IN A CELL	Beth Dodye Bass *
GRAVEDIGGER	Shane Baker *
NEWSBOY, BALLERINA OF URANUS	John Gutierrez

* Actors appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association
"Equity approved Showcase."



Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers. Equity seeks to foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, 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. #EquityWorks

SHANE BAKER (TECHELLUS, GRAVEDIGGER) has appeared with New Yiddish Rep as Vladimir in his own Yiddish translation of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* for its Yiddish world premiere Off-Broadway and tours to Enniskillen, Northern Ireland and Paris, France; and as Yankl in *God of Vengeance*. In English he's best known for various incarnations of Jeff Weiss's *And That's How The Rent Gets Paid*. He's pleased as Punch to help celebrate 50 years of the Ridiculous Theatrical Company!

BETH DODYE BASS (NATOLIA, WOMAN IN A CELL) is a member of the following companies: This is Not A Theatre Company, The New Stage Theatre Company, The Yorick Theatre Company and The Ridiculous Theatrical Company. Her theatrical credits include: *Subway Series "L" Train* (Ethel), *Electronic City, Night*, *Cosmic Comics* (multiple characters), *The Winter's Tale* (multiple characters), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Carmen*, *Just Call Me Sarah Bernhardt* (multiple characters). Dodye's career includes appearances in film, television, and national commercials.

BRIAN BELOVITCH (ALICE) has appeared on various New York stages for more than three decades. He's a 2000 GLAAD award nominee for his Off Broadway autobiographical play: *Boys Don't Wear Lipstick*. Brian's Ridiculous debut was as Lamia, the Leopard Woman in *Bluebeard* and he's thrilled to be back on stage at La MaMa. Film: *The Irishman*, *Nor'easter*, *Q&A*. TV: *The Deuce*, *Homeland*, *The Americans*. Brian's highly anticipated memoir *Trans Figured: My Journey from Boy to Girl to Woman to Man* published by Skyhorse arrives in Fall 2018. @bbelov, Instagram BB1186

SOMMER CARBUCCIA (USUMCASANE, CONSUELA, WITCH OF ENSOR, WAR) is excited to be a part of this production with so many wonderful actors! A graduate of NYU Tisch, Sommer is making his La MaMa debut. He has previously been in *A Midsummer Nights Dream* with New York Classical, various readings with The Public, The Civilians, and TBTB, and is in the upcoming festival film *Juvenile*. He'd like to thank Everett as well as his mami, papi, y toda su familia. Live, love, lake. www.sommercarbuccia.com

GÉRALDINE DULEX (VENUS, FIREWOMAN) performed in various readings with Ridiculous Theatrical Co. She played the principal speaking role in the critically-acclaimed opera *The Passenger* in Chicago, Miami and Detroit. Theater credits include: *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Steppenwolf), *Cosmicomics* (New Stage), and the female leads in *Barker's Minna* (Trap Door) and Emilio Williams' *Tables and Beds* (Chicago Sweatshop). She is a company member of NYC's award winning Broken Box Mime Theater. B.S. Northwestern University. Thank you Everett!! www.geraldinedulex.com

EUGENE THE POOGENE (MAGNAVOX, FIREWOMAN, PESTILENCE)

was an astronaut before he was a performer and was instrumental in the setting up of space station STS-111 (along with other members of Expedition Three), now famous for their work on the Biomass Production System. In his spare time, he likes to sit in the dark and repeat the word "larvae". eugene the poogene loves ellen stewart, all of his beautiful friends, family, directors, teachers so much it's nauseating.... thanks to everett and everyone who spent energies on this production thereby directly contributing to my elation...

JOHN GUTIERREZ (ORTYGIUS, FIREWOMAN, HUNGER, NEWSBOY,

BALLERINA OF URANUS) is a multidisciplinary actor, dancer, creator, originally from Washington Heights, NY. He is ecstatic to join the cast of *Conquest*, he's always been Ridiculous, now it's official! Since graduating from NYU Tisch's Experimental Theater Wing John has performed with Big Dance Theater, Full Circle Souljahs, Jeanette Stoner and Dancers, and Martha Tornay/East Village Dance Project at venues such as BAM, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Danspace, Dance Place and La MaMa. His personal work has also been presented at The Rubin Museum, Dixon Place, TADA! Theater, La MaMa and Theater for The New City. John is a proud member of the feath3r theory, and La MaMa's Great Jones Repertory Company, and is currently a student at the Terry Knickerbocker Acting Studio.

GRANT NEALE (TAMBERLAINE) joined the Ridiculous Theatrical

Company in 1992 with Georg Osterman's *Brother Truckers* Charles Ludlam Theater (NYC and in London and Edinburgh). Also a resident actor with the Jean Cocteau Rep. He recently appeared as Hemingway in Edward Einhorn's critically acclaimed *Marriage of Alice B Toklas...*, Other favorite roles are Leontes *The Winter's Tale* (Milwaukee Shakespeare), *Johnny Frankie and Johnny In the Clair de Lune* (Shaker Bridge Theater), *Ceausescu Waxing West* (La MaMa), Roman Polanski in Saviana Stanescu's *Polanski Polanski* (NYC, Bucharest), Fool in Randy Neale's *The Fool's Lear* (Phoenix and PURE), and Frosch in *Die Fledermaus* (San Francisco, Seattle and Dallas Opera), Father Joe in the Christian La Morte film *Bless Me* (award recipient). Founding Artistic Director of Nomad Theatrical Company. Proud member AEA, SAG-AFTRA, and AGMA.

LENYS SAMÁ (BAJAZETH) first appeared in the 1993 production of Charles

Ludlam's *How To Write A Play* as General Carragua Fanfarron directed by Everett Quinton. He found a theatrical home in The Ridiculous Theatrical Company and appeared in several productions including: *Corn*, Everett Quinton's adaption of *Carmen*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Mr. Quinton's

Call Me Sarah Bernhardt. He has also done readings of *Der Ring Gott Farblonjet*, *Bluebeard* (La MaMa), and *Galas* with Everett. Recently Lenys had a reading of his solo show *Fantasy Americana*, which he began creating at GO-SOLO workshops and will continue to develop at The Barrow Group.

JEANNE LAUREN SMITH (EBEA) is over the moon to be making her Ridiculous debut in *Conquest* with the inimitable Everett Quinton at the helm. Recent credits include *StellaMaris* (Tapestry Collective), *D4rkly Your Retrorockets Fl4re* (PCTF Outstanding Actress nomination), *Rules* (dir. Ildiko Nemeth, NYIT Outstanding Performance Art Production nomination) and *A Rage in Tenure* (dir. Dorothy Lyman). Love to Dominic. For updates please visit Jeannelaurensmith.com.

EVERETT QUINTON (Director, Zabina, Cosroe) is an actor and director who recently directed Charles Ludlam's *The Artificial Jungle* with Theater Breaking Through Barriers as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the work of THE RIDICULOUS THEATRICAL COMPANY. Everett also directed and appeared as Paulina and Autolycus in *The Winter's Tale*. He recently appeared as Enobarbus and one of five Cleopatras in *Antony and Cleopatra* directed by David Kaplan. Everett can also be seen in Vincent Gagliostro's film *After Louie* starring Alan Cumming.

RAMONA PONCE (Costume Design) nominated for both the Innovative Theater and Henry Hewes Design awards, has spent the last 25 years costuming downtown theater, film and opera. In addition to costume work, she does specialty needlework for fashion designers and fine artists, and styles visual elements for a variety of applications. Her artwork has been displayed at galleries in New York and Arizona. She designs special occasion wear for women and men. www.ramonaponce.com

ROBERT SAVINA (Set Design) has worked as a production designer for feature film and television. Film projects include: *Christmas Hours* and *Santa Con* for Lifetime. *The Neighborhood*, *Video Girl*, *Burning Blue*, *Blowtorch*, *Fall To Rise*, *The Rig*, *Dark Circles*, and *My Alien Mother*. He was Artistic Director of Acadia Annex Theater Company in Maine where he directed Michael Dorn Moody's *The Shortchanged Review*, *The Fool*, and *SPILL*. Savina facilitated choreographer Liz Lerman's *Hallelujah Project*, that originated in Eastport, Maine for the millennium, Sarah Pearson & Patrik Widrig's *If Wishes Were Horses* at the Portland Museum of Art, Mark Dendy's site specific performance, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Sagaponack, NY. Production Coordinator at Bates Dance Festival and The Adirondack Theater Festival. His produced plays include, *Four Brothers*, *Wheels Over Indian Trails* and *Whiskeyville*.

CHRISTOPHER WESTON (Light Design) In NYC, his work has been seen at the Signature, Kitchen, Alvin Ailey, 59E59, LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Cherry Lane, St. Clement's, the Kitchen, 3LD, Abingdon, Barrow Group, Dixon Place, HERE and many more. Regional theatres include the Hangar Theatre, Penguin Rep, NJ Rep, Actors Shakespeare Company. Internationally, his work was seen at the European Biennial in Athens, Greece. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Theatre at LaGuardia Community College and a Teaching Artist for Roundabout Theatre Company.

TIM SCHELLENBAUM (Sound Design) is a sound designer and composer currently in residency at La MaMa. He is the recipient of 1998 and 2000 Obie Awards for collaborative design and has worked extensively with Ridge Theatre, Target Margin, Talking Band, Theodora Skipatares, John Kelly, Teatro Patalogico (Rome), and many others in the US and Europe.

CRICKET EPSTEIN (Props Design) graduated from Oberlin College in 2015, where she studied Gender and Art History. After two post-graduate years on the West Coast dabbling in taxidermy, she relocated back to her home in the Big Apple. Between freelance jobs, she spends her time rubbing her wings together in hopes of communicating with her distant insect relatives. This is her second production.

KAREN OUGHTRED (Stage Manager) is a multidisciplinary theater artist, teacher and production stage manager. Stage Management includes: La MaMa, The New School, BAM, HERE, The Public, PS122, Soho Rep, Town Hall, Ohio Theater, 3LD and the National Museum of the American Indian. She co-created *The Memory Project, storytelling through visual arts*, theater & puppetry with Spica Wobbe, where they conduct workshops at senior centers. She is thrilled to be working with Everett and his delightful band. www.facebook.com/thememoryproject.storytelling/

JILLIAN A. GOLDSTEIN (Assistant Stage Manager, Firewoman, Ghost of Zabina) is a New York interdisciplinary theater artist based in New York. Directing credits include productions with LoftOpera, Brunch Theater, and Exquisite Corpse Company. AD credits include productions with MCC Theater, The Lynn Redgrave Theater, and The Schimmel Center for the Arts. She is an alum of Pace University School of Performing Arts. More info: JillianAGoldstein.com

LUIISA ALARCÓN (Production Assistant) was born and raised in Colombia, worked at El Grillote theatre and the Enrique Buenaventura Municipal Theater in Cali. Part of her training has been at Odin Theatre in Denmark, and at Grotowski Institute in Poland. Latest acting works includes *Privatopia* at the Cairo International Festival for Contemporary & Experimental Theatre in Egypt. In New York *Lonely Leela*, *Rose Love Pepe*, *Women of New York* and *Are you now or have you ever been?*

MICHAEL ZARRA (Production Assistant) is a junior at Trinity College studying Neuroscience on a pre-med track. This semester he is pursuing an exploration of performance art with the Trinity/La MaMa Program. In learning about the creative process, Michael hopes to inform his future research and performance by viewing medicine through an interdisciplinary lens. He has already studied *The Mind as Music*, in aim of improving schizophrenia diagnosis accuracy, and hopes to engage healthcare with art throughout his career.

Acknowledgements

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Ellen Stewart Theatre

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November 13, 2017

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