The Weak and The Strong

Planet Connections Theatre
Written by Erik Ehn
Director: Glory Kadigan

Music Composition:
David Tenney, Perri Yaniv, and Kayte Zhang

Scenic Design: Pancharee Sangkiao
Costume Design: Lisa Renee Jordan
Lighting Design: Benjamin Ehrenreich
Sound Design: Jimmy O’Connor
Choreographer: Maura Nguyēn Donohue
Props Designer and Scenic Assistant: Rose Goodman
Puppetry Design: Jane Catherine Shaw
Assistant to Puppet Designer: Eleni Daferera

Puppet Construction:
Eleni Daferera, James Freeman and Rose Goodman

Stage Manager: Hollyanna Mathews*
Assistant Stage Manager: Sheree V. Campbell
Sound Board Operator: Antonio Manto
Managing Director: Charles Casano
PR: Andrea Alton
Postcard/Image Design: Zoe Stanton-Savitz

Cast includes:
Fig Chilcott*, Yael Haskal, Onni Johnson*,
James Kennedy*, John Kroft*,
Kim Savarino*, and Perri Yaniv*

*A member of Actors Equity Association.

The running time of Act One is approximately 70 minutes; Act Two is approximately 30 minutes.
There will be one ten minute intermission.

The use of Haze and Strobe Effects will occur.

Actors’ Equity Association, founded in 1913, represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers nationwide. 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, 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.
Location: Oklahoma, other countries, a dream...maybe Heaven.
Time: Present Day; sometimes the past...maybe the future.

Erik Ehn (Playwright) is a New Dramatists alum and recent graduate of the Jesuit School of Theology (Berkeley, California) with a Master of Theological Studies degree. He is currently a visiting professor at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Glory Kadigan (Director) is a proud member of the Playwright/Directing Unit at Actors Studio, alum of Lincoln Center Directors Lab, and an alum of the La MaMa Umbria Directing and Playwriting Symposium. She recently directed: Vivian's Music 1969 Off-Broadway at 59E59 after it's sold out run at the Edinburgh Fringe, Clover by Erik Ehn at La MaMa, Bank by Lucy Thurber, Mean Girls by Lyle Kessler, and Biting The Bullet by Regina Taylor. Upcoming, she is directing Swallow by Erik Ehn for the Great Jones Rep. Company as well as Shrimp Pudding by Kyle Mumford. Gratitude to my amazing Dad, playwright Erik, Mia, The La MaMa Family and the Planet Connections community!

Cast Bios

Fig Chilcott* (Angel/Horse/Ensemble): Actor/playwright Fig Chilcott is a lifetime member of The Actors Studio, and received her M.F.A. from The Actors Studio Drama School. Her Off-Broadway debut was at Laura Pels Theatre in 2020, in 27 Miles To Go, written by Hilary Bettis and directed by Jo Bonney.

Yael Haskal (Junco Bird): writer/performer/art monster. She is a member of the NY Neo-Futurists and La MaMa’s Great Jones Rep. NYC: The Trojan Women (La MaMa/Andrei Serban), The Infinite Wrench (NYNF/Kraine), The Iron Heel (Untitled Theatre Co. #61). Her writing has been performed at La MaMa, Dixon Place, IRT, The Tank, Echo Theater (LA), and others nationally. www.yaelhaskal.com.

Onni Johnson* (Karen), has performed, directed, and/or taught in the US as well as internationally in over 30 countries. Most recently: Little Amal’s Walk (co-coordinator, East Village 2022 and Spoleto, 2021; Balkan Bordello by Jeton Neziraj - Balkans and La MaMa; Multiverso - MindtheFact Festival, Athens. She is Director of The Trojan Women Project, and an original member of the Great Jones Rep.


Kim Savarino* (Angel/Acrobat/Ensemble): is an artist working in theater and dance. Kim is a proud company member with Third Rail Projects and La MaMa’s Great Jones Rep, and has worked with artists including Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker, Andrei Serban, Jawole Zollar, Miguel Gutierrez, and Romeo Castellucci. She loves dim sum, walking in the woods, and her black cat Hermes. Kim grew up in West Virginia. www.kimsavarino.com


Production Team Bios

Andrea Alton (Press Representative) formed Alton PR in 2011 and provides press services for off and off-off Broadway Theatre, dance, comedy, and theatre/arts festivals. Past and current clients include the off-Broadway musical Love Quirks, Retro Productions, Peculiar Works Project, Emerging Artists Theatre, Rising Sun, as well as numerous shows with the United Solo Festival, New York Musical Theater Festival, and Frigid NY. www.altonprandproduction.com

Sheree V. Campbell (Assistant Stage Manager): @DontForgetTheV is a multidisciplinary artist, actor, stage manager, director, mover, singer, composer, COVID manager, song-writer-of-many-things. Sheree V is
founder, creator of @FluxFlowGrow, member of Magis Theatre Company, Great Jones Repertory Company of La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club. LIU Post- MA Theatre, BS Adolescence Education- English dontforgetthev.wordpress.com/welcome

Eleni Daferera (Puppet Construction): visual artist, architect, and interior designer. A graduate of the National Technical University of Athens, School of Architecture and of the London Guildhall University, School of Art, Architecture and Design, Eleni also attended the open studio on graphic arts and printmaking techniques by the renowned Austrian artist Gunter Damisch in the Fine Arts Academy of Vienna (Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien). Her artistic practice – drawing, painting and collage making – has been developing in Athens (Greece), London (U.K.), Vienna (Austria), where she also collaborated with Kulturkontakt Austria, and New York (USA). She has exhibited her artwork both in solo and group exhibitions in Europe and the US; as a puppeteer crew she has performed at La MaMa Theater at Theodora’s Skipitare’s performances.

Maura Nguyễn Donohue (Choreographer): (she/they) Director of MFA in Dance at Hunter College. La MaMa Great Jones Rep Co since 1997, she also writes, curates, produces with a focus on racial and gender equity and currently serves on the NY Dance & Performance (Bessies) Awards Steering Committee. Her ongoing Tides Project uses reclaimed plastics in installation-based performances to examine the legacy of bodies ecological and diasporic. She thanks the ancestors and offspring for keeping the path clearly lit.


Jim Freeman (Puppet Construction) is a filmmaker, actor and builder of theatrical necessities. This season, he is the resident Technical Advisor and Builder for the Object Movement Puppet Festival. He has recently built for Theodora Skipitaris, Tristan Allen, Marcella Murray and Loco7. www.eurekajim.org
Rose Goodman (Props Designer/Scenic Assistant/Puppet Construction): Is a NYC based technical theater professional focusing on construction, who is so excited to be doing their first show with La MaMa. A recent Mechanical Engineering graduate from Binghamton SUNY, recent credits in carpentry and construction include Stagedoor Manor (2022), The Public, Blue Man Group, and She Kills Monsters (SUNY).

Lisa Renee Jordan (Costume Designer): Selected design credits include: Fetes de la Nuit (Ohio Theatre);* Drama Desk Nomination – Outstanding Theatrical Experience; Shesh Yak (Rattlestick); Ominous Men, Speak Out, Temple of the Souls, Comida de Puta (MultiStages); World Premiere of Jose Rivera’s Lovesong, Imperfect (Theater at 14th St Y with Planet Connections); Beloved (Scandinavian American Theatre Company); Heloise (Lion Theatre); Twelfth Night, Midsummer Night’s Dream, Love’s Labours Lost (Shakespeare in the Parking Lot); Boy in the Bathroom, Castronauts (NYMF); Witching Hour, and Triangle (Williamstown Theatre Festival); Holy Land (HERE Arts); Useless (IRT); Neglect, and Thicker than Water (EST); Lysystrata (Edinburgh Fringe); Film/TV Credits include: Assistant Costume Designer for Greatest Beer Run Ever (Film), Plot Against America (HBO Series) Member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. http://www.lisareneejordandesigns.com

Hollyanna Mathews* (Stage Manager) is a young professional stage manager starting her career in live theatre in New York City. She is a proud member of Actor’s Equity Association. Some of her most recent productions include To The Mothers Now at Tada! Theatre (Emerging Artists Theatre), 2022 Sound Bites Festival (Theatre Now New York), A Winter’s Tale in Bryant Park (The Drilling Company), Two Noble Kinsman (The Drilling Company), and The Jury (Theatre Now New York). She also recently was a production assistant with Brooklyn Academy of Music for Jimmy Kimmel Live!. She has worked as a Covid Compliance Officer to keep Broadway and Off-Broadway theatre running during the pandemic. Education from the University of Kansas.

Jimmy O’Connor (Sound Designer): is a Brooklyn-based sound designer and grateful to be working with Glory again. Recent works: 4 Those Who Need It, Hide and Seek (The Tank), The Thanksgiving Play (Wombat Theater Co.), Piper Theater Co. Summer ‘22 season. He has a BFA in Production and Design from Pace University.

Pancharee Sangkaeo (Scenic Designer): She is delighted to be designing for La MaMa for the first time. Recent works: The House of Bernarda Alba, Pipeline (Gallery Players), Umbilical (Planet Connections Theatre Festivity), The Comedy of Errors, Migratory Tales (The George Washington University), Summerland (Washington Stage Guild). She has an MFA in Production Design from The George Washington University and a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. www.pancharee-design.com
Jane Catherine Shaw (Puppet Designer): is a member of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab, and graduated on the Dean’s List with an MFA in Directing from Brooklyn College. She is curator of the La MaMa Puppet Slam and co-founded the Voice 4 Vision Puppet Festival in 2004. Ms. Shaw was puppetry director for Theodora Skipitares’ Grand Panorama, (2020) and The Transfiguration of Benjamin Banneker (2022) at La MaMa ETC. She was puppetry co-director and master puppeteer for Mabou Mines’ Peter and Wendy and built and directed the puppetry sequence for Lee Breuer’s Dollhouse. She often worked with Ellen Stewart to recreate costumes from historic La MaMa shows from the 60’s and 70’s. Ms. Shaw was nominated for a 2014 New York Innovative Theatre Award for her work with Theodora Skipitares on The Chairs. She creates and directs her own work for puppet theatre, among them, The Three Dolls; Framed; The Mother Goose Chronicles, Calpurnia Coyote Comes To The Big City, Folktales of Asia and Africa.

David Tenney (Composer) has composed music for opera, musical theatre, theatre, film, dance, and rock bands. Most recently his music was heard in ray gun say0nara at the New Ohio Theatre in NYC and in the Princeton University Ballet production of Dum Vita Est Spes Est at The Lewis Center for the Arts in Princeton NJ. He is currently orchestrating his latest opera The Appropriation and working on the music for a new film Dark Banquet. Mr. Tenney is thrilled to be working with Glory, Erik, and the entire team. He would like to thank his wife and three children for giving him the time to be a part of The Weak and the Strong.

Kayte Zhang (Composer): is a writer, performer, and musician based in Brooklyn. Previously, Kayte performed at La MaMa in Clover, written by Erik Ehn and directed by Glory Kadigan. Kayte now creates primarily in the comedy space and her writing and performances can be seen regularly at Magnet Theater. Kayte has performed theater, musical theater, and light opera across the US and has a BM in vocal performance.

Special Thanks: Francesco Andolfi, Jack Bentz, Maggie Bofill, Dana Boll, Frederick Bowen, Joshua Brown, Sean Cahill, Frank Carucci, Peggy Chane, Patricia Chanteloube, Veronica Dang, David Diamond, John Fico, Bentley Heydt, Allison Hsu, John Gutierrez, Lyle Kessler, Margaret Ladd, Roger Lipson, Kristen Lowman, Joyce Miller, Mary Monahan, Kyle Mumford, Kathleen O’Neill, Kevin Pinner, Bev Petty, Tonya Pinkins, Ashley Sparks, Susan Tenney, Mia Yoo, Kayte Zhang, The Lambs Club, Kadan Productions, the entire Planet Connections Community and the entire La MaMa Family. We appreciate you!
SPECIAL EVENTS:

nauageo (wreck) is a performance series of short plays by Erik Ehn, oriented by the writings of St. Paul. The intergenerational, intercultural, and interdisciplinary Great Jones Rep Co takes on St. Paul as a challenging conversational partner in a series of site-specific performances, installations, and live and digital works. nauageo focuses on perseverance through suffering — including the suffering-through of activist plans based on love’s ideals.

The various projects, primarily, directed, designed, and performed by members of La MaMa’s only repertory company will serve as a shipwreck and constellation surrounding Ehn’s *The Weak and The Strong* (based on the letter to the Romans), directed by Glory Kadigan and running at La MaMa’s Downstairs Theater from Dec 8–18th.

Video and audio installations will be available before performances and live, short works will be presented as post-show events 12/15–17.

nauageo is made possible in part with public funds from Creative Engagement, a regrant program supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by LMCC.

Saturday, December 10, 2022 | 2–3:30PM

*Love’s Long Walk*

– A Roundtable on Paul, Romans and Practical Anarchy

**Topic:** How to walk the walk of love, putting a love-based organizational philosophy into practical action? St. Paul as a lens.

47 Great Jones Street, between Bowery and Lafayette Street

PRE-SHOW INSTALLATIONS

December 8–18

*Real Widow Unapproachable Light*

Created by Kim Ima/Allison Hiroto
PRE-SHOW INSTALLATIONS

December 15–18

Against Usefulness (toward love)
Directed by Yael Haskal
Featuring: Arthur Adair, Mattie Barber-Bockelman, Sheree V Campbell, Peter Case, maura nguyễn donohue, John Maria Gutierrez

Flexible Flier
Directed by Peter Case
Featuring: maura nguyễn donohue, John Gutierrez, Yael Haskal, eugene the poogene

Gnome
Directed by Prisca Ouya
Featuring: Vincent Mikouiza, Muleck Mikouiza, Axell Lylo, Sansi, Feryck Yabouna, Allegra Mpalath, Grady Batantou, Vincent Mikouiza, Anna Malonga, David Tsiolo, Romelly Banzouzi, Anaël Bonazebi, Prince Miere, Sony Nguetoumeni, Hod Gampoula, Mirta Mayindou

Salt Angel
Directed by Kim Savarino
Featuring: Mattie Barber-Bockelman, Peter Case, Prisca Ouya, Kim Savarino, Zishan Ugurlu

POST-SHOW HAPPENINGS (10PM)

Clay
(December 15)
Directed by John Maria Gutierrez
Featuring: Billy Clark, maura nguyễn donohue, Cary Gant, John Maria Gutierrez, Kim Savarino

Clay (song)
(December 16 & 17)
Performed by Sheree V Campbell & Kat Yew

Swallow
(December 17)
Directed by Glory Kadigan
Featuring: Michael Gant, Kim Ima, Mary Monahan, eugene the poogene, Kat Yew
A full program with information on this production can be found on the *The Weak and the Strong* page of the La MaMa website.

In addition you can scan the QR code Poster located in the theatre lobby for access to the digital program.
La MaMa’s historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit www.lamama.org/remakeaworld
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Ellen Stewart Theatre

The Weak and The Strong
Dec 8 - 18, 2022
The Downstairs

Krymov Lab
Dec 9 - 22, 2022
Downtown Arts

Coffeehouse Chronicles #168:
Bread and Puppet Theatre
Dec 10, 2022
Ellen Stewart Theatre

COMING SOON

Poerty Electric:
Romeo & Juliet Tribal
Dec 13, 2022
The Downstairs

La MaMa Kids:
Winter Wonderland
Dec 17, 2022
The Downstairs

The Indigo Room
Jan 6 - 22, 2022
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Jan 12 - 22, 2022
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