



The Drowsy Chaperone Director's Notes & Biography



The Drowsy Chaperone has been called "a wedding gift that keeps on giving" - it was originally created for a bachelor party back in 1998. Toronto Second City performers Bob Martin and Janet Van De Graaff asked their songwriter friend Lisa Lambert to be a best man at their wedding. Lambert was reluctant to organize the typical bachelor party with requisite stripper, so instead she enlisted book writer Don McKellar and composer Greg Morrison and a team of colleagues to create and perform a 40-minute original musical titled *The Drowsy Chaperone*. After the presentation, Bob joked: "What a wonderful show. I have some notes." Those notes would be the inspiration for the "Man in Chair," the character whose commentary would run eventually through the more-developed version

of the show. The show continued to evolve, eventually catching the attention of New York producers Roy Miller and Kevin McCollum.

In 2005, we went to Los Angeles to begin work on a production that we hoped would someday make it to Broadway. The rehearsal process was filled with joy, a delightful collaboration that left us all exhausted at night from laughing all day. I will never forget the very first preview - hearing Man in Chair begin and listening to the laughter that filled the theatre. We looked at each other in the dark and knew that was the beginning on an incredible journey. Five years and five Tony Awards later, *The Drowsy Chaperone* has had major productions in Toronto, Los Angeles, New York, London, Australia and Japan, as well as two North American tours.

This show holds a special place in the heart of anyone lucky enough to be a part of it. It is an undeniable celebration of the art form and it reminds us why we do what we do for a living. We are thrilled to bring this show to you, with this remarkable cast. We invite you to disappear with us into the decadent world of *The Drowsy Chaperone*!

—Casey Hushion, Director

CASEY HUSHION (*Director*) Casey is delighted to be spending her summer at the Ogunquit Playhouse! Casey had the pleasure of working as Assistant Director on the Broadway, West End and the National Tour productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Casey is also the Assistant Director of *In The Heights*, both the Broadway and National Tour companies. This Spring, Casey was Associate Director of *Anyone Can Whistle* at City Center Encores. She is also the Associate Director of the Broadway workshop of *ELF* and of the new musical *Minsky's*. Other Broadway credits include *To Be or Not To Be* (Manhattan Theatre Club) and *Good Vibrations*. Casey is currently the Artistic Director of North Carolina Theatre, where she has had the pleasure of directing 17 productions. A graduate of New York University, Casey has worked at regional theatres such as North Shore Music Theatre, Papermill Playhouse, Casa Manana, Music Theatre of Wichita and Goodspeed Opera House, where she was also on staff as their New Works Scout. Active in the development of new musicals, she has directed for festivals such as the New York Music Theatre Festival and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. With the Boston Pops, Casey has directed concert versions of *Carousel* and of *A Little Night Music*, starring Christine Ebersole. Other recent credits include readings of *Bring It On* and *Fat Camp*. Thanks to the brilliant creators of the show - Bob, Lisa, Greg, Don, to my amazing associate Taylor, and especially, to Casey.



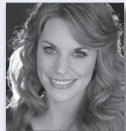
Who's Who in *The Drowsy Chaperone*



Carson
Kressley



Georgia
Engel



Megan Nicole
Arnoldy



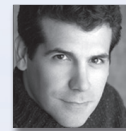
Robert
Dorfman



Todd Alan
Johnson



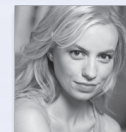
Liz
Larsen



Joey
Sorge



Jaimie
Barton



Lindsay
Devino



Deidra
Grace



Jason
Grauerholz



Marc
Kessler



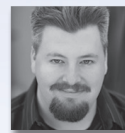
Ben
Liebert



Megan
Loomis



Sal
Sabella



Jason
Simon

CARSON KRESSLEY (*Man in Chair*) Designer/Author/Actor. Emmy-winning television star, celebrity stylist, author and fashion designer, Carson Kressley is out to make over the world! Kressley earned a prime-time Emmy, television's highest honor, for his work on the break out Bravo network hit, "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" as well as critical acclaim as Host and Co-Executive Producer of Lifetime's highest rated debut reality show, "How to Look Good Naked," and this summer he can be seen starring in ABC's "True Beauty." Kressley has also been the star of the WB series "Crowned" and co-starred in Universal Films major studio release, "The Perfect Man" and opposite John Goodman in NBC's "The Year Without A Santa Claus." In addition to his work in television, Kressley was the host of the 2008 True Colors Tour with Cyndi Lauper and the B52's. The tour was created to raise awareness and promote equality for the GLBT community. He is also a New York Times best-selling author with three books to his credit, including "You're Different, And That's Super!", a kids book promoting diversity and tolerance. A strong supporter of many philanthropic causes, Kressley uses his celebrity to advance many different concerns such as The Trevor Project, The Human Rights Campaign, The Empire State Pride Agenda, LIGALY, GLSEN, AIDS WALK, and the Al D. Rodriguez Liver Foundation. He is the founder of Manhattan's Ali Forney Center's "Styled For Success" program, which provides career wardrobes for formerly homeless youth and he was the founding donor of the first scholarship program for GLBT youth in his hometown of Allentown, Pennsylvania. When not starring on stage or screen, he can be found astride one of his American Saddlebred show horses, with which he has achieved World Champion status. Kressley resides in New York City.

GEORGIA ENGEL (*Mrs. Tottendale*) is thrilled to be making her Ogunquit Playhouse debut. She co-starred as Mrs. Tottendale in the Tony award-winning Broadway musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, which she reprised for the next year and a half on the National Tour. She launched her theatrical career playing Minnie Fay in *Hello Dolly* with Ethel Merman. She joined the original Off Broadway production of *House Of Blue Leaves* which went on to play in Hollywood. This led to Georgia being cast as Georgette Franklin in the "Mary Tyler Moore Show" for which she would receive two Emmy Award nominations and begin a career of active work in television. She subsequently starred in four more television series including the ABC comedy "Coach," as Shirley Burleigh and most notably in the recurring role of Pat McDougal in the long-running CBS hit comedy "Everybody Loves Raymond," for which she was nominated for three Emmy Awards. Georgia has been a grateful member of the Actors' Equity Association for over 35 years. She would like to express thanks to all her friends, family and teachers over the years.

MEGAN NICOLE ARNOLDY (*Janet Van De Graaff*) is thrilled to make her Ogunquit Debut with this wonderful show and is so thankful to the creative team for this opportunity. National Tour: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Swing, u/s Janet, Kitty). Regional: *Minsky's* (World Premiere, Ahmanson Theatre) *42nd Street* (Peggy -Tuacahn Center for the Arts, u/s Peggy - Walnut Street Theatre), *Grease* (Sandy-Marriott Theatre, Carousel Dinner Theatre), Sacramento Music Circus, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. BFA Musical Theatre - Penn State. Much love and gratitude to my family, friends, and fiancé Matthew.

ROBERT DORFMAN (*Uderling*) *The Drowsy Chaperone* (National Tour). Broadway: *To Be Or Not To Be* (dir. Casey Nicholaw), *The Lion King* (dir. Julie Taymor), *Social Security* (dir. Mike Nichols). Off-Broadway: Public Theater, Playwrights' Horizons, Manhattan Theater Club, Second Stage, Classic Stage Company. Regional: Baltimore's Center Stage (associate artist), Guthrie Theater, Arena Stage, Huntington Theater, Long Wharf Theater, Wilma Theater, Portland's Center Stage, South Coast Repertory, La Jolla Playhouse, Goodman Theater, Geffen Playhouse, Mark Taper Forum. Film: *Fool's Fire* (dir. Julie Taymor), *It Could Happen to You* (dir. Andrew Bergman).

TODD ALAN JOHNSON (*Aldolpho*) Ogunquit Playhouse: *The King And I*, *Les Misérables*. Broadway: *Aida*. Tour: *Les Misérables*. Off-B'way: *Newsical*. Regional/Stock: *The Wild Party*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Das Barbecü*, *The Blue Flower*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *True West*, *Camelot*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Man of La Mancha* and *Sweeney Todd*. Many thanks to the producers and creative team for the opportunity, and to family, friends and Betsy for their loving support.

LIZ LARSEN (*The Drowsy Chaperone*) Ogunquit Last Summer: Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*. Broadway: *Hairspray*, *Rocky Horror Show*, *The Smell Of The Kill*, *The Most Happy Fella* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Nominations, LA Dramalogue Award - Best Featured Actress) *Damn Yankees*, *A Little Night Music*, (NYC Opera) *Starmites*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Blues In The Night*, *Annie*, *Dubarry Was A Lady* (Encores, City Center) Currently: *Sessions*. Other NYC Shows: *Such Good Friends* (NYMF - Outstanding Performance Award), *A New Brain* (Lincoln Center) *Bingo*, *Him And Her* (Fringe Excellence Award-Performance), *New Yorkers And Loman Family Picnic* (MTC) *Personals*, *Company*, *Little By Little*. Road: *Sunday In The Park With George* (Helen Hayes Award - Lead Actress), *Baby* (Helen Hayes Award Nomination, Featured Actress) *Falsettos*, *Guys And Dolls*, *The Value Of Names* (With Jack Klugman) *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Evita*, *Joseph.... Dreamcoat*. TV: Pilot 2009: "Exit 19" (CBS). Series Regular: "My Guys." Recurring Roles On: "Law And Order," (12 years) "Special Victims Unit," "Third Watch." Guest Star: "Sopranos," "Sex And The City," "Criminal Intent," "Conviction," "Deadline," "The Street," "Exiled" (M.O.W.). Films: "The Saint Of Fort Washington," "Keeping The Faith," "Dr. Jekyll And Ms. Hyde," "New York Crossing." Liz's favorite productions are her kids Alessandro (13) and Joey (10).

JOEY SORGE (*Robert*) loves working at Ogunquit Playhouse. He was Don Lockwood in last year's production of *Singin' In The Rain*. Broadway: original cast member in *The Drowsy Chaperone* as the Super and understudy for Aldolpho, Robert, and both Gangsters; Young Buddy in *Follies* (Roundabout Theatre); and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Off-Broadway: Stephen Sondheim's *Saturday Night* (Second Stage); *Summer of '42* (Variety Arts). National Tours: starred as the Fonz in *Happy Days - A New Musical*; and Jimmy Smith in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Regional: *Happy Days* (Goodspeed/Papermill); *Marty* (Huntington Theatre); *The Possession of Mrs. Jones* (Zephyr Theatre, LA). Film: *Audrey*; *Valentine's Day*; *Contradictions of the Heart*. TV: "Numb3rs," "Commander in Chief," "Night Stalker." Proud husband to Lori Alexander and daddy to Winnie, Sophia and our doggie Cooper. AEA Member since 1993.

JAIMIE BARTON (*Kitty*) Is thrilled to be making her Ogunquit Playhouse debut! Recent credits include *Chicago* Velma, *West Side Story* Anita, Maggie in *A Chorus Line* and Peggy Sawyer in *Forty Second Street*. She earned her degree in Musical Theatre Performance from Rhode Island College and attended graduate school at The Boston Conservatory. Thanks to the entire *Drowsy Chaperone* team for this incredible experience! All my love to Paul and Teeni, you have made this possible for me!

LINDSAY DEVINO (*Ensemble/Dance Captain*) is thrilled to be back in Ogunquit! Previously at the Playhouse: *Hairspray* (Amber), *High School Musical* (Sharpay), *Singin' in the Rain*. National Tours: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Kitty, u/s Janet) and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Pickles). Regional: Maine State Music Theatre, Seacoast Rep. Lindsay is a New Hampshire native and a huge fan of all things Red Sox and Dunkin' Donuts. Thanks to the Playhouse staff, Casey, and Jen. www.lindsaydevino.com

DEIDRA GRACE (*Trix*) Originally from Miami FL, is a graduate of The Americam Musical and Dramatic Academy. Her credits include *The Drowsy Chaperone* National Tour (Trix), *All Shook Up* (Sylvia), *Hair* (Dionne/Tribe), *Lasos* (Soloist/ensemble), *The Life* (Chi Chi/Sonja u/s/Ensemble) *The Full Monty* (Joanne) Dolly Parton's music video "Jesus and Gravity." She would like to thank God. Last but not least she would like to thank her mother who although is no longer with her is the biggest inspiration in her life.

JASON GRAUERHOLZ (*Gangster # 2*) is thrilled to be a part of the Ogunquit Playhouse season. He is a proud graduate of The University of Oklahoma. Favorite credits: *Footloose* (Jeter, u/s Ren & Willard), *Tropicana Casino*, NJ; *Joseph.. Dreamcoat* (Levi), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Speed Tapper), Surflight Theatre, NJ; *The Who's Tommy* (Cousin Kevin), Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma; *Baby* (Danny), *Anything Goes* (Moonface Martin), University of Oklahoma. Much thanks and love to his parents for their endless love and support. Finally, in spirit of the World Cup, USA ALL THE WAY!!!

MARC KESSLER (*George*) is co-creator of the long running off-Broadway musical *Altar Boyz* (Outer Critics Circle Award Best Musical). Marc was recently featured in pre-Broadway productions of *Minsky's* and *Elf*. For six years, Marc toured with the Manhattan Rhythm Kings -- highlights include the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, *The Aviator* soundtrack, and off-Broadway with Tommy Tune in *White Tie and Tails*. Other credits include *Goodspeed*, *Walnut Street*, and *Maine State*. Graduate of University of Michigan Musical Theatre. Marc sends love and thanks to Casey and the kids.

BEN LIEBERT (*Gangster #1*) Ben is excited to be making his Ogunquit debut in *Drowsy*. Broadway/Tour: *Wicked* (Boq); Euro. Tour: *Grease* (Eugene, Roger u/s); Regional: *Footloose* (Willard), *Joseph...* (Benjamin), *Beauty and the Beast* (Lefou), and *Reefer Madness* (Ralph). Workshop: *Radiant Baby* (CAP21), *The Sounds of Plaid* (Stuart Ross, Drew Geraci, dir.) BFA: NYU-CAP21. Thanks to the creative team, cast, crew, Nancy Carson, and his ever supportive family. Mazel Tov Noah and Molly! www.benliebert.com

MEGAN LOOMIS: (*Ensemble*) National Tour: John Doyle's *Sweeney Todd* (Standby Mrs.Lovett, Beggar Woman), Sam Mendes' *Cabaret* (Helga, Sally/Kost cover). Off B'way: *The Mikado*, *Princess Ida* (City Center). NYC: *Hell: the Opera*(PS122), *Northanger Abbey*, *Happy End* (Theatre 1010). Regional: *Woody Sez* (Lyric Theatre OK and Edinburgh Festival) *Ring of Fire* (dir. David Lutken), *Cabaret* (with Deborah Gibson), *Phantom* (dir. Casey Hushion), *Titanic* (dir. Scott Schwartz), *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Carousel Dinner Theatre). Education: Eastman School of Music, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London.

SAL SABELLA (*Male Ensemble/Super*) is thrilled to be a part of this fantastic cast. Credits: Most recently, Jeff in the regional premiere of [title of show] at Arizona Theatre Company, *Kristina* (Carnegie Hall/Royal Albert Hall), Claude's Dad/Margaret Meade in *HAIR* (Arizona Theatre Company), Phantom understudy, which he went on for numerous performances, in *Phantom of the Opera* (Broadway National Tour), and a handful of other great shows. Thanks to his friends and family for their love and support....and thanks, Casey!

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JASON SIMON (*Feldzieg*) has traversed this continent more times than he'd care to mention with a variety of touring productions, most recently as The Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* and Max Bialystock in Mel Brooks' *The Producers*. Some of his favorite roles are: Porthos (*The Man In The Iron Mask*), Old Deuteronomy (*Cats*), Lenny (*Of Mice & Men*), The Pirate King (*Pirates Of Penzance*). Much love to his loving and supporting friends, family and Tara.

BRADFORD T. KENNEY (*Executive Artistic Director*) now in his fifth season in stewardship of "America's Foremost Summer Theatre," Mr. Kenney is proud to include many wonderful theatrical productions and the guidance of some of the most significant theatre companies in New England as part of his career. Some Ogunquit highlights include last season's *Singin' in the Rain* and the all-star production of *Guys & Dolls*, as well as *My Fair Lady*, *Les Misérables*, *Hairspray*, Lorenzo Lamas in *The King and I*, Rue McClanahan in *Crazy for You*, Sally Struthers in *Hello, Dolly!*, Andrea McArdle in *Cabaret* and Leslie Uggams in *Cinderella*. While at Foothills Theatre in Worcester, MA, he produced many shows including: *Miss Saigon*, *Disney's Beauty and The Beast*, *Proof*, *Cabaret* (National Regional Premiere), *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, Dick and Jimmy Van Patten in *The Sunshine Boys*, *Titanic The Musical*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Regional Premiere), *Macbeth*, *Ten Little Indians*, *Chicago*, *Gypsy*, *Our Town* and *Ragtime*. He is also founder of the Wachusett Theatre Company in Massachusetts with shows such as *The Sound of Music*, *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Disney/Elton John's AIDA* (Northeast Regional Premiere), Ted Lange from "The Love Boat" in *Damn Yankees!*; and Eddie Mekka in *Fiddler on the Roof*, among others. His children's theatres have produced Disney's *Jungle Book Kids*, *Seussical TYA* (Northeast Premiere), *Willy Wonka Jr.*, and *Disney's 101 Dalmations Kids*, and the new production, *Fairy Houses, The Musical*. In addition to his producing credits, Brad has appeared on stage in the title role of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Sorcerer* with Salisbury Lyric Opera, Strephon in *Iolanthe* with the Savoyard Light Opera, Billy Bigelow in *Carousel*, Barrett the Stoker in *Titanic*, Eric Burling in *An Inspector Calls*, Christopher Wren in *The Mousetrap*, Bobby in *Company*, Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls*, the King in *The King and I*, Cornelius in *Hello, Dolly!* and Oberon in *Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as many other roles in shows throughout New England. He is a fourth generation artist, having studied at Rhode Island School of Design, Heartwood College of Art and Maine College of Art. For Tucker and Ryan Francis Curtis.

ROBERT LEVINSTEIN (*Associate Producer/Casting Director*) A resident of New York City, this is Robert's 8th season with the Playhouse, where he was previously the Production Stage Manager and Director of Production. As a Stage Manager, he worked on Broadway: *Waiting in the Wings* (with Lauren Bacall and Rosemary Harris), *Voices in the Dark* (with Judith Ivy), *Parade* (with Carolee Carmello and Brent Carver), Off-Broadway: *Clue: The Musical*, and National Tours: *Disney's Beauty and The Beast*, *Camelot* (with Michael York and Rachel York) and the hit revue *Forbidden Broadway*. Regional credits include PSM for North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, MA 2000/2001 seasons as well as Production Stage Manager for major theatres throughout the country. Originally from Southern California, Robert is also the producer of the new musical *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, based on the Ray Bradbury novel and the studio recording of the show that features Brent Barrett, Andrea Burns and Diana Canova. He sends his love to Alan, and thanks him for his understanding.

CASEY HUSHION (*Director*) Casey is delighted to be spending her summer at the Ogunquit Playhouse! Casey had the pleasure of working as Assistant Director on the Broadway, West End and the National Tour productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Casey is also the Assistant Director of *In The Heights*, both the Broadway and National Tour companies. This Spring, Casey was Associate Director of *Anyone Can Whistle* at City Center Encores. She is also the Associate Director of the Broadway workshop of *ELF* and of the new musical *Minsky's*. Other Broadway credits include *To Be or Not To Be* (Manhattan Theatre Club) and *Good Vibrations*. Casey is currently the Artistic Director of North Carolina Theatre, where she has had the pleasure of directing 17 productions. A graduate of New York University, Casey has worked at regional theatres such as North Shore Music Theatre, Papermill Playhouse, Casa Manana, Music Theatre of Wichita and Goodspeed Opera House, where she was also on staff as their New Works Scout. Active in the development of new musicals, she has directed for festivals such as the New York Music Theatre Festival and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. With the Boston Pops, Casey has directed concert versions of *Carousel* and of *A Little Night Music*, starring Christine Ebersole. Other recent credits include readings of *Bring It On* and *Fat Camp*. Thanks to the brilliant creators of the show - Bob, Lisa, Greg, Don, to my amazing associate Taylor, and especially, to Casey.

JEN TAYLOR (*Associate Director/Choreographer*) is thrilled and grateful to be working on another production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* with long time friend and colleague, Casey Hushion! Her past experiences include the First National Tour of *The Drowsy Chaperone* where she appeared in the ensemble, and in the roles of Janet and Kitty. She also served as the Dance captain for that production, and was the Associate Director/choreographer for the Networks national tour and Music Theatre of Wichita productions. On Broadway, Jen appeared in the revival of *The Apple Tree* with Kristin Chenoweth. Up next, Jen looks forward to joining the national tour of *Mary Poppins* as Katie Nanna this summer. Love to Mark.

JASON WETZEL (*Music Director*) is absolutely delighted to be making his Ogunquit Playhouse debut with this absolutely delightful show. National Tours: Two years of *The Drowsy Chaperone* (music director), *The Producers* (associate conductor), *Jersey Boys*, *Wicked*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Hairspray*, *Annie*. Regional: Maine State Music Theatre, Northern Stage, Gateway Playhouse. Jason is also a pianist and vocal coach for the Walt Disney World Company. Thanks to Casey, Jen, Jay, Tiffany, and all of my Drowsy family everywhere.

JEFFREY RODRIGUEZ (*Production Stage Manager*) Broadway: *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. NY Philharmonic: *Camelot* (Live from Lincoln Center/PBS), *My Fair Lady*. Off-Broadway: *Celia: The Life and Music of Celia Cruz*, *Striking 12*. City Center Encores!: *Follies*, *Applause*. National Tour: *Forever Plaid*. A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

RACHEL S. MCCUTCHEEN (*Stage Manager*) is thrilled to be making her debut at the Ogunquit Playhouse! Broadway: *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *A Touch of the Poet*, *Good Vibrations*, *Taboo*. Off-Broadway: *The Paris Letter*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Yellowman*. Lincoln Center: *Broke-ology*. Center Theatre Group (L.A.): *Minsky's* World Premier. Fifteen NY City Center Encores! productions including: *Anyone Can Whistle*, *The Wiz*, and *Damn Yankees*.

RICHARD LATTA (*Lighting Designer*) salutes the Playhouse board, management and staff for all their efforts moving the Playhouse forward! Favorite shows from past seasons include: *All Shook Up*, *A Chorus Line*, *Shout!*, *Cabaret*, *Evita*, *The Full Monty*, *Hairspray*, *Aida*, *Chicago*. Recent work: a revival of Ogunquits' 2008 production of *Fiddler on the Roof* (Engeman Theatre), Projection Design Research for the world premiere of *Moby Dick* (Dallas Opera) and *Thurgood* with Laurence Fishburne (B'way), lighting Jon Peterson in *Song Man*, *Dance Man* (Seven Angels Theatre), the *Nunsense* 25th Anniversary Tour with Sally Struthers, television shoots of other installments in the *Nunsense* canon, years of Off-Broadway shows, corporate events and a continued association with American Ballet Theatre.

ADAM RIGBY (*Sound Designer*) is returning to the Ogunquit Playhouse for his fifth year. He has worked in NYC, Chicago and Toronto. He works for Sound Associates Inc. in NYC. His credits include Broadway: *The Ritz* (Assistant Designer), *Wicked* (Assistant Designer First National Tour & Chicago). Off-Broadway: *A Little Night Music* and *Oliver* (Regional, Sound Engineer), and *I Love You Because*. He has been the mixer, co-designer and designer for *Shout! The Mod Musical*. He is looking forward to a summer full of excitement.

CASEY NICHOLAW (*Original Director/Choreographer*) received 2006 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations for his work on *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and 2005 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations for Best Choreography for *Monty Python's Spamalot*, directed by Mike Nichols. Additional New York credits: for City Center Encores!: the highly acclaimed productions of *Anyone Can Whistle* and *Follies* (direction and choreography), *Bye Bye Birdie* (choreography) and *Can-Can* (musical staging); for N.Y. Philharmonic: *Candide*; *South Pacific* at Carnegie Hall (also on PBS Great Performances), *Sinatra: His Voice, His World, His Way* at Radio City Music Hall, starring the world-famous Rockettes. Upcoming projects include *Robin and the 7 Hoods* at the Old Globe, as well as the new musicals, *Minsky's* and *Elf*.

DAVID GALLO (*Scenic Designer*) Broadway: *Hughie*; *Drowning Crow*; *Gem of the Ocean*; *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*; *Dance of the Vampires*; *The Smell of the Kill*; *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *King Hedley II*; *Epic Proportions*; *Voices in the Dark*; *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; *Little Me*; *The Lion in Winter*; *A View From the Bridge*; *More to Love*; and *Jackie: An American Life* (also in London). Off-Broadway: *Evil Dead The Musical*, *Bunny Bunny*, *The Wild Party*, *Jitney* (also in London), *Wonder of the World*, *Jar the Floor*, *Machinal* and *Blue Man Group* (NYC, Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas). His work represented set design at the Cooper-Hewitt Design Triennial and is in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institute. Mr. Gallo is the recipient of numerous Drama Desk, American Theatre Wing, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle, Ovation, FANY, NAACP, AUDELCO, Barrymore and Eddy Awards and nominations, as well as the Obie Award for Sustained Excellence in Set Design.

GREGG BARNES (*Costume Designer*) Broadway: *Legally Blonde* (2007 Tony nomination), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (2006 Tony Award, Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Award, Olivier nomination), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Flower Drum Song* (Tony nomination), *Side Show*. New York: *Sinatra* (Radio City Music Hall), *The Wizard of Oz* (Madison Square Garden), Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular (principal designer 1994-2005), *Cinderella* and *The Merry Widow* (New York City Opera), *Pageant* (the Blue Angel and London's West End, Olivier nomination), *The Kathy and Mo Show*. Gregg was the first recipient of the Theatre Development Fund's Young Master Award.

LISA LAMBERT (*Music & Lyrics*) received 2006 Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Backstage West Garland awards for her work on *The Drowsy Chaperone*. U.S. credits: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Center Theatre Group: Ahmanson, NAMT's 2004 Festival of New Musicals). Canadian credits: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Fringe of Toronto Festival, Theatre Passe Muraille, Mirvish Productions: Winter Garden Theatre); *Honest Ed: The Bargain Musical* and *Mirth* (Poor Alex Theatre); *Ouch My Toe* (Fringe of Toronto Festival); *The Irish Musical* and *People Park* (Rivoli); *All Hams on Deck* (Summer Works); *An American in Harris* (Second City); *An Awkward Evening With Martin & Johnson* (Tarragon, Tim Sims Playhouse). TV: "Slings & Arrows" (Rhombus Media, broadcast on Showcase and the Sundance Network); "Getting Along Famously" (CBC); "Skippy's Rangers: The Show They Never Gave" and "The Joe Blow Show" (Comedy Network). Film: *Pippi Longstocking*, *Highway 61*, *Blue*. Radio: "Madly Off in All Directions," "Definitely Not the Opera." Upcoming: season three of "Slings & Arrows" on the Sundance Channel.

GREG MORRISON (*Music & Lyrics*) received 2006 Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards and Grammy nomination for his work on *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Theatre credits: Composer for *Toad of Toad Hall* (Alberta Theatre Projects); composer/musical director for *Hello...Hello* (Tarragon Theatre, The Space), *Pochsy's Lips*, *Oh, Baby*, *Citizen Pochsy* and *Pochsy Unplugged* (Toronto Fringe, Canadian/U.S. tours); *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Toronto Fringe, Theatre Passe Muraille, Winter Garden Theatre, Mirvish Productions); *Mumpand Smoot In Something Else* (Canadian Stage, Yale Repertory Theatre); *Mumpand Smoot in Flux* (Canadian Stage. TV: *Songs for Slings & Arrows* (Rhombus Media for Showcase. Score for the short films Pochsy: An Industrial Film and A Tax on Pochsy. Currently workshoping the new musical, *Big Rosemary* written with Lisa Lambert, book by Blake Edwards.

BOB MARTIN (*Book*) received 2006 Tony and Drama Desk awards for his book for *The Drowsy Chaperone*; 2006 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations and a Theatre World Award for his performance. U.S. credits: *The Drowsy Chaperone*, NAMT's 2004 Festival of New Musicals, Ahmanson (L.A.), Marquis Theatre (Broadway), Novello Theatre (London). Canadian credits: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Fringe of Toronto, Theatre Passe Muraille, Winter Garden); *An Awkward Evening With Martin and Johnson*; *The GoodLife*; Alumni Café; Skippy's Rangers (national tour); Second City Toronto (artistic director, 2003-2004); *Invasion Free Since 1812* (dir.); *Sordido Deluxo* (dir.); *Old Wine, New Bottles*; *What Fresh Mel Is This?*; *Last Tango on Lombard*; *Tragically Hip*; Second City National Touring Company (two national tours). Film: *Childstar*, *Last Night*, *Torso*, *Clubland*. Television: "Puppets Who Kill" (series regular), "Made in Canada," "Burnt Toast," "Getting Along Famously," "Slings & Arrows." Television writing: "Slings & Arrows" (writer, creative producer), "Made in Canada," "Twitch City," "One Gemini Award, one L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award, five Canadian Comedy Awards, three WGC Screenwriting Awards for "Slings & Arrows." Bob is happily married to Janet Van De Graaff.

DON MCKELLAR (*Book*) received the 2006 Tony and Drama Desk awards for his book for *The Drowsy Chaperone*. His career began as co-founder of Toronto's the Augusta Company, with whom he co-created six critically acclaimed experimental plays. Since then he has become a ubiquitous presence in the independent Canadian cinema. As screenwriter for the award-winning films: *Roadkill* (for director Bruce McDonald), *Highway 61*, co-writer of *Dance Me Outside*, *Thirty-Two Short Films About Glenn Gould* (with director Francois Girard) and *The Red Violin*. For TV he wrote and starred in the CBC series "Twitch City" (which also played on the Bravo Network in America). As an actor in films: *Exotica* (directed by Atom Egoyan), *eXistenZ* (David Cronenberg), *When Night Is Falling* (Patricia Rozema), *Clean* (Olivier Assayas), *Way down town*, *The Red Violin*, *The Event*, *Monkey Warfare*. He is a regular on "Slings & Arrows," currently playing on the Sundance Channel.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL In 1952, Frank Loesser transformed a fledgling business into what is now known throughout the world as "MTI." In the intervening years, Music Theatre International has become a leader in the theatrical licensing industry, specializing in Broadway, Off-Broadway and West End musicals. Since its founding in 1952, MTI has been responsible for supplying scripts and musical materials to theatres worldwide and for protecting the rights and legacy of the authors who it represents. Whether it is the newest hit from the Broadway or London stage, or a timeless classic, MTI has been a driving force in cultivating new work and in extending the production life of the great American musicals such as, *Guys and Dolls*, *West Side Story*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Les Misérables*, *Annie*, *Of Thee I Sing*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Music Man*, *Godspell*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, and the musical theatre collection of composer/lyricist Stephen Sondheim, among others.

A Marriage Made In Heaven

Bob Martin, The Drowsy Chaperone and The National Alliance of Musical Theatre (NAMT)

The Drowsy Chaperone's origins are the makings of modern musical legend.



Bob Martin and Don McKellar receiving the many Tony Awards won by *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

It all started when Second City, (Toronto based sketch comedy and improv company) performers Bob Martin and Janet Van De Graaff fell in love, got engaged and asked their songwriter friend Lisa Lambert to be a best man at their wedding. Instead of the traditional stripper-laden bachelor party Lampert enlisted Don McKellar, Greg Morrison and a team of theatrically minded colleagues to create and perform a 40-minute original musical called *The Drowsy Chaperone* and named the lead characters 'Bob Martin' and 'Janet Van De Graaff' (the show's bride and groom). After the presentation, Bob joined his cast of friends on stage and, now famously, quipped: "What a wonderful show. I have some notes." Those notes would be the beginnings of the "Man in Chair," the character who sets the framework for, *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

With no source material for their story-within-a-story to provide a template for them, except for the early Marx Brothers or Fred and Ginger movies that they loved, the four writers developed their totally original "musical within a comedy" at the Toronto Fringe Festival. It was an instant hit. When New York producer Roy Miller saw it, he immediately secured the rights. However, when he tried to share the script with his colleagues, no one would read it because of the title. So, Miller decided to present a staged reading in New York at NAMT (National Alliance for Musical Theatre).

The **National Alliance for Musical Theatre**, is a national organization dedicated to advancing musical theatre by nurturing the creation, development, production and presentation of new musicals. The Ogunquit Playhouse is among the 150 members that include some of the leading producers of musical theatre throughout 34 states and abroad. Once a year, these industry leaders come together in New York to shape the future of musical theatre – part of this process is the Festival of New Musicals. Among the many musicals launched by the annual Festival are *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Children of Eden*, *Honk!*, *Songs for a New World*, *I Love You Because*, *Vanities* and of course, *The Drowsy Chaperone*.



The marquee of *The Drowsy Chaperone* on Broadway.

months, they searched for a director. McCollum suggested Casey Nicholaw, whom he had worked with before and who was busy choreographing *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Once *Spamalot* opened on Broadway, Nicholaw joined the team with a completely fresh and newly energized take on the show.

The material was really entertaining, said Nicholaw. *But we all realized it was about fleshing out the sloop-within-a-show a little bit more. We knew that Man In Chair's material was strong, but we needed to work out the numbers and make the show dance more... We wanted the show to seem less like a sketch and more like a full-blown musical – to bring to Broadway.*

The show opened on Broadway on 1 May, 2006 at the Marquis Theatre and went on to win the most Tony Awards of any musical that year!

According to McCollum, *"A musical should start on the earth and end in the heavens."* With *The Drowsy Chaperone*, it does exactly that. A show that began as a celebration of love, that in turn celebrates the love of musical theatre - it's no surprise that audiences are laughing, cheering and, in the end, being moved as well.

Miller invited Kevin McCollum and other colleagues to the NAMT Festival of New Musicals to witness Bob Martin's show. It sold them! Later that night Miller and McCollum were having dinner with Martin, Don McKellar, Greg Morrison and Lisa Lambert to talk about the hilarious show with the terrible title. For the next several months, they searched for a director. McCollum suggested Casey Nicholaw,



Pictured here (center) Casey Nicholaw, the original director and choreographer of *The Drowsy Chaperone* and (right) Casey Husson director of the Ogunquit Playhouse's production and Assistant Director of the Original Broadway Production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*



The 2005 production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* at NAMT member organization Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, CA

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Disney's
101 Dalmatians
KIDS
June 6—June 26

Be transported to a magical, wonderful world in the season opener, on stage **June 9—June 26**. This new musical comedy was the darling of the Tony Awards, winning the most statues in 2006! The hilarious show-within-a-show begins when a die-hard musical fan plays his favorite cast album, a 1928 smash hit called "The Drowsy Chaperone" and the show magically bursts to life. Audiences are instantly immersed in the glamorous, hilarious tale of a celebrity bride and her uproarious wedding day, complete with thrills and surprises that take both the cast and the audience soaring into the rafters. Don't miss the show the critics announced as "delightful and sparkling entertainment!" You'll be over the moon!

Andrew Lloyd Webber's
Worldwide Sensation
July 28—August 14

"I am big - it's the pictures that got small!" Main Street meets Sunset Blvd.! Join the Ogunquit Playhouse, the first Regional theatre in the nation to produce the grandiose and glorious, musical spectacle, complete with the extravagant Broadway costumes, July 28—August 14. This stunner is based on the film noir classic by Billy Wilder, is the winner of seven Tony Awards including Best Musical and features Andrew Lloyd Webber's loveliest melodies including, "With One Look" and "As If We Never Said Goodbye." Don't miss the crumbling mansion, the faded star of the silent screen, Norma Desmond and the handsome young screenwriter, Joe Gills, who stumbles into the life of the ex-film-goddess brushed into obscurity by the outsized glory of Hollywood - Get ready for your close-up!

'C'mon and be Razzle-Dazzled by the sophisticated, sharp-edged and highly acclaimed Broadway musical, wrapping up the Playhouse season, September 15—October 15 featuring our very own Sally Struthers as Matron "Mama" Morton! They're all here: fame-hungry Roxie Hart, who spends her nights jazzing it up in clubs while dreaming of a life on the stage; seductive club singer Velma Kelly, the darling of the tabloids; and Billy Flynn, the slick lawyer who, razzles the court and dazzles the press, to free the murdering vixens imprisoned for their bloody crimes. This Tony Award winning tale about corruption and celebrity, inspired by the sensationalized trials of 1920's Chicago, buzzes with John Kander music and Fred Ebb lyrics... And all that Jazz!

This final collaboration between Rodgers and Hammerstein is considered to be the world's most beloved musical and is the winner of five Tony Awards including Best Musical. Featuring some of the most delightfully infectious songs of all time, an endearing love story set in Austria at the dawn of WWII and one of the most thrilling and inspirational finales ever presented in the theatre; it is guaranteed to win your heart. Come hear your favorites songs, "Edelweiss," "Do-Re-Mi" and of course, "The Sound of Music!"

August 18—September 11

Always look on the bright side of life! Enjoy a lot of medieval merry-making, August 18—September 11, with the delightfully zany Monty Python's Spamalot, a musical lovingly ripped off from the internationally renowned comedy team's most popular film, Monty Python and the Holy Grail. This highly irreverent parody of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table is the recipient of three Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and fourteen Tony Award nominations. Join the Ogunquit Playhouse for its lavish production, featuring Tim Hatley's sumptuous Tony nominated sets and costumes, a chorus line of dancing divas and knights, flatulent Frenchmen, a killer rabbit and more madcap mirth than a headless knight! Don't lose your head - get your tickets today!