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Thomas Atkins Professor
Jean-Louis Baldet Professor Emeritus
Jackie Bayne Adjunct Professor
Tim Bowman Costume Shop Manager
Clarence Brooks Associate Professor;
Director of Dance

Rachel Bryant Adjunct Professor
Caryl Fantel Adjunct Professor
Elvira Figueras Program Assistant
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Director, School of the Arts

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Matt McCord Scene Shop Manager
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Elizabeth Price Adjunct Professor
Kevin Ramsey Adjunct Professor
Dawn Shamburger Associate Professor
Thomas M. Shorrock Associate Professor,
Department Chair,

Producing Director, Theatre Lab

K. April Soroko Associate Professor,
Associate Chair
Lee Soroko Assistant Professor
Natalie Taveras Adjunct Professor
Scott Wells Adjunct Professor

Theatre Lab, Resident Company of FAU

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Cassie Kris Company Manager
Michael McClain Production Manager
Joanna Orrego Literary & House Manager
Matt Stabile Artistic Director
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Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Arts



www.fau.edu/theatre

Department of Theatre and Dance
on Facebook and Instagram



Department of Theatre and Dance Office
561-297-3810

FAU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

June 17 - 25th, 2022
Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre

FAU BOCA RATON
www.fau.edu/theatre



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- ☐ Scholar (\$5,000)
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- ☐ Patron (\$1,000)
- ☐ Talon (\$500)
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- ☐ Friend (\$100)
- ☐ Contributor (\$35-\$99)

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- ☐ \$1,000 for one
- ☐ \$1,800 for a pair

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*Note: A portion or all of your contribution may be tax-deductible based on any goods or services received in exchange for your contribution according to IRS regulations.

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MAIL TO:

Gail Vorsas, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
FAU, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton,
Florida, 33431 gvorsas@fau.edu | 561-297-2337

THEATRE LAB INNER CIRCLE

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 - ☐ Season Producer (\$25,000)
 - ☐ Executive Producer (\$10,000)
 - ☐ Producer (\$5,000)
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- and the
- ☐ Theatre Lab Alliance (\$75-\$999)

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SUMMER SEASON 2022!

Purchase tickets at fauevents.com or call 561-297-6124

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS

by Neil Simon

Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre

- ☐ Friday, June 17, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, June 18, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, June 18, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Sunday, June 19, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Friday, June 24, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, June 25, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, June 25, 7 p.m.

RENT

by Johnathan Larson

Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre

- ☐ Friday, July 15, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 16, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 16, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Sunday, July 17, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Friday, July 22, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 23, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 23, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Sunday, July 24, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Friday, July 29, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 30, 2 p.m.
- ☐ Saturday, July 30, 7 p.m.
- ☐ Sunday, July 31, 2 p.m.

DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS - DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

presents

Neil Simon's

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS

DIRECTED BY
Lee Soroko

SCENIC DESIGN
K. April Soroko

COSTUME DESIGN
Dawn Shamburger

LIGHTING DESIGN
Thomas Shorrock

**TECHNICAL
DIRECTOR**
Rebecca Lucatero+

STAGE MANAGER
Nick Giallourakis

SOUND DESIGN
Elijah Jason

BOX OFFICE

561-297-6124 | www.fauvents.com

Single Ticket: \$27 (Not General Admission)

Faculty/Staff/Alum: \$15

All Students with ID: \$12

Groups of 15+: \$18

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Neil Simon's successes as a master humorist and gifted comic writer had been well-established since the 1950's with his four Emmy nominations for his work in Television, most notably in the *Show of Shows* and the *Caesar Hour*. However, he left TV behind and throughout the 1960's and 70's wrote one Broadway hit after another starting with *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Odd Couple* (Tony), *Sweet Charity*, and *The Star-Spangled Girl* to name just a few of his many crowd-pleasing plays. At one point in his career, Simon had FOUR plays running simultaneously on Broadway, and given his sustained productivity earned a special Tony for his contribution to Broadway in 1978. Over the course of his writing career, he has earned a total of 14 Tony awards including a Pulitzer Prize for *Lost in Yonkers* and the coveted Mark Twain Prize for American Humor in 2006.

Prior to *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Simon's plays were either comedies or dramas and his attempts to combine the two, were not well received by audiences or the critics. This changed on March 27, 1983, when *Brighton Beach Memoirs* opened at the Alvin Theatre and with it, he changed the landscape of the American Theatre. In this play he was able to successfully accomplish his longtime goal of melding comedy within the structure of the drama. This play's success ushered in a new way of writing for Simon going forward and with this change in style he earned a new cavalcade of honors and critical acclaim for his work. *Brighton Beach Memoirs* paved the way to a trilogy of award-winning plays (and film adaptations) with his semi-autobiographical protagonist Eugene Jerome at its center in *Biloxi Blues* and *Broadway Bound*. Furthermore, the Alvin Theatre, where this play made its debut changed its name to the Neil Simon Theatre, making him the only living playwright to have a New York theatre named in his honor.

At its surface this is a coming-of-age story, but true to Simon's form the play is much more than that. I hope that you sit back, relax, and enjoy this award-winning work as it touches your heart and funny bone.

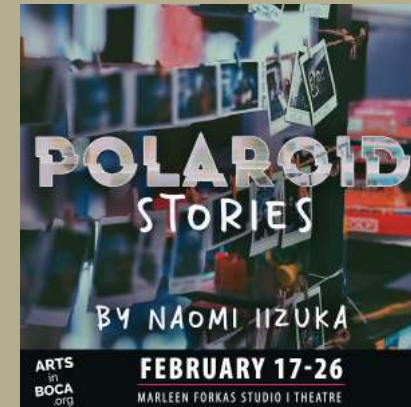
Lee Soroko

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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

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777 Glades Road, AH 210
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Attn: Development Office

For questions, contact Gail Vorsas at gvorsas@fau.edu or 561-297-2337.

CAST

Eugene.....Paolo Pineda
Blanche.....Rachel Dawson+
Kate.....Alyssa Frewen+
Laurie.....Juliana Parris
Nora.....Djimon Armani Williams+
Stanley.....Caleb James Williams+
Jack.....Michael Focas+*
Understudies.....Matthew Altef,
Grace Cirillo,
Eric Fredrickson,
Kimberly Harvey,
Daniela Supovitz

ARTISTIC STAFF

Director.....Lee Soroko
Scenic Designer.....K. April Soroko
Costume Designer.....Dawn Shamburger
Lighting Designer.....Thomas Shorrock
Sound Designer.....Elijah Jason
Technical Director.....Rebecca Lucatero+
Stage Manager.....Nick Giallourakis
Asst Stage Managers.....Eric Fredrickson+,
Jovan Hayes

+ Denotes M.F.A. Graduate Student

* Denotes member of Actor's Equity Association

Thank yous to Dr. Miriam S. Dalin from the FAU Department of History.

PRODUCTION CREW

Costume Shop Manager.....Tim Bowman
 Scene Shop Manager.....Matt McCord
 Head Electrician.....Janelle Diaz
 Electrician.....Paula Campos
 Follow Spot Operator.....Blaine DeBerry
 Light Board Operator.....Toby Ambros
 Sound Board Operator.....Johnathon Thompson
 Props Head.....Natalie Taveras
 Assistant Props Head.....Jartavia Roundtree
 Assistant Props.....Colin Graulich
 Head Carpenter.....Elijah Jason
 Props Carpenter.....Fiona Coffey
 Carpenters.....Jovan Hayes, Patrick Franzino,
 Paolo Pineda, Sarah Romeo
 Deck Head.....Gustavo Garcia
 Crew.....Paola Campos, Elle White
 Scenic Painters.....Ashley Hyde, Jocelyn Richardson
 Wardrobe Supervisor.....Kelly Wilkinson
 Wardrobe Head.....Emma Mahon
 Stitcher.....Graham Oberlink
 Dressers.....Zoe Karet, Kai Kaufman
 Costume Construction.....Samantha Ojelyn Orozco
 First Hand.....Canda Heimberger, Jacqueline Shelley
 Hair/Makeup.....Dayana Morales, Caroline Slagle
 Publicity & Graphic Design.....Dorijan Caty, Rachel Dawson+,
 Gaby Tortoledo
 Photography.....Morgan Sophia Parker
 Program Assistant.....Elvira Figueras
 Office Assistant.....Dorijan Caty
 Box Office Manager.....Monica Cabrera
 House Manager.....Joanna Orrego
 Asistant House Manager.....Graham Oberlink
 Ushers.....Cassidy Joseph, Sarah Lopez, Ja'na Nelson,
 Carolina Rodriguez, Sarah Romeo,
 Chelsea Thomas, Alexis Stein

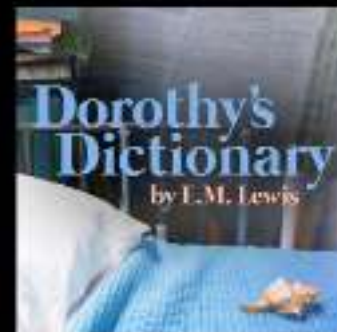
+ Denotes M.F.A. Graduate Student

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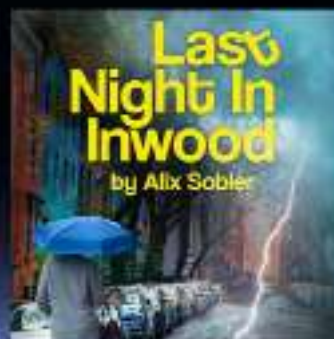
THEATRELAB

2022 2023

SEASON



A World Premiere
Nov 19-Dec 11



A World Premiere
Jan 28-Feb 17



A World Premiere
April 8-23

HECKSCHER THEATRE FOR FAMILIES
A Southeastern Premiere
Sept 17- Oct 9



WE THANK OUR AMBASSADORS OF THE ARTS FOR THEIR
SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN ART AND
CULTURE AT FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY.

PLATINUM AMBASSADORS

MARK TRAVERSO AND CONOR WALTON

HOWARD AND JUDITH WEINER

GOLD AMBASSADORS

HARRIET AND JOSHUA KALIN

LINDA AND JAY ROSENKRANZ

AMBASSADORS

BARBARA C. AND
CHARLES M. ACKERMAN

JUNE GELB

MARGIE AND MAURICE
PLOUGH JR.

ARLENE HERSON

ANONYMOUS

PHILIP G. ROBINSON

MARGIE HOROWITZ

ETTA BASEMAN AND
STILSON TOMITA

MAXINE LEINER

FRANCINE AND ART
SIEGEL

DIANE AND JOHN
DALSIMER

MARILYN LITVAK

MYRNA GORDON
SKURNICK

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TERI WOLOFSKY

SANDRA AND BERNIE

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MEYER

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AMBASSADORS OF THE ARTS PROGRAM,
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Who's Who in our Cast

Rachel Dawson (Blanche) is a second year MFA Acting candidate from San Antonio, TX. She received her undergraduate degree from West Texas A&M University. She was previously seen on FAU's Studio One stage in *Hedda Gabler* (Hedda), *Richard III* (Queen Margaret), and *Lady Windermere's Fan* (Duchess of Berwick). Other credits include: the staged reading of *Blood Sisters* (Theatre Lab), *Pippin* and *Christmas Carol* (Nevada Conservatory Theatre), and *Time Stands Still* (Las Vegas Theatre Co.).

Michael Focas (Jack Jerome) is a MFA candidate from Coral Springs, Florida. He earned his BA in Arts and Humanities at FAU. Previous credits include: Hastings in *Richard III* (FAU), George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* (FAU), Che in *Evita* (The Wick Theatre), and Neville Landless/Victor Grinstead in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Maltz Jupiter Theatre). Michael is a two-time Carbonell Award nominee and a proud member of Actors' Equity.

Alyssa Frewen (Kate) is a second-year MFA candidate. She earned her BFA in Musical Theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, and worked as a performer and teaching artist with companies including First Folio Theatre, Pride Films & Plays, and The Dramatists Legal Defense Fund. Some favorite FAU credits include *Lady Windermere's Fan* (Mrs. Erlynne), *The Illusion* (Elicia/Lyse/Clarina), *Hedda Gabler* (Juliana), and *Versace Era* (Marisa).

Juliana Parris (Laurie) is from Orlando, FL and has performed in musicals at the Orlando Repertory Theatre. She moved to Boca Raton to get her BFA Performance degree at Florida Atlantic University. Her recent credits at FAU include *Richard III* as Princess Elizabeth and Celia in *Girls In the Woods*. Juliana is excited to share the story of *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and wants to thank her family for all their support through her journey in the arts.

Paolo Pineda (Eugene) is currently in his senior year at FAU working towards his BFA with a Concentration in Performance. Most recently Paolo has been seen in shows such as *The Illusion*, *Cupid Chastised*, *Rough Magic*, *Richard III*, and *Oliver!*. With a background in professional choir, Paolo's achievements also include performing at Carnegie Hall twice, joining the featured choir at Disney's Candlelight Procession for several years, and competing in the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Stage.

Caleb James Williams (Stanley) is a second-year MFA candidate and a South Florida native from West Palm Beach. He received his BFA in Theatre Performance from Florida Atlantic University. Previous credits include: *Urinetown* (FAU), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Palm Beach State College), *The Scarlet Letter* (Palm Beach Atlantic University), *The Boy Friend* (Palm Beach Atlantic University), *WASP and Other Plays* (Palm Beach State College), and *Love's Labour's Lost* (Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival) where he received The Kevin Crawford award.

Djimon Armani Williams (She/Her) (Nora) is a second-year MFA candidate from Charlotte, NC who graduated Cum Laude from Norfolk State University with a BA in Drama and Theatre Performance. Djimon has worked with Virginia Stage Company in: *The Wiz*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *The Bluest Eye*. Previous credits also include: *The Color Purple* and *Rent*. FAU credits include: *Rough Magic* (Linda), *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* (Lilly), *The Illusion* (Melibea/Isabelle/Hypolytta), and *Richard III* (Lady Anne).

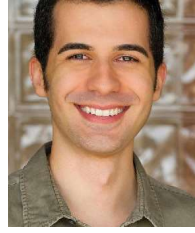
TAKE A LOOK AT OUR MFA THEATRE PERFORMANCE CLASS OF 2022!



DJIMON ARMANI WILLIAMS



RACHEL DAWSON



MICHAEL FOCAS



ERIC FREDRICKSON



ALYSSA FREWEN



STEVE HARDING



JOHN DALTON LOGAN



LINDSEY MARLIN



ASHLEY BROOKE MILLER



CALEB JAMES WILLIAMS

MFA TECH/DESIGN CLASS



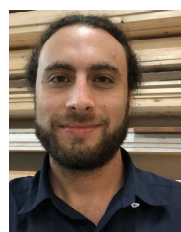
PAULA CALVO



AUBREY KESTELL



REBECCA LUCATERO



ZACH PITCHMAN



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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

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A rock retelling of *La Bohème*, a group of bohemian artists in the East Village of New York City struggle with gentrification, love, loss and legacies amidst the HIV/AIDS crisis. Through songs such as "Seasons of Love," "One Song Glory," "I'll Cover You," "Out Tonight" and more, they embrace hope, find strength and survive. The musical was revolutionary for its thoughtful and nuanced depiction of the AIDS crisis on stage, the antithesis of the often-flashy structure of musical theatre. Jonathan Larson's groundbreaking phenomenon defined a generation as it redefined the American musical and has never been more essential in today's world.



Rent

by Jonathan Larson

Directed by Kevin Covert

July 15, 7 pm
July 16 2 pm & 7 pm
July 17 2 pm

July 22 7 pm
July 23 2 pm & 7 pm
July 24 2 pm

July 29 7 pm
July 30 2 pm & 7 pm
July 31 2 pm