

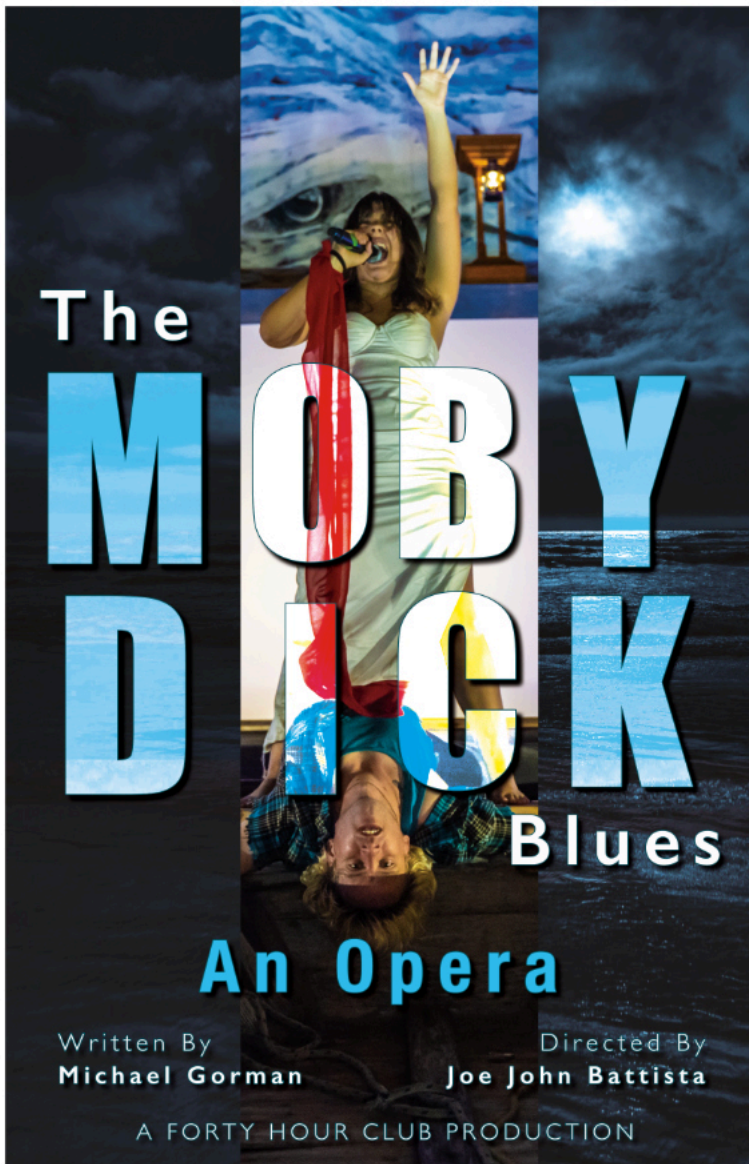
# LA MAMA

EXPERIMENTAL THEATER CLUB

PRESENTS

## THE MOBY DICK BLUES

A Forty Hour Club Production



Written By  
Michael Gorman

Directed By  
Joe John Battista

A FORTY HOUR CLUB PRODUCTION

Ellen Stewart Theater  
66 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC, 10003  
June 7 - 22, 2025

# THE MOBY DICK BLUES

Written by  
**Michael Gorman**

Directed by  
**Joe John Battista**

Music Direction  
**Kavi Gasper**

Lighting Design  
**Christopher Akerlind**

Associate Director  
**Mari Tompkins**

Costume Design  
**Angela Wendt**

Stage Manager  
**Sara Gierc**

Lead Choreography  
**Sevin Ceviker**

Associate Costume  
**Sarah Boyden**

Song Choreography  
**Mackenna Goodrich**

Collaborating Artist  
**Gregory De La Haba**

Collaborating Artist  
**Andy White**

Set Design **The Forty Hour Club**

Installation **Donald Eastman**

Press Representative: **David Gibbs/DARR Publicity**



## MUSIC

Song Lyrics & Spoken Word by  
**Michael Gorman**

Music  
**Joe John Battista, Kevi Gasper**  
*with* **The B-Flat Blues Band**

Lead Guitar  
**Joe John Battista**

Bass/Pedal & Lap Steel Guitar  
**Ron Raymond**

Drums  
**Zianni Orange**

Keys  
**Kavi Gasper**

# THE MOBY DICK BLUES

(Runtime: 2 hours, 15 minutes with Intermission)

*A Working-Class Opera—for our planet...for our times.*



Playwright Michael Gorman's epic new opera ***The Moby Dick Blues*** begs the question "*What was Ahab, but an addict, really, and what was Moby Dick but an allusion to opium, and heroin, its contemporary scourge?*"

The past and future collide in a tale that stretches across generations and ancient-lost mariners, lost souls, lost lives—in this iconoclastic working-class blues-rock opera about a New England fishing community's daunting quest for survival and transformation in the face of the opiate crisis.

When a troubled young sea captain cuts a Faustian bargain with a fisherman turned drug dealer, *The Moby Dick Blues* catapults us down to "the crossroads" where delusion becomes reality and livelihoods and traditions are tested in a high-stakes battle for the soul of a community.

Topical and bold, the opera calls for a reevaluation of Ahab's vengeful obsession with the White Whale, and our own destructive relationship with nature, the environment and ourselves.

***"If Bruce Springsteen had grown up  
in a place like New Bedford, he might  
have written characters like these"***

– *Blogcritics Magazine*

## PLAYWRIGHT/PRODUCER



**Michael Gorman** (Playwright/Producer/Experimental Theater Artist/ Advocate) Michael Gorman and his production company–THE FORTY HOUR CLUB–are long-time residents of La MaMa Experimental Theater Club, where Mike has a long-standing history and has produced many of his plays over the past 25 years. As an artist, advocate, and tradesman, Gorman embraces the collaborative spirit of the job-site to tackle major issues and bring an authentic working-world perspective to the stage. His work focuses on the social, environmental, economic, and systemic challenges facing working communities, and the paramount issue of sustainability. Through his art & advocacy theatrical model–“Chasing The New White Whale–Harpooning Addiction”, and through his work with the addiction/ recovery and reentry communities, Gorman has been able to directly address the opioid crisis taking place in fishing and working communities in his home State of Maine, and beyond. His latest epic work–“The Moby Dick Blues”–is the product of a seven-year developmental journey deep into the heart of the opiate epidemic in rural New England by the playwright and his production company– The Forty Hour Club.

## DIRECTOR



**Joe John Battista** (Director & lead Guitar) is an acclaimed Director who has been involved in over 100 plays and musicals. Joe is also the Artistic Director of the historic 13th Street Repertory Theater in New York City. He is a graduate of the American Academy NYC, and is an actor and a member of Actors Equity and the Dramatist Guild. An accomplished musician, Joe was lead guitarist for the bands, Razor Engine, Electric Landlady, and appeared and played blues in “Lone Star!”. Joe previously directed (and played guitar) in Michael Gorman’s: Never Leaving This Boat (2021); The Ahab Inside Me (2022); and The Ahab Inside Me–Redux (2023), and has been instrumental in the musical development of THE MOBY DICK

## PRODUCER



**Donna Daly** (Producer/Creative/Production Manager) is the co-director of THE FORTY HOUR CLUB, where she is a collaborator, producer, and a creative force behind the development of the company’s theatrical productions and projects, including THE MOBY DICK BLUES. Donna is also a co-creator of The Forty Hour Club’s art & advocacy project–“Chasing The New White Whale–Harpooning Addiction”– a theatrical and performance “Arts Intervention” model that addresses the opioid crisis taking place in fishing and working communities. She recently co-directed and co-produced (with Michael Gorman) the documentary film “A Phantom Song”–a companion piece to The Moby Dick Blues about The Forty Hour Club’s work with members of the addiction/recovery and reentry community in Maine.

## ARTIST STATEMENT



"In 1998, my oldest brother Kevin, a beloved New England commercial fisherman, died of a heroin overdose. The tragic event had a profound effect on me. It wounded me. And like Ahab, who lost his leg to the great White Whale, I instinctively sought revenge. I started chasing the 'New White Whale' of opiate addiction that was destroying the lives of so many working people, families and communities across America, like my own. I became obsessed with the opioid epidemic and the idea of invisibility—that there are people among us, that feel, for all intents and purposes, invisible. That there are real 'Phantoms' among us.

But much to my surprise, I discovered that the whale was innocent. And most consequentially, I realized that I had a major theatrical work on my hands, capable of changing the destructive myth of Moby Dick, while giving voice to those living in the shadows of the opiate epidemic—all with the exciting potential to land on a major stage".

*—Michael Gorman*



## SONGS / SPOKEN WORD

Original Lyrics by Michael Gorman

Music by Joe John Battista & the B-Flat Blues Band

Music Direction by Kavi Gasper



Moby Dick Blues

Never Leaving This Boat

Hungry Ghost

Son of a Bitch

Billy The Crab

Whole New Way (To Love Again)

We Love To Fish

Death of the Spirit

Turn and Burn

Collision Course

Scene of the Crime

Phantom Song

What The Fuck Century Are We Living In

Monkey Rope

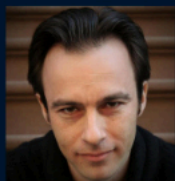
Words

The Ahab Inside Me

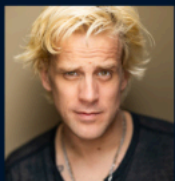
Give Up The Spear



CAST



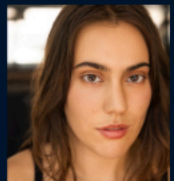
Alex Notkin



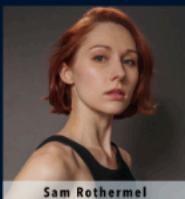
Teddy Lytle



CREDLE



Gabbi Beauvais



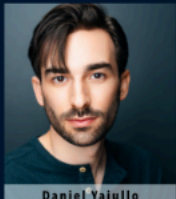
Sam Rothermel



Moonsky



Andrew Ryan Perry



Daniel Yaiullo



Jessica Phoenix



Shuhei Kinoshita



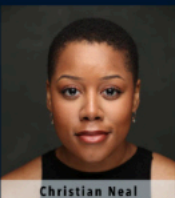
Jim O'Brien



Sarah MacDonnell



Sevin Ceviker



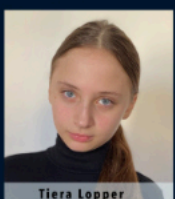
Christian Neal



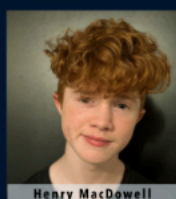
Kristy Zornes Beauvais



Erick Alonso



Tiera Lopper



Henry MacDowell

## CAST

**Alex Notkin** (Ahab) is a Russian born, New York based actor, stage & film director, producer, singer and acting coach with over 20 years of experience in the industry. A graduate of The Saint Petersburg State Institute of Performing Arts and The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute, NY, he has over 50 credits in theatre, film and TV series in Europe and the US. Roles include Netflix, HBO, Amazon Prime and FX TV series: The Americans, Madam Secretary, The Punisher, Gravesend. Off Broadway projects: The Singing Windmills, Greengard-The New Musical, Raskolnikov and the Pawnbroker, Chekhov, Williams and Devil knows What, Shift of Opinion. Alex is also a renowned voice talent in feature and animated films produced by Disney, 20th Century Fox, Warner Bros, and other Hollywood studios. His credits as stage director and filmmaker include numerous European and New York productions. Alex also teaches Method Acting and Stage Directing at the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute. He is very privileged to work again with Joe Battista and the talented cast and production team of Moby Dick Blues.

**Teddy Lytle** (Robby Jr.) is an actor and theatre educator based in Providence, RI with his wife Bay, a neuroscience- based leadership coach. He received his M.F.A. in Acting from Brown University Trinity Repertory in 2019, and is now teaching at Wheaton College. His mission is to de-stigmatize mental health and addiction through theatre, poetry and music. Original works include /a.dick.ted/: OR, learning to breathe underwater...; I love you, I hate you, Shut up, & Tell me everything (my trials, tribulations, & total lack of understanding of Borderline Personality Disorder)...; TRAUMA QUEEN, also known as, a ritual of lemons...: ManCamp! Or, the unbearable burden of a big boy with feelings...Stay up to date with Teddy at [www.teddylittle.com](http://www.teddylittle.com).

**Jim O'Brien** (Robby Sr.) is a graduate of the Trinity Rep Conservatory in Rhode Island. Jim appeared in Michael Gorman's The Ahab Inside Me and The Ahab Inside Me-Redux, and is thrilled to be reprising his role in The Moby Dick Blues. Jim resides and has been performing in the Providence, RI area for close to 30 years, and is a long-time artistic associate of The Gamm Theater. Favorite roles include Coleman Connor in The Lonesome West and Mick Dowd in A Skull in Connemara, both by Martin McDonagh, and of course Robbie Foerster Sr!

**Andrew Ryan Perry** (Ray): From the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Coeburn, VA, Andrew Ryan Perry is a New York based actor. Regional appearances include Antony in Antony & Cleopatra (Ithaca Shakespeare Company) and Ahab/Ray in The Ahab Inside of Me (Forty Hour Club). New York credits include Arthur Miller in The Un-American, Sinclair in Twisted, and Jack London / Congressman Johnson in A Shift of Opinion - all with The 13th Story Repertory. Andrew holds a B.S. in Theatre from East Tennessee State University and an M.F.A in Acting from Northern Illinois University.



## CAST

**Sarah MacDonnell** (Therese/The Hungry Ghost). Sarah is a NYC-based theater, TV, and film actress trained at The London Academy of Music & Dramatic Arts and Bard College. She has appeared in many off-Broadway productions, plays, musicals, & venues—from the Irish Arts Center to The Clurman- LA—including: (most recently) the musical BLISS STREET-Thompson Theater; Dramalogue Award for Titania, A MIDSUMMERS NIGHT'S DREAM-The Globe; Theater 40; Celtic Arts Center; The Tiffany; Provincetown Theater, MA; Tennessee Williams Festival as Amanda, GLASS MENAGERIE & SOMETHING CLOUDY SOMETHING CLEAR; NIGHT OF THE IGUANA; SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS ("Desperately moving" Charles Isherwood, NY TIMES); Eva Gore Booth Award, A SHINING ATTRIBUTE- Dublin IRE; and LAMDA, Bard. TV credits include: guest stars, from FRIENDS, ER, STAR TREK DS9, MURDER SHE WROTE, DREAM ON, The BLACKLIST. Sarah is also an accomplished Director and was nominated Best Director (out of 120 plays!) at NY Winterfest 2019). Sarah [www.sarahmacdonnell.net](http://www.sarahmacdonnell.net)

**Gabbi Beauvais** (Heroin) is an actor, singer, and aerialist from Topanga Canyon, CA. She is honored to be performing in The Moby Dick Blues at the legendary La Mama. Gabbi has lent her incredible voice and talents to past Forty Hour Club productions—The Ahab Inside Me (2022); and The Ahab Inside Me—Redux (2023)—along-side her mother Kristy Beauvais (Billy the Crab). Some of her favorite theater credits include Peter Pan in Wendy's Peter Pan, Gladys Antrobus in The Skin Of Our Teeth, and Hypolita in A Midsummer Nights Dream. Her commercial credits include Dominoes and Mailchimp. Gabbi thanks you for coming and hopes you are moved by The Moby Dick Blues.

**Daniel Yaiullo** (Ismael) is an actor, writer, and director based in NYC. He stars in the series "Events at Hemlock Manor" and co-wrote/stars in "Nightfish," a comedy pilot about two overnight aquarium employees. Highlights include the off-Broadway premiere of Eric Bogosian's 1+1 at SoHo Playhouse, "Gothic Slayers" (Prime & Apple TV), Kenneth Branagh's Macbeth at the Park Avenue Armory, and "The Food That Built America," in which he teaches Ben & Jerry how to make ice cream. Daniel is thrilled to be continuing this journey with Joe, Mike, Donna, and the whole team after playing Ishmael at the Colonial Theater in Augusta, Maine two summers ago.

**Shuhei Kinoshita** (Tashtego) is an actor and filmmaker based in NYC. He's thrilled to be working again with The Forty Hour Club, Donna, Mike, Joe, and reuniting with castmates from "The Ahab Inside Me"! Shuhei's 2025 began with a play "A Shift of Opinion" at Theater for the New City directed by Joe Battista. Upcoming projects include an appearance in a Netflix series to- be-announced, his first feature film as a lead in revenge action thriller Syphon, and Assassin's Creed Shadows which he worked as VO talent (released in March). This play marks his fifth collaboration with Michael Gorman, cheers Mike! [www.shuheikinoshita.com](http://www.shuheikinoshita.com)

## CAST

**Sevin Ceviker** (The White Whale) is an actor, dancer and choreographer based in New York City. Originally from Istanbul, she has enjoyed an extensive career as a professional dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company and FJK Dance, among others - performing in iconic venues across the globe, from the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma to the Kennedy Center. Sevin's work blends various dance styles with theatrical expression, creating performances that resonate with emotional depth and technical precision. Sevin's work as a choreographer includes multiple shows off-Broadway, along with pieces for TARTE, Twisted, and the Nakanishi Ballet in Tokyo. She has also appeared in a number of films and TV series, while continuing to perform in plays and musicals.

**Sam Rothermel** (Billie) is a Queer, actor-writer from New York. She most recently portrayed Sarah, the ex-partner of Charlie Day's Jimmy, in dark-comedy, Kill Me from XYZ Films and Dark Horse Entertainment. The feature also stars Allison Williams ('Girls') and Giancarlo Esposito ('Breaking Bad'). Other recent credits include Crimson Shadows opposite Robert Picardo ('Star Trek') and Gothic Slayers from Cranked Up Films. As a writer, she is working on her debut feature, Grip—a horror film set in the world of elite gymnastics. She holds a BFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is repped by Haven Entertainment and WME (Literary).

**Kristy Beauvais** (Billie The Crab) started acting in Mike Gorman's plays at LaMama E.T.C. in the mid-90's (A Funny Old Bird & Single Action Shotgun). After moving to Los Angeles in 99', she embarked on a new journey into the worlds of circus arts and children's theatre, as founder of FOCUSfish, a non-profit that brings artistic and theatrical physical education into schools and communities in need. Kristy was last seen Off-Broadway in 2022 in her one-woman show, The Lion, The Witch, & The Walk-In Closet. Kristy is ecstatic to be back at LaMama with Mike and The Forty Hour Club crew; and, to continue to work alongside her daughter, Gabbi.

**Jessica Phoenix** (Phillipa/"Pip"): Phoenix is thrilled to take the stage in The Moby Dick Blues. Most recently, she captivated audiences as Ida Jackson in The Amen Corner with Dreamhouse Theater Company and showcased her action/stunt skills as Priscilla Violet in the short film The Glow: A Student of the Last Dragon from Vivid Vision Films. With a diverse background spanning six years as a professional dancer, figure model, actress, creative director, production assistant, and now production coordinator, Phoenix is excited to return to her musical theater roots. She is honored to collaborate with this incredible cast and crew and looks forward to uplifting, entertaining, and bringing more magic to both stage and screen.

**CREDLE** (Fedallah) is a multi-award-winning entertainer, filmmaker, songwriter and recording artist from South Jamaica, Queens, NYC, and the CEO/Founder of Credle Entertainment. His latest record 'Wxlf Pack' has surpassed a million plus streams worldwide and was placed in the video games NBA 2k24 and Madden 24. His award-winning musical film 'Wxlf Pack' has received four awards out of six nominations. The film currently has over 125K views on YouTube and is also available on Apple Music and Tidal.

## CAST

**MoonSky** (Phantom #1) is an indie artist, a powerhouse vocalist, and Vice President of Credle Entertainment—a family-run record label—where she leads the WXLVS Pack alongside her brother and fellow artist, CREDLE. Raised in Queens, NY, she blends many of the sounds she heard growing up,; Neo-soul funk, gospel, R&B, Afrobeat and more. Her music speaks to topics such as mental health awareness, forgiveness and strength, and she has toured across Europe and the US, sharing her gifts with all who listen. MoonSky believes in the ability to dream lucidly and its power to turn her dreams and goals into reality. Her journey as an artist is only just beginning, and she hopes her music lifts those whom she comes in contact with.

**Christian Neal** (Phantom #2) is a proud New Orleans-born Las Vegas-raised, London-educated multi-faceted creative and 2024 Audelco Nominee for best leading actress. Her previous training consists of working with The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and The British American Drama Academy. Her previous credits include: A Shift of Opinion (Bella Greene) at Theatre for the New City; Ella the Ungovernable (as Ella Fitzgerald) at Theatre for the New City; The White Card at Soho Theatre in London; and Perpetual at Camden People's Theatre in London which she wrote, starred in, and directed.

**Tiera Lopper** (Young Billie) is a French-American actor passionate about theater and storytelling. A freshman in the Drama Department at Frank Sinatra High School of the Arts, she has performed on stage at the Lenfest Center for the Arts and La MaMa ETC, as well as in several short films. Tiera has trained at the Lee Strasberg Young Actors Studio and Stella Adler in New York, as well as at Cours Florent in Paris, France. Beyond acting, she loves singing—especially musical theater—dancie, experimenting with accents, and writing poetry and short stories.

**Henry MacDowell** (Young Robby) is thrilled to return to La MaMa for Moby Dick Blues, his second production at the theater. Henry was an original cast member of SpaceBridge at La MaMa in June 2024 and in this year's Under the Radar Festival. He has studied at the Stella Adler Studio and the Brooklyn Children's Theater. In Fall 2025, Henry will kick off his first year at the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts.

**Erick Alonso** (Fisherman/Phantom) is an NYC based actor and director trained at the Actors Studio Drama School. He holds a Master's degree in International Business and Economics, and currently blends his background in advertising/tech and the arts as the Marketing Manager of La MaMa ETC and their designated Bloomberg Tech Fellow for their digital accelerator program. Erick is also a Met Opera Actor who most recently performed in the latest production of AIDA and he is a finalist to be a lifetime member at the Actors Studio. His directorial portfolio includes productions such as "I Was Never Crazy," "Dinner With Friends," and "The Helsinki Cycle," all staged at the ASDS Repertory Theater. He also directed the staged reading of "Grave Digging Bitches" at the Actors Studio. Additionally, Alonso served as Assistant Director for the world premiere of Academy Award nominated Josh Fox's "The Edge of Nature" at La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club. More about Erick at [erick-alonso.com](http://erick-alonso.com).

## COLLABORATING ARTISTS



**Gregory De La Haba** is an American interdisciplinary artist, writer, curator, and cultural producer. A skilled painter with a pedagogical lineage that stretches back to Jacques Louis Davide, he is an exemplary practitioner of fine art whose conceptual practice resists categorization. De la Haba's work explores themes of addiction, contemporary notions of masculinity, and Duende, a heightened state of emotion, expression, and authenticity

derived from pure artistic expression. It is from this place that the artist unlocks his true self—both in art and in life. **He created "Ahab's Leg", the whale bones, and other sculptural pieces that are part of the the theater installation.** De la Haba's work has been exhibited internationally, including at Salzach Biennial, Salzburg Arts Festival, Queens Museum, Kunsthau Tacheles, Contemporary Istanbul, Design Week Milan, Mykonos Biennale, SCOPE Art Show, Art Miami, Art Southampton, and Sylt Art Fair. De la Haba is represented by Geuer & Geuer Art GmbH in Dusseldorf, Germany. (Photo by: Shane LaVancher)

**Andrew White** is an artist, designer, and maker based in Rockland, Maine. Andy designed the boat (the Northern Star) for the production, and hand forged and built the harpoons that we have used in our productions over the years. He can be found at MidCo Labs—a cooperative artist and maker space he helped found in Rockland, where he creates sculpture, metal work, crazy beautiful works of art, and just about anything you might want or need! He and La Haba would definitely hit it off!

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Kavi Gasper** (Music Director/Pianist). Kavi Gaspar is an accomplished pianist and band-leader, and is thrilled to be a part of this production! Recent credits include associate producing and Technical Directing NGT's Off-Broadway "Sunday in the Park with George", and he has acted in and produced many academic theater projects, including Harvard's Hasty Pudding theatricals. Kavi was a musician in Michal Gorman's *The Ahab Inside Me—Redux* (Augusta, ME, 2023), and "has absolutely fallen in love with the project"—*The Moby Dick Blues*. Kavi is also a rising junior at Harvard University studying computer science.

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Christopher Akerlind** (Lighting Design) has designed lighting, and occasionally scenery, for over 650 productions at theater, opera, and dance companies across the country and around the world. Recent work includes the *Waiting for Godot* for TFANA, Lynn Nottage's play *Clyde's* on Broadway and at the Mark Taper Forum, Paula Vogel's play *Indecent* (Tony and Drama Desk Awards), Sting's musical *The Last Ship*, *Rocky the Musical* (Tony nomination), and *The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess* (Tony nomination) all on Broadway; Octavio Solis' *Scene with Cranes* for CalArts Center for New Performance; the premiere of *M Butterfly* for the Santa Fe Opera; and Martha Clarke's devised pieces *God's Fool*, *Angel Reapers*, and *Cheri*. A two-time Tony Award Winner, he is the recipient of an Obie Award for Sustained Excellence, four Drama Desk Awards, the Michael Merritt Award for Design and Collaboration, two Chicago area Joseph Jefferson Awards, as well as numerous nominations for the Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle, and Tony Awards. Chris also on the faculty at the School of Theater at CALARTS, where he teaches lighting design.

**Angela Wendt** (Costume Design) is an international Costume designer based in New York and Munich. She designs for theater, opera, dance, music videos and film. Angela is the original costume designer of the groundbreaking Musical *RENT*, for which she received numerous awards and international recognition. Excerpt on stage: *FLEXN*, revolutionary dance piece at the Park Avenue Armory, directed by Peter Sellers; *The North American Premiere of The Count of Monte Christo*, directed by Marcia Milgrim Dodge, Pioneer Theater, SLC; *Up in the Air*, directed by Amon Myamoto, Kennedy Center, Washington DC; *LIZZIE*, the musical, New York Premiere, directed by Marina Montesanti, Madison Theater; *The Underpants*, by Steve Martin at Classic Stage Company in NY; *Julius Cesar*, directed by Barry Edelstein, at Shakespeare in the Park, Public Theater; *The Recluse* (World Premiere) by Tennessee Williams at Soho Rep, NY; Opera, *The Flowering Tree* (World Premiere) by John Adams, directed by Peter Sellars in Vienna, The Barbican and Lincoln Center. Angela also has numerous feature film credits, and started out designing music videos (C&C Music Factory, LL Cool J, Aretha Franklin, Inner City, Right Said Fred, Nina Hagen, and many more). Her costumes are on display at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC and the Museum of Broadway in New York. Angela has been an adjunct professor at Parson school of Design and Pace University.

**Sarah Boyden** (Costume Associate) is a Portland, Maine based artist and educator. She has worked with Mike Gorman in all three plays of his trilogy—*Ultralight* (2000), *The Honor and Glory of Whaling* (2008) and *If Colorado had an Ocean* (2014), and on *Chasing The New White Whale* (2018). She first met Mike on the island of Vinalhaven where he and his brother Will were performing as the fabulous Gigglin Brothers, and has been hooked ever since. She is primarily a collage artist who works extensively with kids and is committed to reviving the arts in elementary education.

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Sevin Ceviker** (Choreographer: The Whale & Moby's Pod) is an actor, dancer and choreographer based in New York City. Originally from Istanbul, she has enjoyed an extensive career as a professional dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company and FJK Dance, among others - performing in iconic venues across the globe, from the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma to the Kennedy Center. Sevin's work blends various dance styles with theatrical expression, creating performances that resonate with emotional depth and technical precision. Sevin's work as a choreographer includes multiple shows off-Broadway, along with pieces for TARTE, Twisted, and the Nakanishi Ballet in Tokyo. She has also appeared in a number of films and TV series, while continuing to perform in plays and musicals.

**Mackenna Goodrich** (she/they) (Song Choreographer) loves Big Girl Explosion Fests and plays of and about the body. Selected credits: Straight Icons by Anne-Marie Pietersma and SMJ (Ars Nova / Second City NYC), An Axemas Story (The Players Theatre), Breathe by Charlie Oh (EST/Youngblood), Iphegenia at Aulis by Euripedes (LIU Brooklyn), Dance Nation by Clare Barron (Kenyon College). Mackenna is also an associate producer for SciShow and runs The Road Theatre Company's Under Construction playwriting group. BA: Kenyon College. [mackennagoodrich.com](http://mackennagoodrich.com)

**Mari Tompkins** (Associate Director) is a New York based director. Most recently she worked as assistant director on the Off-Broadway production of Cracked Open. Along with Cracked Open, she has served as assistant director on the world premieres of Twisted and A Shift of Opinion. Mari is a graduate of NYU Tisch School of the Arts and will begin her MFA at Columbia University's School of the Arts this fall.

**Sara Gierc** (Stage Manager) Sara is a playwright, actor, director, and board operator. She studies acting and playwriting with Lyle Kessler's Master Class and studied creative writing and dramatic literature at NYU. Previous credits include Assistant Director for Briana Bartenieff's "Scammed into Love," Assistant Director for Sean O'Leary and Dir. Mario Corry's "The Escape," Stage Manager for Vadim Sentinel and Dir. Joe Batista's "Shift of Opinion," Stage Manager for Barry Primus's "Soup in the Second Act," crew for Crystal Field's "Socialization of a Social Worker; Or, Justice in a Time of Need." She is also a teaching artist for Theater for the New City's "Arts in Education" after school program.

**David Gibbs** (Press Representative) (he/him) is the founder of DARR Publicity, a boutique entertainment press agency specializing in theater, comedy, dance, film, music and unique theatrical experiences. David has publicized shows at many Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway venues throughout NYC. His clients have won Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Obie and Off Broadway Alliance Awards, and have been nominated for Bessie and Chita Rivera Awards. [www.DarrPublicity.com](http://www.DarrPublicity.com)

## FOR THIS PRODUCTION:

Sound Engineer  
**Iann Fine**

Follow Spot Operators  
**Mouna Saab, Samuel Nelson**

Sound Board Operator  
**Henry Cruz**

Set Crew / Construction  
**The Forty Hour Club-  
Michael Gorman, Mark Daly,  
Matthew Creisher, Jim Reitz**

Lighting Assistant (to Chris Akerlind)  
**Robert Hill-Guarino**

Production Manager. Admin.,  
Graphic Design/Prod. Design  
**Donna Daly**

Light Board Operator  
**Powell Bjorksten**

Wardrobe Assistant  
**Tiana Osborne**

Production Assistant  
**Samuel Wiek**



## SPECIAL THANKS:

We'd like to thank all of our friends and allies in the addiction, recovery, and reentry community for their belief, support, and major contributions to developing this important, and what we hope to be impactful, work.

Also thanks to: La MaMa ETC staff, crew, and leadership; our amazing cast, crew, and designers; David Gibbs; Esenshel for the fabulous hat; our donors and supporters; family & friends; and to the members of our cast who got harpoon tattoo's in honor of the show!

And lastly, we would like to extend a deep, heartfelt THANK YOU to our Forty Hour Club family and all the amazing performers, actors, artists, contractor's, tradesmen, collaborators, and community members who dedicated their time, talent, generosity, and spirit over the course of this incredible journey.



## THE FORTY HOUR CLUB

**Founded by Playwright and Director Michael Gorman** and a collective of independent artists, The Forty Hour Club is a theatrical production company and group of creatives based in Rockland, Maine dedicated to creating original productions that ask the question "To what consequence?" Our productions focus on the social, economic, environmental, and systemic challenges facing working communities, and the paramount issue of sustainability.

Formed by artists drawn predominantly from the trades, The Forty Hour Club embraces the collaborative spirit of the job-site to tackle major issues and bring an authentic working world perspective to the stage. A true reflection of the adage "No job too big or too small", our productions have graced stages as lofty as The Ellen Stewart Theater at La MaMa in NYC, (where The Forty Hour Club is a long-standing Resident Company), to the gritty loading docks of The Commercial Fish Exchange in Portland, Maine, and every level in between.

Through its unique working-class identity and direct physical approach, The Forty Hour Club seeks to frame a window into our nation's deep economic and cultural divide, and open a portal into the "Phantom World" of rural America. At its heart, the work explores the phenomenon of invisibility—that there is a whole class and culture of people among us, that feels, for all intents and purposes, invisible—the addicted, the imprisoned, the marginalized, and the abandoned members of our disenfranchised working communities. Through our work, we seek to give voice and provide cultural space to these often overlooked and forgotten individuals and communities.

The Forty Hour Club's ongoing Arts & Advocacy project "***Chasing the New White Whale—Harpooning Addiction***" is an evolving series of performances, environmental installations, readings, and community presentations that address the opiate crisis in commercial fishing communities in Maine and New England. Working with community members in recovery and re-entry, the project serves as a creative tool for restorative justice, inclusion, connection, and healing.

### WHO WE ARE:

MICHAEL GORMAN- Founder/Director/Playwright/Producer/Advocate  
DONNA DALY- Co-Director/Producer/Creative/Project Manager

### THE FORTY HOUR CLUB:

A collective of independent artists, contractors, performers, tradesmen, advocates, and supporters.

[www.fortyhourclub.com](http://www.fortyhourclub.com)

**A full program with information on  
this production can be found on the  
*The Moby Dick Blues*  
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



## RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



*Rendering: 74 East 4th St.*

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street underwent 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](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)

# La MaMa Staff

**Richie Adomako**  
Digital Marketing & Strategy

**Erick Alonso**  
Marketing Manager

**Armando Arias**  
Building Superintendent

**Braulio Basilio**  
Box Office Supervisor

**William Electric Black**  
Poetry Electric Curator

**Niels Blumel**  
Crew

**Murielle Borst-Tarrant**  
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
Playwright in Residence

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Graphic Design

**Rocco Candela-Michelus**  
Crew

**Theo Cote**  
Photographer/Videographer

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Facility and Rentals Manager

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La MaMa Umbria Coordinator

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Front of House

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Managing Director

**Michal Gamily**  
Coffeehouse Chronicles Curator

**Kylie Goetz**  
Archive Digital and Special Projects  
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La MaMa Moves! Curator

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**Studio Jg Lecat/Jean-Guy Lecat**  
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# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES ART HAPPEN

We thank our supporters who are indispensable to La MaMa as we continue to expand and strengthen our artistic community. You help make space for artists to create and share new stories, present diverse perspectives, and keep us all connected in our 63rd Season!

## 63rd Season General Operating Support:

Doris Duke Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Radio Drama Network, and The Shubert Foundation



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National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Governor, and the New York State Legislature, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



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\*A very special THANK YOU! to all who contributed to  
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 landmark building at 74A East 4th Street

La MaMa is deeply grateful for the support of the Estate  
 of Harold C. Walker, and the late beloved James Reynolds.

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May 8-18, 2025  
The Club

**Seagull: True Story**  
May 16-June 1, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

**La MaMa Kids:**  
**Tales from Piloncillo and**  
**Tejocote**  
May 17-18, 2025  
Community Arts Space

## COMING SOON

**Lucky FM**  
May 22-June 1, 2025  
The Club

**The Moby Dick Blues**  
June 5-22, 2025  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

**La MaMa's Squirts**  
June 6-8, 2025  
The Club

**Medea of the Laundromat**  
June 12-22, 2025  
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