

2023



**RITA, THE  
CLEANING LADY**

by Sean Ivy



**PERFECTIONIST  
PUNK**

by Derek Miranda



**RHONDA**

by Ben Batchelder

BROOKLYN MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP



**SHOWCASE  
2023**

a smörgåsbord of  
new short musicals



**ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD**

book & lyrics by Sarah Safford  
music by Sean Ivy



**ICE SCREAM  
THEATER**

book & lyrics by C. M. Soto  
music by UFO Death Cult



**LOVERS  
ON THE  
BALCONY**

book & lyrics by Lawrence A. Herman  
music by Dan Furman

Friday October 20 at 6:00 PM  
Friday October 20 at 8:00 PM  
Sunday October 22 at 2:30 PM

In-Person and Livestream Tickets Available



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STREET  
STUDIO

PINK  
FROG  
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BAMTC

**Want to write a musical?**

Songwriters, composers, lyricists, actors, playwrights, singers, musicians! Bring scripts, instruments, and your voices. We act out each others' scenes, sing each others' songs, discuss, and give feedback.



sp

We meet bi-  
monthly at  
**Secret Pour**  
1114 Dekalb Ave,  
Bklyn, JOIN US!

RAW

Theater

PLAYBILL  
DESIGNED BY  
C.M. SOTO

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# MEMBER ROSTER

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C.M.  
Soto

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Derek  
Miranda

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Ben  
Batchelder  
(founder)

**RHONDA**

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# FROM OUR FOUNDER

Our showcase represents the strange, diverse threads of Brooklyn's artistic tapestry, coming together to display the last year's worth of work. I want to thank you for supporting this fledgling project. With your help, we foster emerging artists and give them a chance to bring new work from the drawing board to the stage.

I would like to thank Jaime and Roberto of Secret Pour for giving us space to exist, my parents, my mentors, my friends, and everyone who gave their advice and support, Dan Furman for playing the piano, and all the participants of the Brooklyn Musical Theater Workshop, whose talent, hard work and skill are a continued source of inspiration. This show is dedicated to Max.

Ben Batchelder

PERFECTIONIST  
PUNK

ICE SCREAM  
THEATER

LOVERS ON  
THE BALCONY

RHONDA

ECO-DISASTER  
IN THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD

RITA, THE  
CLEANING LADY

*The* **SHOWS**

# RHONDA



## *Description*

Thrills! Spills! An astral projection of Twyla Tharp! A young dancer named Rhonda will stop at nothing to achieve her dream.

BOOK BY: Ben Batchelder  
MUSIC BY: Ben Batchelder  
LYRICS BY: Ben Batchelder

MUSICIANS: Dan Furman (piano)  
CAST: Ben Batchelder (Rhonda)

# ECO-DISASTER IN THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

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## *Description*

Extreme Weather and a Pipeline threaten the habitat of Winnie the Pooh and his aging friends in the Hundred Acre Wood. They must respond to the crisis to restore peace. Emotions run high in this melodrama that mirrors our planetary predicament.

BOOK BY: Sarah Safford

MUSIC BY: Sean Ivy

LYRICS BY: Sarah Safford

MUSICIANS: Sean Ivy (piano)

HATS & SET DESIGN: Sarah Safford

CAST: Lisa Whitten (Owl), Adam

Basco-Mahieddine (Piglet) Alex

(Ace) McCarthy (Eeyore), Joe

McMurray (Pooh), Erin Bogert

(Roo)

# PERFECTIONIST PUNK



## *Description*

A one-song musical about a Type-A-plus high school student who transforms into a punk after burning out from excelling in school. However, old habits die hard as our young overachiever discovers what it means to be truly punk.

BOOK BY: Derek Miranda  
MUSIC BY: Derek Miranda  
LYRICS BY: Derek Miranda

MUSICIANS: Derek Miranda (guitar),  
Edwin Diagon (drums)  
CAST: Jesse Pudles (The Punk)

# RITA, THE CLEANING LADY



## *Description*

A cleaning lady from New Jersey falls on hard times. To save her family, she begins cleaning up murder scenes and burying the bodies! Based on a story by the composer's uncle Steven Ullmer, and with characters inspired by the family, the show chronicles a mother's love and sacrifice.

BOOK BY: Sean Ivy  
MUSIC BY: Sean Ivy  
LYRICS BY: Sean Ivy

MUSICIANS: Sean Ivy (piano)  
CAST: Kaitlin Ormerod Hutson  
(Toni), Rebecca Madeira (Rita)

**WARNING**  
Strobe Lights,  
Drug Use, Sexual Themes

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# ICE SCREAM THEATER



## *Description*

A daughter unpacks the boxes of her childhood in this multimedia musical and traumatic true tale exploring addiction and generational abuse. Based on her poetry chapbook, *These are the Rooms to My Mother's House*.

BOOK BY: C.M. Soto

MUSIC BY: UFO Death Cult

LYRICS BY: C.M. Soto

PROPS & MEDIA: C.M. Soto

CAST: C.M. Soto (Daughter),

Gwynn Marie Stier ("Rooms"

Film: Young Daughter)

A/V & SOUND TECH: Mike Goetz

# LOVERS ON THE BALCONY



## *Description*

A musical fantasy  
with the world's most  
famous lovers.

BOOK BY: Lawrence A. Herman  
MUSIC BY: Dan Furman  
LYRICS BY: Lawrence A. Herman  
MUSICIAN: Keyboard, Dan Furman

CAST: Amy Herzberg (Juliet), Justin Perez (Romeo), Lydia Saylor (Scarlet O'Hara), RJ Christian (Rhett Butler), Joe Castinado (Marc Antony), Taylor Margaret Johnson (Cleopatra)

## ARTIST BIOS



RHONDA

## BEN BATCHELDER

(Book, Lyrics, Actor: *Rhonda*)

Ben is a Brooklyn-based playwright, composer, and music teacher. As an actor he has appeared in several off-Broadway plays, short films, and cartoons. He plays with various bands throughout New York City including (but not limited to) The Newsreels, Open Blue, Ali Aslam & the Storytellers, and his own band Electric Moses. He sings and plays accordion and sopilka with Ukrainian Village Voices. In his spare time he enjoys learning languages, listening to audiobooks, and taking long, long, long walks.

[linktr.ee/b3nbatch](https://linktr.ee/b3nbatch)

LOVERS  
ON THE  
BALCONY

## LAWRENCE A. HERMAN

(Book and Lyrics)

Lawrence A. Herman is a veteran of New York community theater, having been trained in improv at the National Improvisational Theatre and appearing in Split Second Theatre improvising one-act plays. He has directed several shows and written sketches and songs, collected in *Mood Swings: A Musical Comedy Revue By, For, and About the Emotionally Unstable*. With BAMTC, Lawrence has written the librettos for the mini musical *Lovers on the Balcony* with music by Dan Furman, the full-length musical *The Treasurer Has Absconded With the Money*, and a musical based on Edgar Allan Poe's *Never Bet the Devil Your Head*. He is the Executive Producer of the indie film *Pancakes & Syrup*.

LOVERS  
ON THE  
BALCONY

## DAN FURMAN

(Music)

Dan hails from Old Hickory, Tennessee. He studied composition and jazz piano at Oberlin Conservatory, then spent four years in the BMI Lehman Engels Musical Theater Workshop. Furman is director of Brooklyn Tavern Theater. He is composer, lyricist, and bookwriter of *Impossible But True*, and composer and lyricist for *Ybor City* (with Anita Gonzalez, bookwriter) and *Sign In the Six O'Clock Sky* (with bookwriter Arnold Schulman). His labor activism play, *The Joe Hill Revival*, premiered in 2021 at Rustik Tavern in Brooklyn. Dan lives in Brooklyn with his wife, neuroscientist, Kim Allen. He works in Manhattan as a jazz pianist, director and accompanist. [danfurman.com](https://danfurman.com)

Create

## ARTIST BIOS

ICE SCREAM  
THEATER

## C.M. SOTO

(Book, Lyrics, Media, Props,  
Actor: *Daughter*)

C.M. is a performer, writer, traveler, and multimedia artist driven to create dark yet inspiring content. She is currently marketing her spec feature screenplay, *Boo*, a heartfelt New Orleans ghost story that was a finalist in the 2023 Golden Script Fellowship Competition and an Official Selection in the 2022 Big Apple Film Festival Screenplay Competition. Her electronic art rock band, Vuzz plays live and is recording singles toward their second album. Soto has traveled extensively, most recently touring the US for a full year in a self-built van conversion with her bandmate/fiancé. She looks forward to future full productions of *Ice Scream Theater* in the theater capital of the world. [Linktr.ee/cmsoto](https://linktr.ee/cmsoto)

RITA, THE  
CLEANING LADYECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD

## SEAN IVY

(Book, Music, Lyrics)

Sean is a Brooklyn-based and New Jersey-raised composer, theatre artist, and music educator. He writes music for theatre works as well as pop songs and choral works. They wrote music, book, and lyrics for *Rita, the Cleaning Lady: A New Musical*. Sean also works as a music teacher for the New York City Department of Education. [Linktr.ee/seanivy](https://linktr.ee/seanivy)

ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD

## SARAH SAFFORD

(Book, Lyrics, Costumes,  
Set Design)

Sarah is a lyricist and playwright focused on health, environmental and social justice themes. In addition to *EcoDisaster in the Hundred Acre Wood*, her musical theater works-in-progress include *Club Meds*, a dramedy about a cancer support group and *Over the Road*, about a job training program for commercial drivers. Her geriatric and end of life raps can be viewed on YouTube. [youtube.com/@sarahsafford](https://youtube.com/@sarahsafford)

"Thank you to BAMTC for providing a beautiful community, to Celine for being my Rita partner in crime, to Thinkery & Verse and everyone at Rutgers for all the support in the development in this piece, and to all my friends in family for always believing in me."

Sean Ivy

## ARTIST BIOS

PERFECTIONIST  
PUNK

## DEREK MIRANDA

(Book, Music, Lyrics)

Derek is a Filipino-American songwriter delving into the world of musical theater. With his trusty guitar, he writes folk- and soul-tinged songs and hopes to make his listeners laugh or connect with a different perspective. Before moving to NYC, Derek was involved in open mic communities in Los Angeles such as Tuesday Night Cafe, Sunday Jump and Palms Up Academy, where he developed and performed original work and collaborated with fellow artists. As a musician, he's been singing and playing guitar for 10 years and has trained more formally in musical theater, pop, and classical voice. He enjoys video games, cooking, and writing in the third person.

[linktr.ee/derekmirandatunes](https://linktr.ee/derekmirandatunes)

LOVERS  
ON THE  
BALCONY

## AMY HERZBERG

(Actor: Juliet)

Amy is a musical theater performer who has taken part in many productions, including: *The Magical Journey of Arlekina* (Off-Broadway, Sean the Kid), *The Noteworthy life of Howard Barnes* (dream ballet Maggie, experimental), *The Wild Party* (co-choreographer, Nadine), *When You Dance* (co-creator, choreographer, Del), *Stephen Schwartz Tribute Concert* (Glinda), *Carrie* (ensemble) and many more. When she is not performing she can be found re-watching *Game of Thrones* and *Grey's anatomy*. Find her on instagram and TikTok: [@e299adi](https://www.instagram.com/e299adi)

*Dream*

PERFECTIONIST  
PUNK

## JESSE PUDLES

(Actor: Punk Jesse)

Jesse is a musical theater actor, who just returned from performing as the Baker in *Into The Woods*, in Portugal. As well as this, Jesse runs a space called Spotlight, where Jesse encourages performers to express themselves in unique and diverse ways, in order reinvigorate them as performers and storytellers. Jesse is excited to help Derek's vision come to life, and show you all what it means to be a perfectionist-punk!

[instagram.com/jpudz](https://www.instagram.com/jpudz)

"Big thanks to my collaborators, my partner for always supporting my writing, and everyone else who helped shape this piece into what it is."

Derek Miranda

## ARTIST BIOS

ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOODALEX (ACE) MCCARTHY  
(Actor: Eeyore)

A native-born Texan, Ace is an actor based in New York City. He received his Master's in Music – Musical Theatre Performance from NYU Steinhardt and trained at the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute. Ace is the founding owner of Infinitism Productions, a company who's ambition is to create a platform for any and all artist to connect and create diverse/unique stories through film. [theacemccarthy.com](http://theacemccarthy.com)

ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOODERIN BOGERT  
(Actor: Roo)

Erin Bogert considers herself a "jack of all trades, master of none" (which is "oftentimes better than a master of one," as the saying goes). She is an actor, podcast producer and engineer, workshop leader, administrator, and educator. She is also a long-time collaborator of Sean's and is excited to be a part of this new work they and Sarah have created!

ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOODJOE MCMURRAY  
(Actor: Pooh)

Joe McMurray recently completed a run of *The Oresteia* at Gallery Players. Previously, he performed in *Six Degrees of Separation* (Larkin) with St. Jean's Players, *And Then There Were None* (Rogers) at the Gallery, and *Xanadu* (u/s Danny) and *The Crucible* (Thomas Putnam) with Heights Players. Joe is extremely grateful for the unwavering support of his husband, Eric!

SPECIAL  
THANKS!

secretpour

SPECIAL  
THANKS!

## ARTIST BIOS



## TAYLOR MARGARET JOHNSON

(Actor: Cleopatra)

Taylor is excited to be returning to work on *Lovers on the Balcony*! For the past 11 years, she has sung in and around New York City. Past credits: *Phoebe* in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Rocky Mountain Repertory), *Lucy* in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Enlightened Theatrics), and *Janet van de Graaf* in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. You also may have seen her performing as a New York Nightingale at Tavern on the Green, The Triad, or The Smithsonian in Washington D.C. She has a BM from NYU Steinhardt.



## JOE CASTINADO

(Actor: Marc Antony)

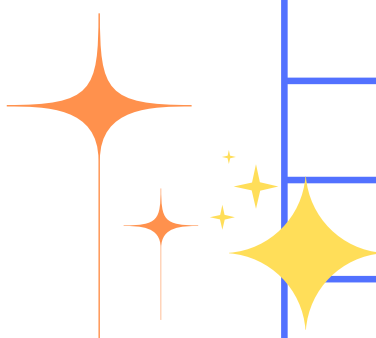
Joe is beyond excited to be back working with Dan Furman. Previous shows include *Impossible But True*, *Here I Am*, *Safe Hands*, and *Brothers*. Joe also streams on Twitch: [@Guyloren](#). Twitter: [@CastinadoJoe](#) Instagram: [Deep\\_Sheet](#)



## JUSTIN PEREZ

(Actor: Romeo)

Justin is excited to be joining the incredible team of artists and creators for this new musical. After graduating with a BFA in musical theater from AMDA NY/LA, Justin worked for several years in regional theater, as well as in film/TV. Notable credits, TV: "The Gilded Age" and "Gossip Girl". Film: *Recovery* (producer: Otto-Bernstein). Theater: *Phantom U/S* in *Phantom*, *Chuck* in *Footloose*, and *Orin* in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He would like to thank his wife and family for always supporting him. [@ejpmanny21](#)



## ARTIST BIOS



## LYDIA SAYLOR

(Actor: Scarlett O'Hara)

Lydia is a classical soprano, visual artist, music and art teacher from NY. Since graduating from Pomona College, she's performed contemporary music as a soloist at music festivals in London, The Hague, and Vienna. She was also a performance member of the Holly Herndon Ensemble at the Singapore International Festival of the Arts. She's performed at the Berlin Philharmonic Hall and at the Lincoln Center. Lydia is a section leader in the Choir of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, where she teaches kids. Earlier this year, Lydia began her graduate studies in Vocal Performance at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. Upcoming operatic roles include Handel's *Alcina* and Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*. [lydiasaylorsoprano.com](http://lydiasaylorsoprano.com)



## RJ CHRISTIAN

(Actor: Rhett Butler)

RJ is a singer, actor, composer-lyricist, and TikTok. He graduated from NYU Steinhardt with a BM in Vocal Performance. RJ was a cast member and songwriter for the 2018/2019 casts of the *NYU Reality Show*. During Covid, RJ launched a music TikTok. (@RJtheComposer) It gained 104k followers and contributed music and lyrics to the *Ratatouille TikTok Musical*, a fundraiser for the Actors Fund raising \$2 million dollars. He contributed music and lyrics to *For You, Paige*, the first staged, commissioned TikTok Musical in '22. RJ was a finalist for Taylor Louderman's Write Out Loud songwriting competition and had his song performed at the concert. He is a member of the BMI Musical Theater Workshop

[linktr.ee/theheartymeal](http://linktr.ee/theheartymeal)

ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD

## LISA WHITTEN

(Actor: Owl)

Lisa Whitten is an improviser and storyteller originally from North Carolina. After many years absent, she has refound her love of the stage and is excited to be a part of this wonderful production.

[linktr.ee/LiLiwiit](http://linktr.ee/LiLiwiit)

"Much appreciation to my partner Sean, the Dramatist Guild End of Show people and all the family and friends and actors who have helped move this project from a list of song ideas to this point.

Special thanks to my daughter Molika Ashford for her editing and encouragement."

Sarah Safford

## ARTIST BIOS



RITA, THE  
CLEANING LADY

REBECCA MADEIRA

(Actor: Rita)

Rebecca is a multidisciplinary artist from New Jersey with a passion for storytelling. Graduating with a BA in Music from Rutgers' Mason Gross School of the Arts in 2021, she has since performed in theaters, concert halls, churches, recording studios, and art galleries in the U.S. and abroad. She recently finished a run of *Sweeney Todd* at DC's Signature Theatre, debuted the opera *Architecture of a Common Man* with CreArtBox NYC, and received the Lotte Lenya Emerging Artist Award in 2023.

[rebeccamadeira.me](http://rebeccamadeira.me)



RITA, THE  
CLEANING LADY

KAITLIN ORMEROD  
HUTSON

(Actor: Toni)

Kaitlin is a New Jersey based actor. She holds an MFA in Acting from Rutgers University and was last seen in Thinkery and Verse's production of *Thou Shalt Not* as Eleanor Mills in New Brunswick, NJ.

[kaitlinormerod.com](http://kaitlinormerod.com)



ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD

EDWIN DIAGON

(Musician: Drums)

Edwin is a Filipino production sound mixer for film, tv, and content creation. He's a Florida man that studied percussion at Florida Gulf Coast University. If you've ever been to Carnegie, Edwin's played there with the university orchestra! He also has documentaries on HBO Max, *Spring Awakening* Those You've Known, Netflix, *A Kid From Coney Island*, and Amazon Prime *Chasing Happiness & Happiness Begins*. When not on set, Edwin enjoys long walks through Costco, malding on Valorant, and recording his podcast *Kwento Kwento*.

[msha.ke/kwentokwentopod](http://msha.ke/kwentokwentopod)



Tell  
Your  
Story

## ARTIST BIOS



**ECO-DISASTER IN  
THE HUNDRED  
ACRE WOOD**

## ADAM BASCO- MAHIEDDINE

(Actor: *Piglet*)

Adam is an actor, writer, and singer born and raised in Queens, New York. He's very excited to be part of BAMTC's production of *Eco-Disaster in the Hundred Acre Wood*! He's currently in his last semester in Queens College where he will receive his Bachelor's in Theatre with a focus in community activism. Other credits of his include his work with Climate Change Theatre Action, a theatre initiative that showcases plays about climate change from all over the world. Enjoy the show. [basco\\_mahieddine](https://basco_mahieddine.com)



**ICE SCREAM  
THEATER**

## GWYNN MARIE STIER

(Actor: *Young Daughter*)

Gwynn is a native Oregonian once-New Orleanian with a background in dance, humor, and acting. She aspires to be a chiropractor and loves spending time with her family and with her kitties.



**ICE SCREAM  
THEATER**

## UFO DEATH CULT

(Music)

UFO Death Cult is a battery of microtonal instruments, analog machines, and digital devices developed and manipulated by New Orleans based musician Benjamin Strange.

[ufodeathcult.com](https://ufodeathcult.com)

*Tell  
Your  
Story*

"Huge thanks to the BAMTC community, to Ben Strange for your music, to Mike Goetz for your emotional support (and creative insight), and to Gwynn Marie Stier for playing my mini-me, and lastly to my mother for her gift of life and gift of music."

C.M. Soto



## ARTIST BIOS



**MIKE GOETZ**  
(Media Technician)

Mike graduated from Tulane University with a degree in Digital Media Production. He has worked with audio and video on projects ranging from music videos to full-length documentaries to vlogs to interactive theatrical performances. He recently moved to New York with his band, Vuzz, an electronic art rock duo, after living in New Orleans for 12 years. Mike is an avid traveler and busked across Europe and the UK shortly after starting Vuzz with C.M. in 2017. He recently DIY built a double-neck guitar/bass and now devotes his downtime soundtracking indie video games online.

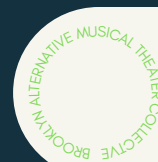
[linktr.ee/thetravelingvuzz](http://linktr.ee/thetravelingvuzz)



**HENRY RYEDER**  
(Sound)

Henry Ryeder is an actor, artist, and musician from Brooklyn, New York. After graduating from NYU Tisch for Film and Television in 2018 Henry has focused his creative energies in experimental improvisation and avant-pop music.

[linktr.ee/henryryeder](http://linktr.ee/henryryeder)

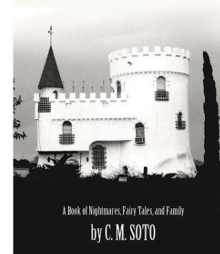


## MERCH



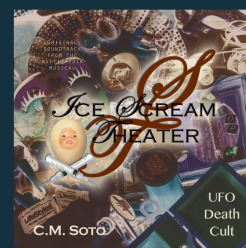
Signed 11 x 17 Poster  
\$25

These are the Rooms to  
My Mother's House



Ice  
Scream  
Theater  
Poetry  
Book  
\$13

CD of Ice  
Scream  
Theater  
Music  
\$10





"Lawrence would like to thank Dan Furman for his insightful collaboration, Ben Batchelder for founding BAMTC, and everyone at BAMTC who contributed to developing Lovers on the Balcony. Thanks also to the cast for finding and projecting the spirit of the show."

Lawrence A. Herman



Meetup  
GALLERY



**CONNECT**

# THANK

*You*

**Stay in touch! Join us online,  
at one of our meetups,  
and on our Discord!**

[bkalttheater.com](http://bkalttheater.com)

[brooklynalternativetheater@gmail.com](mailto:brooklynalternativetheater@gmail.com)

[discord.com/invite/6BY5yMGXYz](https://discord.com/invite/6BY5yMGXYz)

[tiktok.com/@bkaltmustheaterco](https://tiktok.com/@bkaltmustheaterco)

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[youtube.com/@BrooklynAlternativeTheater](https://youtube.com/@BrooklynAlternativeTheater)

[meetup.com/bk-musical-theater-workshop](https://meetup.com/bk-musical-theater-workshop)