

Back To The Way Things Were

SCRIPT & DIRECTION:

Velina Brown (she/her) (Director, SFMT Collective) directed the SFMT 2020 and co-directed 2021 Seasons of Tales of the Resistance, a radio series the Troupe created in lieu of our usual park tour for which we won Best of the Bay. Velina is a principal performer for the San Francisco Mime Troupe. She's played the Devil in Deal With the Devil, Veronique in Veronique of the Mounties, she's played Condoleeza Rice three times, and was both an actor and Contributing Lyricist on GodFellas and Making a Killing. Velina's most recent shows with the Troupe include Tales of the Resistance, Red Carol, Walls: No Human is Illegal, Schooled, Ripple Effect, For The Greater Good: Or the Last Election, Red State, Too Big to Fail, and Posibilidad: Or Death of the Worker for which she won a Bay Area Critics Circle Award for Best Principal Actress. www.velinabrown.com

Marie Cartier (she/her) (Writer, SFMT Collective) has been working with the Mime Troupe since 2012. Born and raised in San Francisco, her theater practices encompass a variety of roles. She has created props for SFMT summer shows from 2016 to 2019, and was also Scenic Painter and on the writing team for Treasure Island. She wrote commercials for 2020's Tales of the Resistance radio series, and was the writer for 2021's Hobos in Space. Marie is a founding member of Bow & Arrow Circus Theater Collective, having recently performed in and co-produced May Day May Pole: A Celebration of Spring and the Workers. Bow & Arrow's COVID-delayed production of Dark Side of the Circus will be premiering in September 2022 at Dance Mission. Marie can also be found running lights at Oasis, SF's premiere drag venue, or teaching theater to youth at NCTC. Marie received her Masters in Social Work in 2021 and currently works full time as a clinical social worker. mariecartier.weebly.com

Daniel Savio (he/him) (Composer, Lyricist, Musical Director, Musician, SFMT Collective) started his professional theater career playing for the San Francisco Mime Troupe, playing keyboards during the tours for GodFellas ('06) and Making a Killing ('07). He was co-composer/lyricist, with SFMT vet Bruce Barthol, of the play FSM ('14, Stagebridge Senior Theater), written by fellow SFMT vet Joan Holden. He returned to the Mime Troupe band for FreedomLand ('15) and has been with the company ever since. On Treasure Island ('19) he began writing lyrics for the Troupe and with the radio podcast Tales of the Resistance became the Troupe's resident Composer/Lyricist. Daniel has been music director of numerous community and children's productions at theaters in the North and East Bay including Berkeley Playhouse, 6th Street Playhouse, Throckmorton Theater, Marin Musical Theater Company, Tomorrow Youth Repertory, 23 Elephants, Pied Piper Productions, and Marin Onstage. Daniel has a BA in Music from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Michael Gene Sullivan (he/him) (Head Writer, SFMT Collective) has performed with all four of the Bay Area's Tony award-winning theaters: American Conservatory Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theater, Theatreworks, and the San Francisco Mime Troupe (where he is also a Collective Member, director, and as Resident Playwright has written or co-written over 25 plays). He has also worked with SF Playhouse, California Shakespeare Theater, Denver Center Theatre Company, Marin Theatre Co., Aurora Theatre Co., Magic Theatre, TheatreFirst, Lorraine Hansberry Theater, African American Shakespeare Co., and the SF Shakespeare Festival. Michael is the author of the internationally produced stage adaptation of George Orwell's 1984, of the critically-acclaimed The Great Khan, and in 2022 Michael was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship as a Dramatist. www.michaelgenesullivan.com

CAST:

Andre Amarotico (he/him) (Actor) got his BA in Theater at Stanford University. He has performed all across California, and was most recently featured in the world premiere of Remains to Be Seen (Jewel Theatre Co.). Prior to that, Andre also appeared in Neighborhood Stories Mill Valley, in a short untitled play by Pulitzer nominated playwright Amy Freed. Favorite roles include Anthony in Sweeney Todd, Romeo in Romeo and Juliet, and the titular characters in Hamlet and Macbeth. Andre was nominated for a TBA for Best Actor in a Featured Role for Ross Valley Players' The 39 Steps. He has performed at The Mountain Play, Marin Onstage, The Cutting Ball Theater, New Conservatory Theater Center, Word for Word Performing Arts Company, 6th Street Playhouse, and Stanford Repertory Theater. This is his fifth summer with the Troupe, having previously been featured in Seeing Red, Treasure Island, and two seasons of Tales of the Resistance.

Lizzie Calogero (she/her) (Actor) is a past SFMT Collective member and SFMT regular. She played Mary Wollstonecraft in last year's SFMT's Eyeball on History, and Doctor Janis & Red in the radio series Tales of the Resistance. Other shows with the Troupe include Treasure Island, Walls, 2012 - The Musical!, Too Big to Fail, and Red State. With roots in the UK, she has performed in plays around the Bay Area, with: the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre, SF Playhouse, Center Rep, and Symmetry Theatre among others.

Norman Gee (he/him) (Actor) was onstage recently in Water by the Spoonful at SF Playhouse and Great Expectations at San Jose Stage. He performs classical work with many Bay Area companies, most recently in Pericles and As You Like It with the SF Shakespeare Festival. A director as well, his work is often featured with PlayGround-SF.org. He will be directing Compared to What by local playwright Judith Offer at the Masquers Playhouse this August 2022. Norman also has many years as a Teaching Artist, nurturing incarcerated youth, medical students & young artists from elementary school through college & beyond.

Alicia M. P. Nelson (she/her) (Actor) is an award-winning San Francisco/Bay Area based actor, clown, and arts educator. She is a member of the Red Ladder Theatre Company where she works to bring arts to at-risk populations, and is a graduate of Boston University where she acquired a BFA in Acting. Nelson has trained in both classical theatre and Commedia dell'Arte in Greece and Italy. As an actor she has worked across the country in varying theatres including WAMTheatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, San Francisco Playhouse, Marin Theatre Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and more. She has worked as a teaching artist in various companies in the Bay Area, and she specializes in working with students in preschool and kindergarten. Nelson is passionate about all things that spark the imagination. She is an avid believer in playing pretend, making a fool of yourself, diving in head-first, and increased diversity in theatre. She hopes to make theatre accessible to its youngest audiences and, in doing so, inspire creativity in the generations to come. www.ampnelson.com

Keiko Shimosato Carreiro (she/they) (Actor, SFMT Collective) is a Collective and Board Member with the Tony Award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe. Since 1987, she has been an actor, designer, co-writer, and director with the company and has been in almost every summer show. Carreiro has performed at theaters throughout the Bay Area, including Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, The Magic Theater, The Aurora Theater, Word for Word, and Center Rep. She was nominated for The Shellie Award for Outstanding Actress in the role of Grace in The Sisters Matsumoto at Center Rep. In 2020 Carreiro Co-founded "Kunoichi Productions" (Female Ninja productions) dedicated to creating innovative multidisciplinary theater with Japanese aesthetics. Currently, Kunoichi is developing our next full production, Throw Away Temple, about a temple in Japan where the bodies of dead prostitutes were left during the Edo period. Carreiro is an award-winning costume designer, nominated for Theatre Bay Area's Best Costumes, Bay Area Critics Circle Award, and recipient of the 2018 Meritorious Achievement Award (American College Theater Festival). Carreiro is also a visiting Professor at Hollins University teaching "Theater for Social Change", and "Japanese and Asian American Theater Practices".

MUSICIANS:

Will Durkee (he/him) (Musician) is an artist driven by an obsession with colorful, stylized and visually stimulating artwork, as well as an eclectic variety of music. The creation of these art forms has possessed him from an early age, and it is this amalgamation of interests that led Will to focus on his current project: Will Durkee 7ams. Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Will splits his time between the Sonoma and Sacramento areas of Northern California and travels all over the bay working on an assortment of projects. In the fall of 2015 Will began building a double neck guitar with bass and guitar necks. It was completed in the spring of 2016 and features hand painted/custom art all over the body. The completion of this instrument led him to the opportunity of joining the 2016 summer season of the San Francisco Mime Troupe, a 60-year old musical theater and political satire group. Playing bass and guitar in the band with the double-neck, he toured with them for 3 months playing about 40 shows all across Northern California. In the following summer of 2017, Will created his first mural alongside friend and artist Marcus Lee. They were selected as a group of 6 artists to create a series 30-foot tall murals in the Lower Nob Hill area of San Francisco. Their mural was inspired by Golden Gate Park and took about 3 months to complete. Since then, Will has gone on to continue creating public artwork, including several indoor & outdoor murals, school buses, and three public art pianos. Will has been working as a face painter at the Bay Area Discovery Museum in Sausalito since Since 2017.
www.willdurkee.com

Daniel Savio (he/him) (Composer, Lyrist, Musician, SFMT Collective) SEE ABOVE.

Jason Young (he/him) (Musician) aka Young Sun, is a Bay Area native who grew up acting in musical theater, commercials, and film since the age of 6. After studying theater and music at Foothill College in Los Altos, CA, Young Sun went on to record over a dozen albums as a singer and multi-instrumentalist. He has toured with stage-show-focused bands, such as [The Wyatt Act](#), [SUNQ](#), [Doctor Striker](#), and [Revolushn](#). Young Sun has performed with many notable musicians, including members of DEVO and Village People. Young Sun's original compositions were nominated for a Theater Bay Area Award for his work as composer and drummer in the play "Shiner" with FaultLine Theater. Young Sun is honored to join The San Francisco Mime Troupe. He hopes to bring his love of theater, performance, music, activism, and political avant-garde art to the collective.

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Carlos Aceves (he/him) (Scenic Designer) has lived and worked in the Bay Area for the past twelve years as a Scenic Designer, Charge Artist, and Technical Director. Selected Designs include: Prep Play or Blue Parachute, rolling world premiere, New Conservatory Theatre Center. The Displaced, Crowded Fire Theatre. Walls, San Francisco Mime Troupe. Long Day's Journey into Night, Eugene O'Neill International Festival of Theatre, New Ross Ireland. Carlos is happy to return to the San Francisco Mime Troupe for a third collaboration!
carlosdesignssets.myportfolio.com

Kristy Arroyo (she/her) (Scenic Artist) is SO excited to be back in action after a long pandemic break from scenic painting, and is thrilled to be taking part in the SF Mime Troupe. Since 2017 Kristy has been painting sets for the Novato Theater Company, Ross Valley Players, Stapleton Theater Company, 23 Elephants Theater Co. and other children's theater productions in Marin County. Kristy has a BA in studio art, majored in illustration at the San Francisco Academy of Art University and studied set design at College of Marin. She teaches elementary school art part time, is a part time pastry chef and has lately been making mosaics and collages in her spare time.

Marissa Ellison (she/her) (Booking Coordinator, Tour Manager) was born and raised in Wisconsin, Marissa has been a theater-lover since her 3rd grade debut as an orphan in Annie. Her relationship with the Troupe began in the summer of 2017, when she spent her summer as a workshop student with the Troupe. Marissa graduated with her BA in Theatre - Performance from Marquette University. Since then, she has had the opportunity to perform in the Bay Area with Ross Valley Players and Landmark Musical Theatre. Marissa is always excited to spend time at the Mime Troupe and be involved with such passionate theatre professionals!

Taylor Gonzalez (he/him) (Sound Engineer & Design, SFMT Collective) has been working with the Mime Troupe since he was 16 years old. His work began with the Youth Theater Project as a student. Since then he has taught as well as designed lights and sound for the youth program. Now most of his time at the Troupe is spent mainly on sound related projects. He was the lead audio editor, engineer, and designer for the two past summers of Tales of the Resistance. Taylor recently took over as the lead audio engineer at SF Playhouse and has been working on many shows there. Other work includes time as a studio and live audio engineer for local bands, as well as a sound designer for various theaters around the bay area.

Brooke Jennings (she/her) (Costume Designer) is delighted to make her SFMT debut with this show! A graduate of UC Santa Cruz's Theater Arts Masters Program, Brooke is an award winning Costume Designer working in the Bay Area and New York. Her recent credits include San Jose Stage Company (The Great Leap), Shotgun Players (Vinegar Tom, Arcadia), San Francisco Playhouse (You Mean To Do Me Harm, The Effect, Colossal, The Nether), We Players (Pyschopomp, Caesar Maximus, Roman Women, Ondine), Magic Theater (asst. designer: A Lie of the Mind, Bad Jews), FaultLine Theater (Maggie's Riff, Dead Dog's Bone), Virago Theatre (The Singularity {New York Premier}), Custom Made Theater Company (Belleville, Six Degrees of Separation, Sam and Dede {SF and NY Premieres}), City Lights Theater (Rocky Horror Show), and Santa Cruz Shakespeare (asst. Designer, A Year with Frog and Toad). She thanks her husband, Cole, for his unwavering support and encouragement.

Pablo Mica (he/him) (Poster Designer) Raise in San Francisco's Richmond district. A SF GWHS alumni class of 1982, SF Academy of Art College grad class of 1986 BFA Illustration major. In 1977 my journey to becoming a film artist began. George Lucas opened my eyes with his groundbreaking film Star Wars. Inspired by the art designs of Ralph Mcquarrie and Joe Johnston I knew then I wanted to be a part of that magic that brought me and the audience to a new and strange world. In 1986 I was offered a freelance storyboard job, with Industrial Light and Magic, working on the intro sequence of the film "Howard the Duck"! Wow! I am now an artist/illustrator for the Motion Picture, Feature Animation, Games industry and photo retouching for the real estate industry. One of my highlights was having the opportunity to work as a concept artist at Disney/Pixar Animation Studios with one on one direction from John Lasseter (Toy Story 2), and Pete Doctor (Monsters Inc.) What a life changing event! My passion grants me the opportunity to live around the world meeting interesting people and experience new cultures. I am eager to lend my passions and talents to the magic of all forms of the entertainment industry.

Karen Runk (she/her) (Production Stage Manager) moved to SF with the intention of only staying for a few months... Over two decades later she's still here! This is largely due to the talented folks at the SF Mime Troupe and thanks to Golden Thread Productions where she has been a Resident Artist since 2018 (aka the before times) - but mostly it's due to rent control! Runk first experienced the Troupe by stage managing two '97 youth projects, Revenger Rat Meets the Merchant of Death and Inside Out. After which she ran screaming into the arms of the Magic Theatre and there she stayed, contently for two years. The Troupe then wooed her back for their '99 Summer Production City For Sale. Still under the Troupe's wooing spell she's stage managed a plethora of their summer shows. Runk has also stage managed with Word For Word, Magic Theater, SFShakes, Intersection for the Arts, and African American Shakespeare Company.

Miguel Wachter (he/him) (A2 Sound) Miguel Wachter has had a wide range of experiences in performing arts. From playing live music at venues like Yoshi's and studying digital audio production at the Bay Area Video Coalition, to studying film production in Vancouver, British Columbia and working on several films in the U.S. and Canada, he has done a little bit of everything. He found his way to theatre and has been studying acting for the last 3 years and has performed in shows such as Dierdre the Queer Queen for the Aurora Theatre with the Holy Fools, as well as Macbeth and Disbelief with the Fusion Theatre Project. He has also worked as a sound board operator for 12th Night at the S.F. Playhouse and is currently the properties supervisor at Cal Shakes. With more productions on the way, he looks forward to a career in the entertainment industry.