

## Commedia

July 22, 2021 - August 05, 2021



### Chautauqua Theater Company

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# Commedia

Directed by **Andrew Borba**

*"They loved it after the last plague, you'll love it during this one!"*

Half scripted, half improvisation and playing like a Shakespeare improv with modern day language, Commedia dell'arte was created in the Middle Ages as theater troops traveled from town to town, performing outdoors and entertaining people of all ages. These stock characters of young lovers, old misers, and clowns who'll do anything for a bite to eat are the basis for nearly every comedy we see today. You'll be gleefully surprised at the familiar, yet ridiculous storylines and the references ripped from today's headlines.

*Commedia (75 minutes)*

### Cast, Creative & Production

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#### Cast

Isabella/Dottore - Jada Owens  
Flavio/Zanni - Christopher Portley  
Madame Pantalone/Tartaglia - Daphne Kinard  
Pantalone - Malachi Beasley  
Brighella - Walker Borba  
Capitano - Justin Von Stein  
Arlecchino - Rachael Fox

## **Chautauqua Institution**

### **Creative Team**

Director – Andrew Borba  
Movement Coach – Jed Diamond  
Scenic Designer – Efren Delgadillo Jr.  
Costume Designer – Erin Barnett  
Lighting Designer – Annie Garrett-Larsen  
Sound Designer – Meghan Roche  
Production Stage Manager – Emily Glinick\*  
Assistant Stage Manager – Jean E. Compton\*  
Properties Director – Cooper Nickels

### **Production Team**

Technical Director – John P. Woodley  
Head Carpenter – John Oberg  
Head Electrician – Jeff Emory  
Head Audio – Colin Braeger  
Head Audio & Video – Graham Riggle  
Head of Properties – Kevin Kyser  
Wardrobe Supervisor – Jaylene Ogle  
Cutter, Drapper, and Stitcher – Sophie Millar  
Audio Engineer for the Performance Pavilion- E.M. Gimenez



\*The noted Actors & Stage Manager are members of the Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

\*\*The noted designers are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

\*Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, is more than 49,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote, and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org).

### **Leadership & Staff**

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Artistic Director – Andrew Borba

Managing Director – Sarah Clare Corporandy

Associate Artistic Director – Stori Ayers

Arts Marketing Specialist – Makayla Santiago-Froebel

## Chautauqua Institution

Co-Company Manager - Sam Wong

Co-Company Manager - Logan McDonald

Production & Facilities Manager - Sarah Penland

Associate Production & Facilities Manager - Wayne Ogle

Arts Marketing Associate - Gabrielle Ghaderi

Costume Supervisor - Cece Hill

Covid Safety Specialist - Stacy McQueen

Business Manager - Liz Ellis

## Cast Bios

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### Malachi Beasley

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Pantalone

San Diego, CA • CTC: First Season

SoCal: *Harlem Duet* (Coronado Playhouse); *Fun Fair* (West Coast Premiere); *Antigone X* (Cal Rep); *The Human[oid] Experience* (Hollywood Fringe). Educational: *Smart People* (Theatre Threshold); *When the Party's Over* (World Premiere). Film: *Under the Law* (Mitsu Miyashima). MFA Candidate: Yale School of Drama. BA: CSU Long Beach.



### Walker Borba

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Brighella

Los Angeles, CA • CTC: First Season

Film: *Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping* (Universal Pictures); *Shattered Memories* (Cut 4 Productions). Educational: *The Visit*, *Macbeth*, *Spring Awakening*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. BA Candidate: Kenyon College.

## Chautauqua Institution



### Rachael Fox

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Arlecchino

Kansas City, MO • CTC: First Season

Off-Broadway: *The Inferno*, *The King's Masquerade*, *The Forgotten* (Sleep No More/Punchdrunk). Regional: *Why Did Desdemona Love the Moor?* (The Provincetown Tennessee Williams Festival); *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Learned Ladies*, *Tovarich*, *Trelawny of the Wells*, *Measure for Measure*, *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey); *King Lear*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre). MFA: University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.



### Daphne Kinard

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Madame Pantalone/Tartaglia

Dallas, TX • CTC: First Season

Regional: *Passage* (Son of Semele Ensemble); *The Diviners* (Dallas Contemporary); *The Relapse* (Sweet Tea Shakespeare). Educational: *Romeo and Juliet*, *This is Our Youth*, *Buried Child*, *Richard III*, *Miss Julie*, *Spin* (World Premiere), *Girlhood* (World Premiere). Film & TV: *Dickinson* (Apple TV+); *Amends* (USC Thesis). MFA Candidate: Columbia University. BFA: Carnegie Mellon University.



### Jada Owens

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Isabella/Dottore

New Orleans, LA • CTC: First Season

Regional: *An Evening with the San Diego Black Artist Collective* (reading) (Old Globe Powers New Voices Festival). Educational: *Orestes 2.0*, *Letters From Cuba*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Farside* (UC San Diego). MFA Candidate: UC San Diego. BFA: Texas State University.

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### Christopher Portley

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Flavio/Zanni

Dallas, TX • CTC: First Season

Regional: *Father Comes Home From the Wars Parts 1, 2 & 3* (African American Repertory Theatre). Educational: *Electra/Orestes, The Last Days of Judas Iscariot, Middletown* (Case Western Reserve University/Cleveland Play House); *The Tempest, Measure for Measure* (Shakespeare Academy at Stratford); *Stick Fly* (University of North Texas). MFA Candidate: Case Western Reserve University/Cleveland Play House. BS: University of North Texas.



### Justin Von Stein

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Capitano

Memphis, TN • CTC: First Season

Community: *Boeing Boeing* (Flying Anvil Theatre). Educational: *Native Gardens, #Matter, The Living, The Madwoman of Chailot, The Real Inspector Hound, King Charles III, A Christmas Carol* (Clarence Brown Theatre); *The Winter's Tale, Coriolanus* (Shakespeare Academy at Stratford). BA: University of Tennessee.

## Creative Team Bios

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### Andrew Borba

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Director

Los Angeles, CA • CTC: Sixteenth Season

Andrew is in his sixth season as Artistic Director. He served eight seasons as CTC's Associate Artistic Director and this is his 16th summer at Chautauqua Theater Company. Last Season, Andrew directed *One Man, Two Guvnors*. Previously for CTC he has directed *As You Like It, Noises Off, The Taming of the Shrew, After Love, The Comedy of Errors, The Philadelphia Story, Macbeth, Twelfth Night, Swimming Thru Abu Dhabi* and *Carve* as well as the inter-arts collaborations *Mango Suite, Symphony of Sorrowful Songs, Ellis Island* and *Go West!* in the Amp.

As an actor at CTC, he has appeared in *Building the Wall, Our Town, Arcadia, Every Good Boy Deserves Favor, The Just, All My Sons, Frankenstein* and *Dracula*. Outside of CTC, Andrew has performed in theaters around the country, including South Coast Repertory, Pasadena Playhouse, The Globe Theatre, Berkeley Repertory, Oregon Shakespeare Festival (five seasons), Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis, Dallas Theater Center, Portland Stage Company, Long Wharf and others. He has appeared multiple times on the silver screen and as a recurring character or guest star on over 30 TV shows.

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Prior to the COVID shutdown, Andrew directed *Julius Caesar* at PlayMaker's Rep, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* at Detroit Public Theater and *Love's Labour's Lost* at UC Irvine and appeared in a recurring role on ABC's *Speechless*. Andrew is a graduate of Brown University and New York University. He lives in Los Angeles and is Head of MFA Acting and a Professor of Drama at UC Irvine.

## **Jed Diamond**

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Movement Coach

Knoxville, TN • CTC: Fourth Season

Jed teaches Alexander Technique at CTC. He has been Head of Acting, at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville / Clarence Brown Theatre Company (CBT) since 2005. In 2020 the UTK MFA Acting program was ranked #8 among the top-25 programs in the U.S., U.K., and Australia. As an actor Jed has appeared in roles at the CBT; Wheelhouse Theatre Co.; New York Shakespeare Festival; Roundabout Theatre; The Acting Company; Signature Theatre; Arena Stage in Washington, D.C.; etc. Prior to UT, he taught in New York City for 18 years. He was founding faculty of the Actors Center and the New York Shakespeare Festival Shakespeare Lab and taught in NYU Tisch School of the Arts; Stella Adler Studio; Playwright's Horizons Theatre School; Fordham University, and other programs. He is an AmSAT\* certified teacher of the Alexander Technique (25 years), trained in New York and London. Many thanks to Andrew Borba, always, and to Sarah Clare Corporandy.

## **Efren Delgadillo Jr.**

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Scenic Designer

Los Angeles, CA • CTC: First Season

New York: *The Three Musketeers* (The Acting Company); *Mycenaean* (BAM, Brooklyn Academy of Music). Notable Regional Theatre: *American Mariachi* (South Coast Rep., Arizona Theatre Company); *Romeo and Juliet* (Oregon Shakespeare Company); *BLKS* (Woolly Mammoth); *Bordertown Now* (Pasadena Playhouse); *Smart People, Indecent* (Denver Center for the Performing Arts); *Othello* (Hartford Stage); *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles* (The Getty Villa/Boston Court); *Prometheus Bound* (The Getty Villa/Center for New Performance).

MFA: California Institute of the Arts. BFA in Studio Arts from University of California, Irvine. Efren is an Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at UC Irvine. [www.efrendelgadillojr.com](http://www.efrendelgadillojr.com)

## **Erin Barnett**

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Costume Designer

Marietta, GA • CTC: First Season

Regional: *Footloose*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Jenny Wiley Theatre); *The Gondoliers* (GLOW Lyric Theatre). Educational: *Little Women*, *Bonnets: (How Ladies of Good Breeding Are Induced to Murder)*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *By the Bog of Cats*, *Only Child* (World Premiere). MFA: Indiana University. BA: Furman University. [erin-barnett.com](http://erin-barnett.com)

## **Annie Garrett-Larsen**

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Lighting Designer

Brooklyn, NY • CTC: First Season

Regional: *The Seagull* (Cleveland Play House/CWRU); *Hi, Are You Single?* (Cleveland Play House/New Ground Theatre Festival). New York: *Virgin* (Ars Nova); *Shared Evening of Dance* (HERE Arts Center); *Quilt, a Musical Celebration* (Judson Memorial Church); *The Séance Machine* (The Tank), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Spring*

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*Awakening, Assassins* (The Secret Theater); *Cabaret* (Gallery Players). BA: Bard College.  
[www.anniegarrett-larsen.com](http://www.anniegarrett-larsen.com)

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## **Meghan Roche**

Sound Designer

Seattle, WA • CTC: Second Season

Regional: *CAUGHT, Bootycandy* (Intiman Theatre); *Richard III, Pericles, Twelfth Night, House of Sueños* (Seattle Shakespeare Company); *63 Trillion* (Sandbox Radio); *Dry Land* (Seattle Public Theatre); *Pageant* (ACTLab); *Happy, Happy, Happy* (Macha Theatre Works); *Sex with Strangers* (ReACT Theatre); *The Twilight Zone: Live!* (Theater Schmeater); *3 Americans: Voices of Hope* (West of Lenin); *Twelfth Night, The Importance of Being Earnest* (Twisp Merc Theatre). Educational: *Living Out* (UC Irvine); *Snow Angel, Radio Play Disaster* (South Coast Rep. Conservatory); *Picnic, House of Sueños, 12 Ophelias: A Play with Broken Songs* (Seattle University). MFA Candidate: UC Irvine. BA: Seattle University.

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## **Emily Glinick**

Production Stage Manager

Brooklyn, NY • CTC: Ninth Season

CTC select credits: *Philadelphia Story, Three Sisters, Much Ado About Nothing, Death of a Salesman, The Cherry Orchard, Twelfth Night*. Broadway: *Seminar*. Off-Broadway: *Blood and Gifts, A Minister's Wife, When I Come To Die* (Lincoln Center Theater); *County of Kings* (Public Theater); *The Metal Children* (Vineyard); *Things of Dry Hours* (NYTW). Regional: *Far East, Bad Dates, Intimate Apparel, Trying* (Stamford Theater Works); *Paris by Night, A Christmas Carol, Richard III, Much Ado About Nothing, Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Trinity Rep); *Master Class, Lost in Yonkers* (Paper Mill Playhouse). International: *County of Kings* (Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, South Africa).

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## **Jean E. Compton**

Assistant Stage Manager

New Windsor, MD/Chicago, IL • CTC: Third Season

CTC: *A Midsummer Night's Dream, An Octoroon, Into the Breeches!*. Regional: *Into the Breeches!* (Cleveland Play House); Seasons at Two River Theater and Cleveland Play House. Chicago: *The Miscellany, All-One: The Dr. Bronner's Play, Spirits to Enforce* (The Passage Theatre); *3:35PM, Candide, Mudpie 2018* (Mudlark Theater Company); *Thirst* (Strawdog Theatre Company); *The Death of Gaia Divine* (Momentary Theatre); *You for Me for You* (Sideshow Theatre Company); *Lizzie* (Firebrand Theatre); *Shining Lives* (Northlight). Company Member of The Passage Theatre. Graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul University. [www.jeanecompton.com](http://www.jeanecompton.com)

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## **Friends of the Theater**

Founded in 1994, Friends of Chautauqua Theater is dedicated to ensuring that theater remains a powerful pillar of the arts community at Chautauqua by working to enhance appreciation and engagement with the theater and the institution. Your membership supports new theater initiatives and helps us to enhance the experience of our company members through various events connections. Benefits include invitations to members-only live and virtual programming to enhance your theater experience prior to performances, and our annual "Meet the Company" event.

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