

the
playhouse
at



3 BELOW
THEATERS

stagebill | vol 6 | issue 3

EMOJI LAND
THE MUSICAL



2024 playhouse series

GUGGENHEIM ENTERTAINMENT, INC PRESENTS

EM JIL ND

Music by KEITH HARRISON DWORKIN
Book and Lyrics by KEITH HARRISON DWORKIN & LAURA SCHEIN
Inspired by THE UNICODE® STANDARD

Starring

AERIOL ASCHER JAMES GREER TUÂNMINH ALBERT ĐỒ Osher FINE
EMILY ANNE GOES BRIEANNE ALISA MARTIN FRANKIE MULCAHY F. JAMES RAASCH

Orchestrations

KEITH HARRISON DWORKIN

Video Projection & Graphic Design

SHANNON GUGGENHEIM

Costume & Headpiece Design

S.E. COPPERMAN

Set Design

JON GOURDINE & SCOTT GUGGENHEIM

Technical Director /MC

JEFF CHRISTENSEN

Lighting Design

JON GOURDINE

Headpiece Construction

GRACE ROJAS, FPH

Production Stage Manager

JUAN RICHARDSON

Assistant Stage Manager

JAY HAIRSTON

Associate Producer

LILLIAN GUGGENHEIM

Executive Producers

KAREN & ALLEN GUGGENHEIM

Producer

SHANNON GUGGENHEIM

Choreographed by

JON GOURDINE with SHANNON GUGGENHEIM

Produced & Musical Directed by

STEPHEN GUGGENHEIM

Produced & Directed by

SCOTT EVAN GUGGENHEIM

The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of any photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.
Please turn off your cell phones and personal electronic devices prior to the beginning of the performance.

October 17 – November 24, 2024 at 3Below Theaters in San Jose, CA

C H A R A C T E R S

Princess / Pile of Poo	Aeriol Ascher
Prince / Father Christmas / Weary Face / Party Horn and Hat Face	James Creer
Nerd Face / Hamster Face / Thinking Face / Worried Face	Tuânminh Albert Đo
Police Officer / Kissy Face / Pregnant Woman	Osher Fine
Smize / Glown Face	Emily Anne Goes
Construction Worker / Angry Face / Information Desk Person	BrieAnne Alisa Martin
Sunny / Guard	Frankie Mulcahy
Skull / Person in Business Suit Levitating.....	F. James Raasch

S E T T I N G

The play takes place inside a smartphone, in a digital world called Emojiland

M U S I C A L N U M B E R S

ACT I

“It's Just So Great to be Alive”	Company
“Sad on the Inside”	Smize
“Princess is a Bitch”	Princess and Company
“The Progress Bar”	Company
“Zeros and Ones”	Nerd Face and Smize
“Cross My Bones”	Skull and Nerd Face
“New Crown In Town”	Prince, Princess, Guard & Man In Business Suit Levitating
“Work Together”	Police Officer & Construction Worker
“Stand For”	Construction Worker, Police Officer, and Company
“Thank Me Now”	Skull and Company

~ Presented with one 15 minute intermission ~

ACT II

“Firewall Ball”	Prince, Princess, and Company
“Pile of Poo”	Pile of Poo and Company
“Virus”	Company
“A Thousand More Words”	Police Officer
“Anyway”	Smize and Nerd Face
“Start Again”	Nerd Face and Skull
“It's Just So Great to Be Alive” (Reprise)	Company

W H O ' S W H O



AERIOLASCHER (PRINCESS / PILE OF POO) Aeriol is delighted to join the Emojiland cast in her first theatrical endeavor in quite some time. Aeriol holds degrees in Theatre Arts, Metaphysics and multiple certifications in holistic healing and music therapy. She is an internationally best selling author, motivational speaker and vocalist/musician. Aeriol loves to sing and performs throughout the San Francisco Bay Area with her band Body, Mind and Soul.



JAMES CREER (PRINCE) Hailing from Henderson, East Texas, James Creer is a Bay Area actor celebrated for his powerful stage presence and remarkable versatility. An alumnus of Sam Houston State University, James has earned acclaim for his compelling performances across a wide range of roles. Recently, he graced the stage in **LOOKING OVER THE PRESIDENT'S SHOULDER** at Princeton Theatre in Indiana. His exceptional talent was further showcased in Broadway Rose's production of **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'** in Portland, Oregon. In San Jose, he played the roles of General in **WHITE CHRISTMAS** and Booker T. Washington in **RAGTIME** at CMT San Jose. At Hillbarn Theatre, James delivered an authentic performance as Horse in **THE FULL MONTY**. At Tabard Theatre he was featured in **I DO! I DO!**, **CROWNS**, **TUESDAYS WITH MORIE**, and **DRIVING MISS DAISY**. At South Bay Musical Theatre he was seen in **RAGTIME**, **FINIAN'S RAINBOW**, **MACK AND MABEL**, and **GUYS AND DOLLS**. A highlight of his career was his breathtaking portrayal in **RAGTIME** with Broadway by the Bay. Beyond the stage, James enriches the local music scene as part of the Schola Cantorum of Los Altos and the choir at Campbell United Methodist Church. His journey as a performer exemplifies unwavering dedication, remarkable talent, and the ability to make a lasting impact wherever he goes.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3Below Theaters and Cafe sits on the traditional territory and unceded homeland of the Muwekma Ohlone peoples, the original inhabitants of San Jose. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Muwekma Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. We recognize that we benefit from living and working in their traditional homeland. This acknowledgement is a commitment to beginning a process of working to dismantle ongoing legacies of settler colonialism, and to recognize the hundreds of Indigenous Nations who continue to live and uphold their sacred relations across their lands. We pay our respect to the Muwekma Ohlone community by acknowledging their Ancestors, Elders and Relatives. We pay our respect to all Native American and First Nation tribes, their ancestors and their history.



TUÂNMINH ALBERT ĐỖ (NERD FACE) Tuânminh is a Việt-Polish actor and multidisciplinary artist originally from Warsaw, Poland. A proud son of an immigrant and an immigrant himself, he is elated to be making his 3Below debut AND San Jose debut (woot woot!) alongside his other half, a 408 native, Emily Anne Goes. Recent credits: **HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS** (NAAP), Current NYSCA Artist Grantee at University Settlement Performance Project for an original work **PROLIFIC**, the Sống Collective Việt Writer's Lab Playwright. All the love to the Goes, Bautista, Đỗ and Kujda family! Uściski dla mojej rodziny, ôm thật chặt gia đình của tôi.



OSHER FINE (POLICE OFFICER / KISSY FACE) Osher is thrilled to be performing in this production with such a stellar cast. She's grateful to be back at 3Below Theaters where she was seen as Cinderella in **DISENCHANTED**; Celeste, Louise, and Naomi Eisen in **SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE**; Erato in **XANADU**; and Princess Mary, the Opera Singer, and Maid Servant in **NATASHA, PIERRE, AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812**. Osher graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy at the end of 2019 with honors. Some of her favorite productions she has performed include: **A NIGHT AT DANNY LA RUE'S**, **THE FANTASTICKS**, **GHOST THE MUSICAL**, and numerous cabarets and blackbox performances. When Osher isn't performing, she is teaching as an associate voice teacher at Upper Floor Studio. In her free time, Osher likes to compose songs, write poetry, and feed the neighborhood cats.



EMILY ANNE GOES (SMIZE) Emily Anne Goes is so grateful to the Guggenheims for bringing her (and her husband, Minh!) back to San Jose theatre. Born and raised in East Side San Jose, Emily is a Filipino New York-based performer and pathfinder. NYU Tisch New Studio on Broadway Grad. Emily is currently an Artist in Residence at La Mama Experimental Theatre Club and a Folk Art Apprentice to Kinding Sindaw. Emily collaborates with The CRAFT Institute, The International Black Theatre Summit, CreateEnsemble, and Britton and the Sting. She was most recently seen in In The Heights (Gateway Playhouse, dir. Vince Ortega). Represented by Shushu Entertainment @anthonyleonestalentmanager. Malaya Movement. With love and power to her family. @emilyagoes

W H O ' S W H O



BRIEANNE ALISA MARTIN (CONSTRUCTION WORKER / ANGRY FACE / INFORMATION DESK PERSON) BrieAnne Alisa Martin (aka Brie) is a classically trained soprano, equally at home with opera and musical theatre. She has worked professionally as a performer on Princess Cruise Lines and is currently a member of the Grammy-Award winning San Francisco Symphony Chorus. She has performed lead roles in both opera and musical theater in theaters across the country, including in her native California. www.brieanne martin.com @brie.sing.dances



FRANKIE MULCAHY (SUNNY / GUARD) Guggenheim Entertainment is thrilled to welcome Frankie back to the stage after his charming performance as Matt in **THE FANTASTICKS** at the The Retro Dome. Local credits include Gaston in **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**, Jimmy Ray in **BRIGHT STAR** (Palo Alto Players). Don in Kinky Boots, Sky Masterson in **GUYS AND DOLLS**, Enjolras in **LES MISERABLES**, and Corny Collins in **HAIRSPRAY** (Children's Musical Theater San Jose).



F. JAMES RAASCH (SKULL / PERSON IN BUSINESS SUIT LEVITATING) James returns to the 3Below stage after bringing life to roles in **THE PEOPLE IN THE PICTURE, THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD, MAN OF LA MANCHA, A SPOONFUL OF SHERMAN, SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE, A STATUE FOR BALLYBUNION AND NATASHA, PIERRE, THE GREAT COMET OF 1812,** and **SONDHEIM ON SONDHEIM**. James served in the Navy band as conductor, staff composer/arranger, unit leader, vocalist, and instrumentalist (trumpet, horn, trombone, keyboards) performing around the globe. He's been involved in the theatre since he was a wee lad, both onstage and as music director/keyboards and instrumentalist. Other favorite productions include playing the title role in **SWEENEY TODD**, Jean Valjean in **LES MISÉRABLES**, Captain Von Trapp in **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**, and Bert in **MARY POPPINS**. Music direction credits include **WEST SIDE STORY, SWEENEY TODD, LITTLE WOMEN, LEGALLY BLONDE, MY FAIR LADY,** and **ANNIE**. James would like to thank his family for their unending love and support.

SCOTT EVAN GUGGENHEIM (PRODUCER | DIRECTOR | PRODUCTION DESIGNER) Recipient of the Award for Excellence in Theatre for Youth and Development of New Audiences by the American Theatre Wing (giver of the coveted Tony award), Scott is an accomplished producer, director, playwright, educator, and theater administrator having created award-winning and nationally recognized works for regional, non-profit, and commercial theater companies and educational institutions. A graduate of Santa Clara University, Scott spent the '80s and '90s serving at the helm of two professional educational theater companies where his quality programming for youth and families reached over a half million guests. Before launching 3Below and directing its premiere production **SONDHEIM ON SONDHEIM**, Scott created The Retro Dome with his wife and his brother where he produced and directed such musicals as **SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE!**, **SHOUT! THE MOD MUSICAL**, **SISTERS OF SWING**, and **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN**. His Chanukah musical, **THE MESHUGANUTCRACKER!**, was screened in over 400 cinemas nationwide with Fathom Events and can be seen on BroadwayHD. For 3Below, Scott directed and produced the U.S. Premiere of **A SPOONFUL OF SHERMAN** and the West Coast premiere of **THE PEOPLE IN THE PICTURE** as well as **NINE, WHO'S HOLIDAY!**, **THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD**, **THE FANTASTICKS**, **LA CAGE AUX FOLLES**, **MAN OF LA MANCHA**, **XANADU**, **SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE**, **NATASHA, PIERRE, AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812**, **JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA**, **ASSASSINS** and **THANKS FOR PLAYING! THE GAME SHOW SHOW** for which he is co-creator/playwright. He also serves as curator for the hundreds of films and events presented each year at 3Below. Scott fills his free time with his favorite job of all, caring for his two daughters and two puppies. He is beyond thankful for his parents, his brother, his wife, his daughters and Team 3Below for all they do and for their commitment to helping make 3Below a place where everyone can belong.

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VALIDATION



3 BELOW THEATERS MANAGEMENT

Chief Executive Officer Scott Evan Guggenheim
Chief Marketing Officer Shannon Guggenheim
Chief Program & Education Officer Stephen Guggenheim
Chief Finance Officer Allen Guggenheim
Director of Operations Jon Gourdine
Assistant Producer Lily Guggenheim

PRODUCTION

Production Manager Jon Gourdine
Resident Orchestrator and Band Leader Thomas Tomasello
Technical Director Jeff Christensen
Master Electrician Jon Gourdine
Master Carpenter Jeff Christensen
House Technicians Robert Lewis, Juan Richardson
..... Jay Hairston, Daniel Rodriguez

MARKETING

Sales & Marketing Manager Jason Rosenberg
Sales & Marketing Specialist Alisha Kalra
Web & Graphic Design Shannon Guggenheim
Proofreader Vacant
Photographer Dave Lepori

FRONT-OF-HOUSE

Facilities Manager Jay Hairston
3Below Ambassadors Malcolm Coaxum
..... Michael Coaxum
..... Ulises Gonzalez
..... Alyssa Lyjan

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Jeff Christensen, Juan Richardson | Jason Rosenberg & Alisha Kalra
Mark and Cristin Vaughan, Madison Woo, Esther Goes, Harley Goes
Daniel Rodriguez, Robert Lewis | Opera San Jose, Myles Glancy, Scott Ludwig, James Williams, Shawna Lucey
San José Downtown Association | City of San Jose Office of Economic Development & Cultural Affairs
The San Jose City Manager, Nanci Klein, Kelly Kline, Kevin Ice, Ryan Rucker, Blage Zelalich, Robyn Sahid
Mayor Sam Liccardo | Mayor Matt Mahan | The San Jose City Council | Steve Borkenhagen, Eric Glader, Gary Dillabough
and special thanks to Mayor Tom McEnergy

And last, but certainly not least, we'd like to thank all of our 3Believers! 3Below members are life-blood of our operation.
We love our members because you believe in what we do. Thank you for your generosity and support in keeping 3Below open.

STEPHEN GUGGENHEIM (MUSICAL DIRECTOR | PRODUCER) Stephen's career highlights include singing the roles of Tito in [LA CLEMENZA DI TITO](#) and Edgardo in [LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR](#) with the San Francisco Opera, Don Jose in [CARMEN](#) with L'Opera de Lyon and Rodolfo in [LA BOHÉME](#) with the San Francisco Opera in Japan. He originated the title role in [SIMON BOLÍVAR](#) with Virginia Opera and at Royal Albert Hall in London and made his Carnegie Hall debut singing Stephen Paulus's [TO BE CERTAIN OF THE DAWN](#). Favorite engagements include Canio in [I PAGLIACCI](#); Il Duca in [RIGOLETTO](#), Gustavo in [UN BALLO IN MASCHERA](#), Eleazar in [LA JUIVE](#) and the title roles in [WERTHER](#), [DON CARLOS](#) and [LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN](#). His favorite roles in 3Below productions include Don Quixote in [MAN OF LA MANCHA](#), Guido Contini in [NINE](#), Georges in [SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE](#), Pierre in [NATASHA, PIERRE, AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812](#), and The Warm-up Guy / Satan in [JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA](#). Steve originated the role of Bill Todson in [THANKS FOR PLAYING! THE GAME SHOW SHOW](#) for which he is also co-composer, and was seen in over 400 cinemas nationwide when [THE MESHUGANUTCRACKER!](#), the musical he co-wrote and musical directed, premiered as a Fathom Event.

SHANNON GUGGENHEIM (PRODUCER | VIDEO PROJECTIONS & GRAPHIC DESIGN) has enjoyed an ongoing career as an actor, producer, choreographer, playwright, librettist, emcee, educator, and theatre administrator. After two decades performing for local and regional theatres as a leading actress, Shannon and her colleagues opened The Retro Dome, a '60s themed performing arts center that inspired the programming now offered at 3Below Theaters. Shannon has served companies in California as choreographer on over 200 productions for community, regional, and professional theatres as well as educational institutions. Bay Area residents may also recognize Shannon as an auctioneer, helping to raise thousands of dollars for local non-profit agencies; Stanford Shopping Center's signature character "Holly Berry The Holiday Fairy"; or as host of the annual countdown at San Francisco's world-renowned Pier 39 for the lighting of their holiday tree for nearly two decades. She is the co-creator of [THE MESHUGANUTCRACKER!](#) which was seen in over 400 cinemas nationwide when it premiered with Fathom Events (offered each holiday season on BroadwayHD) and is playwright/lyricist/co-composer for [THANKS FOR PLAYING! THE GAME SHOW SHOW](#). Favorite roles include Patty Andrews in [SISTERS OF SWING: THE STORY OF THE ANDREWS SISTERS](#), Calliope in [XANADU](#), Red Girl in [SHOUT! THE MOD MUSICAL](#), Belle/Little Mermaid/Rapunzel in [DISENCHANTED](#), as a vocalist in the U.S. Premiere of [A SPOONFUL OF SHERMAN](#), and as Cindy Lou Who in the one-woman show, [WHO'S HOLIDAY](#).

W H O ' S W H O

JON GOURDINE (PRODUCTION MANAGER | CHOREOGRAPHER | LIGHTING DESIGNER | CO-SET DESIGNER)

A former principal soloist with Garth Fagan Dance (the Tony Award-Winning choreographer of [THE LION KING](#)), Jon turned to Lighting Design, Set Design/Construction, and Sound Design after a career-ending injury. Although his first love is lighting, he has designed and executed set and sound designs for a number of theaters and dance companies in the Bay Area and collaborated with many of its finest artists. 3Below audiences enjoyed his innovative lighting design for [MAN OF LA MANCHA](#), [SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE](#), [XANADU](#), [A STATUE FOR BALLYBUNION](#), [THANKS FOR PLAYING! THE GAME SHOW SHOW](#), [DISENCHANTED!](#), and 3Below's revival of [SONDHEIM ON SONDHEIM](#). Jon's lighting and set designs were featured in 3Below's [NATASHA, PIERRE, AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812](#) and [JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA](#). In addition to his roles as lighting designer, co-scenic designer and scenic painter, Jon is the choreographer for our wonderful production of [EMOJILAND](#). He is also an acrylic painter and has published four books including three science fiction short stories and a children's book of poetry he wrote using his grandchild Elizabeth Rose Gourdine as his inspiration. More info can be found at www.JDanielGourdine.com

JEFF CHRISTENSEN (TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) Currently a 20 year journeyman stagehand for IA Local 134 here in San Jose, Jeff has served as a carpenter/electrician for each and every Broadway production at the Center for the Performing Arts including [THE NUTCRACKER](#), [THE LION KING](#), [BEAUTY AND THE BEAST](#), [LOVE NEVER DIES](#), and [THE LITTLE MERMAID](#) to name a few. Jeff has led crews for stage builds for many stadium shows and convention center corporate events including the stage set up for the halftime show for SuperBowl 50 at the Levi Stadium in 2016. He has served as Technical Director and Master Carpenter for 3Below Theaters since 2019 leading the safe construction and installation for the sets of [THE FANTASTICKS](#), [WHO'S HOLIDAY](#), [A STATUE FOR BALLYBUNION](#), [LA CAGE AUX FOLLES](#), [MAN OF LA MANCHA](#), [SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE](#), [NATASHA, PIERRE, AND THE GREAT COMET OF 1812](#), [JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA](#), and [ASSASSINS](#).