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THEATRE COMPANY

Presents

Promises, Promises

Book by Neil Simon

Based on the Screenplay *THE APARTMENT*

by Billy Wilder and I.A.L. Diamond

Music by Burt Bacharach

Lyrics by Hal David

Produced for the Broadway Stage by David Merrick

December 1 - December 30, 2023

Greenhouse Theater Center

2257 N. Lincoln Ave.

Chicago, IL 60614

Tickets: www.blanktheatrecompany.org

PROMISES, PROMISES is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.
www.concordtheatricals.com

BLANK THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

PROMISES, PROMISES

BOOK BY NEIL SIMON

BASED ON THE SCREENPLAY “THE APARTMENT”

BY BILLY WILDER AND I. A. L. DIAMOND

MUSIC BY BURT BACHARACH

LYRICS BY HAL DAVID

Originally Produced for the Broadway Stage by David Merrick

CREATIVE TEAM

Director: Danny Kapinos*

Musical Director: Aaron Kaplan

Choreographer: Lauryn Solana Schmelzer

Scenic Designer: Spencer Donovan

Lighting Designer: Emma Luke

Costume Designer: Cindy Moon

Stage Manager: Tricia Carver-Horner

Fight Choreographer: Tony Pellegrino

Intimacy Choreographer: Greta Zandstra

Assistant Choreography: Sara Dolins

Assistant Music Director: Kevin Zhou

Producer: Dustin Rothbart*

Marketing Coordinator: Halli Morgan

* Denotes Blank Theatre Company Member

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Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.

This production is made possible due to the generous support of our season sponsors
Michael and Mona Heath.

Our production of “Promises, Promises” is dedicated
to the memory of Hannah Zeller

PROMISES, PROMISES CAST

Chuck Baxter	Rory Schrobilgen
Fran Kubelik	Brandy Miller
J.D. Sheldrake	Craig Zeller
Marge MacDougall	Allison Rose Macknick
Doctor Dreyfuss	Kingsley Day
Miss Polanski	Isabela Barry
Mr. Eichelberger	Andres J. DeLeon
Mr. Vanderhof	Reginald Hemphill
Mr. Kirkeby/Karl Kubelik	Eddie Ledford
Mr. Dobitch	Ed Rutherford
Miss Olson	Stephanie Stockstill
Miss Della Hoya	Dayle Theisen
Miss Wong	Flower Wang

UNDERSTUDIES:

For Chuck Baxter: Ben Ballmer, For Fran Kubelik & Marge MacDougall: Caitlyn Cerza, For J.D. Sheldrake: Reginald Hemphill, For Doctor Dreyfuss: Ed Rutherford, For Mr. Eichelberger & Mr. Vanderhof: Michael Davis Arnold, For Miss Della Hoya & Miss Polanski: Isabel Koleno, For Miss Olson & Miss Wong: Aurora Penepacker, For Mr. Dobitch & Mr. Kirkeby: Nathan Dale Short

Understudies never substitute for the listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at the time of appearance

MUSICIANS:

Keyboard: Kevin Zhou

Guitar/Reeds: Sachio Nang

Drums/Percussion: Craig Buckner

Bass: Eric von Holst

Orchestra Voices: Isabela Barry, Allison Rose Macknick,
Stephanie Stockstill, Dayle Theisen, Flower Wang

SPECIAL THANKS

Andrew Milliken, Ben Carne, City Lit Theater, College of Dupage,
Invictus Theatre, Jason Fleece, Kailey Rockwell, Niles West Theatre,
Oil Lamp Theatre, The Saints

SONG LIST, *PROMISES, PROMISES*

ACT 1

“Overture”	Orchestra
“Half as Big as Life”	Chuck
“Upstairs”	Chuck
“You’ll Think of Someone”	Chuck, Fran
“It’s Our Little Secret”	Chuck, Mr. Sheldrake
“She Likes Basketball”	Chuck
“Knowing When To Leave”	Fran
“Where Can You Take a Girl?”	Mr. Dobitch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Mr. Kirkeby, Mr. Eichelberger
“Wanting Things”	Mr. Sheldrake
“Turkey Lurkey Time”	Miss Della Hoya, Miss Wong, Miss Polanski, Ensemble

- 15 Minute Intermission -

ACT 2

“Entr’acte”	Orchestra
“A Fact Can Be a Beautiful Thing”	Chuck, Marge, Ensemble
“Whoever You Are I Love You”	Fran
“Christmas Day”	Miss Olson
“A Young Pretty Girl Like You”	Doctor Dreyfuss, Chuck
“I’ll Never Fall in Love Again”	Fran, Chuck
“Promises, Promises”	Chuck

The performance runs approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes, with one intermission.

CAST BIOS

RORY SCHROBILGEN (Chuck Baxter) Rory is thrilled to be making both his Chicago and Blank debut in *Promises, Promises*. Previous Credits Include: *A Mother's Song* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival), *Man of La Mancha*, *Mamma Mia!* (Timberlake Playhouse). He is a recent graduate of Northwestern University. Love to all my family.

BRANDY MILLER (Fran Kubelik) Brandy Miller is happy to return to Blank Theatre Company after playing Gussie in *Merrily We Roll Along* and Amalia in *She Loves Me* (Jeff Nomination for Best Performer in a Leading Role). Previous credits include Kate in *Avenue Q* (Music Theatre Works), Elizabeth Martin in *Emma* (Chicago Shakespeare theatre), and Hope in *Anything Goes* (Metropolis Performing Arts). She also worked with Marriott (*Oliver*, *Madagascar*) and Theatre at the Center (*Million Dollar Quartet*) and is represented by Stewart Talent. Much love to her family, friends, and most importantly her boyfriend Dan. Enjoy the show!

ALLISON ROSE MACKNICK (Marge MacDougall) is a Chicago-based actor, performer, and lil stinker. She is tickled pink to be making her Blank Theatre debut! Recent Chicago credits include *Mrs Claus! the Musical* (Molly), *Alice in Wonderland* (White Rabbit/Caterpillar), *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Ensemble, u/s Drood) and various commercial/tv works. Offstage, you can catch her gardening, burlesque-ing, or playing with her dog-ing. All of her love to Anthony, Tula, fam, friends, and all who are her glimmering stars of support. @allierosemack

CRAIG ZELLER (J.D. Sheldrake) is delighted to be making his Blank Theatre debut as J.D. Sheldrake. Previously he performed in Brightside Theatre's production of *She Loves Me* and *City of Angels: in Concert* and in MadKap Production's *Something's Afoot* at Skokie Theatre. Favorite past roles include Bobby in *Company*, Leo Bloom in *The Producers*, and Henrik in *A Little Night Music*. He would like to dedicate his performance to the memory of Michael Termine. Love to Julie and Madeline. Forever and always...for Hannah.

KINGSLEY DAY (Doctor Dreyfuss) is delighted to make his Blank Theatre debut. Kingsley has played Terry in *Casa Valentina* at Pride Arts, Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* at Metropolis, Sir Harcourt in *London Assurance* among other credits at City Lit, and roles with Folks Operetta, Porchlight, Bailiwick, Theatre Wit, and Light Opera Works. He has played the patter baritone lead in all 14 Gilbert & Sullivan operettas with the Savoyaires, where he directed the last four productions, most recently *The Gondoliers*. His stage works include the comedy *Tour de Farce* (Apollo), the musicals *Aztec Human Sacrifice* (City Lit) and *Summer Stock Murder* (Drury Lane Oakbrook), and the one-act musical *Text Me*, premiering at City Lit in March. Kingsley's reconstruction of Chopin's posthumous F Minor Mazurka is published by Hal Leonard's Schirmer Performance Editions, and his biographical novel *Music's Guiding Hand* is published by Mentor.

ISABELA BARRY (Miss Polanski) Isabela is so excited to make her professional Chicago debut in *Promises, Promises!* She is a recent graduate from Roosevelt University and enjoyed being a part of amazing shows there including *Votes for Women* and *The Pajama Game*. She would like to thank her professors and friends for all their support throughout the years. Lastly, she would like to thank her family for believing in her and being the best!!

CAST BIOS (CONTINUED)

ANDRES J. DELEON (Mr. Eichelberger) is thrilled to be making his debut with Blank Theatre Company! Originally from Plainfield, IL, DeLeon graduated from Millikin University with his BA in Music. He was last seen in *Avenue Q* as Nicky/Trekkie Monster/Bad Idea Bear (Music Theater Works). Other notable credits include *Refuge* (Theo - Jeff Award for Best Ensemble, Non-equity play); *Fun Home*, *Rock of Ages*, *Groundhog Day* (Paramount Theatre); *Heathers: The Musical* (Surging Films & Theatrics). He sends love and many thanks to his friends and family for their constant support, and special thanks to Mom, Dad, and Chris! IG: @ajiodeleon, www.andresjdeleon.com

REGINALD HEMPHILL (Mr. Vanderhof/U/S Sheldrake) Reginald is a Chicago based actor excited to work with Blank Theater on *Promises, Promises*. His recent credits include *The Mousetrap* (Mr. Paravicini) (Citadel Theater), *House Musical* (Johnny) (Campfire Productions), *Muffed* (Company Leader) (Three Brothers Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (Sir Toby Belch) (Midsommer Flight) *The HOA* (Patrick) (Factory Theatre) *Summer and Smoke* (Archie Kramer) (Violet Sky Productions), *N* (Deshaun) (GLP Productions), and *Romeo and Juliet* (Ensemble) (Kane Repertory Theatre). Reginald is currently represented by Actors Talent Group.

EDDIE LEDFORD (Mr. Kirkeby/Karl Kubelik) is a Chicago-based actor, singer and comedian. He is a graduate of The Second City's Conservatory program, an ensemble member of the queer comedy group Baby Wine, and has performed in theaters, festivals and digital projects around the city including The Second City's UP Comedy Club, The Annoyance, Rhino Fest, Chicago Sketch Fest, Ordinary Peepholes, Commercial Appeal and the web series Guilty. After making his Blank Theatre Company debut in *Merrily We Roll Along* this summer, he is thrilled and very grateful to be back for *Promises, Promises*. Instagram: @_eddele

ED RUTHERFORD (Mr. Dobitch/US Dr. Dreyfuss) is pumped to be performing in *Promises Promises!* As an actor, Ed has performed with Drury Lane Oakbrook, Porchlight, Theatre Wit, and many others. He's Producing Artistic Director of Black Button Eyes Productions, where directing projects include *Ghost Quartet* (Jeff nom- director of a musical), *Dr. Horrible*, *Evil Dead*, *Shockheaded Peter*, *Goblin Market*, *Nevermore* and *Coraline*. As a playwright: *Murder ReWrote*, *Mary Rose* (Jeff nom- new work), *Nightmares & Nightcaps*, *The Last Unicorn*. NU theatre grad, MBA from Kellogg. For Mom- this was one of her favorite shows.

STEPHANIE STOCKSTILL (Miss Olson) makes her Blank Theatre debut! They've also performed with Kokandy Productions: *Loving Repeating* and *Sweeney Todd*, Lifeline Theatre: *Northanger Abbey* (Jeff Nom- Lead Performer), Boho Theatre: *A Little Night Music* (Jeff Nom- Supporting Performer), Piven Theatre: *Melancholy Play: A Chamber Musical* (Chicago Tribune Top Ten List), Porchlight Music Theatre: *Sweeney Todd*, Black Button Eyes Productions: *Mary Rose* (Jeff Nom- Lead Performer), *Shockheaded Peter*, and *Goblin Market*, Music Theatre Works: *The Student Prince*, Beverly Arts Center: *The Sound of Music*, and is an ensemble member with Theatre Above the Law where she's been seen in *Henchpeople*, *Digging Up Dessa*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Visit stephanieblairstockstill.com for updates!

CAST BIOS (CONTINUED)

DAYLE THEISEN (Miss Della Hoya) is overjoyed to be making her Chicagoland & Blank Theater debut! Her most recent theater credits include: *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Ordway), *The Pajama Game* (Artistry), *Hello Dolly* (Theater Latté Da), and *A Chorus Line* (CCPA). Dayle holds a BFA in Musical Theatre with a Dance Emphasis from The Chicago College of Performing Arts. Dayle is delighted to be working with Blank and this wonderful team. Sending all of the love to her support system. IT'S TURKEY LURKEY TIME, FOLX! dayletheisen.com IG: @dayle_theisen_

FLOWER WANG (Miss Wong) attended the Beijing Dance Academy for ten years where she earned a bachelor's degree in music theatre and master degree from Carthage College in 2023 with a Master's Degree in Music Theatre Vocal Pedagogy. Recent credits: Crissy in *Hair* and Olive in *Bullets over Broadway*; *Legally Blonde* as well as *Matilda*. She also performed in the Chinese original productions *Welcome* and *Romance of the Western Chamber*. Flower loves that musicals are not just entertainment, but also are meant to challenge our understanding of the world. When Flower performs, she strives to connect with her audience in such a way that they might be healed through the power of art. Her goal is not to showcase her own talents but rather to show how the performing arts have the ability to give people a look into their own humanity.

BEN BALLMER (U/S Chuck) is pumped, jazzed, and psyched to be working on his first show with Blank Theatre Company! Recent credits include *Snow White, Junior Claus, It Runs in the Family* (Citadel Theatre); *Gay Card* (PrideArts); *Charlotte's Web* (ABS Productions). As a composer and playwright, Ben is nationally recognized as a winner of the ACF NextNotes Award & workshop, and a two-time semifinalist in The Blank Theatre's (no relation) Young Playwright's Festival. Ben is endlessly grateful to his parents for their unconditional support of his inadvisable life choices.

CAITLYN CERZA (U/S Fran & Marge) Caitlyn is so excited to work with Blank on this awesome production! Past Chicago credits include *Head Over Heels* and *Heathers* with Kokandy, *Violet* with Griffin Theatre, *Thrones! The Musical Parody* at the Apollo, and *Tony N' Tina's Wedding*. Big love to her fam, friends, and especially her husband. ILY MG.

MICHAEL DAVIS ARNOLD (U/S Mr. Eichelberger & Mr. Vanderhof) is thrilled to be making his Blank Theatre Company debut in this production of *Promises, Promises*. He has performed in various theatres throughout West Michigan. Theater credits include; *Rent* (Mr. Jefferson/Seasons of Love Soloist), Bob Marley's *Three Little Birds* (Ziggy), *Pipeline* (Dun), *What To Send Up When It Goes Down* (Five), *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Brad Majors), and *Once On This Island* (Asaka). He would like to thank God, his family, friends, and various coaches for their continued support and guidance in his artistry and his move to Chicago.

ISABEL KOLENO (U/S Miss Della Hoya & Miss Polanski) is beyond thrilled to be making her Chicago theatrical debut with Blank Theatre Company. She recently graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, where she studied drama. Her favorite credits from her time at WashU include *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife), *She Kills Monsters* (Lilith/Lily), and *Legally Blonde* (Vivienne Kensington). A huge thank you to her family and friends for always supporting her.

CAST BIOS (CONTINUED)

AURORA PENEPACKER (U/S Miss Olson & Miss Wong) is a first-generation mixed Filipino-American singer, actor, and middle child interested in the power of music and collaboration to help people better understand one another. After growing up in the north suburbs of Chicago, she earned her B.F.A. in Musical Theatre at the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University and is represented by Stewart Talent. Aurora recently performed as Nina in *Seagulls* at Oak Park Festival Theatre and is currently appearing as Martha Cratchit in *The Christmas Carol* at Drury Lane Theatre. She has also performed as Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Tuptim in *the King and I*, and Martha in *Spring Awakening*, as well as in concerts and short films. She is happy to return to Blank where she previously understudied *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Rory sends all her love to her wonderful family— your support means everything! @aurorapenepacker
aurorapenepacker.com

NATHAN DALE SHORT (U/S Mr. Dobitch & Mr. Kirkeby/Karl Kubelik) is so excited to make his Blank debut in *Promises, Promises!* Most recently seen as Mr. Hanratty's Understudy in *The Minutes* with Edge of the Wood, Nathan also worked with Parker Players Theatre Company (*Love/Sick*) and MadKap Productions (*Rumors*) during spring 2023. Before Chicago, Nathan was active in the Kansas City community, seen in productions of *Clue* (Padgett) and *Finian's Rainbow* (Spinning Tree). In 2020, Nathan founded and served as the first Artistic Director of Sunrise Theatre Company in Topeka, Kansas, directing productions of *The Realistic Joneses*, *Other Desert Cities*, and staged readings of *Gloria* and the new musical *Give It A Year*. Other favorite performance credits include *South Pacific* (Emile), *Big River* (Pap/Duke), *First Date* (Aaron), and *Too Many Cooks* ("Noodles.") When not on stage, Nathan is an amateur mixologist, House DJ thatoneguy, and roommates with his dog, Theo. BFA, Emporia State University. Thanks to his "giants:" Mom, Dad, Elijah, Carrie, Susie, Auntie, DC, JB, LC, et al. nathandaleshort.com

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

DANNY KAPINOS (Director; Co-Artistic Director) serves as co-Founding Artistic Director of Blank Theatre Company, where he has directed *She Loves Me* (Jeff nominations-Best Director and Best Musical), *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Spring Awakening*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Credits as an assistant director include *Pearl's Rollin' With the Blues* (Writers Theatre, dir. Ron OJ Parson) *The King's Speech* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, dir. Michael Wilson), *Becky Shaw* (Windy City Playhouse, dir. Scott Weinstein), and *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Filament Theatre, dir. Katy Walsh). Danny holds a B.A. in Theatre from Northwestern University and is an Associate Member of SDC.

AARON KAPLAN (Musical Director) enjoys a multifaceted musical career as a conductor, Jeff-nominated musical director, cellist, music educator, and arranger. He earned a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under the tutelage of Donald Schleicher, as well as his bachelor's degree in cello performance and bachelor's degree in music education with high honors also from the University of Illinois. Aaron is the artistic director/conductor of the JAM Orchestra, a Chicago-based ensemble dedicated to performing a diverse repertoire of classical, Broadway, swing, and film music, and also conducts for the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestras and the Music Institute of Chicago. A dedicated teacher, Aaron is an orchestra director at Glenbrook North and Glenbrook South High Schools. A passionate advocate of the American musical theatre, Aaron has been the music director/conductor for over 90 productions (with complete orchestration) including *West Side Story*, *On the Town*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Misérables*, *RENT*, *Chess*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *The Producers*. Aaron is thrilled to be working with BTC again, especially with Danny and Lauryn. Many thanks to Kevin, the fantastic cast and the wonderful orchestra. Thank you for supporting live theater, live music, and the arts in the community!

LAURYN SOLANA SCHMELZER (Choreographer) is a local choreographer hailing from Skokie, IL. She trained at Gus Giordano Dance School, Visceral Dance Center and Lou Conte Dance Studio. Lauryn earned a BS in Dance and Political Science with a Musical Theater Choreography Certificate from Northwestern University. Lauryn won the 2023 Non-Equity Jeff Award for Best Choreography of a Musical for Blank Theatre Company's production of *The Wild Party*. Other choreography credits include *Sister Act*, *Matilda* and *School of Rock* (Niles North High School), two Wigmore Follies Law School Musicals (Northwestern Law), *A Jazz Nutcracker* (Northwestern New Movement Project), *My Fair Lady* (Wave Theater Company), *Little Shop of Horrors* (The 75th Annual Dolphin Show), and *Women on The Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* (Arts Alliance). Former Artistic Director of Steam Heat Musical Theater Dance Company. Much love to her incredible friends, Rex and Rex's owner, Mary Ann, Ed, & Geoff.

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS (CONTINUED)

SPENCER DONOVAN (Scenic Design) is a transgender queer artist currently residing in the Chicago area. He received his masters degree from Indiana University, Bloomington, where he studied scenic and projection design. He prides himself on his identity as an LGBT designer and hopes to use art to create a more inclusive and open-minded world. Favorite productions include *The SpongeBob Musical* with Northbrook Theatre, and *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* with Three Crows Theatre. He would like to thank his fiancé Daniel for his support.

EMMA LUKE (Lighting Designer) Emma Luke is a Chicago lighting professional originally from Santa Cruz, CA. She graduated from UCLA's school of Theater, Film, and Television before relocating to Chicago, and also serves as a light board operator at Teatro Zinzanni. During her time at UCLA, she designed the lighting for a production of *Everybody* (2021), and served as a stage manager for *The Successful Life of 3* (2020). Her most recent lighting design work was for *The Impostor's* Theater Co.'s premiere of *The Last Living Gun* (2023). Outside of her theatrical work, you may find her hunting through book stores or roller skating around the city.

CINDY MOON (Costume Designer) is happy to return to Blank Theatre Company after previously designing *Merrily We Roll Along* and *She Loves Me*, the latter of which earned her a Jeff Award nomination. She is a Chicago-based freelance costume designer, originally from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Her recent Chicago area design work includes *Wise Guys* (The Factory Theater); *Junie B. Jones the Musical*, *Dory Fantasmagory*, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* (Young People's Theatre); *The ThreePenny Opera* (Theo Ubique); *Twelfth Night* (Midsommer Flight); *Airness*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Outside Mullingar* (Citadel Theatre); *Shout!* (Metropolis). Regional designs include *Hello, Dolly!*, *The Mock Marriage*, *The Pirates of Penzance* (Ohio Light Opera); *Million Dollar Quartet* (Tuacahn). She has also had the pleasure of assisting at Steppenwolf and Paramount Theatre. Education: MFA in Costume Design and Technology, Virginia Tech. More of her work can be seen at www.cindymooncostu.me

TRICIA CARVER-HORNER (Stage Manager) is excited to join the Blank Theatre Company team as the stage manager for *Promises, Promises!* She is originally from Columbia, Missouri, and moved to Chicago this summer after graduating from the University of Missouri in 2022. Favorite past shows include *The Wolves* (MU Theatre), *Little Shop of Horrors* (MU Summer Repertory Theatre), and *Mic Father, Like Son* (Subtext Theater Company). When she's not backstage, Tricia can be found writing, baking, and occasionally doing improv. Tricia would like to thank her friends, family, and partner for their support!

TONY PELLEGRINO (Fight Choreographer) Tony is a Chicagoland based director, actor, educator, and fight choreographer with a Bachelors in Performance from Illinois State University. Recent credits include *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Blank Theatre Company), *Wendy and Peter Pan* (Bartlett High School), and numerous seasons as a performer/fight captain/assistant director at the Bristol Renaissance Faire. Regional credits: *Into the Breeches!* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *As You Like It* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *Superior Donuts* (Heartland Theatre Company), *True West*, (University of Illinois Springfield), *The Tooth of Crime* (Illinois State University).

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS (CONTINUED)

GRETA ZANDSTRA (Intimacy Choreographer) is a Chicago-based theatre artist who has had the honor to work across the country as an director, actor, and intimacy professional. Recent favorite projects include intimacy direction for *Angels in America* (Eastline Theatre in New York) and *Titus Andronicus* (Shakespeare in the Woods - Vermont), adapting and directing *A Christmas Carol* (Encore Center in North Carolina) and *Hamlet* (Temple Theatre in North Carolina), and playing Eliza in *The Güt Life Christmas* (Blue Gate Musicals in Kentucky), and *Annabella/Margaret/Pamela* in *The 39 Steps* with St. Patrick's Summer Theatre here in Chicago. Thanks to the cast, crew, and you—the audience! GretaZandstra.com

SARA DOLINS (Assistant Choreographer) Sara Dolins is a Chicago-based singer, actor, dancer, choreographer and dance instructor. Since graduating from the University of Illinois in 2021, Sara has been teaching dance at Releve Dance in Deerfield and Dance on Broadway in Chicago. Earlier this year Sara was in the ensemble of *Catch Me If You Can* and *The Rocky Horror Show* (where she was also the assistant choreographer) with Surging Films and Theatrics. Sara is ecstatic to be joining the Blank Theatre Community and working alongside Lauryn and her amazing choreography. IG: [@saradolins](https://www.instagram.com/saradolins)

KEVIN ZHOU (Assistant Music Director/Rehearsal Accompanist) is excited to have their Blank theatre debut! Huge thanks to Aaron Kaplan for involving Kevin in the show. Previous shows have included: *Carrie*, *Little Women*, *A Chorus Line*, *Into the Woods*, *Legally Blonde*, *Freaky Friday*, *Grease*, *Shrek*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, and *The Addams Family*. He recently graduated from U of I this past May. He loves cooking and learning new instruments during his time off. [@kevpo.zhou](https://www.instagram.com/kevpo.zhou)

DUSTIN ROTHBART (Producer; Co-Artistic Director) is one of the Co-Founding Artistic Directors of Blank Theatre Company. For Blank, Dustin directed *Songs for a New World: In Concert* and appeared on stage as Charley Kringas in *Merrily We Roll Along*, Burrs in *The Wild Party* (Jeff Nomination - Best Ensemble), The Chairman in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and Georg in *Spring Awakening*. His credits include *Rosenberg* (Open Space Arts), *Camelot* (Janus Concert Series), *Anyone Can Whistle*, *25th...Spelling Bee*, *Funny Girl* (Madkap Productions), *The History Boys* (Eclectic Theatre), *Hair*, *Ragtime* (Big Noise Theatre); *The Wedding* (Red Theatre) and *The Rocky Horror Show* (Underscore Theatre Company). Additionally, Dustin has worked in Chicago with Lifeline Theatre, Citadel Theatre, Mary-Arrchie Theatre Co, Pride Arts, Brightside Theatre, Jedlicka Performing Arts Center and regionally with Hampstead Stage Company and Canterbury Summer Theatre. Dustin is a graduate of the acting program at Illinois State University. www.DustinRothbart.com / [@dustinrothbart](https://www.instagram.com/dustinrothbart)

BLANK THEATRE COMPANY
PRODUCTION HISTORY

2023:

What You Call a Dream: a Blank Cabaret

Merrily We Roll Along

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, Book by George Furth

Promises, Promises

Book by Neil Simon, Music by Burt Bacharach, Lyrics by Hal David

2021-2022:

Blank Sings: The Maury Yeston Songbook

LOVE [BLANK]S TOO: A Valentine's Day Cabaret

She Loves Me

Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, Book by Joe Masteroff

The Wild Party

Book, Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa

2019-2020:

The CaBOOret

The Mystery of Edwin Drood

Book, Music and Lyrics by Rupert Holmes

LOVE [BLANK]S: A Valentine's Day Cabaret

Nine – Cancelled due to Covid 19

Music and Lyrics by Maury Yeston, Book by Arthur Kopit

2018-2019:

Spring Awakening

Music and Lyrics by Duncan Sheik, Book by Steven Sater

New Year, New You: a Cabaret

Blackbird

By David Harrower

The Next Page: a Cabaret

2017-2018:

The First Page: a Cabaret

Blank's Sondheim Birthday Party

Songs for a New World: In Concert

Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown

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Karen Peterson, Cameron Wells

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Danny Kapinos, Co-Artistic Director
Aaron Mann, Managing Director
Halli Morgan, Marketing Coordinator
Rachel Guth, Company Member
Larry Trice, Company Member

Coming
★ SOON.
STAY TUNED —

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2023 productions of “Merrily We Roll Along” and “Promises, Promises”.

Our 2024 season announcement will come shortly after the new year. Stay up to date by joining our mailing list at www.blanktheatrecompany.org