



**Jason Heil** (*The Constable*)  
LPT Associate Artist: *Wit, Fiddler on the Roof, See How They Run, Joe vs. the Volcano, The Glory Man, Harvey, Joyful Noise, The Glass Menagerie, Room Service, The Voyagey Inheritance, An American Christmas* ('07,'08,'09), *Enchanted April, Into the*

*Woods, and The Winslow Boy.* Other San Diego credits include *Angels in America* (ion theatre company), *Twelfth Night, Plaid Tidings* (Old Globe), *Cabaret, Noises Off* (Cygnet), *Clybourne Park, A Christmas Carol* (San Diego Rep), work at North Coast Rep, Moonlight, Starlight and all incarnations of Lucy Simon's *Zhivago* (La Jolla Playhouse & NYC/London Readings). Regional theatres include Arkansas & Tennessee Rep, *A Noise Within*, and nine seasons with the Utah, Lake Tahoe, Marin, and Texas Shakespeare Festivals. Directing: *Turn of the Screw* (Intrepid Shakespeare), *Born Yesterday, The Mousetrap, Barefoot in the Park, Ring Round the Moon, You Never Can Tell* (Moonlight), *Plaid Tidings* (New Village Arts), *Twelfth Night* (Actors' Rep, OH), and *Brilliant Traces* (Finishing the Hat, L.A.).  
MFA: UC Irvine.



**Emlyn Helmbacher** (*Shprintze*)

Emlyn is excited to return to Lamb's Players Theatre as "Shprintze" in the encore of *Fiddler on the Roof!* She is 11 years old and has been performing in musical theater productions since the age of 5. Professional credits include 2 seasons playing Emily in *Let it Snow* at Legoland, CA. Other favorite roles include: Charlie Bucket in *Willy Wonka*, White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*, Child Soloist in *Evita*, and Young Cosette in *Les Miserables*.



**Ralph Johnson** (*The Rabbi*) is very pleased to be a part of this American musical theatre classic. He last appeared with Lamb's Players Theatre in *An American Christmas* at the Hotel Del Coronado. Previous Lamb's appearances include *Hometown*

*Christmas* in Perry, Iowa, *Room Service, The Voyagey Inheritance, Hello, Dolly!, Into The Woods, 1776, and She Loves Me.* In the last year he has appeared in *Gypsy* with Ion Theatre Company, *Annie* with Moonlight Stage Productions, *Our*

*Town* with Cygnet Theatre, and *Hamlet* with Grossmont College. Many thanks to LAMB'S for this opportunity. What a journey. What a ride.



**Charlene Koepf** (*Tzeitel*)  
Charlene Koepf is thrilled to be returning to Lamb's Players and *Fiddler On The Roof!* Recent credits include: Young Little Edie in *Grey Gardens* (Ion Theatre), Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Moonlight), *Sweeney Todd*

(Moonlight), Fairy in *Holiday Shows* (Legoland, CA), Alison in *Brooklyn Boy* (Scripps Ranch Theatre), Jo in *Little Women* (Fulks Theatre) and Emma in *Jekyll and Hyde* (Paramount Theatre). Charlene holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Abilene Christian University. She thanks God, family, friends and this fabulous cast and crew for endless support and love!



**Benjamin Lopez** (*Mendel*)  
Originally a graduate of Coronado's School of the Arts, he has since performed on both coasts. In San Diego, credits include *South Pacific* and *Tommy* at Moonlight, *Assassins* at Cignet Theatre, *Legoland* at Legoland, *South Pacific* at Welk Resort, *My*

*Fair Lady* at Starlight and *Camelot* at CCT. In New York, Benjamin appeared in *Coriolanus* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the Tisch Center, *A Bright Room Called Day* at the Sanford Meisner Studio and *Twin Sisters* at the Stella Adler Studio



**Tess Maretz** (*Bielke*)  
Tess Maretz is a 10 year old who discovered her passion for acting at a very young age. She is thrilled to return to the encore of her Lamb's Players debut in *Fiddler on the Roof.* She was recently seen as Bette's Makeup Girl in *The Bette Middler Project* (Breakthrough Workshop Theater), Tin Man in *Wizard Of Oz* (ACT-SD), Snowy in *Honk!* (SDJT), and Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress*, for which she received a Best Supporting Actress (Junior) NYA Award (2012). She is excited to be a part of this powerful story of a family's love.



**Kurt Norby** (*Motel*)  
**WORLD PREMIERES:**  
*Allegiance* (The Old Globe),  
*Limelight: The Story of*  
*Charlie Chaplin*, and *Zhivago*  
 (La Jolla Playhouse).

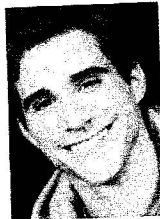
**REGIONAL:** *Dr. Seuss' How*  
*the Grinch Stole Christmas!*  
 (The Old Globe), *Assassins*,  
*Company*, *Man of La Mancha*

and *Sweeney Todd* (Cygnet Theatre Company),  
**MIXTAPE!**, *Leaving Iowa*, *Room Service*, *Hello*,  
*Dolly!*, *The Voyage Inheritance* and *The Winslow*  
*Boy* (Lamb's Players Theatre), *Evita*, *The Desert*  
*Song* and *Bye Bye Birdie* (Welk Resorts Theatre),  
*Beauty and the Beast* (Moonlight Amphitheater),  
*Suds: The Rocking '60s Musical Soap Opera*,  
*Urinetown*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Scarlet*  
*Pimpernel* (Starlight Musical Theatre) and  
*Miss Saigon* (Fullerton Civic Light Opera).  
 His film credits include *29th & Gay*, *U R Pre-*  
*Approved* and *Rubix Cube Dinner*. He received  
 his B.A. in Drama from UC Irvine. [www.kurtnorby.com](http://www.kurtnorby.com)



**John Burt Polhamus**  
 (*Mordcha*)  
 John Burt Polhamus has  
 developed a varied career  
 embracing opera, musical  
 theatre, oratorio and concert  
 singing, as well as straight  
 acting, in the United States,  
 Europe, Mexico, and Asia.

During the past decade John  
 has appeared in Lamb's Players productions  
 including *1776*, *The Music Man*, *A Man for All*  
*Seasons* and *Tarantara! Tarantara!* John has  
 performed in London's West End, covering and  
 performing the roles of Al Jolson in *Jolson - the*  
*Musical*, Mssr. Lumiere in Disney's *Beauty and*  
*the Beast* and Mssr. Firmin in Lloyd Webber's  
*Phantom of the Opera*. John is a native San  
 Diegan.



**Justin Ray** (*Yuri*)  
 Justin Ray is excited to make  
 his first appearance in a  
 Lambs Players production.  
 It's been awhile since he's  
 been in a musical, having  
 spent the last few years  
 acting in various TV/Film  
 projects in Los Angeles  
 where he currently resides.

Justin was recently caught holding yellow  
 panties in a Speed Stick commercial that aired  
 during the 2013 Super Bowl. Keep an eye out

for his starring roles in the upcoming feature  
 films: *1 CHANCE 2 DANCE*, *CLUB DEAD*, &  
*APOCALYPSE LA* - all set to release in 2014.  
 Stage credits: *Wicked* (Ensemble), *Gypsy* (Tulsa),  
*A Midsummer Nights Dream* (Demetrius), *Music*  
*Man* (Tommy Djilas), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Ensemble,  
 Hugo u.s.), *Hello Dolly* (Ensemble, Barnaby  
 u.s.). "I thank God for His amazing grace while I  
 pursue my dreams, & many thanks to the Lambs  
 team for bringing me on board!". [www.justinray.com](http://www.justinray.com)



**John Rosen** (*Lazar Wolf*)  
 John Rosen is happy to be  
 back performing at Lamb's  
 Players with so many good  
 friends. Lamb's: *Pete 'n Keely*,  
*Joe Vs. The Volcano*, *Guys*  
*& Dolls*, *The Music Man*,  
*Harvey*, *The Fantasticks*,  
*Room Service*, *The Winslow*  
*Boy*, *American Rhythm* and

*Charley's Aunt*. **REGIONAL:** *A Catered Affair*  
 and *The Constant Wife* for The Old Globe;  
**LOCAL:** *Ella* and *A Funny Thing Happened*  
*on the Way to the Forum* for San Diego Rep;  
*Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* and *To Forgive*,  
*Divine* for North Coast Rep; *Bunbury*, *The Long*  
*Christmas Ride Home*, and *Looking for Normal*  
 for Diversionary; and other shows in the distant  
 past for Sledgehammer, Bowery, and Gaslamp  
 Quarter Theatres.



**Spencer Rowe** (*Sasha*)  
 Spencer is very happy to be  
 back in San Diego and with  
 Lamb's Player Theatre, his  
 artistic home away from home.  
 Spencer was last seen as Hardy  
 in San Diego's longest running  
 homegrown musical *MIXTAPE*  
 ! at the Horton Grand Theatre.

Other theatre credits include  
 Enslemo in T.U.T.S. production of *Man of La Mancha*,  
 Hennessey/Captain in *Dames at Sea* at North Coast  
 Rep, Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls* at Lamb's  
 Players Theatre, Sonny/Yammoto in *City of Angels* at  
 Goodspeed Opera House, Eddie in *Lost In Yonkers*  
 at The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego. Film credits  
 include: *The Devil's Advocate* starring Al Pacino  
 and Keanu Reeves, *After School Special* starring  
 Sarah Paulson and Wes Bentley and *Two Hundred*  
*Thousand Dirty* starring rap/pop artist Coolio. In  
 addition to co-producing his own motorcycle reality  
 show *Better In The Wind*, Spencer is also involved  
 with the Antaeus Theatre Company in North  
 Hollywood.



**Brandon Sherman (Avram)**

Baritone Brandon Sherman is a recent graduate of SDSU with a BM in Voice. Mr. Sherman has performed in Carnegie Hall under John Rutter's baton, and internationally in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria,

and Lichtenstein. Mr. Sherman has been a Member in Good Standing with the National Association of Teachers of Singing for three years and is the newest Director of Musical Theatre for five schools in the Poway School District. Brandon is honored to join Lamb's as an Associate Artist in his second production with the company.



**Lance Arthur Smith (The Constable, Fight Choreographer)**

Lance Arthur Smith trained under Swordplay LA's Tim Weske and Brian Danner, Mark Ivie (protégé of famed fight director Bob Anderson), and Miguel Martinez and Paul Bolles at the University

of New Mexico. He has also worked with veteran fight master Dan Speaker on projects for New Line Cinema and 20th Century Fox. As Fight Director, his film/tv projects have included *Shakespeare's Merchant* and Richard Hatch's (*Battlestar Galactica*) *Great War of Magellan*. His fights have been seen on Los Angeles stages for African-American Theatre Ensemble, ARK Theatre Company (including the LA Weekly Award-winning *A Clockwork Orange*), and Piece O' Pie People sketch, and in San Diego in several productions for Lamb's Players Theatre, *Oleanna* at Intrepid Shakespeare, and *Sea World's Terrors of the Deep* Halloween event. As a performer, Lance has appeared in numerous LPT productions, most recently as Phileas Fogg in *Around the World in 80 Days*. His favorite roles are as husband to Colleen Kollar Smith, and father to Scottie and Pepper.

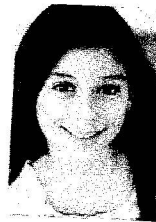


**Sam Zeller (Tevye)**

Lamb's Players debut! Sam's national and regional credits include Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*, Kerchak in Disney's *Tarzan*, Edna in *Hairspray*, Che in *Evita*, Gaston in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, Horton the Elephant in *Seussical*

, Miles Gloriosus in *A Funny Thing...Forum*,

Adam in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, and was nominated for an Ovation Award for his portrayal of Jud in *Oklahoma!* Sam also played Captain Hook in the international tour of *Peter Pan* with Cathy Rigby, was part of the 2000 Tony-nominated Broadway production, and is featured on the A & E Emmy Award-winning video. Sam is a proud member of the Musical Theater Guild and Actor's Equity Association. For a full list of credits, including TV and film, please visit [www.samzeller.com](http://www.samzeller.com). Thank you to Donnie, Mom, Robert, Deborah, Scott, and Dipsy. These performances are dedicated to the loving memory my father, Walter: the greatest pop in the world!



**Natalie Marrewa (Shprintze & Bielke)**

When nine year-old Natalie Marrewa isn't acting or singing, she enjoys crafting, reading, and playing piano. Natalie was most recently seen as Ngana in *South Pacific* (Welk Resort Theatre)

and Papa Ge in *Once On This Island* (Pickwick Players). Favorite roles include Gavroche in *Les Misérables* (CYC Theatre) and Papa Ge. Other roles include Jo Harper in *Big River*, young Cossette in *Les Misérables*, and ensemble roles in the *Wiz*, *Annie*, and *Ragtime*. Natalie would like to thank Lamb's Players Theatre for this wonderful opportunity.



**Mark Danisovszky (Band Leader/Accordion)**

Mark is thrilled to be back at Lamb's Players where he previously performed in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *Boomers*, *Godspell*, *Pippin*, *She Loves Me*, and the very first *An American Christmas*.

As accordionist, Mark has appeared with the Atlanta Symphony, the San Diego Symphony and the Hilton Head Orchestra as soloist in Alan Hovhaness' "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam." Mark also appeared onstage with the San Diego Opera in Samuel Barber's "Vanessa" and Alban Berg's "Wozzek" directed by Des MacAnuff. At the San Diego Rep: *The Dybbuk*, *A Cradle Will Rock*, *Red Noses*, *6 Women With Brain Death*, *Long Story Short* and *The Threepenny Opera* for which Mark won the 2009 Craig Noel Award for Musical Direction. At the La Jolla Playhouse: Solo pianist for James LaPine's *Luck*, *Pluck*, and *Virtue*, Accordionist and Oronte in *School for Wives*, and *Mother Courage* in co-production with the Berkeley Rep. Mark is the musical director at Vision Center for Spiritual Living.



**Chuck Elledge (Percussion)**  
 Chuck is thrilled to return to LPT's encore performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Other LP credits: *The Music Man* and *The Light in the Piazza*. Elsewhere: *Parade* (Cygnet), *Footloose*, *Honk!*, *Hairspray*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical*, *Into the Woods*,

*Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Grease*, *The Wiz*, *42nd Street*, *The Secret Garden* (SD Junior Theatre); *Sweeney Todd*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, *And the World Goes Round* (Francis Parker). Chuck is an editor for the Neil A. Kjos Music Company and has numerous published works for band and orchestra. He is a member of the Immaculata Choir and, for 18 years, served as music director for the Minnesota Vikings. Chuck thanks everyone at LPT for the opportunity to be a part of this timeless story of faith, courage, and hope.



**Diana Elledge (Cello)**  
 Diana is honored to return to LPT's encore performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*. She was most recently seen playing cello in the gondola for the incredibly fun *The Servant of Two Masters*. Other favorite LPT credits: *The Light in the Piazza*, *The Secret Garden*,

*Into the Woods*, and *Enchanted April*. Diana has also performed with Cygnet Theatre, San Diego REP, and SD Junior Theatre. When not playing cello, she serves as string music editor for Neil A. Kjos Music Company, an educational music publisher, a position held since 1983. Diana would like to thank Debbie, Robert, and Scott for giving the Elledge family the opportunity to share this special story & beautiful music.



**Joel Geise (Trumpet)**  
 Joel has been performing in the San Diego area since 1986. His professional career includes productions of *Anything Goes*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Company*, *Fame*, *Fimian's Rainbow*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Gypsy*, *Hairspray*, *Les Miserables*, *A Little Princess*,

*My Fair Lady*, *Parade*, *Peter Pan*, *The Sound of Music*, *Sweet Charity*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *West Side Story*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. He has played for the operas *Carmen*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *The Marriage of Figaro* and also for the ballet *The Nutcracker*. Joel is currently playing with the Grossmont Symphony Orchestra and the Downbeat Big

Band.

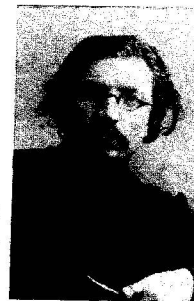


**Stefanie Schmitz (Clarinet)**  
 Stefanie is a full-time performer and teacher of clarinet, saxophone, and percussion. She is excited to return to LPT after being in the band of *Fiddler on the Roof*. She recently also enjoyed her time in the *Sweet Charity* band at the Coronado

Playhouse. She plays a variety of Brazilian music, jazz, and the music of local singer-songwriters. She founded and performs with Choro Sotaque, a group specializing in a style of Brazilian popular music called choro. She also performs with Restoration One, Super Sonic Samba School, and the Stefanie Schmitz Quartet. Stefanie just returned from a six-month musical odyssey in Brazil. Read about her adventures at [www.stefanieschmitz.blogspot.com](http://www.stefanieschmitz.blogspot.com) or connect with her at [www.stefanieschmitz.net](http://www.stefanieschmitz.net).

## SHOLEM ALEICHEM

Born in 1859, Sholem Aleichem wrote under a pseudonym when he started publishing work in Yiddish instead of the more respectable and liturgical language of Hebrew. The translation of his chosen name means "peace be upon you" in Hebrew which was considered a greeting in slang and was more appropriate for his writings in the more cultural language of Yiddish. By 1890, he had become one of the



most prominent writers of Yiddish literature. In his will he expressed the wish, "Let my name be recalled with laughter." To this day his name is remembered with the heartbreak of the Jewish people as well as the laughter of joy and celebration.