THE COMPANY

LISA KRON (Playwright) has been writing and performing theater since coming to New York from Michigan in 1984. Her work has been widely produced in New York, regionally, and internationally.

Her plays include the musical *Fun Home*, written with composer Jeanine Tesori and based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel; *The Ver**zon Play*, which premiered 2012 Humana Festival; *In The Wake* which received Lortel and GLAAD Media Award nominations, was a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, named a "Best Play of 2010" by TimeOut and Backstage, and was included in the Best Plays Theater Yearbook 2010-2011; *Well*, which premiered at the Public Theater, was named a "Best Play of 2004" by the New York Times, the Associated Press, the Newark Star Ledger, Backstage, and the Advocate, included in the Best Plays Theater Yearbook of 2003-2004, and moved to Broadway where both she and Jayne Houdyshell received Tony nominations for their performances. *2.5 Minute Ride*, which had its New York premiere at the Public Theater, received OBIE, L.A. Drama-Logue, New York Press, and GLAAD Media Awards, and continues to be performed by Lisa and others all over the world; *101 Humiliating Stories*, which received a Drama Desk nomination for its PS122 premiere andwas a part of Lincoln Center's 1993 "Serious Fun!" performance series.

Lisa is a founding member of the legendary OBIE and Bessie Award-winning collaborative theater company The Five Lesbian Brothers whose plays, *Oedipus at Palm Springs, Brave*

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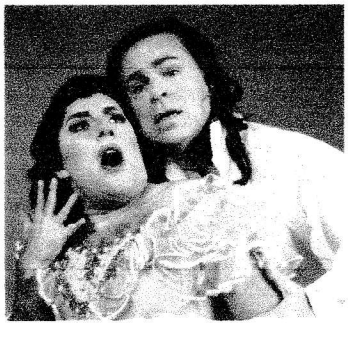

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Music by James Olstead
Directed by **David Ellenstein**

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THE COMPANY

Smiles, Brides of the Moon and *The Secretaries* have all been produced by their theatrical home, New York Theater Workshop, and have been performed widely throughout the country both by the Brothers and by other companies. Their plays are published by T.C.G. in the anthology, "*Five Lesbian Brothers/Four Plays*" and also by Samuel French.

Lisa has received playwriting fellowships from the Lortel and Guggenheim Foundations, Sundance Theater Lab, the Lark Play Development Center, and the MacDowell Colony, the Cal Arts/Alpert Award, a Helen Merrill Award, and grants from the Creative Capital Foundation and New York Foundation for the Arts. She was a resident playwright at the American Voices New Play Initiative at Arena Stage.

As an actor, Lisa's professional career as began in 1983 when Michael Kahn chose her as member of the ANTA Company, which toured three plays in rep for a season. Since then she has acted in her own plays and the plays of the Five Lesbian Brothers, and also seen in such productions as the Foundry's *Good Person of Szechwan* at LaMama, *The Normal Heart* at the Public Theater, *Spain* at M.C.C., and *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, at NYTW.

Lisa has hosted and emceed benefits, galas, variety nights, rent parties, talent shows, pig roasts, bingo nights, awards ceremonies, bar mitzvahs, brisses and birthday parties too numerous to mention. Lisa is a member of Actors Equity and serves on the Council of the Dramatists Guild of America.

JAMES RAMIREZ (Stage Manager - 2.5 MINUTE RIDE) is making his Diversionary Theatre debut with *2.5 Minute Ride*. Elsewhere: *My Mañana Comes, Outside Mullingar*, and *Rapture, Blister, Burn* (San Diego Repertory); *Lost in the Pines* (Magnetic North Theatre Co); *Lettice and Lovage* (Scripps Ranch Theatre); *A Discourse of Wonders on the Invisible World* (Moxie Theatre); *Vinegar Tom, A Little Night Music* (San Diego State University) and various concert series for Mainly Mozart.

MONICA PERFETTO (Resident Stage Manager - WELL) Relocated here from Silver Spring, Maryland, Monica is grateful to call Diversionary home as both Production Coordinator and Resident Stage Manager. Monica has a BA in Theatre Arts and Performance Studies from the University of San Diego, where they discovered their love of paperwork, show tunes, and technical theatre. At Diversionary: *Well, The Boy Who Danced on Air, Now or Later, In the Va Va Voom Room, A Civil War Christmas, Bright Half Life*, and *A New Brain*. Elsewhere: *RENT* (Southwestern College), *Annie* (California Youth Conservatory), *Much Ado About Nothing, I Hate Hamlet, All My Sons, Macbeth*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream the Musical* (Intrepid). As Production Assistant/ Assistant Stage Manager: *Ain't Misbehavin', The Fox on the Fairway, Side by Side, Chapter Two* (North Coast Repertory Theatre), and *Two Gentleman of Verona* (The Old Globe MFA Program).

SEAN FANNING (Scenic Design) is a Southern California-based scenic designer with a career spanning over fifty productions on local stages. Previously for Diversionary: *The Mystery of Love and Sex, The Boy Who Danced on Air, Now or Later, Birds of a Feather, Pippin*, and *Harmony, Kansas*. Elsewhere: *Full Gallop*, the Globe for All tours of *Measure for Measure* and *All's Well That Ends Well, A Doll's House, Kingdom*, and *Plaid Tidings* (The Old Globe); *My Manana Comes* (Marin Theatre Company); *Manifest Destinitis, The Oldest Boy, Everybody's Talkin', Honky, In the Heights*, and *Walter Cronkite is Dead* (San Diego Repertory Theatre); *Equivocation* (Lamb's Players Theatre), *Seven Guitars, King Hedley II, Gypsy, Hay Fever, The Vortex, Dogfight, The Whale, Sons of the Prophet, Pageant* (Cygnet Theatre Company); Brownsville Song (b-side for tray), A Raisin in the Sun (Moxie Theatre);

and *The Improv at Harrah's* and *Menopause the Musical* (Harrah's Las Vegas). Sean holds an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from San Diego State University. See more of his work at www.seanfanningdesigns.com.

KATE BISHOP (Costume Designer) is *thrilled* to be back at Diversionary for another great adventure. Her previous shows at this theatre were *Amazons and Their Men, Baby With The Bathwater* and *Boys & Girls*. Other recent San Diego productions include Moxie Theatre's *Ruthless! The Musical* and *Eternally Bad*; New Village Arts' *1940's Radio Hour, Big River* and *Lord of the Flies*; and last year's *Plays by Young Writers* at The Old Globe. Kate used to live in LA, where she was resident costume designer for Invertigo Dance Theatre (favorites include *After It Happened, Give Me Wings*) and Independent Shakespeare Company in Griffith Park (favorites include *She Stoops To Conquer, Love's Labour's Lost, Much Ado About Nothing*). She also designed some movies nobody saw, TV shows on channels you didn't know you had, and a terrible music video for a pop icon she wishes wasn't still available on YouTube. She loves Joe, Baz, & DD. For more of her work, find her on Facebook: Kate Bishop Costume Design.

CURTIS MUELLER (Lighting Designer) returns to Diversionary having designed *Lizard Boy, Manhandled, Now or Later, A Civil War Christmas, Amazons and Their Men, Man Clan*, and *A New Brain*. Select local credits include: *Gutenberg! The Musical* (Backyard Renaissance); *End of The Rainbow, Quality of Life, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, I Hate Hamlet, All My Sons, Macbeth* (Intrepid Theatre Company); *Big River, The 1940s Radio Hour, Seascape* (NewVillage Arts); *Chess in Concert, Next to Normal, Spring Awakening* (Cabaret at the Merc Summer Series). Curtis has also worked extensively with Coronado School of The Arts, CYT San Diego, and CAST Productions. Curtis holds a BFA in Lighting Design from California Institute of The Arts.

BONNIE DURBEN (Properties Master) Diversionary Theatre: *The Mystery of Love and Sex, The Boy Who Danced on Air, Now or Later, She-Rantulas, Baby With The Bathwater, A New Brain* and *Amazons and Their Men*. Mira Costa Theatre; *These Shining Lights, Romeo and Juliet, Seven, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Urinetown*. Moonlight Theatre Productions; *Sister Act, Peter Pan, Titanic, Addams Family, Music Man, Shrek, All Shook Up* and *Big Fish*. Intrepid Theatre: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf, Quality of Life, Hamlet*, and *I Hate Hamlet*. Member of the Society of Property Artisans and Managers.

MELANIE CHEN (Sound Designer) is thrilled be back at Diversionary! She is a San Diego based freelance sound designer who has designed over 70 productions in San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Recent regional credits include: *An Iliad* (New Village Arts); *Marjorie Prime, Neil Simon's Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Cocktail Hour* (North Coast Repertory Theatre); *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (The Old Globe/ USD MFA Program); *Native Son* (UC San Diego MFA Program); *Seven Guitars, King Hedley II* (Cygnet Theatre). Melanie just returned from working on a large scale immersive installation version of *Peter Pan* with Broadway Asia in Beijing as the Sound Design Associate. Coming up, she will work with New Village Arts on their production of *Awake and Sing* and North Coast Repertory Theatre's *An Illusion*. Melanie holds an M.F.A. in Sound Design for Theatre & Dance from UC San Diego. Visit www.melaniesound.com for more information.