



**book, music, and lyrics by Adam Wachter**  
*Inspired by "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" By Washington Irving*

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**ICHABOD CRANE** – Tom Zohar  
**KATRINA** – Kay Marian McNellen  
**BROM** – Bryan Banville

### **SETTING**

The musical takes place over twelve days (October 20-31) in present-day Tarrytown, New York and Sleepy Hollow, New York: two adjoining towns making up one small community on the Hudson River about an hour north of Manhattan.

**There will be NO intermission.**



**BACKYARD  
RENAISSANCE**  
THEATRE COMPANY

### **ABOUT BACKYARD RENAISSANCE**

Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company is a non-profit 501(C)(3) with an "art to the gut" sensibility. Founded in 2015 in San Diego, CA, Backyard Renaissance believes that exception storytelling is rooted in a sense of joyful play, human connection and gutsy intensity. For more information go to:

**[www.backyardrenaissance.com](http://www.backyardrenaissance.com)**

## ABOUT THE PLAYERS

### Bryan Banville (PLAYING Brom)

Backyard Renaissance Debut! Resident Artist Cygnet Theatre: *Animal Crackers*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *My Fair Lady*, *Assassins*, and *Man of La Mancha*. Old Globe: *Camp David* and *Anna Christie*; La Jolla Playhouse: *Untitled Hunter S. Thompson Project* (workshop); San Diego Rep: *Violet*, *SDMT: The Producers* (Leo Bloom), *Ragtime* (Younger Brother), *Singin' in the Rain*, and *La Cage aux Folles*; Moonlight Stage Productions: *Titanic* (Frederick Fleet), *The Music Man* (Marcellus Washburn), *Spamalot*, *Mary Poppins*, and *Catch Me If You Can*; San Diego City Ballet: *The Artificial Woman* (workshop); Welk Resorts Theater: *Plaid Tidings*; Farmer's Alley Theatre: *Forever Plaid*; The Barn Stage Company: *Songs for a New World*; New Village Arts: *Plaid Tidings* ('12/'13); Ion: *Passion*. Love to his best friend and wife, Katie!

### Kay McNellen (PLAYING Katrina)

Kay Marian McNellen (Katrina) is so excited to be performing in her first Backyard Renaissance production. You may have seen her recently as Veronica Sawyer in *Heathers: the musical* at Onstage Playhouse or Kate Monster in *Avenue Q* at OB Playhouse. When Kay isn't getting to perform on stage she's forcing her friends to listen to musical theatre in her car or taking them on long road trips to force them to listen to more musical theatre in her car. She is so excited to be part of this beautiful new production and to work with this incredible production team!

### About Tom Zohar (PLAYING Ichabod)

Previously seen at Backyard Renaissance in *Gutenberg! The Musical!* (Bud). Other credits include *Bad Jews* (Jonah), *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias), *The History Boys* (Posner) and *The Little Foxes* (Cal) at Cygnet Theatre; *A New Brain* (Gordon), *Harmony*, *Kansas* (Julian), *[title of show]* (Jeff), *Twist!* (The Dodger), *Yank! A New Musical* (Stu; recipient of Patté Award for Outstanding Performance), *Torch Song Trilogy* (David) and *Bunbury* (Hartley) at Diversionary Theatre; *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip) at La Mirada Theatre; *Zhivago* (Swing) at the La Jolla Playhouse; *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Einstein), *This is Our Youth* (Warren) and *Three Sisters* (Andrey) at New Village Arts; *The Light in the Piazza* (Ensemble) at Lamb's Players; *Old Wicked Songs* (Stephen), *Romeo and Juliet* (Peter), *Amy's View* (Toby) and *The Chosen* (Reuven) at North Coast Rep; *You Never Can Tell* (Philip) and *Room Service* (Leo) at Moonlight Stage Productions.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION STAFF

### Francis Gercke (BYR ARTISTIC DIR. – TARRYTOWN DIRECTOR)

Fran is a graduate of The Actors Studio Drama School, Gercke co-founded Backyard Renaissance in 2015 and serves as the artistic director. Recent work includes: *The Explorers Club* (Lambs Players); *Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird*, (Cygnet Theatre); *Abundance*, *Parlour Song*, *The Elephant Man* (Backyard Renaissance); *The Behavior of Broadus* (Capital Stage Company); *In the Next Room, Honky* (San Diego Rep); *Accomplice* (La Jolla Playhouse WOW); *Time Stands Still* (NCRT); *Shining City* (ion theatre); *The Pride* (Diversionary Theatre); *Orphans*, *True West* (New Village Arts); *Oleanna*, *Macbeth*, (Intrepid Theatre Company). He is a resident artist with Cygnet Theatre and recipient of the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Award. He teaches at Palomar College and Grossmont College and through ActorsApproach.

### Anthony Methvin (BYR PRODUCING DIR. – TARRYTOWN DIRECTOR)

Anthony is Producing Director for Backyard Renaissance, where he co-directed *Abundance*, directed Backyard Unleashed readings of *Assistance* and *Bachelorette*, both directed and adapted *Showgirls* and *Mommie Dearest* for the Live and Unleashed reading series, and performed in *Gutenberg! The Musical!* and *The Elephant Man*. Director: readings of *The Harvest and Wolves* (Diversionary). Assistant Director: *Buyer & Cellar* and *Sense & Sensibility* (Old Globe), *Dogfight* (Cygnet), *Baby with the*

*Bathwater* (Diversionsary), and *Spring Awakening* (Palomar College). Local performances: Roger in *A New Brain*, Reed in *Boys and Girls*, Kent in *Harmony, Kansas* (Diversionsary), and Bedevere in a reading of *Spamalot* (Cygnnet). Playwright: *Bleed Like Me*. Coming early 2018: Director of the San Diego premiere of *Bachelorette* for Backyard Renaissance. You can follow him on Instagram @anthonymethvin.

### **Steven Withers (TARRYTOWN MUSICAL DIRECTOR)**

Steven studied composition + piano performance at University of Cincinnati's College/ Conservatory of Music (CCM.). He was the co-pianist for over 200 performances of *Forever Plaid* (Theater in Old Town); played keyboards for Michael Crawford's solo national tour, *Side Show* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Violet* (San Diego Rep), *Jane Eyre* (La Jolla Playhouse and Broadway), and *The Full Monty* (Old Globe, and Broadway). Recorded tracks include Mr. Crawford's live album, and *Jane Eyre* Original Broadway Cast Album. He has been the Music Director for multiple productions at Diversionsary Theatre and North Coast Rep and was Associate Music Director for a reading of *A Man Of No Importance* (Lincoln Center Theatre), *Plaid Tidings* (Old Globe) and Duncan Sheik/Steven Sater's *The Nightingale* (La Jolla Playhouse), as well as Associate Conductor of 16th Anniversary run of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (Old Globe.) Most recently, he was the local synth programmer for *October Sky* (Old Globe) and *Benny & Joon* (Old Globe.) Steven is married to Marc d'Hondt, his partner for Life's journey since November 1993.

### **Mariel Shaw (TARRYTOWN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)**

Mariel is delighted to be putting her love of Halloween to use with Backyard Renaissance. Usually, you can find her onstage with such local companies as Cygnnet Theatre, Scripps Ranch Theatre, City Ballet, and Pickwick Players. Special thanks to her WD-40 Company tribe for their support.

### **Katie Whalley Banville (TARRYTOWN CHOREOGRAPHER)**

Katie is an actor/singer/dancer/choreographer throughout San Diego. Previously at Backyard Renaissance: Choreographer, *Gutenberg! The Musical!* Regional credits: The Old Globe – *Benny and Joon*, *A Doll's House*; La Jolla Playhouse – *Freaky Friday*, *Escape to Margaritaville*; Cygnnet Theatre – *A Christmas Carol* (Choreographer), *Gypsy* (June), *Company* (April); Moonlight Amphitheatre – *Big Fish* (Jenny Hill), *Shrek*, *Spamalot*; SDMT – *42nd Street* (Andi Lee), *White Christmas*; ion theatre company – *Gypsy* (Louise – Craig Noel Award), *Passion*; Grossmont College – Choreographer for *Cinderella*, *Lucky Stiff*, and *80 Days*. BFA Music Theatre – Illinois Wesleyan University, MFA Musical Theatre Candidate – San Diego State University. [www.katiewhalley.com](http://www.katiewhalley.com)

### **Curtis Mueller (TARRYTOWN LIGHTING DESIGN)**

Curtis provided the lighting design for Backyard Renaissance's first musical production *Gutenberg! The Musical!*. Curtis has designed locally for theater companies such as: The Barn Stage Company, Diversionsary Theater, Intrepid Theatre Company, Moonlight Stage Productions, and New Village Arts. He is also a close collaborator with educational programs and has designed the lighting for Coronado School of The Arts, CYT San Diego, Moonlight Youth Theater, and dozens of local high schools. In the dance world, Curtis has designed for Compulsion Dance and Theater, The PGK Dance Project, and The TranscendANCE Youth Arts Project.

### **Jessica John Gercke (BYR EXECUTIVE DIR. – TARRYTOWN COSTUME DESIGN)**

Jessica was executive director of Backyard Productions between 2001- 2008 and is currently executive director of Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company (BYR). As an actor she has performed at BYR, Cygnnet Theatre, Diversionsary Theatre, ion theatre, Lambs Players Theatre, Moonlight at the AVO, New Fortune Theatre Company, New Village Arts, North Coast Repertory Theatre, and Renaissance Theatre. Her costume designs include Backyard Renaissance: *Gutenberg! The Musical!*, *Parlour Song*, Cygnnet Theatre: *True West*, *Fool for Love*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *Man from Nebraska*, *Mauritius*, *Love Song*, ion theatre: *Shining City*, *Angels in America*; New Village Arts Theatre: *Humble Boy*, *True West*, *Sailor's Song* (SDCritics Circle Award – Best Costume Design), *Three Sisters*, *Crimes of the Heart*, Backyard Productions: *Hysterical Blindness*, *Closer*.

### **Kristen Flores (TARRYTOWN SCENIC DESIGN)**

Kristen's past design credits include: *The Moors*, *Homos or Everyone in America*, *A Civil War Christmas*, *Bright Half Life*, and *Baby With the Bathwater* (Diversionsary Theatre), *Eternally Bad* (Moxie), *God of Carnage and American Hero* (New Village Arts), *Almost, Maine* (Onstage Players), *Globe for All-Twelfth Night* (The Old Globe), *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Triad Productions), *Ragnarok and Red Planet Respite* (Circle Circle Dot Dot). Kristen was Prop Master and Stage Master for The White Theatre at The Old Globe from 2014 to 2016. She is currently the Scenic Charge and Prop Master for San Diego State University. I work hard so my pets can have a better life. For more on Kristen please go to [www.kristenflores.org](http://www.kristenflores.org)

### **Bonnie Durben (TARRYTOWN PROPERTY DESIGN)**

Other designs include Backyard Renaissance: *Abundance*; Scripps Ranch: *Skin Deep*; Diversionsary Theatre: *Mystery of Love and Sex*, *The Boy who danced on Air*, *Now or Later*, *She-Ranculas*, *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*, *Music Man*, *Shrek*, *All Shook Up*, *Big Fish*; Intrepid Theatre: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf*, *Quality of Life*, *Hamlet*, *I Hate Hamlet*; Scripps Ranch: *Skin Deep*. Bonnie is a member of the Society of Property Artisans and Managers.

### **Taylor Todd (TARRYTOWN STAGE MANAGER)**

Taylor is so excited to be back with Backyard Renaissance for the third time! Some of her selected technical credits include her roles of stage manager for *Father Comes Home from the Wars Parts 1, 2, & 3* (Intrepid), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Intrepid & New Village Arts), *Perfect Arrangement* (Intrepid), *Mystery of Love and Sex* (Diversionsary), *ART* (Intrepid), *Gutenberg! The Musical!* (Backyard Renaissance), *Woody Guthrie's American Song* (Intrepid), *The Seagull* (Old Globe/USD MFA), *End of the Rainbow* (Intrepid), *Anton's Shorts; Three Brief Comedies by Chekhov* (USD), and assistant stage manager for *Parlour Song* (Backyard Renaissance), *Oliver!* (Cabrillo Stage), and *Anatomy of Gray* (USD). Taylor graduated from the University of San Diego with a degree in Theatre Arts and Performance Studies.

### **Bayani DeCastro Jr (BYR PHOTOGRAPHER/SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER)**

Bayani, San Diego born and based photographer/actor, has been shooting for 12 years. He has been with Backyard Renaissance from the beginning when then college professor Francis Gercke invited him to shoot promo photos for our first show '*Parlour Song*.' Bayani is blessed to meld both of his passions with his Backyard family.

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## **ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT**

### **Adam Wachter**

*Tarrytown* is Adam Wachter's first original musical. The New York City-based composer/lyricist, music director, orchestrator, arranger, musician, and current music supervisor of the Off-Broadway hit *Old Jews Telling Jokes*, for which he also created the musical arrangements, has developed a strong reputation for his artistry. Other NYC theater credits include: *The Addams Family*, *Carrie*, *Peter Pan*, *In Transit*, and *Yank!*. Regionally, he has music-directed productions at Barrington Stage Company, Weston Playhouse, Northern Stage, Theatre-by-the-Sea, North Shore Music Theatre, and the O'Neill Center. Recently, Adam orchestrated the score to the documentary "*Broadway Musicals: A Jewish Legacy*," seen on PBS' *Great Performances*. He is the composer of the theme song and score of the popular web series "*Submissions Only*" and was the music supervisor, orchestrator, and composed several songs for the web series "*The Battery's Down*." Adam is a graduate of the University of Michigan.