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We are proud to give special recognition to the generous donors who support this production of *Handbagged*.

AT THE COURT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

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THANK YOU!

HANDBAGGED

by Moira Buffini

Directed by Kim Strassburger

CAST

Queen Elizabeth II	Sandy Campbell*
Mags	Lisel Gorell-Getz*
Margaret Thatcher	Linda Libby*
Ensemble	Max Macke
Ensemble	Durwood Murray
Liz	Debra Wanger

CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL TEAM

Director	Kim Strassburger
Production Stage Manager	Danielle Dudley
Scenic Designer	Julie Lorenz
Costume Designer	Danita Lee
Lighting Designer	Cynthia Bloodgood
Sound Designer	Mason Pilevsky
Wigs Designer	Missy Bradstreet
Props Designer	Angelica Ynfante
Assistant Stage Manager	Nicoletta Flores
Scenic Painters	Julie Lorenz
Technical Director	Rogelio Rosales
Dialect Coach	Vanessa Dinning
Production Manger	Nicole Ries

*Appearing through an Agreement between MOXIE Theatre, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

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MOXIE Theatre

MOXIE Theatre's mission is to create more diverse and honest images of women for our culture. Every production that premieres on our stage embodies moxie and defies stereotypes associated with "women's work." By expanding what we consider feminine, MOXIE celebrates our shared humanity.

MOXIE is a professional nonprofit theatre, founded in 2004. MOXIE has garnered ten Patte Awards for Theatre Excellence, nine San Diego Critics Circle Awards including "Director of the Year," "Des McAnuff New Visions award" and the "Don Braunagel Award for Outstanding Work at a Small Theater." In San Diego's 2013 & 2016 A-Lists, MOXIE ranked in the top three for "Best Theater" in San Diego. In 2017, MOXIE was voted "Best Small Theatre in San Diego" by San Diego Magazine.

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director's note

Oxford English Dictionary

To handbag (verb): to verbally attack or crush (a person or idea) ruthlessly and forcefully.

It is rare that a person can inspire an addition to the Oxford English Dictionary. And yet, it was Margaret Thatcher, Britain's Conservative Prime Minister from 1979-1990, whose controversial policies, strategy, and bravado inspired this entry of a new word to the OED.

Oh, to have been a "fly on the wall" during the weekly meetings of Margaret Thatcher and Queen Elizabeth II from 1979-1990. Moira Buffini's wicked satire sneaks the audience in. Although it can never know exactly what happened during these meetings, Buffini lets the audience imagine. What was said between these titans over cups of afternoon tea at Buckingham Palace? How did these two leaders, representing respectively the soul and the practical power of a nation, get along? Did they find commonality in being uniquely *female* heads of state? What does/did they hope will be their lasting legacy in the world's eye?

Handbagged has two versions (younger and older) of Queen Elizabeth II and Margaret Thatcher shape the memory of their tenure as monarch and Prime Minister for an audience. They are aided by two actors who have been hired in the course of the show to play the many men in their lives. Both women exist as two halves of the same coin. Queen Elizabeth II is born to great status and yet cannot express practical power as monarch. Margaret Thatcher is born without status and yet rises to great practical power. Hubris and extreme Conservative policies (still a flash point of controversy and debate in Britain) ultimately lead to her downfall.

With great power, symbolic or practical, what is a leader to do? And, because they are female, what does the world say about these leaders when they are gone?

Welcome to a Battle Royale. Welcome to Moira Buffini's *Handbagged*.

Kim Strassburger

the playwright

MOIRA BUFFINI was born in Cheshire to Irish parents, and attended Northwich County Grammar School for Girls. She studied English and Drama at Goldsmiths College, London University. She subsequently trained as an actor at the Welsh College of Music and Drama. Moira Buffini's plays include *Blavatsky's Tower* (Machine Room), *Gabriel* (Soho Theatre), *Silence* (Birmingham Rep), *Loveplay* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Dinner* (National Theatre and West End), *Dying for It*, adapted from *The Suicide* by Nikolai Erdman (Almeida), *A Vampire Story* (NT Connections), *Marianne Dreams* (Almeida Theatre) and *Welcome to Thebes* (National Theatre). She lives in London with her husband and children.



the director

KIM STRASSBURGER is thrilled to working with Moxie Theatre for the first time. Directing credits include *Bull in a China Shop*, *A Civil War Christmas*, and *A New Brain* (Diversionsary); *Romeo, Romeo, and Juliet* (Roustabouts); *8 Songs for a Mad King* (2017 Craig Noel Award for Outstanding Special Event and 2017 Best of Festival-San Diego International Fringe Festival/Bodhi Tree Productions); *Sunday in the Park with George* (2016 Craig Noel Award-Outstanding Direction of a Musical), *Master Class*, *Passion* (2014 Craig Noel Award Nomination-Outstanding Direction of a Musical), *Grey Gardens*, *Gypsy* (2011 Craig Noel Award Nomination-Outstanding Direction of a Musical) and *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* (Ion Theatre); *Gutenberg The Musical!* (Backyard Renaissance Theatre); *Seascape* (New Village Arts) and *The Woman in Black* with Jason Heil (CSU San Marcos). Acting credits include *The Moors* at Diversionsary Theatre and *The Normal Heart* at Ion Theatre (2016 Craig Noel Award-Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play). Kim is a graduate of Catholic University of America, studied at LAMDA, and is a 2014 member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. Kim has also served as an Artistic Trustee for Diversionsary Theatre and has taught at the Coronado School of the Arts since 2006.



Sponsored by Dr. Lynne Thrope

about the cast



SANDY CAMPBELL (QUEEN ELIZABETH II) is thrilled to be making her MOXIE debut! Most recently, she portrayed Mother Superior in *Sister Act* at San Diego Musical Theatre and Mrs. Fitch in *Mr. and Mrs. Fitch* with Backyard Renaissance. She is a Resident Artist at Cygnet Theatre where she has performed in *Parade* (Lucille), *The Norman Conquests* (Sarah) and *A Little Night Music* (Charlotte) to name a few. She is also an Associate Artist with Lamb's Players Theatre where she has been seen in *The Music Man*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and many more. Other favorites include Fosca in *Passion*, Maria Callas in *Master Class* (both with Kim Strassburger at the helm), Bev/Kathy in *Clybourne Park* and Lucy Simon's *Zhivago* at The La Jolla Playhouse. Sandy is a multiple Craig Noel Award winner, a cabaret artist and a proud member of Actors' Equity. Solo CD Crazy World at iTunes & cdbaby.com

Sponsored by Jeanette Rigopoulos, Wendy Nash, Kathy Brombacher, Marilyn & Arthur Neumann



LISEL GORELL-GETZ (MAGS) is thrilled to be returning to MOXIE's stage. Lisel's previous credits at MOXIE include Marie Antoniette in *The Revolutionists*, Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, *Enron*, *Skinless*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. Recent credits: Eleanor in *The Virgin Trial* (Cygnet) and *This Random World* (North Coast Rep). Other San Diego credits: *Measure for Measure* (Old Globe); *Current Nobody*, *Counterweight* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Sex with Strangers*, *Detroit*, *Exit Interview*,

In the Next Room, *Intimate Apparel* (San Diego Rep); *Now or Later*, *Valhalla*, *Cloud 9*, *Psycho Beach Party* (Diversionsary); *Macbeth*, *Valparaiso* (Sledgehammer); *Twelfth Night* (New Village Arts); *9 Parts of Desire* (Mo'olelo). Lisel received her BFA at Ithaca College and trained at the British American Drama Academy. She is Master Teaching Artist with the Old Globe Theatre's Department of Arts Engagement where she is committed to advocating for the arts and encouraging the creative artist within everyone.

www.liseligorellgetz.com

Sponsored by Lynn McAlister, Enid Farrell, Maria Frase



LINDA LIBBY (MARGARET THATCHER) is delighted to play with the Moxies! Her recent San Diego credits include: *Put Your House In Order* (La Jolla Playhouse), *A Doll's House Part 2* (San Diego Rep), *Guys & Dolls* (Old Globe) and *Hedwig & the Angry Inch* (Diversionary). Linda is a Resident Artist at Cygnet Theatre: *Gypsy*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Company*, *My Fair Lady*, *Man of La Mancha* and *Man From Nebraska*. She

is an Associate Artist at Lambs Players: *Persuasion*, *South Pacific*, *Pump Boys & Dinettes* and original cast of *Boomers*. As a founding member of Ion Theater: *Gypsy*, *Grey Gardens*, *Request Program*, *Body Awareness*, and composer for *Sea Of Souls*. Regional: *Clarence Brown*, *Barter*, *Stage West* (Ontario, Canada) Arizona Theater Company. Tours: Edinburgh Fringe, Far East Russia w/ Beth Henley. Linda is the proud founder of the Bayfront Charter High School theater program. Coming up - a wild, dark, hilarious holiday reading of David Sedaris' *Season's Greetings* at Diversionary. lindalibby.wix.com/lindalibby.

Sponsored by Wes Anson, Georgia Dutro, Sheri & Jess Kraus, Marilyn & Arthur Neumann



MAX MACKE (ENSEMBLE) is thrilled to be back at Moxie, previously seen here in *Voyeurs De Venus*, *Enron*, & *Eurydice*. Most recently, Max was in *Servant of Two Masters* at NVA. Other favorite credits include *Way Downriver*, *Of Mice And Men* (NCRT), *Awake and Sing*, *The Weir*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (NVA). *The Birthday Party* (New Fortune). *Edward II* (Diversionary).

Max was also a founding member of Poor Players Theater Company with whom he appeared in *Romeo & Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Henry IV pt.1*, *Anthony & Cleopatra* among others. Max would like to thank his wife and daughter for their love and support.

Sponsored by Anne Hoiberg, Carol Clarke, Rusty & Jim Reily



DURWOOD MURRAY (ENSEMBLE) is so happy to be returning back to Moxie, previously appearing in *Our Lady of Kibeho*. He's also appeared at New Village Arts in *The Servant of Two Masters* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, at Diversionary Theatre in *Well* and *A Civil War Christmas*, and Intrepid Theatre in *Father Comes Home from the Wars Parts I, II, and III*. Durwood would like to thank The Usual Suspects, Wondrous Strange, and all The Partners for their love and support.

Sponsored by Edith Benkov, Canis Lupus Productions, Dawn



DEBRA WANGER (LIZ) Moxie Debut! Cygnet: *Angels in America*, *A Little Night Music*, *On the 20th Century*, *Spring Awakening*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Dogfight*. SDMT: *Hairspray*, *Billy Elliot*, *Footloose*, *Sound of Music*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *White Christmas*. San Diego highlights: *God of Vengeance* at La Jolla Playhouse, *Hamlet* (Gertrude) at Intrepid; *Titanic & Sunset Blvd.* at Moonlight; *Permanent Collection* at Mo'olelo; *Full*

Monty (Vicki) at New Village Arts; *Sleeping Beauty* at North Coast Rep; *Anything Goes!* (Reno) *Oliver!* (Nancy) at Lyric Opera San Diego; *Carousel* and *Sound of Music* at Lawrence Welk; *My Nights With George, Kurt & Cole* (NCRT & 6th@Penn, AASD & Billie Awards); Debra studied at Tufts and Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and holds a M.F.A. from SDSU. Her CD, *Driving My Own Heart* and *The Resilient Actor* series are available on Amazon & iTunes. She is also a certified coach, best-selling author & proud mama of 3. XOXOCMG www.DebraWanger.com

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about the creative team

DANIELLE DUDLEY (STAGE MANAGER) is delighted to be back at MOXIE. Danielle holds a BA in Theatre Arts from UCSD & an AA in Technical Theatre from Grossmont College. Credits include: MOXIE: *The Madres (ASM)*. La Jolla playhouse: *Diana-A New Musical (SM Intern)*. San Diego Repertory Theatre: *33 1/3: House of Dreams (PA)*, *Sweat (ASM)*, *A Dolls House Part 2 (ASM)*, *Birthday: A Metaphysical Musical Workshop (SM)*, *Fun Home (PA)*, *Beachtown (PA)*, *Vietgone (ASM)*, *Hand to God (ASM)*. Diversionary Theatre: *A Kind of Weather Reading (SM)*, *Fuck la vie d'artiste Reading (SM)*. UCSD: *Rocks in Her Pockets (PA)*, *Foreground: A Dance Thesis (ASM)*. Danielle has stage managed many different smaller events in: Kuumba Festival (2018) The Jewish Arts Festival (2018-2019), and LatinX Festival (2018 & 2019) all at San Diego Repertory Theatre. She wants to thank Moxie for bringing her back & give a special thanks to Heather Brose, Chandra Anthenill & Laura Zingle for being mentors.

VANESSA DINNING (DIALECT COACH) is honored to make her MOXIE debut with *Handbagged*. In her native UK, Vanessa trained as an actor and a voice teacher for actors-specializing in dialect and Shakespeare-at renowned drama schools in London. In the UK Vanessa worked at many regional and London theatres including The Royal National Theatre, the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry and Shakespeare's Globe. In San Diego, recent dialect coaching credits include *All Is Calm (San Diego Opera & Bodhi Tree)*, many productions at Cygnet including *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *Shockheaded Peter* and *Pride and Prejudice*, five seasons at Moonlight Stage Productions, *An Experiments with an Air Pump (Backyard Renaissance)*, *My Fair Lady* and *Cabaret (The Welk Resort)*, *Sleuth*, *Baskerville* and *Outside Mullingar (also actor) (Scripps Ranch Theatre & Oceanside Theatre Company)*, *Billy Elliot* and *Crazy For You (SDMT)* and *Once (also actor) (Lamb's Players' Theatre)*.

ANGELICA YNFANTE (PROPS DESIGNER) is a Texas State University graduate with a BFA in Theatre. For five years, she worked across US and Mexico in Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Vermont, New York, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Cancun, until she made it to sunny California. She was the Props Master/ATD for San Diego REP for 9 seasons, has designed props for MOXIE for 9 seasons, and worked for Diversionary, New Village Arts, Cygnet, Green Raven. She is currently with Pacific Event Productions.

DANITA LEE (COSTUME DESIGNER) loves MOXIE and is delighted to be part of this production! Some favorite and notable projects: *Yoga Play*, *The Madres*, *brownsville song (b-side for Tray) (MOXIE)*, *Bad Jews (Cygnet)*, *Soul Fire (Playwrights Project)*. ACD credits include: *Guys & Dolls* and *The Imaginary Invalid (Old Globe Theatre)*, *Constellations and Third (Hangar Theatre)*, *The Rocky Horror Show (Cygnet)*, *Chagall (La Jolla Playhouse/Malashock Dance)*, and *The Underpants (NCRT)*. She holds undergraduate degrees from UCSD and an MFA in Costume Design from SDSU. Thanks to this show's incredible team, Michael J., the Lee family, and SW! danitalee.com

JULIE LORENZ (SCENIC DESIGNER) is thankful to be back at Moxie, after designing *Herland* and working as Charge Artist on *Dance Nation*, *Yoga Play*, *Madres* and *Anne Frank*. She painted on Cygnet's *Rock of Ages*, *King Hedley II/Seven Guitars*, and backdrops at Lambs Players on *See How They Run* and *Servant of Two Masters*. She has worked with LPT as ASM on *Mixtape*, and constructed properties on *Joe vs. the Volcano* and *Festival of Christmas*. She previously worked for CCT Musical Theater as Scenic Designer for *Let Freedom Ring on the Midway*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Route 66, Traditions of Christmas & Senior Follies* at ECPAC, and Scenic Artist for *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Mt. Helix Amphitheater. Julie currently works at Aesthetics Inc. as Art Consultant for healing environments. Sometimes, Julie is handbagged by her six year old, Macy Flynn, but her husband Jon and step-son Hudson Fox defend her, and she loves them for it.

MASON PILEVSKY (SOUND DESIGNER) is a local freelance sound designer, audio mixer, and music composer, who is excited to return to MOXIE Theatre. Xie holds a BA from San Diego State University in Theatre Design and Technology, and has worked professionally and educationally for about a decade. Recent highlights of xie's career include *Hir (Sound Design, Cygnet)*, *The Luckiest (Assistant Sound Design, La Jolla Playhouse)*, *Blurred at the Edges (Sound Design, AD Productions)*, *Macbeth (Sound Design/Music Composition, Trinity Theatre)*, *Foxtales (Sound Design/Music Composition, SDSU)*, and *Coyote on a Fence (Sound Design, Skull and Dagger Dramatic Society)*. Xie is also dedicated to education and has taught sound design workshops at Torrey Pines High School and Canyon Crest Academy. For more of xie's work, see Backyard Renaissance's production of *American Buffalo* in November-December or visit xie online at www.mrp-sound.com.

CYNTHIA BLOODGOOD (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is delighted to be working with the creative team at MOXIE on *Handbagged*. A graduate from BYU with a degree in Technical Theatre and Design, she technical directs, designs and builds scenery, designs lighting for shows, and is a technical theater educator. She often works with youth theatres and schools, including San Diego Junior Theater, the School of Creative and Performing Arts, and Canyon Crest Academy, and as a carpenter and stage electrician with regional theaters, local production companies and Local 122. She technical directed MOXIE's *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Las Madres*, *the Revolutionists*, and *the Blue Door*. She passionately believes that the arts can improve the world and change a person's life for good, and she is pleased to have been a part of this production. Thanks her family for their patience & support.



Back Row: Julie Lorenz (Scenic Design), Mason Pilevsky (Sound Design), Cynthia Bloodgood (Lighting Design), Nicoletta Flores (ASM), Vanessa Dinning (Dialect Coach), Danita Lee (Costume Design). Front Row: Danielle Dudley (Stage Manager), Kim Strassburger (Director).

What makes this picture unique?

MOXIE is proud to stack our design and technical teams with predominately female & non-binary designers. One day, we hope to see 50/50 representation on and behind the stage.

This is MOXIE.

The MOXIES

Annual Awards Gala and Fundraiser

Honoring San Diego Women
with Grit & Determination

MAY 17, 2020

Every year MOXIE Theatre honors **10 extraordinary women** who are transforming our San Diego community and inspiring future generations through their accomplishments. Nominated by the public and selected by an independent committee, these women **from all walks of life** are recognized for being a voice for other women and for bringing excellence to our community.

Do you know someone like that?

Is there a woman in your life who deserves a MOXIE Award? Go to moxietheatre.com/themoxies to submit her nomination!

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For sponsorship opportunities of The 2020 MOXIES, contact devo@moxietheatre.com.

