

# PTP / NYC SEASON 34 1/2



***Lunch* by Steven Berkoff**  
**Premiering July 9, 2021 7:30PM**  
**Streaming July 9-13, 2021**

# ***Lunch***

By Steven Berkoff

Directed by Richard Romagnoli

**Man** Bill Army\*  
**Woman** Jackie Sanders\*

A bench by the seaside. The present day.

\* member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers

### **A Note from the Director:**

LUNCH is a terse, scabrous, poetic dance between A Man and A Woman. The text provides only spare biographies, enough to tweak our interest and lead to endless speculation. Do the characters have a shared history? Are they a couple? Is their encounter a contrivance, a fantasy with unanticipated consequences? Do they really know Prufrock? The production only explores these questions.

In a brief 40 minutes Berkoff presents characters in mid-life, stepping out of their familiar routines to passionately and humorously engage the other in what critic Aleks Sierz has correctly named, “in-yer-face theatre,” describing certain young British writers of the ‘90’s and the millennium. Berkoff can certainly be considered one of the progenitors of this style. This is as bare knuckled as “in-yer- face” gets or --as PTP once described its work --“I only laugh when it hurts”.

Hope you enjoy.

**Steven Berkoff** was born in Stepney, London. After studying drama and mime in London and Paris, he entered a series of repertory companies and in 1968 formed the London Theatre Group. His plays and adaptations have been performed in many countries and in many languages. Among the many adaptations Berkoff has created for the stage, directed and toured, are Kafka’s *Metamorphosis* and *The Trial*, *Agamemnon*, and Poe’s *The Fall of the House of Usher*. He has directed and toured productions of Shakespeare’s *Coriolanus* also playing the title role, *Richard II*, *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*, as well as Oscar Wilde’s *Salome*. Berkoff’s original stage plays include *East, West*, *The Messiah: Scenes from a Crucifixion*, *The Secret Love Life of Ophelia*, *Decadence*, *Harry’s Christmas*, *Massage*, and *Acapulco*. He has performed his trilogy of solo shows, *One Man*, Shakespeare’s *Villains*, and *Requiem for Ground Zero*, in venues all over the world. Films Steven has acted in include *A Clockwork Orange*, *Barry Lyndon*, *Octopussy*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Rambo*, *Under the Cherry Moon*, *Absolute Beginners* and *The Krays*. He directed and co- starred with Joan Collins in the film version of his play *Decadence*. He has published a variety of books on the theatre such as the production journals *I am Hamlet*, *Meditations on Metamorphosis*, and *Coriolanus in Deutschland*. Berkoff’s work has led him to traverse the globe, and his love for travel is apparent in his book *Shopping in the Santa Monica Mall: The Journals of a Strolling Player*.

## Cast



**Bill Army\*** (Man) PTP: *Scenes from an Execution, Vinegar Tom, Gertrude- the Cry, The Europeans, No End of Blame, An Experiment with an Airpump, Somewhere in the Pacific*. BROADWAY: *The Band's Visit, Act One* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Relatively Speaking*. OFF-BROADWAY: *The Band's Visit* (Atlantic Theater Company), *The Changeling* (Red Bull Theater), *Old Jews Telling Jokes, All's Well that Ends Well* (The Public Theater), *Measure for Measure* (The Public Theater). FILM/TV: "COHAB" (YouTube- 3 episodes), "Deadbeat" (Hulu). MFA: NYU. BA: Middlebury College.

**Jackie Sanders\*** (Woman) Jackie Sanders is thrilled to work with PTP again this summer after appearing as Charlotte in *Party Time* last year. Other recent roles include Laura Keene in the workshop of the new musical *Tyrants!* at York Theatre Company and an angry shareholder on the upcoming season of HBO's "Succession." Off Broadway: *Kicking a Dead Horse* (The Public Theater – written & directed by Sam Shepard), *Measure for Measure* (The Public), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Shakespeare in the Park), *Swingtime Canteen* by Charles Busch (Original Cast), *Cowgirls* (Original Cast), *The Demise – A Rock Opera* (Playwright's Horizons), *Music-Hall* (Diffractions Théâtre Co). Tours: *42nd Street, A Chorus Line*. Regional: The Old Globe, Bay Street Theater, Bucks Co. TV: "Pan Am" (ABC), "Live from Queens" (Lifetime Network), "The Loudest Voice" (CBS), "The Blacklist" (NBC) and "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt: Kimmy vs the Reverend" (Netflix).

## Artistic and Production Team



**Richard Romagnoli** (Director) In 1986 Richard Romagnoli co-founded and has since been the Co-Artistic Director of the Potomac Theatre Project. PTP/NYC; Director, For PTP/NYC, private and public Zoom productions of Pinter's *Press Conference/Party Time*, Howard Barker's poem *Don't Exaggerate*. His most recent 'live' production for the company was 2019's *Havel: The Passion of Thought*. For PTP and other theatres he has directed multiple productions of Howard Barker's *The Castle*, *Scenes from an Execution*, *The Europeans*, *A Hard Heart*, *Pity In History* and *The Possibilities*. He has also directed Barker's *Judith*, *Gertrude— The Cry*, *Victory: Choices in Reaction* and Barker's poems 'Gary the Thief,' 'Plevna: Meditations on Hatred,' and 'Don't Exaggerate.' For the worldwide 2010 Barker celebration "21 for 21", he directed *Judith* with Jan Maxwell, Alex Draper and Stephanie Janssen. Other playwrights directed for PTP include Harold Pinter, Edward Albee, Gore Vidal, Vaclav Havel, Pavel Kohout, Snoo Wilson, Howard Brenton and Tariq Ali. In Washington D.C. he has directed Dumas fil's *Camille* (with Jan Maxwell), Pinter's *The Homecoming*, Coward's *Private Lives*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* for the Olney Theatre Center, and has also worked with Project Y in D.C. and in Boston for *Whistler in the Dark*. He is a professor emeritus of theatre at Middlebury College in Vermont, where he directed numerous plays, including, most recently, *Major Barbara*, *Havel: The Passion of Thought*,

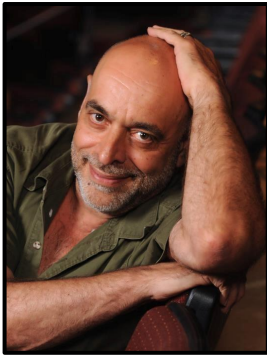
*Glengarry Glen Ross*, *The Antigone Project*, *Flare Path*, *Mendel, Inc.*, *Pentecost*, *The Castle*, *Victory*, *Scenes From An Execution*, Tom Stoppard's *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour* (EGBDF) and the American premiere of Peter Barnes' *The Bewitched* (*Scenes* and *Bewitched* were both performed at the Kennedy Center as part of the 1996 and 2006 American College Theatre Festivals respectively; *Pentecost* received ACTF's 2014 Outstanding Production of a play award). He's developed new plays at The Young Playwright's Festival at the Public Theatre and the Shenandoah Playwrights Festival. Romagnoli is an associate of Howard Barker's The Wrestling School and cofounded The Barker Project with Robert Emmet Lunney and Jan Maxwell. He trained at the School of Theatre, Florida State University.



**Cheryl Faraone** is a co-founder of Potomac Theatre Project and has produced all of PTP/NYC's 34.5 seasons and directed many shows for the company, including *Dogg's Hamlet*, *Cahoot's Macbeth* and *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard; *Serious Money*, *Vinegar Tom*, *After-Dinner Joke* and *Mad Forest* by Caryl Churchill; Sarah Kane's *Crave*, *Territories*, *Lovesong of the Electric Bear*, *Politics of Passion: the Plays of Anthony Minghella*, *An Experiment with an Air Pump*, *Perfect Pie*, *Stanley* and many more. Previously, she directed and produced for eight seasons with the New York Theatre Studio.

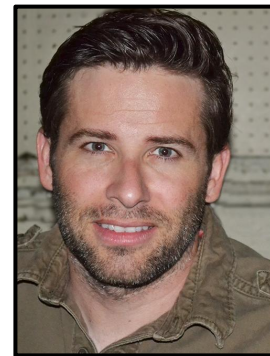


For the Olney Theatre Center in Maryland she directed *King of the Jews*, *The Real Thing* and *Anna Karenina*. In New York, she worked on the Broadway productions of *The American Clock* and *An Evening with Comden and Greene* with producer Arthur Cantor and at the Public Theatre. Her work at Middlebury College, where she is professor emeritus and taught theatre and women and gender studies for 35 years, includes the direction of 30 productions, including *Julius Caesar*, *Men on Boats*, *Enron*, *Stupid Fucking Bird*, *As You Like It*, *The Good Woman of Setzuan*, *Jumpers*, *The Five Hysterical Girls Theorem*, *An Experiment with an Air Pump*, *Top Girls* and numerous others. She is a graduate of Catholic University and Florida State University's School of Theatre, and has been involved with ART/NY, the League of Washington Theatres and TCG.



**Jim Petosa** (Founder and Co-Artistic Director PTP/NYC) Jim Petosa is Professor Emeritus with Boston University's College of Fine Arts. He served as a professor and as director of the BU School of Theatre from 2002 – 2018. He also served as artistic director of the Boston region's New Repertory Theatre from 2012 – 2018. Petosa has directed Tom Stoppard and André Previn's *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour* at NYC's Town Hall and the operas *Carmen* (Peter Brook adaptation) and *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* among others. PTP/NYC credits include *Monster*, *Spatter Pattern*, *A Question of Mercy*, *Therese Raquin*, *Somewhere in the Pacific*, *Marisol*, *Dog Plays*, *Statements After an Arrest*, *Good, Brecht on Brecht*, among others.

He also served as Artistic Director for the Olney Theatre Center, where directing credits include *Democracy*, *Brooklyn Boy*, *Copenhagen*, *The Laramie Project*, *Art*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well* and *Living in Paris* (won a Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Musical Production), *Theatre J's Collected Stories* (received a Helen Hayes nomination for Outstanding Direction), and *Look! We Have Come Through!* (Charles MacArthur New Play nomination, Co-created with Carole Graham Lehman). A member of the Actor's Equity Association and the Society of Directors and Choreographers, Petosa is the current President of Stage Source, the New England association of theatre organizations and practitioners. He teaches acting and directs for the Boston University Opera Institute.



**Courtney Smith** (Production Designer) Courtney Smith is a scenic, media designer, and technician for live performance. He is currently the Production Designer for the Department of Theatre at Middlebury College. Courtney's designs have received several Meritorious Achievement Awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Additionally, his work received a "Distinguished Achievement Award in Scenic Design" from the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Credits include Potomac Theatre Project (NY), Warren Miller Performing Arts Center (MT), Southwark Playhouse (UK), The Bushwick Starr (NY), Roundabout Theatre Company (NY), New York City Opera (NY), Playwrights Horizons

(NY), Classic Stage Company (NY), Cedar Lake Dance (NY), Marvel Repertory Theatre (NY), Mount Baker Repertory Theatre (WA), Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (MT), Coeur d'Alene Summer Theatre (ID), and Idaho Repertory Theatre (ID).

Courtney is a member of United States Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT) and received his MFA in scenic design from the University of Idaho.



**Alex Draper\*** (Associate Artistic Director and actor) Alex Draper is a founding member and the Associate Artistic Director of PTP/NYC, appearing most recently in their productions of *The House in Scarsdale: A Memoir for the Stage*, *Arcadia*, *No End of Blame*, *Judith: A Parting from the Body*, *Pentecost*, *Gertrude-The Cry*, *Serious Money*, and *Plevna: Meditations on Hatred*. Theatre credits include the New York premieres of *Terrorism* (New Group/Play Company); *Get What You Need* (Atlantic); *Rose's Dilemma* (MTC); *Endpapers* (Variety Arts); *Saint Crispin's Day* (Rattlestick); *The Pitchfork Disney* (Blue Light); and *Oedipus* (CSC/Blue Light); revivals of *Waiting for Lefty* and *Golden Boy* (Blue Light); and *Scapin* and *The Triumph of Love* (CSC); and regional productions at Yale Rep, Williamstown, Arena Stage, the Westport Playhouse, The McCarter, The Huntington, George Street, and The Berkshire Theatre Festival. Film: *The Witch in the Window*, *No Pay*, *Nudity*, *Yellowbrickroad*, *Joshua*, *Hysterical Blindness*, *Simply Irresistible*, *The Photographer*, *Kalapani* and *Hard Shell*. TV: *Chicago Med*, *Taken*, *The Good Wife*, *John Adams*, *Sex and the City*, *Law and Order*, *Law and Order SVU*, *Law and Order: CI*, *Suddenly Susan* and *Ed*.

Alex trained at the Yale School of Drama and Middlebury College, where he is currently Chair of the Department of Theatre.



**Devin Wein\*** is thrilled to be a part of her sixth PTP season. Off-Broadway credits include: *The Havel Plays*, *The After Dinner Joke*, *No End of Blame*, and *Pity in History* (Potomac Theatre Project), *Two By Friel*, *Three Small Irish Masterpieces*, *Rebel in the Soul*, and *The Dead, 1904* (Irish Repertory Theatre), *Ironbound* and *Undeniable Sound of Right Now* (Women's Project and Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre), *Phalaris' Bull* (Theatre Row), *Allegro* (Classic Stage Company), *Scenes From a Marriage* (New York Theatre Workshop), *Threepenny Opera* (Atlantic Theatre Company). Regional: *The Underpants*, *The Whale Song*, and *Devilfish* (Perseverance Theatre), *Legacy* and *The Visit* (Williamstown Theatre Festival).



**Madison Middleton** (Sound Design) Madison Middleton is delighted to be making their official PTP debut! They are a Theatre and Music joint major at Middlebury College. Middlebury acting credits include Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, Margaret in *The Light in the Piazza*, Andrea in *Giants Have Us in Their Books*, and Tattooed Woman in *Bacchae 2.1*. Some DC/Maryland acting credits include Kate

Monster in *Avenue Q*, Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret*, Catherine in *Proof*, Orpheus in *Polaroid Stories* (The Theatre Lab), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (The Theatre Lab), *Children of Eden* (Young Artists of America at Strathmore). Madison is interested in LGBTQIA+ theory and aesthetics, musical and theatrical world-building, puppetry, magic, and environmental justice through art-making.



**Bella Costantino-Carrigan** (Costume Design) Bella Costantino-Carrigan is a senior Theatre Major at Middlebury College studying costume design and acting. Previous design credits include *Happy*, *Until I Do*, *Stop Kiss*, and *Airswimming*. [www.thanksbella.com](http://www.thanksbella.com)



**Gibson Grimm** (Digital Technician) Gibson Grimm is a Theatre and Film double major at Middlebury College from Jacksonville, Florida. His Middlebury acting credits include *Giants Have Us in Their Books*, *The Bacchae 2.1*, *Untitled Romantic Comedy*, *Working*, and the First Year Show. He recently directed *I and You*. Outside the department, he is a member of Middlebury Discount Comedy, is a Social Activities Co-Chair for MCAB, and co-hosts a radio show.



**Caroline Armour** (Social Media/ Prod. Coordinator) is excited to participate in her first season of PTP. She has performed in *A Monster Calls*, *Mamma Mia*, *Find Me*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Caroline went on to become the Assistant Director for *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *In The Heights*, *Spring Awakening*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Puffs*, and *Matilda*. Previously she wrote and directed a production of *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, and a stage interpretation of *The Office*. Caroline is currently working on her BA in Theatre and French at Middlebury College.

**David Gibbs** (Press Representative) (he/him) is the founder of DARR Publicity, a boutique press agency specializing in theater, dance, film, music-driven shows and unique theatrical experiences. Clients include The Amoralists, Company XIV, Ice Factory Festival, La MaMa, Molière in the Park, New Ohio Theatre, Pig Iron and PTP/NYC. David has publicized shows at many Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway venues throughout NYC. His clients have won Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Obie and Off Broadway Alliance Awards.



# HISTORY OF THE POTOMAC THEATRE PROJECT

81 productions, 1987–2020

## **Howard Barker**

*Judith: a Parting from the Body* (NY premiere)  
*Gertrude -- The Cry* (American premiere)  
*No End of Blame: Scenes of Overcoming*  
*The Castle* (American premiere)  
*The Possibilities*  
*A Hard Heart*  
*Scenes from an Execution*  
*The Europeans: Struggle to Love* (American premiere)  
*Plevna: Meditations on Hatred* (World premiere)  
*Gary the Thief* (American premiere)  
*Victory: Choices in Reaction*  
*Pity in History* (World premiere)  
*Don't Exaggerate*

## **Harold Pinter**

*Mountain Language*  
*The New World Order* (American premiere)  
*One for the Road*  
*No Man's Land*  
*A Kind of Alaska and other works*

## **Caryl Churchill**

*Vinegar Tom*  
*The After-Dinner Joke* (American premiere)  
*Mad Forest*  
*Serious Money*  
*Far Away*

## **Neal Bell**

*Somewhere in the Pacific*  
*Therese Raquin*  
*Spatter Pattern*  
*Monster*

**Snoo Wilson**

*Vampire* (American premiere)  
*Lovesong of the Electric Bear* (American premiere)

**Tom Stoppard**

*Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth*  
*Arcadia*

**Pam Gems**

*Stanley*  
*Piaf*

**Anthony Minghella**

*Cigarettes and Chocolate* (American premiere)  
*Politics of Passion: The Plays of Anthony Minghella*

*Havel: The Passion of Thought* (Vaclav Havel, Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett—American premiere)

*Crave* (Sarah Kane) American premiere  
*Pentecost* (David Edgar—NY premiere)  
*Trial of the Catonsville Nine* (Daniel Berrigan)  
*The Best Man* (Gore Vidal)  
*A Question of Mercy* (David Rabe)  
*Magnificence* (Howard Brenton)  
*A Narrow Bed* (Ellen McLaughlin)  
*Statements After an Arrest Under the Immorality Act* (Athol Fugard)  
*Masterpieces* (Sarah Daniels)  
*A Poster of the Cosmos* (Lanford Wilson)  
*Manny and Jake* (Harvey Fierstein)  
*The Good and Faithful Servant* (Joe Orton)  
*Ghosts* (Henrik Ibsen)  
*Rain. Some Fish. No Elephants* (Y York)  
*Marisol* (José Rivera)  
*The Dog Plays* (Robert Chesley)  
*Family Life* (Wendy Hammond)  
*Closetland* (Radha Bharadwaj)  
*Good* (C.P. Taylor)  
*Plenty* (David Hare)

*Scotland Road* (Jeffrey Hatcher)  
*Measure for Measure* (Shakespeare, adapted by Chris Hayes—Premiere)  
*Perfect Pie* (Judith Thompson)  
*The American Dream* (Edward Albee)  
*An Experiment with an Air Pump* (Shelagh Stephenson)  
*Territories: The Spoils & A Light Gathering of Dust* (Steven Dykes)  
*Brecht on Brecht* (Bertolt Brecht/George Tabori)  
*The House in Scarsdale* (Dan O'Brien)

PTP/NYC wishes to express gratitude to the Performers' Unions:  
ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION  
AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS  
AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS  
SAG-AFTRA

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.  
*Company members designated with \* are members of ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION*

Potomac Theatre Project (PTP/NYC)

Season 34.5  
July 9 to August 17, 2021

*Lunch*  
By Steven Berkoff  
July 9-13

*Standing on the Edge of Time*  
July 23-27

*A Small Handful*  
by Anne Sexton and Gilda Lyons  
August 13-17

[www.ptpnyc.org](http://www.ptpnyc.org)

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