



Bob Finkelstein

THE WHITE LAMA

THE IMPROBABLE LEGACY OF THEOS BERNARD

WORLD PREMIERE // #GLASSFEST

**Dranyen, Flute, Gongs, Singing Bowls
and Vocals** Tenzin Choegyal

Piano Philip Glass

Piano Ted Baker

Narrator/Theos Bernard Kevin Joyce

Director Nikki Appino

Composers Tenzin Choegyal and
Philip Glass

Set and Projection Designer

Jorge Cousineau

Lighting Designer Maria Shaplin

Costume Designer Frances Kenny

Sound Engineer Dan Bora

Dramaturg Andrew Kircher

Producer Appino Productions

Project Manager Anna Drozdowski

Production Stage Manager

Sarah Chandler

Videographer Bob Finkelstein

Production Assistant India Abbott

Friday, March 13 @ 7:30 PM

Saturday, March 14 @ 7:30 PM

Prince Theatre

Conceived by Nikki Appino in collaboration with Tenzin Choegyal, Philip Glass and Kevin Joyce. Libretto created from the writings and letters of Theos Casmiri Hamati Bernard with additional text by Nikki Appino and Kevin Joyce and with the help of Paul G. Hackett's book, *Theos Bernard, the White Lama* (Columbia Univ. Pr., 2012)

There will not be an intermission.



Major support for *The White Lama* has been provided to Nikki Appino by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

The White Lama is co-commissioned by the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and The Days and Nights Festival.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Nikki Appino (Director)

For three decades, Appino, theatre artist and filmmaker, has refined and personalized her career as a director, writer and producer for stage and screen. Her most recent project, *Club Diamond* (created with Saori Tsukada), was selected for the Sundance TheatreMakers Residency and its Theatre Lab at MassMoCA. *Club Diamond* premiered at the 2017 Under the Radar Festival at the Public Theater in New York City and is currently touring the United States. Her work has been recognized through commissions and grants, including The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, the Flintridge Foundation, Paul Allen Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts/TCG Directing Fellowship.

Ted Baker (Piano)

From Philadelphia, Baker holds degrees in piano performance and jazz composition from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Baker began with The Philip Glass Ensemble in 1986. He toured and recorded with Steely Dan, including *Two Against Nature*, winner of the 2000 Grammy® Award for Album of the Year. A member of the original team for The Who's *Tommy* at La Jolla Playhouse (1991), he also played with the production on Broadway and on international tours. Additional Broadway work includes *Hair*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Grease* and *The Lion King* as well as music director/pianist for Pete Townshend's *The Boy Who Heard Music*. Baker has also performed with Randy Newman, Peter Gallagher, Simon and Garfunkel, Madeleine Peyroux, Eartha Kitt, Lee Ritenour, Grover Washington Jr, Petula Clark, Larry Carlton & John Pizzarelli, Birdland All-Stars and Lisa Loeb.

Dan Bora (Sound Engineer)

Bora is a producer, engineer and designer of albums, film scores and live sound. Bora has worked with Marina Abramovic, Anohni, Danny Elfman, Howard Shore, The Magnetic Fields, Nico Muhly, Michael Nyman and many others. His credits include the Academy Award-winning *Fog of War* and the Academy Award-nominated *The Illusionist*, as well as the revival of Robert Wilson's *Einstein on the Beach* and *The Life and Death of Marina Abramovic*. Bora's live work has been praised as "defiant", "provocative and even poignant" (*The New York Times*).

Sarah Chandler (Production Stage Manager)

Chandler is head of the Theatre Management BFA at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, and spends her summers as the Production & Facilities Manager for Chautauqua Theater Company. Chandler has worked professionally as a freelance manager for over 15 years with companies including the Public Theater, Pig Iron Theatre Company and The Bearded Ladies Cabaret. Her most recent projects include *Pandaemonium*, a collaboration between Nichole Canuso Dance Company (Philadelphia, PA) and Early Morning Opera (Los Angeles, CA), and *Lashed But Not Leashed*, an original drag-concert-theatre piece with Martha Graham Cracker (with Dito van Reigersberg, based in Philadelphia).

Tenzin Choegyal (Dranyen, Flute, Gongs, Singing Bowls and Vocals, Composer)

Choegyal is a Tibetan artist, composer, activist and cultural ambassador. A son of Tibetan nomads, he proudly continues the unbroken nomadic lineage, which is central to his musical repertoire. He is a master of traditional Tibetan instruments and is well-known for his extraordinary vocal ability. Since arriving in Australia in 1997, Choegyal has made his mark on the world music scene, touring widely in Japan, India, Europe and USA, and he has released eight albums, including *Songs from the Bardo* with Laurie Anderson, and collaborated on film scores including *The Last Dalai Lama?* with Philip Glass.

Jorge Cousineau (Set and Projection Designer)

Cousineau is a designer of sets, lights, sound and projections for dance and theatre. Over the last twenty years, his designs have been seen and heard internationally, regionally and all over his home base, Philadelphia. Together, with his wife, Niki Cousineau, and Scott McPheeters, he co-directs the company subcircle. Cousineau is a recipient of two Independence Foundation Fellowship grants, a Lucille Lortel Award in New York City, and several Philadelphia Barrymore Awards. He was awarded the F. Otto Haas Award for Emerging Theatre Artist and is a recipient of the Pew Fellowship in the Arts.

Anna Drozdowski (Project Manager)

Drozdowski is a builder of cultural and civic experiences. Delivery systems include: curation, international exchange, gently organized chats, retreats and cups of tea. She teaches in the Socially Engaged Art MA/MFA Program at Moore College of Art & Design, and has recently worked with Temple Contemporary, David Lang, JJ Tiziou, Lola38 and The Crossing. A co-founder of Thirdbird and thINKingDance, Drozdowski launched the Headlong Performance Institute and led the adaptive re-use of Neighborhood House. Plaudits include: NEA Dance Journalism and Fulbright Fellowships, and awards from The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, TMU, DAAD, CDSP, and Philadelphia Cultural Fund. Her studio, Cultivator, is reviving a creative homestead in VT.

Bob Finkelstein (Videographer)

Finkelstein is a Philadelphia-based videographer who has partnered with a wide range of arts organizations, non-profits, educational institutions and businesses to produce videos to promote their work and to document live performances. He has worked at or with Philadelphia-area venues including World Cafe Live, FringeArts, Arden Theatre Company, the Wilma Theater and the Painted Bride Art Center. A former journalist, he also has more than a decade of experience conducting interviews on- and off-camera, first as a reporter covering state government and business news, and currently as shoot coordinator for TheMuse.com.

Philip Glass (Piano and Composer)

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Glass is a graduate of the University of Chicago and The Juilliard School. By 1974, Glass had created a large collection of music for The Philip Glass Ensemble. The period culminated in his landmark opera, *Einstein on the Beach*. Since *Einstein*, Glass' repertoire has grown to include music for opera, dance, theatre, orchestra and film. His scores have received Academy Award nominations (*Kundun*, *The Hours*, *Notes on a Scandal*) and a Golden Globe (*The Truman Show*). Glass received the U.S. National Medal of the Arts from President Barack Obama in 2016 and the 41st Kennedy Center Honors in December 2018.

Kevin Joyce (Narrator/Theos Bernard)

Joyce is an actor, producer and musician based on Vashon Island, WA. He has trained with the Commediants (Barcelona), improviser Ruth Zaporah and musician Meredith Monk. Original work includes his solo *A Pale and Lovely Place*, the musical *Rain City Rollers* (with Nikki Appino and David Russell), and 14 shows as a co-founder of UMO Ensemble. Joyce has directed and performed with the circus/cabaret *Teatro Zinzanni* since 2001. With his wife Martha Enson, Joyce runs EnJoy Productions, creating theatre, music, comedy and live spectacles for public, private and civic events throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Frances Kenny (Costume Designer)

Kenny is a Seattle-based costume designer for theatre and dance, and a wardrobe stylist for television commercials and online content. She studied at FIT in NY and is a graduate of the University of Oregon where she received a BFA in history and art. Most of her costume design work has been for Seattle theatres with brief forays to Los Angeles, Honolulu, Louisville, Alaska and Broadway. Her wardrobe styling for film and video has ranged from holograms to chimpanzees to football with many families and tech heads in between. She is grateful to be collaborating with Nikki Appino once again.

Andrew Kircher (Dramaturg)

Kircher is an independent producer, dramaturg, curator and scholar. As a creative producer, he has worked with artists and companies including Ars Nova, Les Freres Corbusier and Guillermo Calderón, and has held institutional positions including the Director of the Public Theater's Devised Theater Initiative, the Associate Director of the Under the Radar Festival, and curator of the Prelude Festival. He is a PhD candidate at the CUNY Graduate Center and is currently writing a dissertation entitled *Dramaturgies of Intellectual Property Law in Read-Write Theatre*.

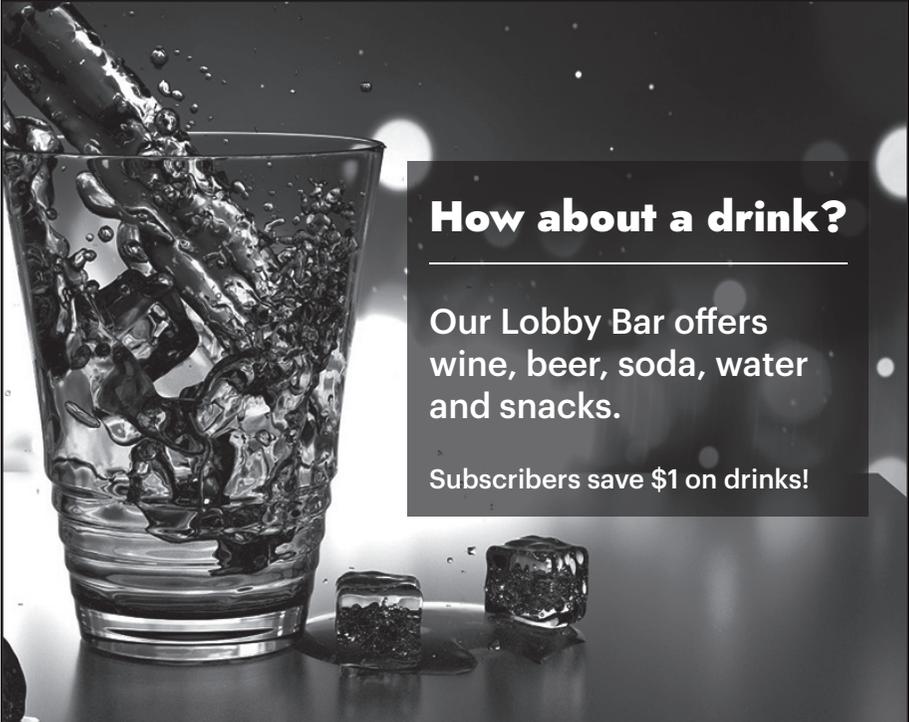
Maria Shaplin (Lighting Designer)

Shaplin is a Philadelphia-based lighting designer who received her MFA from Temple University. She has a BA in anthropology and sociology from Hampshire College. Shaplin designs for many Philadelphia-based companies including Applied Mechanics, The Riot Group, Swim Pony Performing Arts, InterAct Theatre Company, Arden Theatre Company, the Wilma Theater, New Paradise

Laboratories, The Berserker Residents, and 1812 Productions. Shaplin is the co-founder of Applied Mechanics, a company which devises immersive, multi-narrative performance art. Shaplin is the recipient of a 2019 Pew Fellowship in the Arts. mariashaplin.com

Appino Productions (Producer)

Appino Productions creates live performance, films, documentaries and web-based content. This production company celebrates and supports the power of art to form community, share ideas and collectively progress toward a better world.



How about a drink?

Our Lobby Bar offers wine, beer, soda, water and snacks.

Subscribers save \$1 on drinks!