# CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

The

# WELCOME

Welcome to The Enigmatist-a captivating, mind-twisting experience full of wonder and magic. David Kwong has created an engaging one-of-a-kind show, including the pre-show puzzle garden which has dazzled audiences in New York, Los Angeles, and now here in Chicago. What better way to challenge your senses and exercise your minds than by giving yourself up to David's magic? The summer is a special time at CST on Navy Pier, so we are particularly happy to be sharing this experience with you—whether you are coming just to CST, or expanding your trip to enjoy all that the Pier has to offer in its beautiful location over the glittering waters of Lake Michigan. Truly a magical show at a magical place to be enjoyed by everyone of every age. All of us at Chicago Shakespeare Theater are delighted that this production ends such a wonderfully creative 2023-24 season of theatrical work.

Looking forward, we hope you will join us for the 2024-25 season of more than ten productions which begins this summer with The Lord of the Rings and Corduroy, two special productions also with magic at their heart. The season is full of thrilling, daring, joyous, adventurous, laugh-out-loud theater experiences so see you again soon.



Edward Hall Artistic Director Carl and Marilynn Thoma Chair

Kimberly Kimberly Motes Executive Director

# Crack the code... Share the magic!

Post your experience at The Enigmatist and tag @chicagoshakes











Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

The Jentes Family

<sup>₩</sup>SHUBERT

FOUNDATION INC.

Ray and Judy McCaskev

Carl and Marilynn Thoma

Mark Ouweleen and Sarah Harding

Pritzker Foundation Burton X. and

Sheli Z. Rosenberg

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

EDWARD HALL Artistic Director Carl and Marilynn Thoma Chair KIMBERLY MOTES Executive Director

presents

# The ENIGMATIST

written and performed by **DAVID KWONG** 

Production Design BRETT J. BANAKIS Lighting and Video Design
JOSHUA HIGGASON

Sound Design BRENDAN AANES

Produced in Association with **ANDY JONES** & **DYLAN PAGER** 

Production Stage Manager **DREW DONNELLY\*** 

#### **ADDITIONAL CREDITS**

Assistant Stage Manager

Puzzle Consultant DAVE SHUKAN Magic Consultant

Special thanks to

Jennifer Chambers, Sean Gorski, Greg Berlanti, and Robbie Rogers

#### The performance will run 95 minutes with no intermission.

Welcome. If we can help accommodate you during your visit, please speak with our House Manager. For your safety, we ask that you keep aisles and doorways clear. Please silence your electronic devices and refrain from taking any photography and other video or audio recordings of the production.

\*denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association



Take your place for Artistic Director Edward Hall & Executive Director Kimberly Motes' inaugural season.

## chicagoshakes.com



# **PROFILES**

DAVID KWONG (Playwright & Performer) With his expertise in enigmas and illusions, David Kwong delights and challenges audiences around the world with his intellectual brand of magic. A veteran "cruciverbalist" (crossword puzzle constructor), Kwong routinely creates puzzles for the The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and The Wall Street Journal. Kwong was the head magic consultant on the 2013 worldwide hit film Now You See Me. A TED Talk favorite, Kwong regularly speaks to companies, demonstrating the principles of illusion and the science of why your brain is fooled. Kwong's book Spellbound: Seven Principles of Illusion to Captivate Audiences and Unlock the Secrets of Success was published by Harper Business. In 2019 The Enigmatist ran for 125 sold-out performances in New York City. During the pandemic, Kwong and the Geffen Stayhouse teamed up for Inside the Box, a virtual one-man puzzle show that garnered a Critic's Pick from the The New York Times. Kwong is a graduate of Harvard University, where he studied the history of magic. His kids' book of magic tricks, How to Fool Your Parents, also with HarperCollins, will hit shelves in October of this year.

BRETT J. BANAKIS (Production Designer) Banakis is a designer for theater, opera, film, and environments based in Brooklyn, NY. Brett is a co-founder of AMP Scenography, a design collective created to amplify emerging and underrepresented designers by engaging in equitable collaborations. Brett is delighted to return to Chicago Shakespeare following the move of *The Notebook* to Broadway after its world premiere production at The Yard. Other Broadway: The Outsiders (as AMP, Tony Nomination), The Cher Show. Off-Broadway: All of Me (New Group), Camp Siegfried (2ST), Your Own Personal Exegesis and Ghost Light (LCT3), The Unsinkable Molly Brown (Transport Group), Big Love (Signature), Sunday (Atlantic). Regional:

An Officer and a Gentleman (National Tour), Mysterious Circumstances, POTUS (Geffen Playhouse). International Scenic Supervisor for all worldwide productions of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child (Broadway, West End, Melbourne, San Francisco, Hamburg, Toronto, Tokyo, US Tour). Faculty member at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. brettjbanakis.com @brettjbanakis @ampscenography

JOSHUA HIGGASON (Lighting & Video Designer) Higgason is a video, lighting, scenic, and interactive designer, creating experiences for theater, concerts, opera, and events. Recently designed lights and video for David Kwong's The Enigmatist at The High Line Hotel and Inside the Box for Geffen Stayhouse. Other recent video designs include Blue for Michigan Opera Theater; Cosi Fan Tutte at Opera di Firenze; Die Ägyptische Helena and Hansel und Gretel for Teatro Alla Scala; Purcell's King Arthur for Staatsoper Berlin and Theater An Der Wien; Acquanetta for Bard Summerscape; Ira Glass' Seven Things... Tour; and Sufjan Stevens' Carrie and Lowell Tour. Upcoming: Aging Magician (lights and projection) for San Diego Opera and Falstaff for Opera di Firenze. His work has been seen at Carnegie Hall, Salzburg Festspiele, Bayreuth Festspiele, BAM, TED, MoMA, Panorama Festival NYC, Sydney Opera House, Beacon Theatre, and many others. He teaches design in the Music and Theater Arts program at MIT.

**BRENDAN AANES** (Sound Designer) Off Broadway credits include Fire in Dreamland at The Public Theater; Balls with One Year Lease Theater Company (Drama Desk Nomination); Wild Abandon at Irish Repertory Theatre; {my lingerie play} at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater; beep boop at HERE. Regional credits include Everybody at Shakespeare Theater Company; The Good Person of Szechwan, War of the Roses, The Glass Menagerie, and Othello at Cal Shakes; The Unfortunates, John, The Hard



Problem, and Chester Bailey at American Conservatory Theater; Curious Incident Of The Dog in the Night-Time at Kansas City Rep, The Music Man at Sharon Playhouse.

ANDY JONES (Producer) Jones is a Broadway general manager, producer, and founder of Baseline Theatrical. Broadway credits include Hamilton, Sweeney Todd, Fat Ham, freestyle love supreme, Pass Over, Derren Brown: Secret, The Cher Show, Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812, and The Last Ship. Andy is a member of the Broadway League, Co-Chair of the League Labor Committee, and Co-founder of Beyond the Stage Door: www.beyondthestagedoor.org

DYLAN PAGER (Producer) Pager is currently the Director of Producing and Creative Development at No Guarantees. While at Baseline Theatrical, he worked on the general management teams of Hamilton, The Cher Show, Derren Brown: Secret, Coal Country, Hundred Days, Teeth, Bliss and Fat Ham, for which he was also nominated for a Tony Award as an Executive Producer. He is the Producer of David Kwong's The Enigmatist which has played to sold out crowds in New York, Los Angeles, and at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Over the pandemic he produced the virtual production Inside The Box alongside the Geffen Playhouse. Dylan is a proud graduate of Northwestern University.

**DREW DONNELLY** (Production Stage Manager) Donnelly's Chicago production credits include Islander, Disney's Beauty and The Beast for Chicago Shakespeare Theater; Anything Goes, Cabaret for Porchlight Music Theatre; Sweeney Todd for Kokandy Productions; The Drag Seed, Snowgirls, Satan's School for Girls, Bewildered for Hell in a Handbag Productions; Gentle, The Edge of Our Bodies at TUTA Theatre; Triassic Parq, 35MM at Circle Theatre; Always Saturday, Beth In July for Prop Thtr; The Glass Menagerie, Superior Donuts at Mary-Arrchie Theatre Co.

LUCY HOULIHAN (Assistant Stage Manager) Houlihan is a New York City based stage manager, director, and producer. Most recently, she worked on Scarlett Dreams Off Broadway (ASM), Fiddler on the Roof at Papermill Playhouse (Sub ASM), The Following Evening at Perelman Arts Center (Venue Coordinator), Kiss of the Spider Woman at A Noise Within (PSM), The Inheritance at the Geffen Playhouse (ASM) and Man of God at Williamstown Theater Festival (ASM). Returning to The Enigmatist is always a magical experience!



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org



UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS

The scenic, lighting, and sound designers of this production are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of IATSE.



## CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

EDWARD HALL Artistic Director Carl and Marilynn Thoma Chair

Regional Tony Award-recipient Chicago Shakespeare Theater produces a bold and innovative year-round season—plays, musicals, world premieres, family productions, and theatrical presentations from around the globe—alongside nationally recognized education programming for students, teachers, and lifelong learners, and engagement with communities and artists across the city. Founded in 1986, the Theater's onstage work has expanded to present as many as twenty productions and 650 performances annually. The Theater is dedicated to welcoming the next generation of theatergoers; one in four of its audience members is under the age of eighteen. As a nonprofit organization, the Theater works to embrace diversity, prioritize inclusion, provide equitable opportunities, and offer an accessible experience for all. On the Theater's three stages at its home on Navy Pier, in classrooms and neighborhoods across the city, and in venues around the world, Chicago Shakespeare is a multifaceted cultural center—inviting audiences, artists, and community members to share powerful stories that connect and inspire.

#### **STAFF**

#### **ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE**

PAIGE WHITSON-MARTINI General Manager

DANIEL J. HESS Artistic Administrator

BOB MASON Artistic Associate/ Casting Director

ALEXIS TAYLOR Casting Associate

ROSE KALEF Executive Assistant

KARINA PATEL Literary Associate

DELANEY PIGGINS Arts Leadership Fellow

#### **EDUCATION**

NORA CARROLL Director of Lifelong Learning & Education Ray and Judy McCaskey Education Chair

DANA AVILES Learning Programs Coordinator

# MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

MARKETING

JULIE STANTON Director of Marketing and Sales

**KATIE BELL** Digital Marketing Manager

OLIVIA GEORGE Graphic Designer

MIKAYLA SHAW Marketing Assistant

#### COMMUNICATIONS

HANNAH KENNEDY Director of Communications

EMMA PERRIN Public Relations and Digital Media Manager

**BOX OFFICE** 

SCOTT LETSCHER Ticketing Services Manager

SONJA PARDEE Box Office Supervisor

NATALIE BRANDY JAZ FOWLKES MICAH HAZEL AURTHUR KING ASH PIERCE Box Office Associates

#### DEVELOPMENT & Special events

EMILY HANSEN Director of Development

MAKEDA COHRAN Events Director

MELISSA ROSENBERG Associate Director of Development, Individual Giving

**ELIZABETH TEAGUE** Associate Director of Development, Institutional Giving

FINLEY JONES Development Coordinator

NATHAN WETTER Donor Services and Data Coordinator

#### **FINANCE & OPERATIONS**

**KATIE TRESNOWSKI** Director of Finance and Administration

FINANCE DAN THOMAS Controller

ALYSSE HUNTER Assistant Controller

ALEJANDRA SUJO Accounting Associate

TECHNOLOGY JEANNE DEVORE Technology Manager

KEVIN SPELLMAN Technology and Innovation Specialist

#### **OPERATIONS**

MARK KOZY Operations Director

DANIEL LOPEZ Facilities Manager

FELIX ROSS Custodial Manager

DWAYNE BREWER ANTHONY DAVIS CANO HERNANDEZ FERRIS ROBERTSON Custodial Assistants

GUEST SERVICES

Front of House Manager
PHOEBE SILVA

Assistant Front of House Manager EMILY ARTHUR DANI BROWN MEGHAN CAMERON SAM CASTILLO GRACE CUMMINGS AMANDA FARMER LEAH JOHNSON OLIVIA LESLIE PHILIP MACALUSO CHAMAYA MOODY MAGGIE PERISHO JESSICA PLUMMER JULIA RAVENSCROFT ALEX ROSAS NORA RUMERY KIR WESTRICK NYJA WHITE ERIKA WILSON JADA WOODARD Guest Services Associates

TANNER McCORMICK Lead Concessioner

SUZIE GLOVER PATTY ROACHE JACK SAUNDERS EMILY STIPETIC MO WERDER Concessioners

#### HUMAN RESOURCES

TIFFANY TUCKETT Director of Human Resources

GIANNA SCHUETZ-McKINNIS Company Manager and Human Resources Specialist

AMAL MAZEN SALEM People Operations Assistant

#### PRODUCTION

MAC VAUGHEY Director of Production

ALEXA BERKOWITZ Assistant Director of Production

SCENERY TYLER METOXEN Technical Director

TOBI OSIBODU Stage Crew Head

BRADLEY BURI Stage Crew Carpenter Head

JACK BIRDWELL Stage Rigging Crew Head CHRISTOPHER CULVER BOBBY NOE House Technicians

JESSE GAFFNEY Scenic Supervisor

KATHARINE BAUMANN NICOLAS CABRERA DANNY CARRAHER KAT TAYLOR Carpenters

#### COSTUMES

RYAN MAGNUSON Costume Shop Manager

CATHY TANTILLO Costume Design Assistant

JENN GIANGOLA Wardrobe Supervisor

TEAGAN ANDERSON First Hand

YAS MAPLE Stitcher

#### ELECTRICS

ALEC THORNE Lighting and Video Supervisor

ARIANNA BROWN Assistant Lighting and Video Supervisor

JOAN E. CLAUSSEN Lighting Crew Head

CHRIS FEURIG Lightboard Operator

LEA DAVIS Lightboard Programmer

ANDREI BORGES LEA DAVIS CHRIS FEURIG BRIAN RUNGE Electricians

#### SOUND

NICHOLAS POPE Sound Supervisor

DAN SCHRECK Sound Crew Head

ALEXIS KWABEN

MICHAEL MCSHANE Sound Crew

#### HAIR AND MAKE-UP

ASHLEY ADAMS Hair and Make-up Supervisor

#### PROPERTIES

ANNA KATHARINE MANTZ Properties Supervisor

DAN NURCZYK Properties Crew Head

SAM LANCASTER KATIE NOVAK Properties Artisans