



The Lifespan of a Fact

by

Jeremy Kareken & David Murrell

and

Gordon Farrell

BASED ON THE BOOK *by John D'Agata and Jim Fingal*

APRIL 13 – MAY 15, 2022

DIRECTED *by* **Candace Taylor**

— *Starring* —

Conor Patrick Donahue*

Jennifer Gatti*

TJ Lancaster*

Production Stage Manager Lindsey A. Moss*

Production Manager Carrie Day

Technical Director Kenneth D. Horgan

Scenic Design Jeannie Regan

Lighting Design Jordan Vera

Costume Design Casey Watkins

Props Design Kenneth D. Horgan

Sound & Projection Design Leo Lei

Streaming Operation Kyle Baumbach

THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT was originally produced on Broadway by Jeffrey Richards, Norman & Deanna Twain, Will Trice, Barbara H. Freitag, Suzanne Grant, Gold/Ross Productions, Jamie deRoy, Jennifer Manocherian, Barbara Manocherian, ManGol Productions, Carl Moellenberg/Wendy Federman, Ken Greiner, Van Kaplan, Dominick LaRuffa Jr., Marc David Levine, WitzEnd Productions, Eric Falkenstein/Moreland Mott, Caiola Productions, Rimmel T. Dickinson, & Jayne Baron Sherman

*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under Small Professional Theatre SPT Tier 4 Contract.

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

James D'Agata	TJ Lancaster*
Emily Penrose	Jennifer Gatti*
Jim Fingal	Conor Patrick Donahue*

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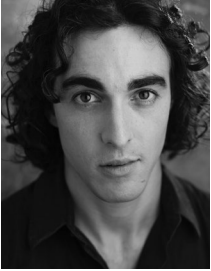
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Cast (in alphabetical order)



Conor Patrick Donahue* (*Jim Fingal*)

Conor (he/him/his) is so excited to make his debut at North Carolina Stage Company alongside the brilliant cast of *The Lifespan of a Fact*. Regional credits include: *The Thanksgiving Play* (Olney Theatre Center); *Escape from Peligro Island* (Imagination Stage); *Treasure Island* (Synetic Theater); *Dog Sees God* (Prologue Theatre); *The Nutcracker* (Puppet Theater Co); *Lobby Hero, Appropriate* (Silver Spring Stage). Conor is a graduate of the Studio Acting Conservatory in Washington DC, holds a BA in Theatre from Warren Wilson College, and is a proud Lumina Studio Theatre alumni.



Jennifer Gatti* (*Emily Penrose*)

Jennifer is thrilled to be back at NC Stage! She was last seen at NCSC in *Don't Dress for Dinner* and *The Book Club Play*. Other Asheville theater credits include *Landscape with Missing Person* (Magnetic Theater/ NYC Fringe), and *The Evolution of Woman* (MT). Jennifer has been a professional actor for most of her life. She began her career in New York as a series regular on the soap operas *Search for Tomorrow* and *Guiding Light*. After several years of working in TV and theater in NYC, Jennifer eventually moved to Los Angeles where she continued to work steadily. Some of her notable credits include *Star Trek: TNG*, *Star Trek: Voyager*, *ER*, *Cheers*, *Full House*, *The Young and the Restless*, *JAG*, *CSI: Miami*, *Navy: NCIS*. While living in LA, Jennifer was a proud member of the Antaeus Theater Company. Since moving to Asheville, she has continued working in the southeast region, with recent appearances on *Vice Principals*, *The Resident*, *Nashville*, and *Swamp Thing*. Thank you all for coming and supporting local theater!



TJ Lancaster* (*James D'Agata*)

TJ is thrilled to make his NC Stage Company debut...and that's a fact. Recent credits include *Art* (Greenbrier Valley Theatre), *Indecent* (Max & Louie Productions, St. Louis Theatre Circle Award), *West Side Story* (Lyric Opera of Kansas City), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Actors Theatre of Indiana), *Hairspray* (Starlight Theatre), *The Normal Heart* (Relevance Productions), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Kansas City Repertory Theatre), *Into the Woods*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *The Music Man* (Musical Theater Heritage), *Damn Yankees* (Great Plains Theatre) and the world-premiere productions of two new musicals, *Nelly Don* and *Hadleyburg*, which he will revisit in the New York workshop this Fall.

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Company

Candace Taylor (*Director*)

Candace is an actress, teacher, vocal coach, and director who has taught at several universities and is presently Chair and Artistic Director of the Theatre Department at Warren Wilson College. She has performed with the Acting Company, at the Public Theatre, and many other regional theatres and Shakespeare Festivals. Most recently, Candace directed Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Appropriate*, and she is proud to have created Walt Disney Theatrical's very first outreach project in tandem with their Broadway production of *The Lion King*. In Asheville, Candace performed in NC Stage's production of *This*, and with David Sedaris at the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium. Candace has a BS in Theatre from Northwestern University, an MFA in Acting from the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware and is a certified instructor of Fitzmaurice Voicework. She is absolutely thrilled to be back in the theatre again and is grateful to NC Stage for this opportunity.

Lindsey A. Moss* (*Production Stage Manager*)

Lindsey A. Moss (Production Stage Manager) is beyond thrilled to be back at NC Stage and to be part of this important production. Previous credits include *Hairspray*, *Les Miserables*, *The Last Five Years*, and *Miss Saigon* (among many others) at Flat Rock Playhouse; *Vrooommm!* at Triad Stage; and *The Twelve Dates of Christmas 2017 & 2018* at North Carolina Stage Company. Many thanks to Candace, Charlie, this wonderful cast, and the entire NC Stage team for inviting me back and a BIG thank you to YOU for supporting the return of live theatre.

Jeannie Regan (*Scenic Design*)

Born in Hong Kong and educated in Australia, Jeannie Regan studied sculpture at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and has since worked in the arts in a wide variety of roles. Jeannie's sculpture practice centers on the performing arts and extends to set design, prop construction and costuming. She works predominantly with the children at the Asheville Performing Arts Academy in collaboration with Artistic Director Heather Gallagher and Director Mary Katherine O'Donnell, where she exercises her love of cardboard construction and diverting materials from landfill. Jeannie also has much gratitude for the opportunities to work with Candace Taylor, Kris Hernandez and the Warren Wilson Theatre Department on their college productions as a designer and educator. Offstage, Jeannie is committed to creating opportunities for kids to develop making skills and be wildly imaginative in a supportive environment. As Director of the SkillSet program at UNCA in partnership with Sara Sanders, Jeannie has worked to grow a circular community of learners and educators undertaking a lifelong journey of discovery and sharing. She is lovingly supported in her endeavors by her husband Micheal Regan, daughter Harriet, and her mother May.

Leo Lei (*Sound & Projection Design*)

Leo holds an M.F.A degree in Lighting Design from Kent State University. He taught Lighting Design and Technology at Santa Fe University of Art and Design, and he currently teaches in the School of Stage and Screen, Western Carolina University as the Assistant Professor of Lighting and Sound. Leo worked as the Season Master Electrician at Porthouse Theatre from 2014 to 2016. His professional lighting design credits include *Into the Woods*, *Beauty and The Beast*, *Twelfth Night*, *Noises Off*, *Cabaret*, *Company*, *Footloose*, and *Grease*. His recent media design for *This Ability* is seen on Chicago Children's Theatre's virtual stage, and his recent sound and projection design for *Jabari Dreams of Freedom* is seen on the stage of New Victory Theatre Off-Broadway in New York. He also designs lighting and sound for corporate events, concerts and music festivals internationally. In 2016, he won first place in the Graduate Lighting Design Awards for *Side Show* in the 67th Southeastern Theatre Conference.

Casey Watkins (*Costume Design*)

A native of Wilmington, NC, Casey Watkins received her BA from NC State University and her MFA in Costume Design from Southern Illinois University. She has worked, designed, and taught at various places such as North Carolina Theatre, Porthouse Theatre, Monomoy Theatre, McLeod Summer Playhouse, Valdosta State University, and Texas A&M University Commerce. She currently teaches at UNC Asheville.

Jordan Vera (*Lighting Design*)

Originally from Miami, Florida, Jordan Vera resides in Knoxville after completing his MFA in Lighting Design at the University of Tennessee. He has had the opportunity to work for the Miami Summer Music Festival, the Clarence Brown Theatre, Oak Ridge Playhouse, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Cincinnati Playhouse at the Park, Flying Anvil Theatre, and River and Rail Stage Co. Some of his design work includes: *Detroit 67* (Clarence Brown Theatre), *I and You* (Flying Anvil Theatre), *Stones in His Pockets* (North Carolina Stage Co.), *Urinetown* (Clarence Brown Theatre), and *The Marriage of Figaro* (Miami Music Festival). To see more of Jordan's work, please visit his online theatre portfolio at www.JveraDesigns.com. Jordan is honored to be working alongside a talented group of artistic collaborators here at North Carolina Stage Company and is excited to present *The Lifespan of a Fact*.

Kenneth D. Horgan (*Technical Director / Props Design*)

Kenneth D. Horgan has worked in the entertainment industry for 30 years and has worked with NC Stage since 2015. He is a soldier, a student, a musician, a son, a brother, a husband and a father. He would like to thank Lynne and Maxwell – without whom life would be really boring – and lastly to Scot “Theo Bassline” Macmillan who may be gone but whose legacy will never be forgotten.

Gordon Farrell (*Playwright*)

Trained as a playwright at the Yale School of Drama, Gordon received an MFA in 1986 and went from there to work with major Hollywood studios, initially as a story analyst for Warner Brothers and Columbia Pictures, and eventually as a screenwriter. He has written for hire and sold screenplays to Universal Pictures, Warner Brothers, MGM, and ITC. He has worked with Robert Simonds (producer of *The Wedding Singer*; *Molly's Game*, *Mile 22*); Neal Moritz (producer of *XXX*, *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, *Fast and Furious*) and Bruce Berman (producer of *The Matrix*, *Three Kings*, *Mad Max: Fury Road*). Working in independent film, Gordon has written for and sold projects to NYC indie producer Norman Twain (producer, *Lean on Me*, *Boycott*, *My Dog Tulip*). Gordon's first independent screenplay, *Girls Who Smoke*, premiered in 2011. It went on to be an official selection at over a dozen film festivals, ultimately winning the Audience Choice Award in Seattle at the Post Alley Film Festival. As a playwright, from 2009 to 2013, Gordon worked with dozens of women on New York's Lower East Side who wanted to tell their personal stories on stage. The series of monologue plays that grew out of it was called *In the Red Room/Every Woman Dances for Someone*. In May 2019 the fully dramatized version, *Girls Who Walked on Glass*, played to SRO houses and rave reviews in Buffalo and is scheduled to transfer to New York City in 2020. His other plays have been produced in San Francisco, at the Alleyway Theatre, at the Yale School of Drama, and at Primary Stages in New York. He is the author of *The Power of the Playwright's Vision*, published by Heinemann Press in 2001. It has been translated internationally and become a standard playwriting text at colleges and universities in North America, Europe, and Asia.

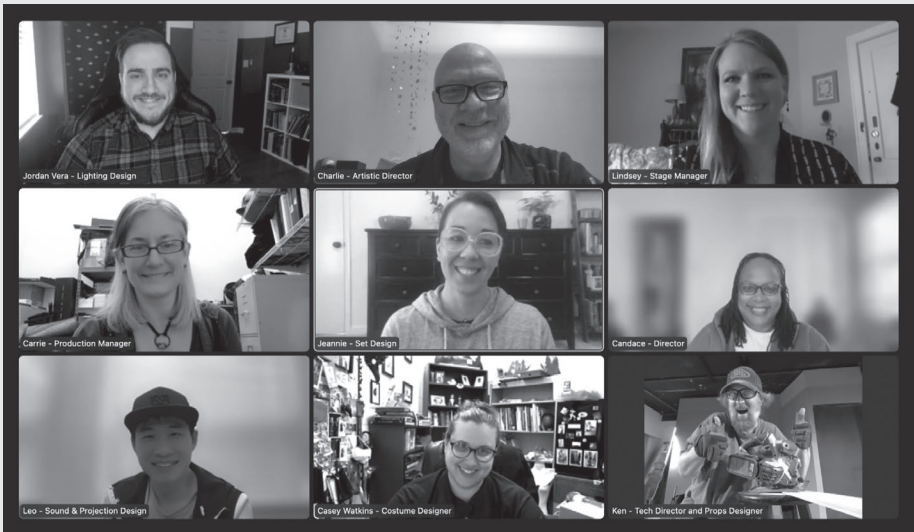
Jeremy Kareken (*Playwright*)

Jeremy is a playwright living in New York and Baltimore. His short plays *Hot Rod*, *Big Train*, and *80 Cards* have been performed around the country and internationally. He served as a speech writer and policy analyst for two presidential campaigns. His awards include the Sewanee Conference's Dakin Fellowship for *Farblondjet*, and Guthrie/Playwrights Center's Two-Headed Challenge for *The Sweet Sweet Motherhood*. The Hamptons Film Festival Screenwriters Conference selected Kareken and David Murrell for their horror-comedy script about haunted breast implants—*THESE! Conquered the Earth!* In 2018, PlayPenn shortlisted Jeremy's new political satire about an illiterate king, *The Red Wool*. Born and raised in Rochester, New York, and a graduate of the University of Chicago, he has taught at NYU, NYIT, the Actors Studio Drama School, and currently teaches at the Acting Studio—New York. A lifetime member of The Actors Studio, Jeremy occasionally acts and for 18 years served as the researcher for Bravo TV's *Inside the Actors Studio*.

David Murrell (Playwright)

David Murrell was born and raised in New York City. He graduated from Stuyvesant High School and the University of Chicago, currently lives in Queens, and has written a sea chest's worth of TV and film treatments and spec scripts. Access Theater (NYC) and the Cleveland Public Theatre each produced his play *Ductwork* and the Hamptons Film Festival Screenwriters Conference selected his and Jeremy Kareken's feature screenplay about haunted breast implants, *THESE! Conquered the Earth*. In 2019, the Outer Critics Circle co-awarded David its John Gassner Playwriting Award for *The Lifespan of a Fact*.

DESIGNERS & DIRECTOR



PRODUCTION CREW

Carrie Day - Production Manager & Master Electrician

Kenneth D. Horgan - Technical Director

Rachel Cort - Electrician

Coco Palmer Dolce - Wardrobe Assistant

SPECIAL THANKS

The staff and families of the Asheville Performing Arts Academy, Kris Hernandez, City Bakery, Asheville Arts Coalition, Jerry Hubbard & the Mill at Riverside, The Earth Guild, Jerome Hay and Sud Associates, Lynne & Maxwell Horgan, Bill & Marilyn Heagney, Geraldine Horgan, Mark & Julia Goldthwaite



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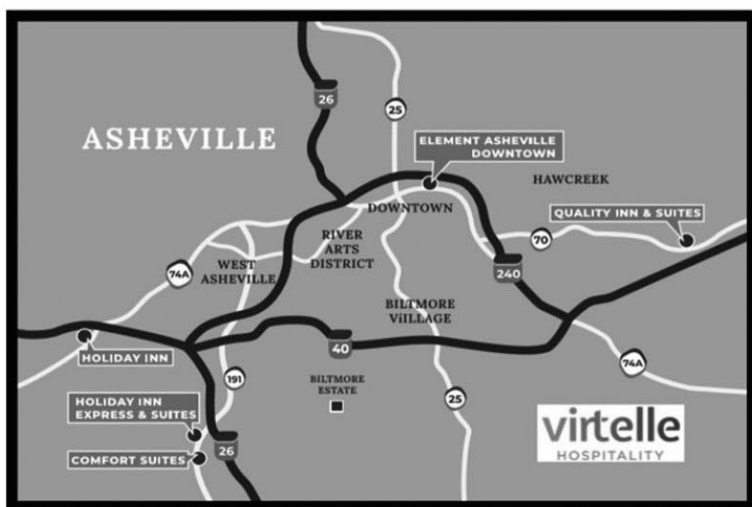
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