

HOST & GUEST

SEPT 12 - OCT 2



@SyneticTheater



ABOUT **SYNETIC** THEATER

SYNTHESIS

*Combining
distinct elements
to form a whole*

KINETIC

*Pertaining to
or imparting motion:
active, dynamic, energetic*



SYNETIC

a dynamic synthesis of the arts



MISSION

*Synetic creates unforgettable
visceral narrative experiences
for every audience by
blending visual techniques
and movement from around
the world and training
multidisciplinary artists
of all ages.*

SYNETIC THEATER PRESENTS

SEPTEMBER 12- OCTOBER 2, 2022

HOST & GUEST

Play by Roland L. Reed, based on Vazha Pshavela's narrative poem, "Host and Guest"

DIRECTED BY

Paata Tsikurishvili*

CHOREOGRAPHED BY

Irina Tsikurishvili~

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER

Vato Tsikurishvili*

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & SOUND DESIGN

Irakli Kavsadze*

ORIGINAL MUSIC

Vato Kakhidze

RESIDENT COMPOSER

Koki Lortkipanidze*

SCENIC DESIGNER (REMOUNT)

Phil Charlwood

COSTUME DESIGNER (REMOUNT)

Carolan Corcoran

SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER (ORIGINAL PRODUCTION)

Gogi Alexi Meskhishvili

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Brian Allard

PROPS LEAD

Aleksandr Shiriaev

SOUND ENGINEER

JJ Nichols

ASSOCIATE LIGHTING DESIGNER

Ian Claar

STAGE MANAGER

Silas Sandifer

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Mark Carmouze

Phil Charlwood Technical Director

Lev Belolipetski, Josh Lucas, Pete Neal , Tony Ritchie, Aleksandr Shiriaev Carpenters

Alex F. Keen Lead Electrician

Sydney Elizabeth Branaugh, Susannah Cai, Nick Greene, Lorenzo Miguel, Carolina Tomasi, Robert Weaver Electricians

Lorenzo Miguel Lighting Board Programmer & Operator

Lilly Valentin Costume Assistant

Samantha Fellman Wardrobe

Carly Thompson Assistant Stage Manager

*Founding Company Member ~Founding Choreographer *Company Member

Host & Guest is generously underwritten by Ina Milton.

This production runs approximately 90 minutes and will be performed without an intermission.

Synetic Theater is supported in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



CAST

JOQOLA

Dan Istrate*

ZVIADAURI

Vato Tsikurishvili*

AGAZA

Irina Tsikurishvili~

MUSA

Irakli Kavsadze*

MULA

Philip Fletcher*

ZVIADAURI'S WIFE

Nutsa Tediashvili*

DEER

Maryam Najafzada*

VILLAGER

Irene Hamilton*

VILLAGER

Josh Lucas*

VILLAGER

Justin Bell*

VILLAGER

Natan-Maël Gray~

VILLAGER

Robert Bowen Smith*

VILLAGER

Lev Belolipetski*

VILLAGER

Sebastian Newman~

DAUGHTER

Max Ruckh~

UNDERSTUDIES

**Rodin Ruiz, Pablo Guillen*, Annette Hasnas*
and Kaitlyn Shifflett***

~Founding Choreographer *Founding Company Member +Company Member
-Teen Company Member ~Teen Company Alumni

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I would like to welcome everyone back to one of our most well-known productions—an examination of violence, warfare, and religious strife that is perhaps more relevant than ever—*Host and Guest*.

For more than six months, the civilized world has watched in horror as true tyranny, the Evil Empire, rocks the European continent as they have time and time again for nearly 80 years. The brutal and unprovoked attack on the peaceful nation of Ukraine is cut from the same bloody cloth as the murderous campaigns of Hitler and Stalin, and has the same basic source: A small, petty man ruled by the small, petty need to feed his own warped ego and megalomania. It is a continuation of the endless, cyclical violence portrayed in Vazha Pshavela's original poem, on which this production is based, and many of our cast and company have seen this violence with their own eyes. Like many of history's atrocities, the war crimes we are witness to began with someone small and insignificant, but, left unchecked, they have, as we now see every day, spiraled into global disaster.

The same holds true for the story of *Host and Guest*: A small, simple act—in this case, one of hospitality—unintentionally triggers a series of events that leads to the complete devastation of an entire community. The story is timeless and is universal; Synetic has traveled the world with this story, and now, sadly, we are called to tell it once again. Violence is an apparently inescapable part of human nature, which is why we chose to restage this production. We hope it speaks as powerfully to you as it has for past audiences. As one critic wrote during the production's original run, "*Host and Guest* is Chechnya, Gaza, Kashmir, Londonderry, East Timor." Within the last twenty years, there are, tragically, many more places that could be added to that list.

As always, my thanks to our actors, crew, and staff for their extraordinary efforts in making this production possible, and also to the Washington, DC theater community as a whole, for their ongoing support.

Madloba,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Tsikurishvili', written over a horizontal line.

Paata Tsikurishvili FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Dan Istrate (JOQOLA) was born in Romania. He graduated the University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest. Synetic Credits : *Dracula, Don Quixote, Faust, Frankenstein, Host and Guest, Master and Margarita, Christmas Carol, Tempest, The Three Musketeers, Titus Andronicus*. Regional: Shakespeare Theatre Company, Arena Stage, Studio Theatre, Theatre J, Gala Hispanic Theatre, The Players Theater (NY). Internationally he performed in Romania, Georgia, Turkey, Slovakia, France, and South Korea. TV and Film: *Quantum Leap* (NBC), *This Is Us* (NBC), *StartUp* (Netflix), *Great News* (NBC), *S.W.A.T.* (CBS), *Sexpectations* (Crisis Lab), *The Journey* (actor, director, producer), *Dinner With The Alchemist, Her Tango, Punks, Double Ecstasy*. Dance: Sharna Fabiano Tango, Baredance.



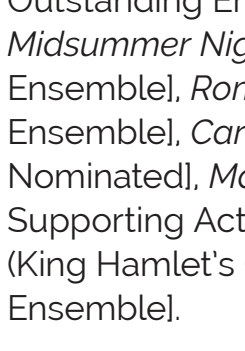
Vato Tsikurishvili (ZVIADAURI)
See this artist's biography in the Creative Team section!



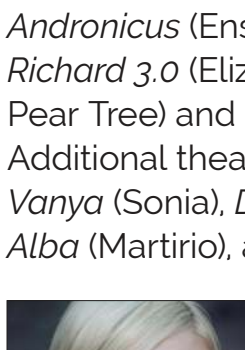
Irina Tsikurishvili (AGAZA)
See this artist's biography in the Creative Team section!



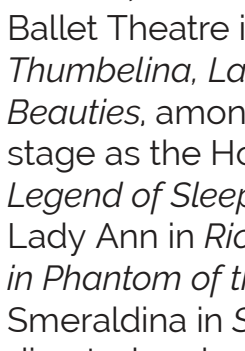
Irakli Kavsadze (MUSA)
See this artist's biography in the Creative Team section!



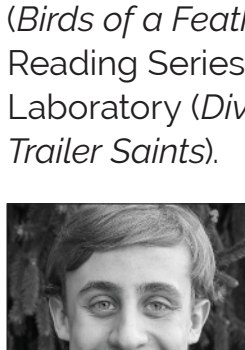
Philip Fletcher (MULA) is a Synetic Theater Founding Company Member who was last seen as the character Pantalone in *The Servant of Two Masters* and has appeared in over 50 new and remount Synetic productions. Highlights include: *Titus Andronicus* (Titus Andronicus), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Claude Frollo), *Twelfth Night* (Orsino) [Helen Hayes Outstanding Ensemble], *King Lear* (Edmund) [HH Outstanding Ensemble and Supporting Actor nominated], *Othello* (Iago) [HH Outstanding Ensemble and Lead Actor nominated], *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon) [HH Outstanding Ensemble], *Romeo and Juliet* (Mercutio) [HH Outstanding Ensemble], *Carmen* (Lucas) [HH Outstanding Ensemble Nominated], *Macbeth* (Witch) [HH Outstanding Supporting Actor], and *Hamlet...the rest is silence* (King Hamlet's Ghost/Player King) [HH Outstanding Ensemble].



Nutsa Tediashvili (ZVIADAURI'S WIFE) is a native of the Republic of Georgia, (k-ART-veli) graduate Shota Rustaveli Theater and Film University. Her Synetic credits include *The Servant of Two Masters* (Beatrice), *The Madness of Poe* (Madeline), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Bianca), *Titus Andronicus* (Ensemble), *My Father's Dragon* (Ensemble), *Richard 3.0* (Elizabeth), *The Decameron* (The Enchanted Pear Tree) and the Body of Mind Digital Theatre Lab. Additional theater credits: *The Seagull* (Masha), *Uncle Vanya* (Sonia), *Dirty Hands* (Olga), *The House of Bernarda Alba* (Martirio), and *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Stella).



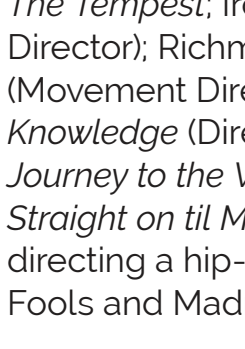
Maryam Najafzade (DEER) graduated from the Baku Choreography Academy and is a classically trained dancer originally from Baku, Azerbaijan. She has numerous dance credits with the Azerbaijan Opera and Ballet Theater, Azerbaijan Musical Theater, and Manassas Ballet Theatre including *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, Thumbelina, La Bayadere, Cinderella, Don Quixote, Seven Beauties*, among others. She was recently on Synetic's stage as the Horse Spirit in the production of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, Roxanne in *Cyrano De Bergerac*, Lady Ann in *Richard III*, Miranda in *Tempest*, and Christine in *Phantom of the Opera*, Raven in *Madness of Poe*, Smeraldina in *Servant of two Masters*. Maryam also directed and performed with Synetic Motion Pictures and was part of "The Decameron" series project as well as other short films. Maryam is a choreographer and teaches ballet, character dance, and pantomime.



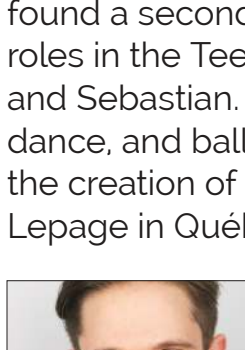
Irene Hamilton (VILLAGER) is a company member at Synetic Theatre, where she has performed in *Treasure Island, Snow Queen, Phantom of the Opera, Shhhakespeare Revue, Cinderella, Servant of Two Masters*, and more, including virtual works for the Body of Mind Laboratory. She has also performed with Arts on the Horizon (*Birds of a Feather*) the Kennedy Center Concert Reading Series (*Voir Dire*), and the Madison New Works Laboratory (*Divided: The Musical/Basement Demons and Trailer Saints*).



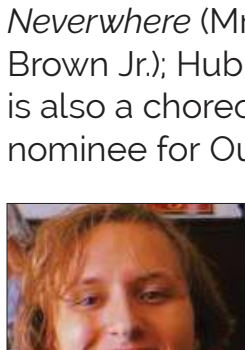
Josh Lucas (VILLAGER) is a DC based actor, dancer, teaching artist, and theatrical carpenter. He has worked primarily with Synetic Theater, credits include *The Tempest* (Stephano), *Snow Queen* (Kai), *The Phantom of the Opera* (ensemble), "Day 6, Story 4" of *The Decameron*, *Shakespeare Revue, Cinderella* (understudy), and *Servant of Two Masters* (understudy).



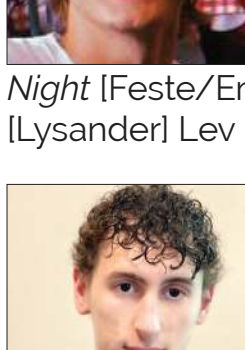
Justin Bell (VILLAGER) is an actor, physical theatre artist, playwright, deviser, and, director/movement director. In addition to his work with the AOTH family, Justin is also a company member with Arts on the Horizon based in Alexandria, VA. Credits include; Synetic Theatre: *My Father's Dragon, Hansel and Gretel, The Taming of the Shrew, Dante's Inferno, Alice in Wonderland, A Tale of Two Cities, Hamlet, Much Ado About Nothing, The Island of Dr. Moreau*; Arts on the Horizon: *Jingle Journey, Nutt and Bolt, To the Clouds*; WSC Avant Bard: *The Tempest*; Iron Crow Theatre: *BootyCandy* (Movement Director); Richmond Triangle Players: *This Bitter Earth* (Movement Director); Atramental Arts: *The Root of All Knowledge* (Director); Constellation Theatre Company: *Journey to the West*; relEASE Physical Theater Company: *Straight on til MoUrnin*. He will next be movement directing a hip-hop adaptation of *Julius Caesar* with Fools and Madmen based in Baltimore, MD.



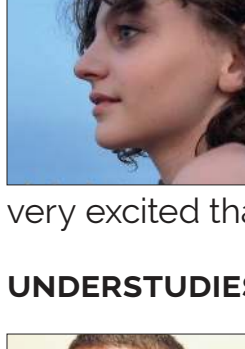
Natan-Maël Gray (VILLAGER) is, in a certain way, a juncture between the sun of Virginia and the ice of Canada, an amalgam of passion, hard work, kindness and steel muscles. After several years of competitive gymnastics and swimming, Natan-Maël, in 2018, has found a second home at Synetic Theater. His previous roles in the Teen Company are Oberon, Tybalt, Laertes, and Sebastian. Natan also loves tumble, bodybuilding, dance, and ballet. Natan was recently invited to observe the creation of Le Projet Riopelle with director Robert Lepage in Québec, Canada.



Robert Bowen Smith (VILLAGER) is a Synetic Company member. Select Synetic credits include: *Evil Step Father (Cinderella), Oz (Wizard of Oz), Gringoire (Hunchback of Notre Dame), Basil (Picture of Dorian Grey), King Louis XIII (Three Musketeers)*. Other notable credits include: Keegan Theatre: *Shakespeare in Love* (Burbage), *Ripcord* (Benjamin); Rorschach Theatre: *Reykjavik* (Peter/Davy), *Neverwhere* (Mr. Croup); Theater Alliance: *The Raid* (John Brown Jr.); Hub Theatre: *in a word* (Man). Bowen Smith is also a choreographer and two time Helen Hayes nominee for Outstanding Choreography.



Lev Belolipetski (VILLAGER) is a proud Teen Company alumni, and excited to work on his second production with Synetic's mainstage. Previous credits include: Synetic Teen Company: *Hamlet* [Horatio/Player King/Ensemble] *Twelfth Night* [Feste/Ensemble] Synetic Company: *Midsummer* [Lysander] Lev hopes you enjoy the show!



Sebastian Newman (VILLAGER) is excited to be involved in his third Synetic production, previously having been Sir Andrew in the Synetic's Teen company performance of *Twelfth Night*. He loves to dance, play piano, and talk endlessly about philosophy. He hopes you enjoy the show!

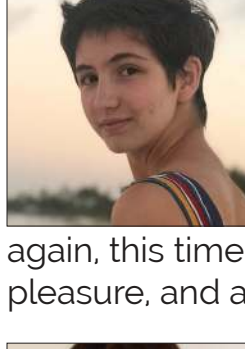


Max Ruckh (DAUGHTER) is a Teen Company Member. Max is 12 years old, in 7th grade and was raised in Arlington. Max has been in pre-teen company for 2 years. This is their first main stage show ever and they are very excited that they got this opportunity.

UNDERSTUDIES



Rodin Ruiz is thrilled to be back at Synetic! Rodin is an Actor and playwright. He was born and raised in Comayagüela, Honduras. He started his career in his native country, and lately in Spain and Argentina. He is currently part of Tierra Inconexa, a group of Honduran playwrights dedicated to create and promote the Honduran playwriting, with whom has published his play *El misterio del barro y el elefante*. He is dedicated professionally to contemplating life.



Pablo Guillén is an actor and fashion lover, born and raised in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He trained at the National School of Dramatic Arts of Honduras, Miami Dade college, The Carpetbag Brigade Physical Theater, and Odin Theater. Some of his credits include Teatro de la Luna: *A Lecture for an Academy, GO*; Gala Hispanic theater: *Seneca*, Synetic theater: *The Tempest, The Miraculous Magic Ballon, Cinderella, Snow Queen* (understudy role), *The Servant of Two Masters*, Arts on the Horizon: *Birds of a Feather*.



Annette Hasnas is thrilled to be a part of *Host & Guest*. She appeared in teen *Midsummer* in 2013 as a mechanic, and returned to it in 2019 as Titania after having appeared in the four intervening teen shows. Revisiting *Midsummer* again, this time on Synetic's mainstage, has been a pleasure, and a real dream come true.

Kaitlyn Shifflett is currently a rising junior pursuing a BFA in theater performance at George Mason university. She is a proud alum of the Synetic Teen Company as she was casted in Teen *Romeo and Juliet* in 2020 as Lady Capulet. She last appeared in CUA's MainStage production of *Hamlet* [Claudius] and would like to extend her gratitude to all of the friends and teachers who helped her get to where she is today.

CREATIVE TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Paata Tsikurishvili (DIRECTOR, FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR) A native of the Republic of Georgia, Paata is an innovative, award-winning international artistic director, director, and educator with more than 30 years of experience fusing the classical elements of drama, movement, dance, pantomime, and music. Since Synetic Theater's founding in 2001, Mr. Tsikurishvili has received an impressive 25 Helen Hayes Award Nominations and has won the awards 9-times. Together with his wife and co-founder Irina, he was named "Washingtonian of the Year" in 2013. Mr. Tsikurishvili has directed and performed in *Hamlet ... the rest is silence*, *The Master and Margarita*, *The Crackpots*, *Dracula*, *Host and Guest*, *Frankenstein*, and *The Island of Doctor Moreau*. He has directed over 60 productions including *Salomé*, *Bohemians*, *Jason and the Argonauts*, *The Dybbuk*, *Faust*, *Frankenstein*, *Macbeth*, *Animal Farm*, *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Carmen*, *Dante*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Othello*, *King Arthur*, *King Lear*, *Don Quixote*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, and *The Man in the Iron Mask*. Synetic's inaugural production, *Hamlet ... the rest is silence* received 3 Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Director, Outstanding Resident Play, and Outstanding Choreography. As an educator, Mr. Tsikurishvili has trained hundreds of actors in movement techniques through Synetic Theater and has taught at leading universities such as American University, Catholic University of America, and Georgetown University. Before moving to the USA he co-founded Mimodrama Theater in Germany and has toured worldwide. Paata holds an M.F.A. in film directing from Tbilisi State University and a B.F.A. in acting from The State Institute of Theater and Film in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Irina Tsikurishvili (CHOREOGRAPHER, FOUNDING ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR) A native of the Republic of Georgia, Ms. Tsikurishvili is a 58-time Helen Hayes Award Nominee and has won the award 14 times for her outstanding choreography and acting. Irina has choreographed all Synetic Theater's productions including *The Crackpots*, *Dracula*, *Host and Guest*, *Frankenstein*, *Island of Doctor Moreau*, *Salomé*, *Bohemians*, *Jason and the Argonauts*, *The Dybbuk*, *Faust*, *Frankenstein*, *Macbeth*, *Animal Farm*, *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Carmen*, *Dante*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Othello*, *King Arthur*, *King Lear*, *Don Quixote*, *Othello*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Three Musketeers*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, and many more. Ms. Tsikurishvili has taught at Georgetown University, where she choreographed *Lysistrata*. She continues to run intensive movement workshops and train Synetic cast members. With her husband Paata, she is the co-founder of Synetic Theater and co-founder of Stanislavsky Theater Studio. Paata & Irina were named Washingtonians of the Year in 2013. Irina graduated from Chabukiani National Ballet Academy in Tbilisi Georgia and holds BFA in Performing Arts.

Ben Cunis (MANAGING DIRECTOR) Artist, filmmaker, teacher and arts administrator Ben Cunis first joined Synetic Theater in 2006 as a recent alumnus from the Drama program at the Catholic University of America. He started training under Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili and in 2007 performed as Macduff in *Macbeth*. He spent ten years, all told, at Synetic Theater working as an actor, fight choreographer, teacher, Director of Development, Artistic Associate, director, and writer. He has received three Helen Hayes Awards for his work as a fight and action choreographer, along with additional awards as a part of the ensembles of *Twelfth Night*, *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Hamlet... The Rest is Silence*. From 2012-2017, Ben worked as the Development Associate for Hope Connections for Cancer Support in Bethesda, Maryland. In 2016, he moved to Los Angeles where he pursued his MFA in Film and TV production at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts, where he produced, directed, performed and stunt coordinated on many films. Several of Mr. Cunis' films are heavily influenced by his time at Synetic and have seen festival runs, including the Telluride Horror Show, the Golden State Film Festival, the Macabre Faire Festival, the Knoxville Horror Show, the Jack Oakie Comedy Festival, and the Artemis Women in Action Festival. Upon graduation, Ben was hired to teach directing at USC and was soon promoted to Lead Faculty on the foundational graduate course, Production I. He also co-founded the Virginia-based production company, Granite Kiss Creative, and worked with Lunacy Productions' Stu Pollard to create Trunacy, a non-profit dedicated to helping local indie filmmakers in Kentucky and the Midwest. Originally from Plymouth, New Hampshire, Ben lives with his wife, Betsy Summers, who he met while she was stage managing at Synetic on Lilia Slavova's *Nutcracker*. They have two children and two cats.

Vato Tsikurishvili (FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER) is a native of the Republic of Georgia and an award-winning actor, choreographer, and educator with more than a decade of experience imparting Synetic Theater's unique style to audiences and students of all ages. Performing with his parents, Synetic co-founders Paata and Irina Tsikurishvili, since the age of 4, Mr. Tsikurishvili also has an extensive athletic background, having trained in fencing under Olympic coach Vladimir Nazlymov and in gymnastics with his grandfather, the world-renowned Olympic coach Arnold Kvetenadze. Performing credits include lead and supporting roles in dozens of Synetic productions: *Host and Guest*, *Othello*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *King Arthur*, *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Home of the Soldier*, *The Tempest*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Hamlet... the rest is silence*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Dante's Inferno*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *Sleepy Hollow*. His recent work as a fight choreographer includes *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Dante's Inferno* and *The Man in the Iron Mask* as well as *Titus Andronicus* and *The Adventures of Peter Pan*, for which he was also Assistant Director and Co-Director, respectively. As an educator, Mr. Tsikurishvili has trained Synetic company members, travels throughout the DMV area teaching stage movement to students of all grade levels, serves as an instructor at Synetic Studio, and, alongside Irina Tsikurishvili, trains the Synetic Teen Company.

Irakli Kavsadze (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & SOUND DESIGN) is a Founding Company Member. His credits include: *King Lear* (King Lear); *Macbeth* (Macbeth); *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bottom); *Romeo and Juliet* (Friar Lawrence); and many more. In 2018 he directed "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry in the Republic of Georgia. He has also appeared in multiple films including "Crime has Happened" and most recently "Brighton 4th" which received the award for "Best International Narrative Feature Film" at Tribeca Film Festival in 2021. He has received 10 Helen Hayes nominations for acting and sound design with Synetic Theater and has received 2 Helen Hayes Awards for sound design.

Vato Kakhidze (ORIGINAL MUSIC)

Koki Lortkipanidze (RESIDENT COMPOSER) is a native of Tbilisi, Georgia, and has composed original music for 14 Synetic Productions and has received 5 Helen Hayes nominations for his sound designs and received 1 award. He has also composed original music for films including *First Steps*, *Essay* (both directed by Paata Tsikurishvili), and *Marage*. His compositions for theater include work for *Hunter from the Sun*, *Guest of the Night*, *Mimikria*, *Labyrinth*, and *The Decameron*. His work has been performed at music festivals across Europe, including the Maqs Ophulos festival in Germany and the International Gaudeamus Music Week in Amsterdam. Mr. Lortkipanidze received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Tbilisi State Conservatory.

Phil Charlwood (SCENIC DESIGNER) has been building sets and props for Synetic Theater for over a decade. He has designed the Helen Hayes Award-nominated sets for *The Island of Dr. Moreau* and *King Lear* and designed the sets for RMT's *West Side Story* and AMS's *The Producers*. Mr. Charlwood also works with local schools to develop their technical drama programs.

Carolan Corcoran (COSTUME DESIGNER)

Gogi Alexi Meskhisvili (ORIGINAL PRODUCTION SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER)

Brian Allard (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is a lighting designer for theatre, dance, and opera. His lighting designs have been seen on stage throughout Washington DC, Virginia, Maryland, and New York, as well as internationally. He has designed at the Kennedy Center, the Lincoln Theatre, the New Victory Theatre, the Smithsonian Institution, the Ailey Citigroup Theater, and the CityDance Center at Strathmore. Brian has been nominated for four Helen Hayes Awards, winning for Synetic Theater's *Titus Andronicus*. He has worked on more than 100 museum exhibits with the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Museum of the American Indian, National Civil Rights Museum, Lockheed Martin, and the National Institutes of Health. Brian also programs lights for permanent architectural installations, including M&T Bank Stadium and Washington's Golden Triangle Business Improvement District.

Aleksandr Shiriaev (PROPS LEAD) is a theater designer based in Washington, D.C./Maryland area. Originally from Moscow, Russia, Aleksandr studied Graphic Design at Moscow Art-Industrial Institute and moved to the United States, where he found a new passion for designing for theater. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Theater/Entertainment from North Carolina Wesleyan College, NC, and a Master of Fine Arts in Scenic Design from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. His recent credits include Costume Designer of Synetic's *Servant of Two Masters* and lots of cross stitching and paper folding.

JJ Nichols (SOUND ENGINEER) is a D.C.-based sound designer and is thrilled to be a part of the design team for *Cinderella*. They have worked with Synetic on *The Tempest*, *The Snow Queen*, *JOY* as well as for Studio Theatre, Constellation Theatre, and Arena Stage. Outside of theatre JJ is a freelance audio editor and their work can be heard with Invisible Not Broken Podcast Network, Penny For a Tale Network and Twitch Plays DnD. For booking please email JJ.Nichols724@gmail.com

Ian Claar (ASSOCIATE LIGHTING DESIGNER) is a lighting designer and staged violence/intimacy choreographer and has been involved in theatre and the performing arts for nearly 20 years. He has a degree in Design and Technical Theatre from Christopher Newport University, is an Actor/Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors, and is the Managing Director of the Noble Blades, a stage combat troupe. Previous designs include *Ada and the Engine* (Avant Bard), *Matilda* (Levine Music Theatre), *Overtures* (Signature Theatre), *Grand Concourse* (Prologue Theatre), *My Father's Dragon* (Synetic), *Topographies* (Human Landscape/Space Time Dance), and *Anonymouse* (Theatre Prometheus). Website: LightsAndFights.com

Silas Sandifer (STAGE MANAGER) Silas Sandifer is your friendly neighborhood stage manager from Silver Spring, Maryland. *Host and Guest* is their first show with Synetic, and they will also be stage managing the upcoming production of *Dracula*. During the day, they enjoy learning to write code, playing with their two cats, and doodling. "Hi, Fran!"

Mark Carmouze (PRODUCTION MANAGER) Born and raised in Miami, FL to Cuban parents, Mark has been a theatrical professional for the past 2 decades. Mark attended college at Florida school of the arts and Greensboro College earning a bachelor's in Directing/Stage Management. One of his first roles was at nearby Olney Theater, but most of his career has been based in New York City. He has previously worked at The Manhattan Theatre Club, The Public Theater, Playwright's Horizons, Signature Theater, The McKittrick Hotel, and most recently Roundhouse Theater. In 2020, he began directing and producing virtual theatre under his company No Small Part. His aspirations are to help lead and inspire a future generation of theater audiences and professionals. He is thrilled to be part of the Synetic family!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

A special thank you to Ina Milton, Lola Reinsch, Hans Kaper, Claire & David Maklan, Julianna Mahley, Ryan Merkel and Allison Foster-Ruckh for their continuous support.

Stranger in a Strange Land MEMBERS

ბრილიანტი

Brilianti (Diamond)

\$5,000+

Jerrilyn Andrews
Timothy Carlton
Cornelius Coakley
Barbara Cox
Tracy Fisher
John Hauge
Hans Kaper
Michael Kerst
Stephanie King
Dana & Ray Koch
Myron Lehtman
Sandra Mason
Pinkie Mayfield
Alan J. Savada
Ann Tunstall & John Hasnas

Beryl Neurman
Marina Oberlander
David & Amelia Ramer
Kathleen Smith
Violeta Talandis
Peter Threadgill

ვერცხლი

Vertskli (Silver)

\$250

Stephanie Byrd
Mark & Pamela Fiumara
Ed Gramlich
Jaclyn Nelson
Winkle Nemeth
Vera Zolotarskaya

ბროლი

Broli (Crystal)

\$2500

Teresa Ball
Blair Ruble

ბრინჯაო

Brinjao (Bronze)

\$100

Richard Bowers
Janet Brown
Perpetua Heggi
Thomas Holzman
Elizabeth Keany
Linda Keenan
Deborah Kirkman
Alex Kronemer
Todd Nicholson
Carol Pickens
Peter Rothschild
W. Geoffrey Sealy
Sheri Stroud
Catherine Wyler

პლატინა

Platina (Platinum)

\$1000

Sandra Cummins-Haid
Nancy De Kieffer
Arthur & Millicent Hamilton
Gary Harris
Judy Honig
Nancy Limpsecht

ოქრო

Okro (Gold)

\$500

Kyle & Alan Bell
Thomas Dority
Carol Fuller
Matthew Gamser
Julia Holcomb
Debra Levay
Wes MacAdam

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, please email porter@synetictheater.org with corrections.

Synetic Theater is supported in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

SYNETIC THEATER

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Alec Guroff TREASURER

Timothy Carlton SECRETARY

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Teresa Ball

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Tracy Sayegh Gabriel

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STAFF

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Paata Tsikurishvili

FOUNDING ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
& RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

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Hester Kamin

EDUCATION MANAGER & CAMP DIRECTOR

Ashton Schaffer

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE

Vato Tsikurishvili

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Dylan Arredondo

Thomas Beheler

Joe Carlson

Scean Flowers

Joshua Cole Lucas

Alex Mills

Karen Morales-Chacana

Maryam Najafzada

Ashton Schaffer

Nutsa Tediashvili

Vato Tsikurishvili

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Courtney Moran / Elevate

FINANCE MANAGER

Heidi Gaines

AUDITOR

Mullins PC

COUNSEL

Holland & Knight LLP

SYNETIC *education*

Synetic is now offering **BALLET**
classes with Choreographer and
Performer **Maryam Najafzada**



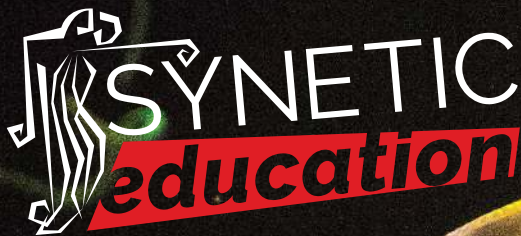
8 week sessions from

SEPT 27
thru **NOV 18**

Beginning Ballet (ages 4-6)
TUESDAYS @ 1PM

Elementary Ballet (ages 7-12)
FRIDAYS @ 4:30PM

Adult Ballet (all levels)
TUESDAYS @ 2:30PM



SIGN UP FOR OUR
SATURDAY CLASSES
TODAY!



saturday
morning
classes

SEPT 24
thru NOV 5

Magic of Disney @ 9AM

Spies in Disguise
@ 10AM

UP NEXT

DRACULA

OCT 13 - NOV 6



Memberships & Tickets
ON SALE NOW

ELEGIES A SONG CYCLE

by William Finn

a musical that celebrates life,
honors loss, and pulses with love

OCT 22 - NOV 20

Tickets and info at www.keegantheatre.com
Near Dupont Circle at 1742 Church St NW, Washington, DC

SYNETIC THEATER'S

VAMPIRE BALL

OCT. 28, 2022

SYNETIC THEATER OPEN AUDITIONS

NOV 12



We are hosting general auditions for Company Members, *War of the Worlds* cast, and the Touring cast. If selected, you will be trained in the Synetic method to develop and strengthen skills in acrobatics, mime, dance, acting, physical storytelling and non-verbal communication.