

BLACK BUTTON EYES PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

DR. HORRIBLE'S SING-ALONG BLOG

LIVE ON STAGE!

AN AUTHORIZED FAN PRODUCTION
TO BENEFIT SEASON OF CONCERN



OCTOBER 8 -
NOVEMBER 6,
2021

AT THE EDGE THEATER 5451 N. BROADWAY
IN CHICAGO

BLACK BUTTON EYES PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

DR. HORRIBLE'S SING-ALONG BLOG

AN AUTHORIZED FAN PRODUCTION TO BENEFIT SEASON OF CONCERN

WRITTEN BY JOSS WHEDON, MAURISSA TANCHAROEN, JED WHEDON & ZACK WHEDON

CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Stephanie Fongheiser Penny
North Homewood Ensemble
Caitlin Jackson Ensemble
Josh Kemper Ensemble
Peter Ruger Ensemble
Joshua Servantez Moist
Maiko Terazawa Ensemble
Tommy Thurston Captain Hammer
Kevin Webb Doctor Horrible

UNDERSTUDIES:

for Captain Hammer: North Homewood
for Penny and Ensemble: Mikaela Sullivan
for Moist and Ensemble: David Lipschutz

The performance runs approximately 70 minutes, including two 10-minute intermissions.

CREATIVE TEAM

Director: Ed Rutherford
Choreographer: Derek Van Barham
Musical Director: Micky York
Violence Designer: Brendan Hutt
Stage Manager: Cecilia Koloski
Scenic / Props Designer and Technical Director: Jeremiah Barr
Lighting Designer: Liz Cooper
Sound Designer: Robert Hornbostel
Costume Designer: Rachel M. Sypniewski
Projections and Video Designer: G. "Max" Maxin IV
Sound Engineer: Nikolai Stier
Projections Assistant: Ricardo Guerrero
Dance Captain: Josh Kemper
Master Electrician: Jackson Mikkelsen
Props Assistant: Maryah Paige
Public Relations: David Rosenberg
Original Backing Tracks: Graham Arthur Blair
Graphic Design: Jeff Meyer

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CAST BIOS

Stephanie Fongheiser (Penny) is so excited to be making her Black Button Eyes debut and returning to live theater as Penny in *Dr. Horrible*. She most recently appeared as Jane Bennet and dramaturg in a virtual adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* (Pride and Prejudice Productions). Chicago credits include: *Fast Company* (u/s, Jackalope Theatre), *Double Vision* (Underscore Theatre), *Game of Tiaras* (Surging Films & Theatrics), and *Kiss Me, Kate* (Big Noise Theatre). Other credits include Christmas Eve in *Avenue Q*, Babette in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*.

North Homewood (Ensemble, u/s Captain Hammer) has been acting in Chicago for several years; his last work before the pandemic was in Theo Ubique's *Working* and Madkap's *Veronica's Room*. Other notable performances include *Pride Films and Plays' Southern Comfort* (as Robert Eads) and several appearances at *Trans Voices Cabaret CHI*. This year, he found his dancing shoes in *Mamma Mia!* at Music Theater Works, and enjoyed his television debut on Showtime's *Work In Progress*. North is represented by Gray Talent Group and dedicates this performance to Echo, who taught him that even in the darkness, every color can be found.

Caitlin Jackson (Ensemble) was last seen under a BBE stage in *Evil Dead: The Musical* (Jeff Nomination/Best Supporting Actor). Other BBE credits include: *Coraline*, *Shockheaded Peter*, *Nightmares and Nightcaps*. She is a company member & regular performer with Hell in a Handbag (*Bewildered*, & *Bette*, *LIVE at the Continental Baths*), New American Folk Theatre (*Hot Pink*, *Trash*); and Cowardly Scarecrow (*Musical of the Living Dead & Cabaret* as "Sally Bowles") She has also worked with Factory, Wayward, Strangeloop, Refuge (*High Fidelity* - Jeff Winner/Best Musical, Nominated/Best Ensemble) & Circle Theatre (*The View Upstairs*). During the Panorama she filmed *Rip Nelson Holiday Quarantine Special* as Sherry Lewis & Lambchop (Handbag) and can be heard in the EFCT audio drama *Deep Shadows*. She's incredibly excited to be back onstage doing "the weird stuff" with her nearest and dearest after such a long hiatus.

Josh Kemper (Ensemble) is pleased as punch to be working again with Black Button Eyes after his previous collaborations on *Shockheaded Peter* (Ensemble) and *Evil Dead* (Scott). Pre-pandemic he was a server/actor creating art that made people laugh or think or sometimes both at the same time. Post-pandemic he's still these things but also created a party card game that makes people laugh or think or sometimes both at the same time. Keep up to date with him at [@keepingupwithkemper](https://www.instagram.com/keepingupwithkemper) or the game at www.itskindofafunstory.com.

David Lipschutz (u/s Moist, u/s Ensemble) Previous BBEP credit: *Evil Dead: The Musical* (Fake Shemp). Chicago credits include productions with Hell in a Handbag (company member), Victory Gardens, Broken Nose, Theatre at the Center, and NAFTA, where he coincidentally performed in a Joss Whedon cabaret (Moist). Favorite Handbag performances include *Poseidon!* (Reverend Scott), *The Artificial Jungle* (Zachary Slade), and several *Rip Nelson* specials (Doug Henning). David also has written two plays currently in production – *Birthright* with Jakespeare Theatre and *G'Oy Vey!* with Act Your Age Showcase in Manchester, England. Thanks to Ed, Erin, Ash & the boys, and BC/KJOC.

CAST BIOS (CONTINUED)

Peter Ruger (Ensemble) is so proud to be a part of the wonderful Chicago theater community and is thrilled to be doing another show with Black Button Eyes! Peter grew up in Oak Park and studied music at Seattle University and the Chicago College of Performing Arts. Love to his family and friends!

Joshua Servantez (Moist) is incredibly happy to return to Black Button Eyes Productions! Previous Chicago credits include *Nightmares & Nightcaps* with BBEP, *I Saw My Neighbor on the Train* and *I Didn't Even Smile* (Redtwist Theatre) *The History Boys* (Eclectic Full Contact Theatre) *Blue Stockings* (Promethean Theatre) *A Phase* (Broken Nose Theatre) Instagram and Twitter: @Sir_Vantez1 Much love to family and friends for their constant tough love and support!

Mikaela Sullivan (u/s Penny, u/s Ensemble) is delighted to return to Black Button Eyes Productions. Past credits include Atropos in *String* (Towle Theater), Lilli Vanessi/Kate in *Kiss Me, Kate* (Big Noise Theatre), Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* (WVU), The May Queen in *Merrie England* / Lady Psyche in *Princess Ida* / Lady Saphir in *Patience* (Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company), Female Ghost in *Whisper House* and Madeleine in *Amour* (Black Button Eyes Productions). Mikaela is one half of indie-electronic duo Catherinette, who's EP, Red Rover, is available for download (wearecatherinette.com). News and performance updates available at mikaelaraesullivan.com.

Maiko Terazawa (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back with Black Button Eyes Productions! CREDITS INCLUDE: Black Button Eyes: EVIL DEAD (u/s), NIGHTMARES AND NIGHTCAPS (Alice/Betty), NEVERMORE (Player 4); Three Cat Productions: THE HOLIDAY RADIO SHOW: 1944 (Pearl Center), DIAMOND LIL & THE PANSY CRAZE (Marge Price); Cowardly Scarecrow Theatre Company: CABARET (Lulu); Hell in a Handbag: POSEIDON! AN UPSIDEDOWN MUSICAL (Mina/Ensemble); Pride Films and Plays: PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT! (Cynthia); The Savoyaires: RUDDIGORE (Ensemble); Prop Thtr: ORACLE OF THE GUTTERPUNKS (Go-Go Girl); Chicago Musical Theater Festival: VERVE (Linda), IRON IRENE: A MUSICAL FABLE (Chenoa), AYN RAND IN LOVE (Ensemble).

Tommy Thurston (Captain Hammer) is so excited to be back at Black Button Eyes playing this ham of a role. Tommy was last seen playing Painter in *Amour*. Recent Chicago credits include: Edward Bloom in *Big Fish* (BoHo Theatre) -Jeff Nomination for Leading Actor in a Musical, Robert Kincaid in *The Bridges of Madison County* (Theo Ubique) -Jeff Nomination for Leading Actor in a Musical, Starbuck in *110 in the Shade* (BoHo Theatre), Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing TDC* (Music Theater Works), Professor in *Yank* (Pride Films & Plays). Tommy has also been seen in productions with Writer's Theatre, Broadway in Chicago, Theatre at the Center, Emerald City Theatre, and Circle Theatre. Tommy would like to thank Ryan, his family, and friends for their unconditional love and support! Instagram: [t_h_u_r_s_t_o_n](https://www.instagram.com/thurstontommy), tommywilliamthurston.com

CAST BIOS (CONTINUED)

Kevin Webb (Doctor Horrible) has previously performed with Black Button Eyes as a sadistic clown emcee, a sadistic boss, a creepy talking cat, two ghostly narrators and Edgar Allan Poe...haunted by ghosts. Chicago credits: an evil clown and a creepy murder suspect (Trap Door), an evil henchman (BoHo), an evil beadle (Theo Ubique), an evil sideshow performer (Interrobang), a ghost dad (Court), a sadistic barber/conman (Porchlight), a sadistic emcee (Cowardly Scarecrow), John Wilkes Booth (The GoForth), half a dozen quirky artistic types (Pride Films & Plays) and a quirky artistic type...haunted by ghosts (Circle). kevinwebb.org

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

Derek Van Barham (Choreographer) is the Producing Artistic Director of Kokandy Productions, and a member of the Red Tape Theatre ensemble. Recent directing credits: *Head Over Heels* (Kokandy), *The View Upstairs* (Circle), *Poseidon* (Hell in a Handbag) and Taylor Mac's *A Walk Across America for Mother Earth* (CCPA/Roosevelt). Black Button credits include *Ghost Quartet*, *Evil Dead The Musical* (Jeff nomination), *Coraline the Musical*, *Goblin Market*, *Amour*, *Nevermore*, and *Shockheaded Peter*. He has also choreographed for The Plagiarists, Inappropriate Theatre, The Ruckus, Brain Surgeon Theatre and Salonathon. He was named one of Windy City Times 30 Under 30, recognizing individuals from Chicago's LGBTQ community. www.derekvanbarham.com

Jeremiah Barr (Scenic/Props Designer, Technical Director) is very pleased to be joining the BBE team on *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*. Some of Jeremiah's previous credits with BBE include, *Evil Dead-The Musical*, *Nightmares and Nightcaps* and *Shockheaded Peter*. In addition his design, fabrication, and carpentry work can be seen with several cool and interesting theatre companies including Aston Rep. Theatre Company, Promethean Theatre Ensemble, City Lit Theatre, Congo Square Theatre, Dominican University and Northlight Theatre. Big thanks to Ed, the cast and crew of DHSAB, and a huge shout out to Sam for her love ,support and inexhaustible knowledge of cats.

Liz Cooper (Lighting Designer) is excited to be a part of another Black Button Eyes show! Some of her favorite lighting design credits include Whisper House, Ghost Quartet, Nevermore, Shockheaded Peter (Black Button Eyes), The Sundial, Bloodhound Law, Father Ruffian and Peyton Place(City Lit), Bard Fiction (Commedia Beauregard), Marisol, Winter's Tale, A Study in Scarlet and Henry V (Promethean).

Robert Hornbostel (Sound Designer) is a human male, Sound Designer, Composer, and Engineer based out of Chicago. Superpowers include: making sound travel through wires, eating many tacos, making and sharing memes, biking very quickly on Damen, and drinking. Robert enjoys telling big stories in small spaces through the power of sound design...and pyrotechnics. Scratch this part of your screen to hear some of his previous works, or check them out at TechMagicDesigns.com. Thanks and enjoy the show!

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS (CONTINUED)

Brendan Hutt (Violence Designer) is a Chicago-born actor and violence designer and is very happy to be back working with Black Button Eyes, having previously worked on Whisper House. He's a proud member of the Promethean Theatre Ensemble. Love always to his family and his incredible wife Jennifer.

Cecilia Koloski (Stage Manager) is excited to be working with Black Button Eyes Productions again! Previous stage management credits include *Whisper House* (Black Button Eyes Productions), *At The Wake of a Dead Drag Queen* (The Story Theatre), *Speech & Debate*, *Cabaret* (Loyola University Chicago). She thanks her amazing friends and family for their continued support!

G. "Max" Maxin IV (Projection and Video Design) has created over 200 designs on over 115 productions, has received 1 Equity & 3 Non-Equity Jeff Nominations for his work, and designed Lighting & Projections the Non-Equity Best Musical *Big Fish*. He is an Instructor at NEIU, the Stage Center's Resident Lighting Designer, and has received an Excellence Award for Teaching. A co-founding member of Another Door Theatre Project, Max worked as Head of Production & Resident Scenographer for 3 years. He spent 2 summers designing lighting for La Musica Lirica in Novafeltria, Italy. Favorite Projects at Mercury, American Blues, Theatre at the Center, BoHo, Kokandy, Black Button Eyes, DePaul, Northwestern, & Stepenwolf Garage. ivDK. ivMaxin.com

Ed Rutherford (Director) Ed's directing credits for Black Button Eyes include *Whisper House*, *Ghost Quartet* (Jeff Nomination: Best Director of a Musical), *Evil Dead the Musical* (Jeff Nomination: Best Director of a Musical), his script *Nightmares & Nightcaps: The Stories of John Collier*, *Nevermore*, *Shockheaded Peter*, *Amour*, *Goblin Market*, and *Coraline*. He is an artistic associate with Promethean Theatre Ensemble, where he directed *The Liar*, his own adaptation of Peter S. Beagle's *The Last Unicorn*, Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and the company's inaugural production, Christopher Durang's *Beyond Therapy*. Directing with Brown Paper Box Co: *The Baltimore Waltz*. As an actor, he's performed with Drury Lane Oakbrook, Porchlight, Theater Wit and many others. A graduate of Northwestern's theater program, he also completed his MBA at Kellogg. ed-rutherford.com

Rachel M. Sypniewski (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be returning to Black Button Eyes for this new adventure, previously designing, *Evil Dead The Musical*, *Ghost Quartet* and *Whisper House*. Other companies she has worked with include Goodman, Trap Door, Broken Nose, Oak Park Festival Theater, Jackalope, The New Colony, Emerald City, Life-line, Haven, Griffin, CityLit, Chopin, Promethean, Strawdog, Vitalist, Rasaka, the Factory, Red Tape and Redtwist. She also has designed at Wheaton College, Governor's State University, North Central College, St. Patrick's High School, Indiana University Northwest, and the Chicago Academy for the Arts. She is a seven-time Non-equity Jeff nominee, having been awarded one for *La Bete* at Trap Door. More info at www.rachelsyp.com

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS (CONTINUED)

Micky York (Music Director) is excited to be back behind the piano with Black Button Eyes after last year's production of *Whisper House*. Other Chicagoland credits include *Call Me Madam* (Porchlight Revisits); *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Spamalot*, ...*Spelling Bee* (Metropolis PAC); *Happy End* (After Dark Award – Outstanding Music Direction) and *Jacques Brel* (Brown Couch); *Make Me a Song* (Eclectic); *PrOne* (Underscore); and *Sarita* (Halcyon). Since you can't actually see Micky at this performance, you should come visit him at Davenport's on Sunday nights and he'll play you some Taylor Swift songs or something.

THE CHICAGO EVIL LEAGUE OF EVIL

Alex Grelle..... Dead Bowie
Steve Kimbrough Professor Normal
Lee Wichman..... Fake Thomas Jefferson
Ellen DeSitter..... Snake Bite
Dawn Xiana Moon..... Fury Leika
Jennifer Grubb-Krystosek Tie-Die
Boudiwijn “Bo” Silvio Pard (photo by Allegra Imaging) Bad Horse
and these donors: Thom “Prof. Slimcut” Cox, Aimee Daramus, Daryl Hoyt,
Farris “Baal” Oweimrin, Liza “Lady Macbeth” Rodman, Polly “Auntie Maim” Rutherford,
Richard “Prince of Darkness” Rutherford, Richard Scire and Karen “The Teacher” Topham.

FIND YOUR SEAT
the show is about to begin

ENTER TO WIN

Take a photo *from your seat* and share your theatre experience! We can't wait to hear what you have missed about being in an audience and how it feels to be back.

Use the hashtag **#FromMySeat** when sharing your post or story on Instagram* for a chance to win tickets to an upcoming theatre production.

We're thrilled you're back at the theatre!
Visit our website to find out all that's happening in Chicago theatre.

 **CHICAGOPLAYS.com**

 

*Public accounts only. This contest is not associated with Instagram. Photography is not permitted during performances. Visit ChicagoPlays.com/Find-Your-Seat for the official rules.

BLACK BUTTON EYES PRODUCTIONS
Ed Rutherford, Producing Artistic Director

PRODUCTION HISTORY

2014: *Coraline*, Music and Lyrics by Stephin Merritt, Book by David Greenspan (Midwest Premiere)

2015: *Goblin Market*, Music and Lyrics by Polly Pen, Book by Peggy Harmon

2016: *Amour*, Music by Michel Legrand, English Adaptation by Jeremy Sams (Chicago Premiere)

2017-2018: *Shockheaded Peter*, Created for the stage by Julian Crouch and Philim McDermott, Music & Lyrics by The Tiger Lillies (Chicago Storefront Premiere)

Nevermore: The Imaginary Life & Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe by Jonathan Christenson (Chicago Premiere)

2018-2019: *Nightmares and Nightcaps: The Stories of John Collier*, adapted by Ed Rutherford from short stories by John Collier (World Premiere)

Evil Dead the Musical, Book and Lyrics by George Reinblatt, Music by Frank Cipolla, Christopher Bond, Melissa Morris & George Reinblatt (Chicago Storefront Premiere)

2019-2020: *Ghost Quartet*, Music and Lyrics by Dave Malloy (Chicago Premiere)

Whisper House, Music/Lyrics by Duncan Sheik, Book/Lyrics by Kyle Jarrow (Chicago Premiere)

2020: *The Masque of the Red Coronavirus* by Ed Rutherford (web only)

MISSION STATEMENT

Black Button Eyes Productions' mission is to bring to Chicago premieres and seldom-seen works in which the magical and surreal invade reality.

www.blackbuttoneyes.com

Special Thanks

Hazel Flowers-McCabe, Kate Kamphausen, Steve Kimbrough

Coming in Early 2022...

Mary Rose

A world premiere musical by Ed Rutherford & Jeff Bouthiette
Performances January 7 through February 12, 2022 at the Edge Theater

This world premiere musical spins the tale of a haunted young woman named Mary Rose, and the mysterious supernatural connection between her, a manor house in Sussex and a misty island in the Scottish Hebrides. Adapted from the play of the same name by J.M. Barrie of Peter Pan fame!

Tickets on sale now at:

<https://maryrosemusical.eventbrite.com>