



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

DEC 11-21

**The
Contemporary
Theatre of Ohio**

**ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE
BY GREG OLIVER BODINE**

**FROM THE NOVELLA
BY CHARLES DICKENS**

DIRECTED BY LEDA HOFFMANN

**RIFFE CENTER
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Theatre of Ohio

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We seek to inspire a community of empathy and have a responsibility to recognize the ways in which we benefit from colonization, both historical and ongoing. A Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and celebrates the resilience and strength that all Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

We acknowledge that in Central Ohio, we are on the traditional homelands of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe, and Cherokee Indigenous nations who have strong ties to these lands. Today, individuals from a broad range of Indigenous backgrounds call Columbus and central Ohio home.

We recognize generations who contributed their traditions, hopes, and spirit to make the history that led to this moment. While some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted, others arrived here hoping for a better life, while others were forcibly taken and brought here against their will. Acknowledging the truth of these realities is critical to building mutual respect and connection.



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Contemporary
Theatre** of Ohio

Leda Hoffmann
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Christy Farnbauch
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

**ADAPTED BY
GREG OLIVER BODINE**

**FROM THE NOVELLA BY
CHARLES DICKENS**

DIRECTED BY LEDA HOFFMANN

PRODUCTION STAFF

**Jason Fassl+
LIGHTING DESIGNER**

**Tabitha Abney
COSTUME COORDINATOR**

**Tony Koehler
PROPS DESIGNER**

**Jaclyn Benedict*
STAGE MANAGER**

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

**Maureen Penko
PRODUCTION MANAGER**

**Jacci Curtis
LEAD ELECTRICIAN**

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

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CAST

CHARLES DICKENS



ANGELA IANNONE*

she/her

SPECIAL THANKS

AntiShadows LLC, Dave Wallingford



*Appearing through an Agreement between this theatre, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

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CAST BIOS

ANGELA IANNONE* [SHE/HER] (**Charles Dickens**) is thrilled to return to The Contemporary, where she was last seen as The Poet in *An Iliad* and Violet in *9-5 The Musical*. Angela has just completed her second full season as a company member at The American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, Virginia where her roles included King Lear in *King Lear*, Marmee/Aunt March in *Little Women*, Lucetta in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* and Volumnia in *Coriolanus*. Other roles include Maria Callas in *Master Class*, Medea in *Medea*, Mattie Fae in *August, Osage County*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Lady MacBeth in *MacBeth*, Kate Hepburn in *Tea at Five*, Roxie in *Chicago* and Phyllis in *Follies*. Theatres include InTandem Theatre in Milwaukee Wisconsin, Next Act Theatre in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Titan Theatre Company, NYC, and Resident Ensemble Players in Newark, Delaware. This is for Maria Divina. www.angelaiannone.com

PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

GREG OLIVER BODINE [HE/HIM] (**Playwright**) is a playwright and actor based in Washington, DC. His plays include *Poe*, *Times Two* (three New York Innovative Award nominations), *Wicked Tavern Tales*, *A Requiem For Sherlock Holmes*, *I — Carpenter*, *Vienna Station*, *The Fatwa of Corpsman Johnny Jones* (2012 Semi-Finalist, Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival), *Christmas Thieves: A Small Town Radio Play*, and adaptations of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *To Build a Fire* by Jack London, *The Secret Sharer* by Joseph Conrad, *The Hound* by H.P. Lovecraft, *Young Goodman Brown* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*—a solo, one-act play which has received numerous, critically-acclaimed productions throughout the world. Greg is a 2003 Grants For the Arts recipient (*A Christmas Carol*), awarded by the New York State Council on the Arts and the Long Island Arts Council. In addition to acting and playwrighting, he has taught drama at UNC-Chapel Hill, Long Island University-C.W. Post, and has worked as a Theatre Teaching Artist in the Long Island School Partnership Program with Tilles Center for the Performing Arts in Brookville, NY. For a complete catalogue of Greg's plays, please visit www.gregoliverbodine.com.

JASON FASSL+ [HE/THEY] (**Lighting Designer**) This is Jason's third production in Ohio for Artistic Director Leda Hoffmann including *Prima Donna* and *An Iliad*. Jason has consumed mass quantities of electricity at American Players Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee Ballet, First Stage Children's Theatre, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Next Act Theatre, Forward Theatre Company, Skylight Music Theatre, Peninsula Players, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, The Fireside and many others. Jason is member of Scenic Artists Local #829, Milwaukee Stage Hands IATSE Local #18. Portfolio and information at www.AntiShadows.com.

PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS (CON'TD)

TABITHA ABNEY [SHE/HER] (**Costume Coordinator**) is a local freelance costume and fashion designer. Over the span of 10 years, she has costumed several Columbus based feature films and designed costumes for The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio (*A Columbus Christmas Carol*, *An Iliad*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, *Ride The Cyclone*, *Christmas Carol* and most recently *Fat Ham*), The Actors Theater of Columbus (*Chicken and Biscuits*), Available Light Theatre (*Fairview*), Endeavor Theatre (*Much Ado About Nothing*) and The Newark Granville Symphony (*Ellis Island: A Dream of America*). Periodically she takes her wardrobe skills on the high seas working with theatrical shows aboard Norwegian and Disney Cruise Lines.

TONY KOEHLER [HE/THEY] (**Props Designer and Production Manager**) is a designer and director, who is currently the production manager at Opera Columbus. Local props credits include *The Last 5 Years*, *The Day the Music Came Back* at The Contemporary, *Everybody* at Otterbein University and *Maria de Buenos Aries* at Opera Columbus. Formerly production manager at The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio and GALA Hispanic Theatre in Washington, D.C., and teaching artist at The Theatre Lab School of Dramatic Arts also in Washington, D.C. Tony has design properties at The Folger Shakespeare Theatre, Constellation Theatre Company and Rainbow Theater Project in Washington, D.C., and Piven Theatre Workshop, Redmoon Theatre, and Northwestern University in Chicago. A graduate of the University of Kentucky with a BA in theatre, and a GCAC Artist Grant recipient, some favorite career recognition has been receiving the Helen Hayes Award for Best Musical for *FAME: The Musical* (2019), and for the Spanish language premiere of *In the Heights* (2017) as part of the producing team at GALA.

JACLYN BENEDICT* [SHE/HER] (**Stage Manager**) is excited to be a part of The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio's *A Christmas Carol* for the third year in a row. Recent stage management credits include *Alice By Heart* (The Contemporary), *The Last Five Years* (The Contemporary), *Into the Woods* (Butterfly Guild), *Big Fish* (The Contemporary), *Ride the Cyclone* (The Contemporary), and *Beauty and Beast* (Butterfly Guild). Special thanks to the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas Yet to Come for making this production possible.

***ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION** (**Equity**) founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks

THE CONTEMPORARY STAFF BIOS

LEDA HOFFMANN [SHE/HER] (Director and Artistic Director) is in her sixth season as The Contemporary's Artistic Director. The Contemporary directing credits include *Alice By Heart*, *Wife of a Salesman*, *Big Fish*, *Ride the Cyclone*, *POTUS*, *9 to 5*, *Indecent*, *Head Over Heels*, *Mr Burns: a post-electric play*, and *An Iliad*. Leda's work as a director has been seen across the country at Milwaukee Rep, Provincetown Theater, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Door Shakespeare, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Jedlicka Performing Arts Center, Northbrook Theatre, The Alchemist Theatre, Max and Louie Productions, Riverside Theater Iowa City, Case Western, Ohio State, and University of Miami. Before moving to Columbus, Leda was Artistic Director at Strawdog Theatre Company in Chicago and Leda served on Milwaukee Rep's artistic staff for seven years, working in the Education and Literary departments and founding Milwaukee Rep's Community Engagement Department. Leda is a proud graduate of Grinnell College, a former Milwaukee Rep directing resident, Hartford Stage apprentice, SDCF Observer and a member of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. Upcoming: *Primary Trust* (The Contemporary). www.ledahoffmann.com

CHRISTY FARNBAUCH [SHE/HER] (Executive Director) became The Contemporary's executive director in April 2020. She is a highly respected leader in central Ohio's arts and cultural sector, as well as nationwide. Her professional journey has included managing funding and programs for the Ohio Arts Council, building community partnerships for Hilliard City Schools, managing a first-of-its-kind national study of jazz audiences, and serving as executive director of an association for women business owners. She founded her consulting business in 2006 to support nonprofits and small businesses through strategic planning, board development, and fundraising. Her entrepreneurial and innovative mindset has led to the creative transformation of organizations while strengthening their governance structures. Christy holds degrees from Otterbein University in music performance and business administration.

THE CONTEMPORARY STAFF BIOS *(CON'TD)*

STEVE HILLER [HE/HIM] (**Education Director**) became The Contemporary's education director in April 2023. He has over 15 years experience working in non-profit with a focus on youth and family programming and development, training and leadership and fostering community partnerships. Steve has chaired and served on different advisory boards and currently serves as a board member for a Columbus non-profit organization. He also has over 10 years of experience working in secondary and post-secondary education. Steve was born in Seoul, Korea and has lived most of his life in Ohio. He has a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State and is a buckeye for life. In his free time, Steve enjoys playing piano and acoustic guitar, various outdoor activities, trying new foods and spending time with family and friends.

MAUREEN PENKO [SHE/HER] (**Production Manager**) is a production manager and theatre administrator with a focus on safe, inclusive, and engaging art. She brings experience from various organizations throughout Ohio, New York, and Vermont. Maureen was born and raised in Northeast Ohio, always enjoying the ability to engage with the arts community she has called home. She holds a bachelor's degree in theatre production from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. In her free time, Maureen enjoys exploring various libraries, walking, cooking, and spending time with her cat, family, and friends.

ALEXA BAKER [SHE/HER] (**Marketing Manager**) is a Columbus-based multi-hyphenate artist. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Gettysburg College and a Masters in Classical Vocal Performance from the Manhattan School of Music. She is currently on faculty at Ohio Dominican University, teaching theatre and acting, and is an active teaching artist. As a performer, she has been seen on stage throughout Columbus with companies such as The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, Available Light Theatre, CCT, and Actors' Theatre of Columbus. Prior to moving to Columbus, Alexa was the Associate Director of Youth Programs at Steps on Broadway dance studio in New York, NY. In addition to her arts background, she was the Events Coordinator for two-Michelin Starred restaurant Aquavit and managed social media for brands that include Zaftig Brewing Company and The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.



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