



WORKING

A MUSICAL

From the book by Studs Terkel
Adapted by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso
With additional contributions by Gordon Greenberg

Songs by
Craig Carnelia • Micki Grant • Lin-Manuel Miranda
Mary Rodgers and Susan Birkenhead
Stephen Schwartz • James Taylor

Directed by Daniella Wheelock
Music Direction by Jeremy Ramey

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"I have learned not to be afraid of the dark places, but to write about them and to share with the world that you can overcome. The Columbus arts community is so diverse and always thriving. I am inspired by so many young people in this community who are truly dedicated to their art and always striving to grow and go deeper and soar higher." I am Barbara Fant, poetry is my art and there's no place I'd rather make it.

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Design: Formation Studio

Thanks for joining us for *Working: A Musical!* When we set out to produce this virtual season, we were excited to take this leap, but we weren't quite sure what it would bring. We have found a wonderful community of people willing to take that leap with us. From the engagement of audiences to the ingenuity of artists, we are grateful to have connected with so many people this past year.

And now, here we are at our most ambitious virtual production yet! A fully-produced musical that has been rehearsed, recorded, and filmed from individual homes in Columbus and across the country. Six actors playing more than 25 different characters, setting up recording studios in bedrooms, basements, closets, or even in kitchen cabinets! We dropped equipment off on porches and shipped it through the mail. Rehearsals took place over Zoom where the whole team could experiment, learn choreography, and come together as a company. On recording days, phones were placed on tripods, the actors got into their (many) costumes, turned on their ring lights, and we made a play!

What you are about to see is a compiled singular performance. It is the work of over 20 people coming together to find and make theatre magic. You—the audience—are the next part of this experiment. Thank you for sharing in our story. We're thrilled to bring people together to share in this story.



A NOTE FROM CATCO'S ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Photo: Purple Star Photography

This is a story about perseverance, dreaming big, and figuring out who you are and who you want to be.

Working has meant a lot of things to a lot of people throughout the years. As you watch and listen to this story, right here, right now, we hope you find your own connections to these words and these songs.

As you stream this production from your home, we hope it brings you comfort, joy, laughter, and community.

Thank you for your unwavering support of CATCO's work this year and for being a part of this journey!

 

Leda Hoffmann
Artistic Director

Christy Farnbauch
Executive Director



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2020 was transformative.

I think that stands pretty universally. Our world today is nearly unrecognizable to the one from 14 months ago. In March 2020, people across the country, regardless of industry, were being furloughed, let go, or sent home. The entertainment industry completely shut down, and, to this day, in-person theatre has yet to reopen.

In times such as these, words from *Working* by Studs Terkel resonate. An opinion piece in *The Chicago Tribune* ran in April 2020, drawing a direct link to an experience the author had at a grocery store in COVID times to the interview in Studs Terkel's book with Chicago supermarket checker Babe Secoli in the early 1970s. *Working*, subtitled "people talk about what they do all day and how they feel about what they do," has a timeless sort of energy that can only come from

interviews published nearly 50 years ago that has people like Nora Watson, an editor, say: "I think most of us are looking for a calling, not a job. Most of us have jobs that are too small for our spirit. Jobs are not big enough for people."

Working, at its core, is a celebration of what we do all day and the people who make up our lives, for better or for worse. It is presented by a team of people who have been unable to do work in a theatre for over a year. The majority of us have actually never even met in person—I couldn't tell you how tall any of the actors are or what their preferred shoes are. I could, however, go on for pages about how actors and designers alike have been flexible and adaptable to the extreme—from fixing costumes through Zoom to learning and teaching choreography with a sound lag to the pets determined to make it into at least one shot. This team has undertaken a gargantuan task, and risen far beyond the challenge.

In doing this virtual play, we have all had to radically change the ways that we normally work. Our relationship to work has changed, but, just as so many of the interviews seem to say, one fundamental aspect persists. "It is about a search," Studs Terkel says in the introduction, "for daily meaning as well as daily bread, for recognition as well as cash, for astonishment rather than torpor."

Thank you for joining us, and for making our work possible.

Daniella Wheelock
Director



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Christy Farnbauch

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WORKING A MUSICAL

by Studs Terkel

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Daniella Wheelock

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Jeremy Ramey

DIGITAL DESIGNER
Chris Leyva

PROPS MASTER
Jennifer Maynard

CHOREOGRAPHER
Shoshana Canali

COSTUME DESIGNER
Tabitha Abney

STAGE MANAGER
Rachel Heine

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Vivica McCrary

INTERIM PRODUCTION MANAGER
Caroline Dittamo

CASTING COORDINATOR
Rowan Winterwood

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CAST

Man 1.....Je'Shaun Jackson
Man 2.....Cory Velazco
Man 3.....Carmine Grisolia
Woman 1.....Roni Shelley Perez
Woman 2.....Kendra Lynn Lucas*
Woman 3.....Amy Griffin*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....Daniella Wheelock
Music Director.....Jeremy Ramey
Choreographer.....Shoshana Canali
Digital Designer.....Chris Leyva
Costume Designer.....Tabitha Abney
Props Master.....Jennifer Maynard
Stage Manager.....Rachel Heine*
Assistant Stage Manager.....Vivica McCrary
Interim Production Manager.....Caroline Dittamo
Casting Coordinator.....Rowan Winterwood
Casting Assistant.....Julia Kelley

SPECIAL THANKS

Madi Barone, Nick Behson, Scott Behson, Arianna Catalano, Shelby Flynn, Carmine Grisolia, Jen Grisolia, Linda Grisolia, Lisa Grisolia, Nick Grisolia, Jack Leyva, Dr. Rachael Riggs Leyva, JoeAnne Lucas, Ben Maynard, Dave Maynard, Kristin Maynard, Stephanie Maynard, Michael Reyes

*Member of Actors' Equity Association



Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers nationwide. Equity seeks to foster 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.

CAST BIOS

JE'SHAUN JACKSON (Man 1) is a junior BFA musical theatre major at Northern Kentucky University near Cincinnati. He was recently seen as Revita Glory, Jefferson Glory, and Darnell Nusspickle in the touring production of *Church Girls: The Musical*, and voiced the role of Richie in *Richie and Blanche—A Pod Play* with Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. His NKU credits include: Wyatt Frost (Originated) in *The Black Boy in Pink!*; Bobby/Kit Kat Dancer in *Cabaret*; Dr. Ehrin, Pastor Bruno, Security Guard, Gym Assistant, and Officer Kowalski in *Freaky Friday: The Musical*; James Hewlett in *The African Company Presents: Richard III*; Company Dancer in *Dance '20*; and Joshua in the filmed production of *Fugitive Songs*. Other credible roles include: William Barfée in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Shrek in *Shrek The Musical*, and Uncle Fester in *The Addams Family Musical*. He is beyond grateful to have the opportunity to work with such a stellar cast and crew. He would also like to thank his incredible family and friends. He hopes you enjoy the show! Instagram: @_shaunjay_ TikTok: @_jshaunjackson_

CORY VELAZCO (Man 2) is a music teacher in the Columbus City Schools and loves to practice what he teaches. When working in the theater, he enjoys both plays and musicals in equal measure. He is also an avid reader and coffee drinker. *Working* is his virtual show as well as his debut show with CATCO. He has enjoyed being part of this process, and is excited to see the final product. He

is immensely grateful to the cast and crew for all their help and guidance throughout this wild journey.

CARMINE GRISOLIA (Man 3) is a longtime ensemble member of Strawdog Theatre Company in Chicago, the city where he also imitates art by “Working” as an electrical contractor. This is Carm’s first time performing with CATCO, and he is thrilled to have the chance to bring so much of his own history and his family’s legacy to the virtual stage. He would like to dedicate this performance to his working grandparents and great aunts and uncles from the greater Chicago area—they really woulda got a kick outta this.

RONI SHELLEY PEREZ (Woman 1) is a proud Pinoy from the Midwest. She was recently seen as the role of Lucy in *The Rose Theatre’s* world premiere of *Howie D: Back in the Day* starring Backstreet Boys’ Howard Dorough. Favorite credits include: Soonja Ma (Goeun u/s) in Off-Broadway’s *Comfort Women: A New Musical* and Veronica Sawyer in a regional premiere of *Heathers: The Musical*. Perez is proudly represented by Take 3 Talent. She sends all the love to family and friends! Mabuhay!

KENDRA LYNN LUCAS* (Woman 2) is beyond excited to be working with CATCO! Kendra is a Columbus native and attended Fort Hayes Performing Arts and is thrilled to be home! Prior to the pandemic, Kendra could be seen every weekend in *Sistas: The Musical* (Dr.Simone) performing at

the St. Luke’s Theatre in NYC. Some of her most recent regional credits include: 9–5: *The Musical* (Kathy), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Trix), *Disney’s Alice in Wonderland* (Caterpillar), *Cats* (Grizabella), *The Wiz* (Eviline), *The Who’s Tommy* (Acid Queen), and *Avenue Q* (Gary Coleman). Kendra gives uncountable thanks to God, her ever-supportive mother, JoeAnn, SW Artist, and to all her amazing friends and family, she expresses her extreme gratitude for their constant encouragement.

AMY GRIFFIN* (Woman 3) has appeared on Broadway in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (original cast, cast recording) and Off-Broadway in *The English Bride*, *Mr. President*, *Infertility*, *Newsical*, three productions of *Forbidden Broadway*, and as the Nightingale in the revival of *Once Upon a Mattress* (starring Jackie Hoffman). First National Tours: Mrs. Mayor in *Seussical: The Musical* (starring Cathy Rigby) and *Grinch*. Other credits include: Loretta in *Fly Me to the Moon* (The Public Theater); Older Alison in *Fun Home*

(New England Premiere); Dr. Ruth in *Becoming Dr. Ruth* (Music Theatre of Connecticut); Belise in *The Learned Ladies* (Centenary Stage); Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Savannah Rep); Sally in *Talley’s Folly* (Bickford and Oldcastle Theatres); the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd* (Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival); Fran in *Grumpy Old Men* (starring F. Murray Abraham) and Mrs. Fairfax/Mrs. Reed/Grace Poole in the recent workshops of John Caird and Paul Gordon’s *Jane Eyre*. Amy has somehow survived playing the title role in *Peter Pan* seven (!) times. She has received the Independent Theatre Award for her performance (as well as many frequent flyer miles). As a director, her credits include White Plains Performing Arts Center, the Engeman Theatre, the Depot Theatre, and The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, NYC. Amy is a proud graduate of Northwestern University, where she received the Excellence in Theatre Award. www.Amy-Griffin.com



PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

DANIELLA WHEELOCK (Director) is a Chicago-based theatremaker, originally from San Diego, CA. She graduated magna cum laude from the Conservatory for Theatre Arts at Webster University with a degree in directing and was an Emerging Professional Resident at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. She is on the DirectorsLabChicago Steering Committee and is a grant writer for Red Tape Theatre. Recent directing credits include: *Fragmented* (virtual designer/assistant to dir. Spencer Diedrick, *Our Perspectives: Asian American Plays*); *The Roommate* (Cardinal Stage); *Every Christmas Story Ever Told* (Quincy Community Theatre); *The Great Leap* (assistant to dir. Jesca Prudencio, Steppenwolf Theatre Company); *The Process*

(The Barrrens Theatre Co.).
daniellawheelock.com

JEREMY RAMEY (Music Director) is a concert pianist, conductor, and music director based in Chicago and serves as the resident music director for Theo Ubique Theatre Company. In 2020, Jeremy received his eleventh and twelfth Jeff nominations for music direction for his work on *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* and *Hello, Again*. Jeremy has won six Jeff awards total—most recently for *Bridges of Madison County* in 2019. He received previous Jeff awards for *The Light in the Piazza*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Rent*, *The Most Happy Fella* and *Sweeney Todd*. In 2016, he won his second Broadway World Award for Music Direction for his work on *Bette*, *Live at The*

Continental Baths with the production company Hell in a Handbag. He received his training in piano performance and music at Rhodes College, Northwestern University, and The Juilliard School of Music. Jeremy sends his best regards to the wonderful cast, crew, and our director, Daniella. Thank you, especially, to Leda for the opportunity to be a part of the team at CATCO.

SHOSHANA CANALI (Choreographer) is thrilled to be working on her first show with CATCO! She is a choreographer, director, and acting coach based out of NYC. With a BFA from Webster Conservatory and experience both regionally and in New York, Shoshana coaches all ages at multiple studios. Recent work as a director and movement coach include *The Wolves* (DSAC), *Generations* (JazellesArtistry), and *4 minute Shakespeare*.

CHRIS LEYVA (Digital Designer) is excited to be part of CATCO's virtual season as a digital designer! Chris previously worked as digital designer for *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. His new play *Prima Donna* was part of the CATCO New Works Festival. Chris' previous plays have been commissioned and developed by CATCO, CLIMB Theatre, MadLab Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Curtain Players New Play Initiative, Great Plains Theatre Conference, and the Columbus School for Girls, among others. His plays *The Throne of Oz* and *Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras* both premiered at CATCO is Kids. Chris has been an artist educator for CATCO and is a playwright mentor for MadLab Theatre's Young Writers Short Play

Festival. He received an MFA from the Playwrights Workshop at The University of Iowa, a BA in directing from Coe College, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

TABITHA ABNEY (Costume Designer) is an independent costume designer and wardrobe supervisor/stylist. She received her education at the Art Institute of Philadelphia, and in 2010, she moved to Columbus to create a new life for herself. She lives in Groveport, OH with her partner, Mark, and youngest son, Daniel. Fashion has always been at the heart of what she does, and it has taken her on an incredible journey—from an independent fashion designer, showcasing several collections at Columbus' Alternative Week presented by The Alternative Fashion Mob, to creating costumes for zombie contestants for Ms. Living Dead Columbus. Tabi has also worked with Awalkonwater Entertainment as costume designer/wardrobe supervisor on their films *Holy Hustle* and *A Family Affair*. Working on films helped her to discover her love for costume design and working with actors to bring characters to life through clothing. Her aptitude for quick thinking on the spot and problem solving has given her the nickname "Miracle Worker" on any set where she's worked. Her motto is "We'll Make It Work."

JENNIFER MAYNARD (Props Master) has always had a passion for creating. She enjoys dabbling in a little bit of anything and everything, whether it be makeup artistry, painting, photography, property fabrication, or digital design, the list is endless.

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With a BA degree in theatre studies: production from The School of Theatre and Dance at Kent State University, Jenn has taken her earned skills and used them to earn more, thus leading her to CATCO during the fall 2017 production of *Fun Home* where she first volunteered as an usher. Since then, she has worked on multiple productions including *Daddy Long Legs*, *Breaking the Code*, and *Holmes and Watson*. Jenn has also discovered her love for working with CATCO is Kids on a variety of productions, including some of her proudest moments like *The Cat in the Hat* and *Alice in Wonderland JR*. She has recently become a member of the IATSE Local Stage Hand 12 and is excited to see where that leads her. Outside of CATCO, Jenn has been able to display her makeup artistry and paintings with RAW Natural Born Artists. She thanks CATCO for helping her discover new skills and creating a second home for her.

RACHEL HEINE* (Stage Manager) is excited to return to CATCO after stage managing *A Columbus Christmas Carol*, *Prima Donna*, and *20K Leagues Under the Sea*. National Tours: *Rock of Ages 10th Anniversary Tour*, *The Illusionists*, *42nd Street*, *Once*. Off-Broadway: *The Body of an American*, *Daddy Long Legs*. Other NYC Credit: The Flea Theatre, NYC Fringe Festival. Regional: Alley Theatre, Columbus Children's Theatre. Education: Otterbein University.

VIVICA MCCRARY (Assistant Stage Manager) is absolutely thrilled to be a part of CATCO's *Working* as assistant stage manager in her second virtual production! She has been

an admirer of CATCO and CATCO is Kids ever since participating in their summer programs as a child. Vivica is a stage manager and a talented voiceover artist with hands in everything creative! Vivica has also stage managed and directed several shows over the years, such as State of The Arts Productions' *The Color Purple* and *The Hundred Dresses*. It is truly her privilege to work with such a phenomenal cast and crew! Please enjoy this "labor" of love, *Working!* #BlackLivesMatter

CAROLINE DITTAMO (Interim Production Manager) has worked in opera, theater, and music as a stage manager, master electrician, and lighting designer, both in Ohio and Kansas. Her favorite recent shows include CATCO/Evolution's *Breaking the Code*, CATCO is Kids' *Babe*, *The Sheep Pig*, and Evolution's *The Turkey Men*.

ROWAN WINTERWOOD (Casting Coordinator) is a designer, technician, stage manager, and occasional actor and director. She holds a dual degree in cognitive and linguistic sciences and theatre studies from Wellesley College, where she was a member of the Wellesley College Shakespeare Society. She is an ensemble member of Actors' Theatre of Columbus, where recent credits include *Romeo & Juliet* (stage manager), *Mystery-Bouffe* (director, staged reading), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (sound board operator). Recent CATCO credits include sound design for *Babe* and *The Christmas Schooner*, and lighting design for *Sunshine*.



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ADDITIONAL STAFF BIOS

LEDA HOFFMANN (Artistic Director) has been Artistic Director of CATCO since July 2020. Before coming to CATCO, Leda was the artistic director of Chicago-based Strawdog Theatre Company and, before that, was a member of Milwaukee Rep's artistic staff for seven years, working in the education and literary departments and founding Milwaukee Rep's community engagement department. Her work as a director has been seen nationwide at Milwaukee Rep, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Texas Shakespeare Festival, University of Miami, Door Shakespeare, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Jedlicka Performing Arts Center, Northbrook Theatre, The Alchemist Theatre, Max and Louie Productions, and Riverside Theater Iowa City. She has also been a teaching artist for more than 10 years, directing youth and teaching with Hartford Stage, Milwaukee Rep, Mudlark Theater, Northbrook Park District, and Skyline Studios. www.ledahoffmann.com

CHRISTY FARNBAUCH (Executive Director) became CATCO's executive director in April 2020. A graduate of Otterbein University, with degrees in music performance and business administration, Christy spent many years of her career in arts education. She is a highly respected leader in central Ohio's arts and cultural sector, and nationwide. Christy is no stranger to CATCO, having served as a trained audio describer. Additionally, she and her family were 10-year subscribers to The Phoenix Theatre for Children, the predecessor to CATCO is Kids.

ANDREW PROTOPAPAS (Interim Education Director) is an alumnus of both Capital University and CATCO's acting apprenticeship program. He holds bachelor's degrees in English literature, creative writing, and theatre studies. As an educator, Andrew has facilitated and planned workshops, classes, and residency programs in schools both inside and outside of Columbus. Apart from providing education through theatre, Andrew enjoys acting, directing, and writing for the stage.

JACQUELINE S. BATES (House Manager) has served as house manager for CATCO since 2012 and loves welcoming patrons to CATCO productions. Jackie has been active in local theatre for many years and has performed roles for Players Theatre, CATCO, Red Herring, Actors' Theatre, and OSU Summer Theatre. Most recently she appeared as Katherine in CATCO's *Mothers and Sons* and Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias*. She also does audio description.

SARAH MILLS BACHA (Press Representative) is a professional writer and communications/marketing consultant. As president of her own firm, SMB Communications Ltd., which she founded in 1994, she has assisted numerous national and central Ohio companies and organizations with their marketing and communications needs. Before becoming a consultant, she worked as a journalist at daily newspapers. Previous positions include business reporter at *The Columbus Dispatch* in Columbus, OH, comment page editor at *The*

Journal-Gazette in Fort Wayne, IN, and stringer for *Reuters*.

KRISTA LIVELY STAUFFER (Artist Educator) is a graduate of Otterbein University's Theatre Department, and a local professional actor on stage and screen. A casting associate/in-house artist with Boxland Media, Krista has been seen and heard in several commercials and voice overs. Some of her favorite stage credits include *Avenue Q* (Kate/Lucy), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Nurse/Harriet/Mrs.), and *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes). Krista is an artist educator with CATCO is Kids, working as the director for the Saturday Morning Musical experiences.

PATRICIA WALLACE-WINBUSH (Artist Educator) is a highly-respected actress and director on the Columbus theatre scene. She has performed with local theatre companies most notably CATCO, Players Theatre, Gallery Players, Red Herring Theatre Ensemble, Short North Stage, and PAST Productions Columbus where she is also co-founder and co-producer. Patty recently performed as Ebony Scrooge in CATCO's *A Columbus Christmas Carol*. She is proud of her one-woman show entitled *Thank God I Look Good in Pink*, which chronicles her journey as a breast cancer survivor. Patty thanks her family for supporting her dreams, especially her husband Truman Winbush Jr.

JAMIE PAVLOFSKY (Artist Educator) is a Dayton native currently serving a School Residency at Dublin Scioto High School where she works with a class of special education students. She has served as a teaching artist for many organizations both in Dayton

and virtually and is thrilled to be with CATCO! When not teaching, Jamie is an active performer in the Dayton area.

DUSTIN ASHLEY BEAM (Artist Educator) is a singer, writer, storyteller, actor, and teacher. He released his debut single, "I Am Not a Shadow," in 2019. His novel of the same name will be released in 2021 with a short album entitled *Songs from the Quarantine*. He has written the children's musicals, *Sleepily Ever After*, *The Titan Trinity*, and *The Space Case*; and the children's plays, *Where's My Scare?* and *The Unexpected Quest of Unlikely Friends*. His first full length album, *Playground of the Phoenix*, will be released in early 2022. His favorite roles include The Scarecrow (*The Wizard of Oz*), Leaf Coneybear (*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), and Mary Sunshine (*Chicago*). His dream role he has yet to play is Buddy, the Elf (*Elf The Musical*). Dustin currently resides in Arkansas with his magical dog, Charlie.

QUINTON "QUE" JONES (Artist Educator) has been a music director and costume designer in Columbus, OH since 2008. A native of the city, Que received two bachelor's degrees from Capital University and went on to receive his master's degree in music composition from The Ohio State University. Que began costume designing shortly after working with the West Family, Nina and Virginia West, costuming their main stage production shows. These shows feature hundreds of unique looks and represent thousands of hours of building. Que has been a music director and accompanist with CATCO since 2013 and has recently costumed the entire 2019/2020 season.

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