

THE BARROW GROUP

Executive Director
Robert Yu Serrell

Co-Artistic Directors
Seth Barrish, Lee Brock

TBGFILM FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER



5:00pm • 7:00pm • 9:30pm

TUESDAY, JUNE 10th

3 Blocks • 29 Short Films • Work from 70 TBG Artists

at **AMT THEATER** 354 W 45 St

5:00

Genie
Method & Madness
The Perfect
Out-of-Office Reply

Introvert Club
Everything Goes Dark
Concept High
Different Than
Yesterday
Playdate
R U OK



GENIE

Brandon Weavil is a screenwriter/director with a Master's Degree in Creative Writing from The New School. He often co-writes with Emmy and Critics Choice nominated director Rod Blackhurst, and their latest feature *DOLLY*, starring Seann William Scott, Ethan Suplee, and Fabianne Therese, is set to release this fall.

TBG Artists: William Joseph
Truiano

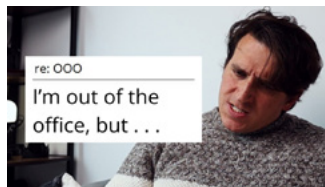


METHOD & MADNESS

Julia Maggiola and Keaton Morris-Stan are the creative forces behind Squeaky Wheel Entertainment, an independent production company dedicated to telling bold, character-driven stories, and are both alumni of The Barrow Group. Their latest collaboration, *Method & Madness*, is a gripping short film that explores themes of grief, vengeance, and moral ambiguity. The film premiered at the New York Shorts International Film Festival in 2024 and won Best Director (Anna Russell, also a TBG alum) at Brightside Film Festival. Julia Maggiola is an actor and writer known for her compelling performances in both film and television.

Her recent work includes leading roles in *Method & Madness* and *The Art of Longing and Belonging*, the latter of which she co-wrote and co-produced with Keaton. Keaton Morris-Stan is an award-winning filmmaker and actor with a passion for telling diverse and nuanced stories. Between Squeaky Wheel Entertainment and her production company Greater Than the Sum, she has produced and written several acclaimed short films, including *Fractal*, which has garnered 21 official selections, won 6 awards, and has received 14 additional nominations. Together, Julia and Keaton are committed to creating films that challenge audiences and amplify underrepresented voices. Their work continues to resonate with viewers and critics alike, establishing them as dynamic collaborators in the independent film community. Their partnership reflects a shared vision for storytelling that is both fearless and deeply human.

TBG Artists: Julia Maggiola,
Anna Russell, Keaton Morris-Stan,
Jenny Ward



THE PERFECT

OUT-OF-OFFICE REPLY

Gianluca Scaglione grew up in Palermo, Italy, and attended university in Rome before moving to the US. While in Italy, he founded the channel @BolidiSolidi and produced, directed, conducted, edited and post-produced video interviews in Palermo and Rome and short films. He studied violin and piano for six years at the Conservatory "Vincenzo Bellini" in Palermo, and while attending high school, he wrote the novel "La Notte è Più Nera" which was published nationally in Italy and recognized among the recipients of a Mario Soldati award - Young Section. He also worked on a variety of projects as freelance video editor, photographer, and graphic designer for local directors and cultural entities in Italy. More recently, living in New York City, he has been writing, producing, directing, filming, editing, post-producing and acting in short films under @Scenigola on YouTube. He takes acting classes at The Barrow Group.

TBG Artists: Gianluca Scaglione



INTROVERT CLUB

Vered Rodriguez is an international filmmaker who has created works in Australia, Hong Kong, Israel, New York, LA, and Texas. Focusing on compelling comedy storytelling, Vered has directed, edited, and produced a wide range of content, including commercials, music videos, and short films.

TBG Artists: Kate Robards

EVERYTHING GOES DARK

Alex Casimir is a Brooklyn born filmmaker, interested in telling the stories of outsiders and outcasts. His work looks to embrace intersectionality, often being inspired by the complexity of real life experiences and his own identity as a biracial man. He holds a B.F.A in Film & Television Production from the University of Southern California. Both his narrative and unscripted short films have screened at festivals such as Palm Springs Shorts fest, Austin Film Festival, Atlanta Film Festival and NFFTY. Additionally, his work has been



featured on Short of the Week, Director's Library, PBS, and has been shown at institutions such as the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) and the SFO Museum.

TBG Artists: Alex Casimir

CONCEPT HIGH

A born and raised New Yorker, Amos Posner fell in love with film at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he wrote extensively for *The Daily Cardinal*, one of the nation's oldest independent campus newspapers. After graduating he returned to New York, where he worked as a script reader and production assistant in independent film, including a brief stint as a costume assistant on a Bollywood film. He has also studied directing with Seth Barrish and the late Jack Hofsiss and acting with Lee Brock and Regina O'Malley. His direc-



torial work includes *B-Side* starring Ryan Eggold and Jennifer Damiano and *After Party* starring Laura Dreyfuss and Rachel Nichols. His most recent short film, *Concept High*, screened at the 2024 Austin Film Festival. He lives in Manhattan with his wife, the novelist Kerry Cullen, and their rescue dog Marlowe.

TBG Artists: Amos Posner, Carrie Keating

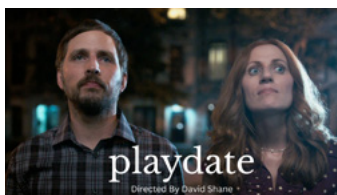


DIFFERENT THAN YESTERDAY

Director Evan Bergaman's film works include the recent short film *Day Zero* which an official selection short (CIFF Toronto Film Festival) and was called "A cautionary tale, perfectly realized" by Oscar Award winning director James Ivory; *Dig A Hole*, *Find A Finger*, Palm Springs and Newport Beach International Film Festivals; and a documentary for Warner Music Group featuring Roger Daltrey (The Who) and Philip Bailey (Earth Wind and Fire). *Life on the Flats* about oyster farmers living on Cape Cod, currently in pre-production,

which he wrote and will also direct. *The Alternative* co-written with Jack Canfora and starring David Strathairn which is currently in development. His theater credits include Neil Labute's new play *Comfort*: the long-running off-Broadway production (New York and Los Angeles) of *The Director*, starring John Shea; as well as other OFF-Broadway and regional theater productions.

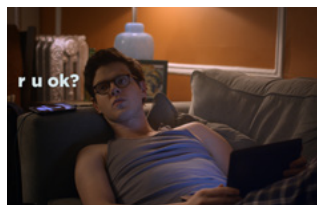
TBG Artists: Renata Hinrichs, Brant Spencer, Laura Parker, Ciaran Byrne, Christine Cirker



PLAY DATE

Playdate is one of several collaborations between Emmy and Cannes Lions-winning director David Shane and writer Scott Organ. The pair co-wrote three short films, all directed by Shane: *Playdate* (Tribeca Film Festival, HollyShorts, London City Film Festival), *The Board* (Tribeca Film Festival), and *The One* (Palm Springs International ShortFest)

TBG Artists: Scott Organ



RUOK

Jay Russell (Writer/Director) Jay is an actor who has appeared on Broadway in *End of the Rainbow & The Play What I Wrote* (directed by Kenneth Branagh). His TV work includes *Poker Face*, *Gotham*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *Louie*, *Ugly Betty* *The Sopranos*, & several *Law & Orders*. Films include *Morning Glory*, *Queen of Knives*, *Ride*, & *In Lieu of Flowers*. He has appeared in numerous Off-Broadway productions including *Our Town* (Barrow Street), *Normal Heart* (The Public) & *Around the World in 80 Days* (Irish Rep) as well as plays with Keen Company, Transport Group, Mint Theatre and more. Regional Theatre: LOTS. National Tours include the recent *Girl from the North Country* (Mr. Perry), *Wicked* (Dr Dillamond) and *Beauty & the Beast* (Lumiere), & Internationally at both the Vienna and Frankfurt English Theatres. *ruok* is his first film.

TBG Artists: Jay Russell, Zach Booth

7:00

Weightless

Coda

Low Sperm Count

Walk with Me

Consider the Sparrow

Enjoy The Day

Lea

Catalogue of Noses

The Inadequacy of Language
in Life After Death

Once Upon a Bookshop



WEIGHTLESS

WEIGHTLESS was a true collaboration between Lori Petchers and Susan Jacobson. Lori Petchers is filmmaker and visual artist based in Connecticut. Susan Jacobson is an actor, dancer, writer, choreographer and student in Lee Brock's class. Susan has been experimenting with the concept of movement monologues. Their film LETTING GO premiered at the opening of Lincoln Center's Eye on Dance Festival and the film BROKEN looped at the People. Politics. Planet. Exhibit in Westport.

TBG Artists: Susan Jacobson



CODA

Larry Mitchell is an actor best known for his roles in *We Own This City* (2022) and his work alongside Al Pacino in the Emmy-nominated HBO Film *Paterno* (2018), directed by Barry Levinson. Other highlights include *Zero Day* (2025) and *The Departed* (2006). He continues to perform on-stage at his "artistic home," The Barrow Group Theater Company in New York. He is married with two kids, and a nutbag dog named Hudson.

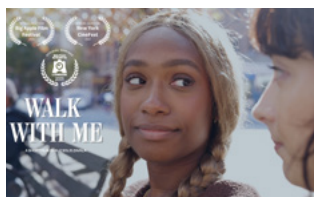
TBG Artists: Larry Mitchell
Tricia Alexandro, Noelle Wilson, Danny Guggenheim



LOW SPERM COUNT

Michael Ferraro is a New York-based actor and executive producer who thrives in the space where comedy gets uncomfortable and characters get weird. With a background in indie film productions and a knack for mixing charm with chaos, he's drawn to offbeat stories that linger long after the credits roll. When he's not on set, he's probably overthinking something — and turning it into content.

TBG Artists: Michael Ferraro



WALK WITH ME

Ale Solis Zavala is a New York City based actor, writer, and director. Born in Mexico City and primarily raised in Texas, she hopes to use the perspectives from both of the languages and cultures she grew up with to tell impactful stories about what makes us who we are and when and how we figure that out. Since taking her first class at The Barrow Group in January 2024, she has continued to dive further into the filmmaking and acting world through the completion of the Professional Summer Acting Intensive and the Short Film Creation Workshop, where she worked on nine short film assignments. Ale has enjoyed sharing her first full-fledged short film project, *Walk with Me*, at various festivals, and is actively working on new stories that she is excited to develop.

TBG Artists: Ale Solis Zavala, Kimberly D'anna, Osh Noam



CONSIDER THE SPARROW

Eliza Foss (Director) is an actor, writer and director living and working in New York City for over twenty years. She has been seen on major stages in New York City and in regional theaters across the country as well as in episodic t.v. and independent films. Most recently she was seen in the film *Indignation* and an adaptation of *Enemy of the People* at The Barrow Group Theater in New York. She was the AD on Jeremy and Ann's first film, *Plot*. This is her directorial debut.

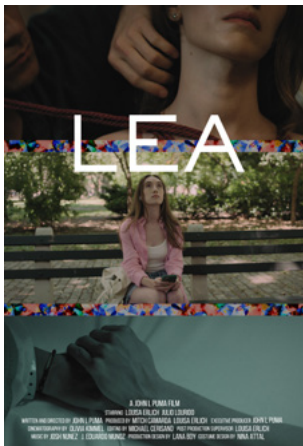
TBG Artists: Eliza Foss, Ann Hamilton, Jeremy Folmer, Larry Lau, Matthew Landfield, Caitlin Barton Landfield



ENJOY THE DAY

Porter Pickard (Elijah) Most recently seen on *Billions* & *City On A Hill* (Showtime) and *Elsbeth* (CBS). Other credits include *Save Me* & *The Fear Project* (TBG); *A Chorus Line* (World & European tours, and US Nat'l companies); *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *The Fantasticks*, *Sisterella*, *On Your Toes*. As Director of Production at TBG, he has worked on many productions including *17 Minutes*, *The Thing With Feathers*, *Muswell Hill*, *Abigail's Party* and *The Tricky Part*. Special thanks to Kristi Ng, Farrah Crane, Christine Cirker & Dan DeCarlo.

TBG Artists: Kristi Ng, Porter Pickard, Christine Cirker, Farrah Crane, Lunie Jules, Amy Loughead, Dan DeCarlo, Sean Hankinson

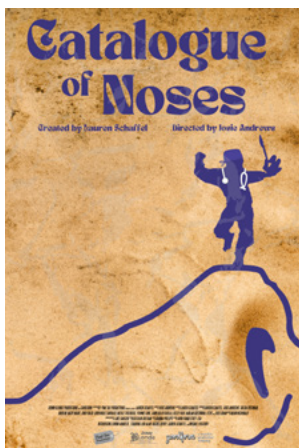


LEA

Born and raised in Mount Vernon, NY, John Puma (Director/Writer) has been involved in the medium of entertainment since he was six years old. His obsession for theater and acting quickly became the foundation for his larger career as a writer, producer and now director. Earning a formal education in Theater at Loyola University New Orleans, John learned that good theater, and good entertainment, simply requires good story, and then everything follows. He was first inspired to write in his early years as a production assistant on major sets in New York City stealing peeks at studio drafts and running lines with the actors he would run back and forth from their trailers to set. All those years working on set allowed him to build a community of local New York based filmmakers who had a penchant for shooting their own movies on the weekends. John aims to tell stories that are relat-

able, from real experiences because the world is pretty incredible already.

TBG Artists: Louisa Erlich, Julio Lourido

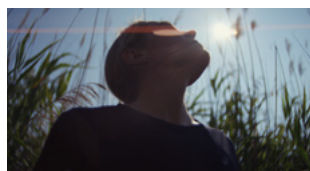


CATALOG OF NOSES

Lauren Schaffel is an actor, writer, comedian, and singer and has been acting professionally since she was five years old. Her television credits include *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Will and Grace*, *Still Standing*, and the voice of Lucy in *A Charlie Brown Valentine's Day*. In film, she has appeared in *My Dead Boyfriend*, *Admission*, and *Revenge of the Green Dragons*. She's worked at numerous theaters, most recently at the Road Theatre in North Hollywood, and others including Geva in Rochester, several NY theaters including The National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene, Playwrights Horizons, The Barrow Group, and Urban Stages. As a filmmaker, she wrote, produced, and starred in the short, musical comedy film *Catalogue of Noses*. She also recently

wrote and starred in two comedy shorts "*Gentle Parenting*" and "*Steak Dinner*," incorporating her original characters created at the Groundlings. Both are currently making the festival circuit. Lauren is a co-founder of the production company LMC Productions, which supports new script development focusing on amplifying female voices. She's also on the board of Jewface Theater Company based in LA, which produced the play version of *Catalogue of Noses* in their inaugural short play lab development in 2023.

TBG Artists: Lauren Schaffel, Joe Feldman Barros



THE INADEQUACY OF LANGUAGE IN LIFE AFTER DEATH

Lillie Wojcik Foster is a director, editor, and writer who believes the best stories begin with vulnerability. Originally from Minnesota and now based in New York, she enjoys creating character-driven, emotionally layered work that explores the tension between external constraints and emerging autonomy. She began her career behind the scenes at production companies, collaborating on treatments, music videos, and commercials for other directors, before shifting her focus to

directing her own projects. She's currently completing The Barrow Group's year-long directing program, and is excited to integrate the directing techniques and creative instincts she's developed into her growing narrative practice.

TBG Artists: Lillie Wojcik Foster

ONCE UPON A BOOKSHOP

Zac Jaffee (writer/director) is an actor/writer/director living in NYC. He started his

studies at TBG in 2008. He has written and performed two solo shows ("*Heroes and Other Strangers*", which was shown at the TBG Studio Theater and "*I Don't Know Shit About Cars*"). *Once Upon a Bookshop* was co-written with his wife, playwright Andrea Kuchlewska. www.andreakuchlewska.com
www.Zacjaffee.com

TBG Artists: Jonathan Lipnick, Andrea Kuchlewska, Zac Jaffee



We've got Weekend Workshops all Summer!

Maybe you'll be hitting the beach a lot this Summer...sounds nice!
But you can still fit in a class with us, because we'll have Weekend Workshops on offer most every weekend from June 21 into August...

June 21 and 22 – [Beginner Acting](#) – WAITLIST ONLY

June 28 and 29 – [Theatrical Clown](#) – WAITLIST ONLY

July 6 – [Commercial Auditioning](#)

July 12 and 13 – [Professional Acting](#)

July 18 and 20 – [Stage Combat](#)

August 9 – [Finding Your Story: Inkling to Idea](#)

Check out TBG's [full schedule of classes](#), including Youth classes, camps, and intensives!

9:30

It's Time

The Alarm

Things People Do

Why Are You Here?

Blubber

Scrambled

Makes Perfect

More Than I Should

Pursuit of Perception

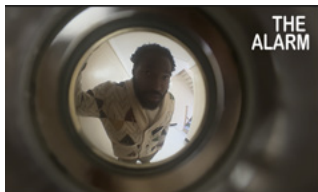
Leave It At My Door



IT'S TIME

Clarence Demestier (he/him) is a Brooklyn-based actor with professional training from Brown University and highly rated New York City drama studios, including The Barrow Group's One Year Professional Acting Program. He has years of experience across theatre and film including Off-Broadway, student and award-winning independent productions in the New York City area that have screened at various film festivals and can be seen on online streaming services Amazon Prime and Tubi. "It's Time" is his first written and self-produced short.

TBG Artists: Melissa Parker Caron



THE ALARM

Eldren Keys is an actor, writer and filmmaker from Wedgefiled, South Carolina whose work is inspired by Black southern culture, nature, and the exploration of identity.

TBG Artists: Eldren Keys, Samiha Ahmed, DeAndre Weaver, Lizzie Freilich, Marlon Hall, Osh Noam

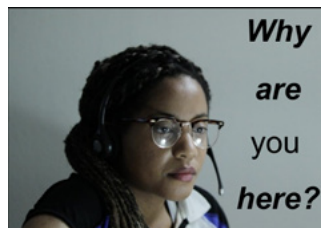


THINGS PEOPLE DO

Sasha Skulinets is a Ukrainian-born writer, producer, and director based in New York. After several years working in advertis-

ing and post-production, she began developing her own narrative projects. In 2023, she started Midbrow Productions to make creative, low-budget work with other like-minded collaborators. Sasha's currently in post-production on *Bread and Butter*, a four-episode anthology web series about creative work and identity.

TBG Artists: Sasha Skulinets

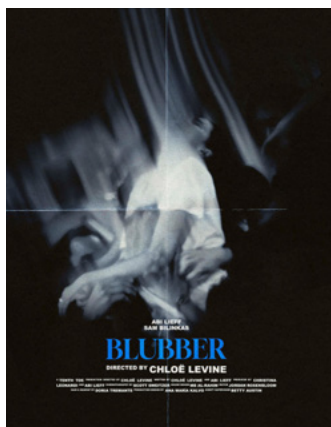


WHY ARE YOU HERE?

Khamaili (she/her) is a New York City born and raised actress, writer, and director. She recently starred in the Stage One Player's one-act festival in the West Village where she directed 4 one-act plays including one NYC debut. You can catch her in TV and Film as well, most recently as a co-star next to Kaitlyn Olson and Daniel Sunjata on ABC's *High Potential*. In her free time Khamaili creates and edits her own short form content from plays and shorts, to

skirts and podcasts. This piece is one of her first cinematic forays into sci-fi and is directed, produced, and written by her. She also plays both leads! IG: @Khamailei

TBG Artists: Khamailei Angélie



BLUBBER

Chloë Levine is an actress and filmmaker. She has starred in films that have premiered at Sundance, SXSW, and Cannes. Her short “Dragon” won Best Experimental Short in Tribeca’s Our City, My Story. Her short “Blubber”, which stars and was co-written by her frequent collaborator Abi Lieff, premiered at the Greenpoint Film Festival in 2023. Levine’s second narrative short “Bloom” recently premiered at the Florida Film Festival. “Somnium”, a film Levine stars in and executive produces, will have its theatrical release this summer. Levine resides in Brooklyn, NY.

TBG Artists: Chloë Levine, Abi Lieff, Delaney Keith, Michael Dermansky



SCRAMBLED

Siddharth Bhuptani is an actor and director who made a debut as a child artist in Indian television. His work spans stage and screen, with acting honors at both state and national levels. While performance remains at the heart of his craft, he stepped into filmmaking to explore storytelling from behind the camera as well.

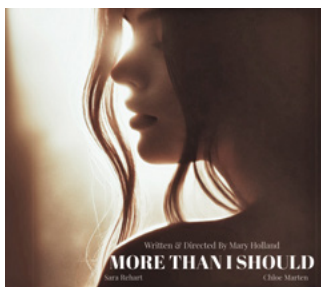
TBG Artists: Sid Bhuptani, Alexa, Polly & Danny



MAKES PERFECT

TKTK Films is Jp and Courtney Kiolbassa Talty, a husband-and-wife directing duo based in NYC. Jp is a painter, artist, and animator; Courtney has roots in writing and acting. We collaborate with friends, neighbors, and other up-and-coming creatives to make films for practice, for sharing, and for fun.

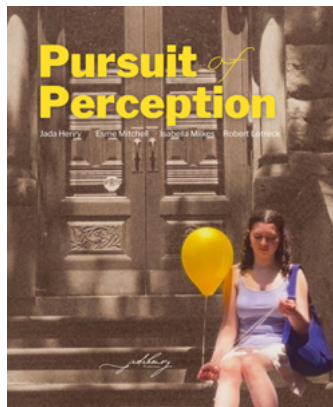
TBG Artists: Courtney Kiolbassa Talty, Stephen Cummings, Emily Foley



MORE THAN I SHOULD

Mary Holland is a Turkish-German-American filmmaker based in New York. Her multicultural upbringing gives her a unique lens through which she tells stories that resonate across cultures. She began her filmmaking journey during the COVID-19 pandemic, working on diverse productions to gain hands-on experience and sharpen her technical skills. Mary is drawn to narratives about individuals who face societal challenges yet reveal deep inner strength. In her NYFA Dialogue film, she explores identity, desire, and the unspoken boundaries within relationships. The story follows a married woman who discovers an unexpected emotional connection with her best friend, challenging her sense of self and personal expectations. Through this work, Mary aims to spark conversations around self-discovery and the courage it takes to live authentically and to remind audiences of the universal human need to feel fully seen.

TBG Artists: Sarah Rehart



PURSUIT OF PERCEPTION

Jada Henry is a writer, producer, and actor from Little Rock, Arkansas - currently residing in New York City. In 2020, she published her first fiction novel, *The Principles of Good Taste and Ornament*. More recently she wrote F14 Entertainment's film, *Candle Sweat*, and independently produced the short film *Pursuit of Perception* and satirical web series *@MaggieThinksThat*. She also runs the ethical humorist newsletter *So, Hear Me Out...*

She retains a BA in Film and Screen Studies from Pace University where she was a Mellon Grant Writing Fellow for BIPOC storytellers. She has gone on to work for CBS News - Paramount in Talent Strategy, New York City International Children's Film Festival, and The American Pavilion at Cannes Film Festival -

Emerging Filmmakers Showcase for Programming. She trained at The Barrow Group Performing Arts Center for three years and currently studies Screenwriting at Gotham Writers Workshop. With a diverse background in writing and performance, her aptitude for creating visceral yet grounding tales creates a well-rounded storyteller she strives to be throughout her career.

TBG Artists: Jada Henry, Isabella Milkes, Esme Mitchell



LEAVE IT AT MY DOOR

DeAndre Weaver is an actor and award winning writer focused on bringing the next wave of black led coming of ages stories to life. He cites John Hughes and the 2005 WB kids animation block as his main influences. DeAndre's last film *Mask* was the winner of the Mircobudget film podcast x Micromania Film Festival halloween mobile film challenge and went on to be accepted into the North Carolina black film festival among others. He recently was awarded a Bronze People Choice and silver Telly Award for local TV for his scripting and producing work on *"Mabel"*. When not on set you can find DeAndre trying out new recipes or catching up on *Grey's Anatomy*

TBG Artists: DeAndre Weaver

Thank You

We can't thank you enough for being here tonight to support the talent of these artists and work of The Barrow Group.

We like to thank the following persons for their help in making this happen:

**Tony Sportiello • Tamara Flannagan • Pete Dorton
Kevin Molica • Farrah Crane • Doug Goldring**

Special Thanks to AMT Theater for hosting us today and sponsoring this benefit.

Lee Brock (*Curator*) is Co-Artistic Director of The Barrow Group, a multi-award-winning theater company where she has overseen, developed and/or produced more than 200 projects. Directing Credits include: K. Lorrel Manning's *Lost... Found*, Lyle Kessler's *Perp*, Mike Leigh's *Abigail's Party* (NY Times Critic's Pick), Craig Wright's *The Pavilion*, Dan Clancy's *The Timekeepers*, Craig Wright's *Orange Flower Water*, and a new translation of *Uncle Vanya*. In 2009 Ms. Brock created F.A.B. Women, a development wing of The Barrow Group dedicated to creating projects For, About, and By Women. F.A.B. serves more than 100 artists. One of Ms. Brock's personal missions is to help artists create their own projects. She has acted at The Barrow Group, The Kennedy Center, Manhattan Theater Club, The Lucille Lortel, Playhouse 91, La Mama e.t.c, and many other theaters around the country. Her television appearances include leading roles in *Orange is the New Black*, *Law and Order*, *Law and Order SVU*, and *Law and Order Criminal Intent*. Lee is a leading teacher at The Barrow Group. Thousands of students from all over the world have studied with her in the last thirty-seven years. She's most proud of her two favorite productions, her children, Phillip and Rachel.

Christine Cirkor (Co-Producer) has been a member of The Barrow Group community for 20+ years, notable TBG productions include *Lost... Found* (TBG & Edinburgh Fringe 2024, co-directed with Lee Brock). *Awake* by K. Lorrel Manning, *Perp* by Lyle Kessler She is producing director for F.A.B. Women where she has directed and produced new works since 2010. Selected NYC Producing: *Chasing Happy* and *Strings Attached* (Pulse Theatre), *Macbeth* and *Romeo & Juliet* (The Curtain Co.), *Letters to Sala* by Arlene Hutton (TBG). In the film world, she is Co-Producer for documentary feature *UnBroken* [currently on Netflix-US & festivals worldwide] and Co-producer for the film short, *The Red Shoe* (Flickers RIIFF-premiere). Theatrical directing credits include numerous play readings & productions presented by United Solo, Urban Stages, Emerging Artists Theatre, AMT Theater, Lucille Lortel, Pulse Ensemble, TBG and others. She directed *The Half-Life of Marie Curie*, *By The Way*, *Meet Vera Stark* and *The Cake* (Naples Players, FL) and *My Shiksa Boyfriend* (Kervigo & United Solo-NY). Member: League of Professional Theatre Women and New York Women In Television & Film. Humble parent of two excellent humans: Marlon & Mia.

Arielle Beth Klein (Co-Producer) is a Jewish, queer, New York City-based actor, writer, and teaching artist. She has performed off-Broadway and regionally, notably in New Yiddish Rep's Drama Desk-nominated production of *Death of a Salesman* in Yiddish. TV/ Film credits include "A Good Cop" (NTD Network), "The Red Shoe" (World Premiered at Flickers RIIFF), and "PicMe" (Best Actress in a Short Award at Couch Film Festival). Arielle's published solo play "My Shiksa Boyfriend" has been produced multiple times, most recently at the United Solo 2022. Her short film "Tired Mind," which she wrote and starred in, garnered selections at eight film festivals in 2022. A lot of her written work centers around themes of Jewish identity, mental health advocacy, and spirituality. As an instructor at TBG, she teaches acting and solo show writing where she studies with Seth Barrish and Lee Brock. Most recently she directed the world premier of "Ballet Flats for Dinner" by Bridget McGuire at Second City in Chicago. Beyond her artistic pursuits Arielle is a dog mom to a senior chihuahua (Niko). Connect with her on Instagram @ariellebethklein.