

# The Bearded Ladies

Marlene & the Machine: A German Expressionist Cabaret

Cast

John Jarboe\* Marlene Kristen Bailey\* Walter Liz Filios\* Ufa Kate Raines Fritz

### **Creative Team**

Director John Jarboe\*

Music Director/Composer Heath Allen\*
Dramaturg Sally Ollove\*

Scenic Designer Oona Curley

Costume Designer Rebecca Kanach\* Sound Designer Daniel Perelstein\* Props Designer Jenna Horton Band Bob Butryn, Jimmy Coleman, Jimmy Parker

Stage Manager **Bayla Rubin**Production Manager **Katie Pidgeon**General Manager **Jay Gilman** 

Text created by John Jarboe\*, Jessica Hurley\* and members of the cast.

\*Indicates company member of The Bearded Ladies Cabaret.

#### **PROGRAM**

There will be no intermission.

Friday, February 7 at 7:30 PM Saturday, February 8 at 7:30 PM

Harold Prince Theatre





These performances are part of the By Local Series and are supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The Bearded Ladies Cabaret is a troupe of cabaret artists who insist that art can be both intellectual and accessible, entertaining and meaningful, stupid good and just plain stupid. They fuse cabaret and theatre to tackle the politics of gender, identity and artistic invention with sparkle and wit. Follow The Bearded Ladies on Twitter @KnowYourBeards or Facebook (Facebook.com/BeardedLadiesCabaret). Learn more at www.beardedladiescabaret.com.

Heath Allen (Music Director/Composer) has been an active musician, composer, bandleader and theatre worker in Philadelphia since 1975. He was a co-founder/music director for Big Small Theater in the 1970/80's and has written or co-written over 30 plays, musicals and dance scores. Besides serving as music director/composer/ collaborator with The Bearded Ladies, Allen is the accordionist/arranger for the French music band Philly Musette, keyboardist/music director for the Ken Ulansey Ensembles and keyboardist/music director for the children's music band The Cats Pajamas. Current projects include composing music for Lautrec, completing a song-cycle of Brecht poems. *Report on a Castaway*, and helping in the care of his grandson and fellow Bearded Lady, Heath (aka mini-Heath). Over the span of his career, Allen has released seven well-reviewed CDs of his original jazz. More information can be found at www.heathallen.com.

Kristen Bailey (Walter) is a proud member of The Bearded Ladies and Applied Mechanics. She has pursued her own education in experimental theatre by apprenticing inspiring artists like Lucidity Suitcase International, Pig Iron, Elastic Theatre Company and Makoto Hirano, where she discovered an affinity for set and prop design. She also directed Checkers, a piece that appeared in the 2011 Fringe Festival. She holds a BFA in Theatre from the Actor Training Program at the University of Utah. Past training includes Circus Street Training in Paris, where she learned to walk on stilts and trained in Butoh and Lecog. She is delighted to be a part of the ensemble devised work theatre scene in Philadelphia, and continues to explore ways to rejuvenate and expand the role of theatre in our culture.

**Bob Butryn** (Band) is a musician who specializes in sax, clarinet and flute. He freelances in all styles of music such as pop, jazz, ethnic or classical. Butryn and has toured Germany with the progressive klezmer band. Klingon Klezmer, and is a member of the renowned new music group Relache. In addition to playing music, Butryn is also a theatrical ballroom dance performer. Butryn and his dance partner Eva Brothers are called Crazy Rhythm, Fancy Feet (www.CRFF.net). They have routines in many styles such as swing, salsa, disco, tango, tap, 60s go-go and foxtrot. Their show includes fun skits, musical performances and audience participation segments. They have performed at First Night celebrations, corporate events, libraries, schools and for seniors. Their most notable performance was at a national political convention for 20,000 people that was broadcast worldwide.

Jimmy Coleman (Band) is a musician, drummer and educator, who has worked with artists in the musical styles of R&B, jazz, funk, pop and electronica. A native of Indiana, he attended Indiana University where he studied closely with William L. Roberts and William C. Banfield. He has recorded and toured worldwide with artists such as John Legend, Eric Hutchinson, Estelle and Diahann Carroll. Coleman is also very active in the Philadelphia music scene performing and recording with The Bearded Ladies, Josh Komorowski, Sharon Sable, Siora featuring Phyllis Chapell, Jeannie Brooks, The Eddie Bruce Orchestra, Mikronesia and EarSnake Recordings. More information can be found at www.jimmycoleman.com.

**Oona Curley** (Scenic Designer) is a New York based lighting and scenic designer. Previous credits with The Bearded Ladies include *Wide Awake: A Civil War Cabaret* (PIFA 2013), *Marlene & the Machine* and *Beards are for Shaving: a 007 Cabaret*. Recent Philly credits include: *JapanAmerica Wonderwave* (Team Sunshine Performance Co.), *Animal Animal Mammal Mine* (Penn Dixie Productions, PIFA 2013), *My Romantic History* (Inis Nua Theatre Co.), *An Infinite Ache* (Theatre Horizon), *BANG* (Live Arts 2012), *Swan Songs* (Carbon Dance Theatre) and *AUTO* (Kate Watson-Wallace).

**Liz Filios** (Ufa) is a Philadelphia-based actress, singer and teaching artist. A graduate of the University of Michigan, she studied Commedia dell'Arte with Antonio Fava, Theatre of the Grotesque and Physical Approaches to Character and Collaboration with Quinn Bauriedel, Laban with Steve Pacek and The Primitive Voice with Jean-Rene Toussaint. She studied classical singing in Citta della Pieve, Italy with the International Opera Theatre, and opera in South Africa with the Cape Town Opera Company. In 2007, she performed with Toby Twining's Vocal Ensemble as part of the *Bang On A Can Music Marathon* in New York, and in 2009, she toured with the Azamara Jazz Ensemble aboard Celebrity Cruises. Filios has collaborated with local theatre companies such as Pig Iron, 11th Hour, Team Sunshine Performance Corporation and Applied Mechanics. She has appeared onstage at the Arden, Wilma and Walnut Street Theatres and on television as the host of *The Sunny Side Up Show* for PBSKids Sprout. Filios regularly performs with The Bearded Ladies, Johnny Showcase and the Lucy Lefty Cabaret.

**Jenna Horton** (Props Designer) is a Philadelphia-based independent performing artist. Since attending the Headlong Performance Institute in 2009, she has worked as an actor with a number of local companies including The Berserker Residents, Team Sunshine Performance Corporation, Applied Mechanics, IRC, Bright Light Theatre Company, Gas & Electric Arts and Shakespeare in Clark Park. For more information, please visit jennabethhorton.apostrophenow.com.

Jessica Hurley (Text) is a Philadelphia-based theatre artist who trained at L'Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris and works primarily in collaborative devised theatre. In the UK, she appeared in devised work at the Edinburgh Festival, the Brighton Fringe Festival, the Oxford Playhouse and the Battersea Arts Centre. In Philadelphia, she is a member of Applied Mechanics and The Bearded Ladies, and has worked with Anthology Project and InterAct Theatre Company. She holds a BA in English Literature from the University of Oxford, an MA in Twentieth Century Literature from the University of Sussex and is currently working towards a PhD in English at the University of Pennsylvania.

John Jarboe (Marlene, Director) holds degrees in Theatre Performance and English from the University of Michigan. Jarboe has worked locally as an actor at The Wilma Theater, Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia Shakespeare, Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, People's Light & Theatre, Theatre Exile and the Media Theatre, among others. He has directed, written and performed six original cabaret-plays with The Bearded Ladies. He has also created and performed work with local devised theatre company Applied Mechanics. He is a recipient of the 2013 Independence Foundation Fellowship in the arts. Some favorite work includes turns as Julia Child in Inside Julia Child (Philly Fringe) and as the title role in The Green Fairy Cabaret (Philly School of Circus/Kimmel Center) which he wrote and performed in as part of the inaugural Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts.

Rebecca Kanach (Costume Designer) is proud to be resident costume designer of The Bearded Ladies Cabaret. As a graduate of Philadelphia University in Fashion Design, she received the Good Lad Award for Excellence in Children's Wear and went on to complete the costume apprenticeship at the Walnut Street Theatre, Kanach has worked with Bristol Riverside Theatre, Drexel University, Interact Theatre Company, Lantern Theater Company, Philadelphia Theater Workshop, Rutgers Camden Campus, Temple University, Walnut Street Theatre, Wilma Theater and various Philadelphia Mummers groups. She divides her time between freelance designing, stitching and running wardrobe. Her favorite beard is called the Hulihee.

Sally Ollove (Dramaturg) is the Literary Manager of the Arden Theatre Company and the Literary Manager/Dramaturg of Azuka Theatre. Ollove has worked locally with Theatre Exile, Gas & Electric Arts, and Philadelphia Theatre Company, among others. She is a graduate of the ART/MXAT Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard and a proud University of Pennsylvania alum!

Jimmy Parker (Band) has played with some of the finest musicians locally and internationally, having toured in Europe and throughout North America. From jazz artists Phil Woods and Bill Watrous, to performances with the Four Tops and Rebirth Brass Band, artists have acknowledged the power of his playing and his musicality. Parker has done numerous recording sessions in Philadelphia, New York and Los Angeles for album projects and commercials, ranging from three second sound effects and Claymation videos to fully orchestrated compositions. Some of Parker's most enjoyable performances were in Atlantic City where he could demonstrate what the Sousaphone could do, playing with Arty and the Hot Katz and his own band, RocknSouza. Currently he spends a lot of time playing with the West Philadelphia Orchestra, winner of Philadelphia Magazines 2012 Best of Philly Award. More information is available at JimmvParker.net.

Daniel Perelstein (Sound Designer) is a freelance sound designer, composer and musical director in Philadelphia. He has recently designed for Wilma, Arden, Live Arts, Peoples Light, Kimmel Center, Theatre Exile and Azuka Theatre, among others. Beyond serving as the resident sound designer for The Bearded Ladies Cabaret, he has been active in the new play development community as conference composer at PlayPenn and as a member of the Artistic Circle of the Writer's Room at the Arden Theatre Company. In 2012, Perelstein's collaboration with Christopher Colucci, Knives In Hens, won the 2012 Barrymore Award for sound design and he has been nominated for additional Barrymore Awards in multiple categories. As a 2013 Independence Foundation Fellow, Perelstein will be reinforcing his work in sound and music with an 18-month study in the visual arts. Perelstein has a BS in Engineering and BA in Music from Swarthmore College.

Kate Raines (Fritz) is a Philadelphia-based theatre artist and photographer. Since graduating from The University of the Arts in 2009, she has worked with numerous theatre companies as a photographer and actor, including The Bearded Ladies, Penn Dixie Productions, Brat Productions, Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre and Applied Mechanics as an actor and InterAct, Brat Productions, Theatre Horizon. Birds on a Wire, Arden Theatre Company, Lantern Theatre Company, GDP and more as a photographer. In 2009, she started Plate 3 Photography, a photography and videography company dedicated to preserving and documenting the work of performing artists, dancers, actors, directors and designers in Philadelphia; and now specializes in portraiture and advertising. Her photographic work has been published in *Time Out New York*, on the header of the Arts section of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, on the cover of the arts section in *The Philadelphia Tribune*, in US Airways magazine, in *City Paper* and in Ritz Film Magazine. More information can be found at www.plate3photography.com.

**Bayla Rubin** (Stage Manager) has been a stage manager in Philadelphia for five years with various companies including Pig Iron, Shakespeare in Clark Park, Theatre Horizon, The Bearded Ladies, The Berserker Residents, Swim Pony and The Riot Group (NY). Rubin has a BFA from The University of the Arts and is a proud company member of The Applied Mechanics.

### PROGRAM NOTES

### Marlene & the Machine

This production was initially created for The Wilma Theatre, where the Bearded Ladies are the Resident Cabaret Company. In the original production, Oona Curley additionally served as Lighting Designer and Mary Tuomanen served as Production Outside Eye.

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