

THE PUBLIC.

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**
press@publictheater.org

THE PUBLIC. + ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE UNDER THE RADAR



Dee Beasnael



Kate Benson



Maggie Hoffman



Vin Knight



Scott Shepherd



Christopher-Rashee Stevenson



Stephanie Weeks

[ARTIST HEADSHOTS](#)
[PREVIOUS PRODUCTION PHOTOS](#)

THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES FULL COMPANY FOR ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE'S *ULYSSES*

Created by Elevator Repair Service

Text: *Ulysses* by James Joyce

Co-Direction and Dramaturgy by Scott Shepherd

Directed by John Collins

Presented in Partnership with Under the Radar

Performances Begin Tuesday, January 13;
Official Press Opening Sunday, January 25

“The Elevator Repair Service production...somehow manages to reduce the novel’s more than 260,000 words to 2 hours and 40 minutes with much of its humor, pathos, and bawdiness intact.”

— Jesse Green, *The New York Times*

“A heroic achievement...Elevator Repair Service’s adaptation merrily condenses the choicest essentials of James Joyce’s magnum opus.”

— Jonathan Goldman, *Village Voice*

December 19, 2025 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) released full casting details for the upcoming New York City premiere of **ULYSSES**, created by **Elevator Repair Service** (John Collins, Artistic Director). Following the World Premiere last year at the Fisher Center, the company brings this creative telling of James Joyce’s iconic novel to New York City audiences as part of Under the Radar this January. Performances will begin in the Martinson Hall on Tuesday, January 13 and run through Sunday, February 15, with the official press opening on Sunday, January 25.

Following last fall’s sold-out encore of *Gatz*—“The most remarkable achievement in theater of the decade” (*New York Times*)—**Elevator Repair Service** (ERS) takes on the Mount Everest of twentieth-century literature. James Joyce’s *Ulysses* has fascinated, perplexed, scandalized, and/or defeated readers for over a century. In this New York City premiere, seven performers sit down for a sober reading but soon find themselves guzzling pints, getting in brawls, and committing debaucheries as they careen on a fast-forward tour through Joyce’s funhouse of styles. With humor, pathos, and a richly layered design, ERS stitches together verbatim passages from Joyce’s epic masterpiece into a two-and-a-half hour tour de force.

“The Public has been ERS’s biggest and most consistent partner over the last 15 years and we are thrilled to be continuing this collaboration,” shared ERS Artistic Director and **ULYSSES** director **John Collins**. “Ever since *Gatz* premiered in New York in 2010, The Public has been a home for us, and we can’t wait to bring *ULYSSES* to The Martinson.”

The cast of **ULYSSES** includes **Dee Beasnael**, **Kate Benson**, **Maggie Hoffman**, **Vin Knight**, **Christopher-Rashee Stevenson**, **Scott Shepherd**, and **Stephanie Weeks**.

The production includes original scenic design by **dots**, costume design by **Enver Chakartash**, lighting design by **Marika Kent**, sound design by **Ben Williams**, projection design by **Matthew Deinhart**, and prop design by **Patricia Marjorie**. **Maurina Lioce** will be the production stage manager and **Kelsey Vivian** will be the stage manager.

“**ULYSSES** is a whirlwind tour through the hilarity and heart to be found in this novel notorious for its difficulty. Clock hands spin and text flies up the wall as we try to keep up with Joyce’s mad-genius experimentations. The world of *Ulysses* is so vast and varied every reader finds different points of kinship,” said co-director and dramaturg **Scott Shepherd**. “What we keyed into most, maybe, is the dedicated irreverence it uses as a delivery vehicle for its profound sincerity. The whole thing, you could say, is an enormous, elaborate joke—meant in all seriousness.”

The Public Theater’s Winter/Spring season continues with **Anna Ziegler’s ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)**, a riveting take on Sophocles’ classic, will premiere in the Anspacher with direction by **Tyne Rafaeli**. Ma-Yi Theater Company’s season-long residency continues with the world premiere of **JESA** by **Jeena Yi** and directed by **Mei Ann Teo**. Simultaneously, **PUBLIC CHARGE** will run in the Newman, a world premiere play based on true events by former United States Ambassador **Julissa Reynoso** and award-winning playwright **Michael J. Chepiga**. Later in the spring, The Public will

present **SEAGULL: TRUE STORY**, produced by **MART Foundation**, written by **Eli Rarey**, and created and directed by **Alexander Molochnirov** after a successful run at La MaMa last spring. Finally, the 25-26 Astor Place season will conclude with the much-anticipated world premiere of **GIRL, INTERRUPTED** based on the groundbreaking memoir by **Susanna Kaysen**, with a book by **Martyna Majok**, original music by **Aimee Mann**, choreography by **Sonya Tayeh**, and direction by **Jo Bonney**.

SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY, presented by Citizens, returns this summer with programming all across New York City. First up will be Mobile Unit's **AS YOU LIKE IT**, directed by **Emma Rosa Went**. The first production at The Delacorte this summer will be Free Shakespeare in the Park's **ROMEO AND JULIET**, directed by Public Theater Associate Artistic Director Saheem Ali. **SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY** will conclude with Free Shakespeare in the Park's **THE WINTER'S TALE** directed by Delacorte veteran **Daniel Sullivan**.

The Library serves food and drink beginning at 5:00 p.m. and closing at midnight. The Library is closed on Mondays. For more information, visit publictheater.org.

BIOS:

DEE BEASNAEL she/her (*Performer*) is thrilled to make her Public Theater debut! Off-Broadway: *The Securely Conferred Vouchsafed Secrets of Maery S.* (Best Actress). International Tour: *Silence and Fear* (Nina Simone). Film: *The Good Half, Before the World Set on Fire, The Falling World*. VO: *Caillou, Kyle's Wild World, Opal Watson: Private Eye*. @sacrodbea

KATE BENSON (*Performer*) ERS: *Ulysses; Seagull; A Sort of Joy (Thousands of Exhausted Things); Fondly, Colette Richland*. Off-Broadway: *[Porto]* (Bushwick Starr & WP Theater), *Good Person of Szechwan* (The Public & LaMama). Off-off Broadway: *Variations on the Main* (Jack), *I'll Never Love Again* (Bushwick Starr), *Nomads* (the Incubator).

MAGGIE HOFFMAN (*Performer*) is a founder of the avant-punk ensemble Radiohole, where she has performed for over 25 years. ERS: *Gatz; Seagull; Measure for Measure; The Sound and the Fury; Fondly Collette Richland; The Select; Arguendo*. She recently appeared as Madeline Harvey in Richard Foreman's *Suppose Beautiful Madeline Harvey* at La MaMa. www.maggiehoffman.org

VIN KNIGHT (*Performer*) The Public: *Gatz, Measure for Measure, Arguendo, The Sound and the Fury*. Broadway: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Off-Broadway: *Counterfeit Opera* (Little Island); *Fondly, Collette Richland* (NYTW/ERS). Regional: *Camino Real* (Williamstown), *Marie Antoinette* (ART/Yale Rep). TV: "And Just Like That," "Inventing Anna," "Search Party," "Succession," "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt."

SCOTT SHEPHERD (*Performer/Co-Director*) has worked with both Elevator Repair Service and The Wooster Group since the late 20th century. ERS: *Gatz* (Obie Award), *Measure for Measure*. Wooster Group: *Hamlet, Poor Theater* (Obie, Bessie Awards). Off-Broadway: *The Village Bike, Blood Knot*. TV/film: "The Lowdown," "The Last of Us," *Killers of the Flower Moon, Bridge of Spies*.

CHRISTOPHER-RASHEE STEVENSON (*Performer*) is happy to be back at The Public. A Mabou Mines SUITE/Space (2020-21) resident artist and alum of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab (2018). His work as director includes the New Jersey Broadwayworld Award nominated production of *Hamlet* at Art House Productions. Also featured at The Performing Garage, The Collapsible Hole, Schaubühne, The Metropolitan Opera, JACK, HERE Arts Center, FringeArts, DeSingel, Festival d'Avignon, and more.

STEPHANIE WEEKS (*Performer*) is an award-winning actor and director and the Interim Head of Acting at NYU's New Studio on Broadway. A 2023 Audie Award nominee, she has performed at La Jolla

Playhouse, Soho Rep, and The Public. Her screen work includes *Tales of the City*, *The Good Fight*, *Law & Order*, and the Tribeca selection *Confessionsofa Ex-Doofus-ItchyFooted-Mutha*.
www.stephaniejweeks.com

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER:

THE PUBLIC continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Works, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musicals *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and *Hell's Kitchen* by Alicia Keys and Kristoffer Diaz. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 195 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 64 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 72 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonyo Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

ABOUT ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE:

Elevator Repair Service (ERS) is a New York City-based company that creates original works for live theater with an ongoing ensemble. The company's shows are created from a wide range of texts that include found transcripts of trials and debates, literature, classical dramas, and new plays. Founded in 1991, ERS has created an extensive body of work, which has earned the company a loyal following and made it one of New York's most highly acclaimed experimental theater companies. The company is best known for *Gatz*, its award-winning verbatim staging of the entire text of *The Great Gatsby*. ERS has received numerous awards and distinctions, including Lortel awards, a Bessie award, and an OBIE award for Sustained Excellence, as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship and Doris Duke Performing Artist Award for Artistic Director John Collins.

ABOUT UNDER THE RADAR:

For over two decades, the **Under the Radar** theater festival has brought bold, risk-taking work to New York City, celebrating groundbreaking theater and performance both from around the world and from just down the street. Produced in partnership with venues across the city, the festival showcases innovative multidisciplinary artists whose work speaks powerfully to the present moment. UTR's 21st season, running January 7 to January 25, convenes a lineup of more than 30 productions at 25 separate venues, including Lincoln Center, La MaMa, PSNY, New York Theater Workshop, and the longtime prior home of UTR, The Public Theater. 2026 marks Under the Radar's third year as a citywide collaboration, informed by the multiplicity of visions of our partner institutions' artistic leaders. This season features the most exclusively Under the Radar-commissioned and produced work we have offered yet. 2026 also inaugurates a new

leadership model in which Co-Creative Directors Meropi Peponides and Kaneza Schaal join Founder and Artistic Director Mark Russell to form the first of what will be a rotating cohort of festival curators, ensuring the festival's programming is forever of-the-moment. The festival is produced by Thomas O. Kriegsmann and Sami Pyne of Arktype. Find out more at utrifest.org

ULYSSES is part of Under the Radar Festival® / utrifest.org

TICKET INFORMATION

ULYSSES begins performances in the Martinson Hall on Tuesday, January 13 and runs through Sunday, February 15, with the official press opening on Sunday, January 25.

Public Theater Partner, Supporter, and full-price single tickets can be accessed by visiting publictheater.org, calling **212.967.7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

The Public's Joseph Papp Free Performance initiative will offer free tickets to the performance on Tuesday, January 13 through TodayTix. The Lottery will open for entries on Tuesday, January 6 and will close at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, January 12. Winners will be notified by email and push notification anytime from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and if selected, winners will have one hour to claim their tickets.

The **Audio Described** and **Open Captioned** performance will be at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 1.

The full performance calendar can be found at publictheater.org.

CONNECT WITH US

[Facebook.com/PublicTheater](https://www.facebook.com/PublicTheater)

Instagram | [@PublicTheaterNY](https://www.instagram.com/PublicTheaterNY)

Threads | [@PublicTheaterNY](https://www.threads.net/@PublicTheaterNY)

TikTok | [@PublicTheaterNY](https://www.tiktok.com/@PublicTheaterNY)

#