Merkin Concert Hall
Monday, November 5, 2012 at 7:30 pm

Kaufman Center
presents

Broadway Close Up
André Bishop and Ira Weitzman

Andy Einhorn, music director
Sean Hartley, host

Starring

Liz Baltes
Will Chase
Victoria Clark
Malcolm Gets
Lisa Howard
Nikki M. James
Laura Osnes
Matthew Scott
Michael Winther

Program

Times Like This from Lucky Stiff
Lynn Ahrens/Stephen Flaherty
NIKKI M. JAMES

A Marriage Proposal from
March of the Falsettos
William Finn
MICHAEL WINTHER

Father To Son from March of the Falsettos
William Finn
MALCOLM GETS

Unlikely Lovers from Falsettoland
William Finn
MALCOLM GETS, MATTHEW SCOTT,
LISA HOWARD and LIZ BALTES

Waiting For Life from Once on This Island
Lynn Ahrens/Stephen Flaherty
NIKKI M. JAMES

Unworthy of Your Love from Assassins
Stephen Sondheim
MICHAEL WINTHER and LAURA OSNES
Finishing the Hat from *Sunday in the Park With George*
WILL CHASE with MARK MITCHELL

Larger Than Life from *My Favorite Year*
MATTHEW SCOTT

The One I Love from *Hello, Again*
MALCOLM GETS and MATTHEW SCOTT

I’d Rather Be Sailing from *A New Brain*
MICHAEL WINHER

All The Wasted Time from *Parade*
MALCOLM GETS and LAURA OSNES

Adela from *Bernarda Alba*
NIKKI M. JAMES

The Streets of Dublin from *A Man of No Importance*
MATTHEW SCOTT

The Light in the Piazza from *The Light in the Piazza*
LAURA OSNES

Fable from *The Light In The Piazza*
VICTORIA CLARK

Into The Night from *A Minister’s Wife*
MICHAEL WINHER, MALCOLM GETS, LIZ BALTES, MATTHEW SCOTT and LISA HOWARD

Infinite Joy from *Elegies*
LISA HOWARD

About André Bishop and Ira Weitzman

André Bishop has been the Artistic Director of Lincoln Center Theater since January 1992. Before arriving at Lincoln Center, Mr. Bishop served as Playwrights Horizons’ Artistic Director for ten years and as its Literary Manager for six years. His many successful productions at that theater included the original productions of three Pulitzer Prize winners: *The Heidi Chronicles, Driving Miss Daisy* and *Sunday in the Park with George*. Under his artistic direction Lincoln Center Theater productions have included a number of memorable New York, U.S. and world premieres and noteworthy revivals. Mr. Bishop has won many theater awards, including 12 Tony Awards and he was recently elected to the Theater Hall of Fame. This season, Lincoln Center Theater’s productions include the long-running *War Horse*, *Golden Boy* by Clifford Odets, *Vanya and Sonia and*
Masha and Spike by Christopher Durang, Nikolai and the Others by Richard Nelson, The Nance by Douglas Carter Beane and three plays for LCT3 in its new Claire Tow Theater.

Ira Weitzman was the creator and Director of the Musical Theater Program at Playwrights Horizons and is now the Musical Theater Associate Producer at Lincoln Center Theater. From 1978 to the present, in collaboration with André Bishop, he developed the premieres of musicals by such artists as Lynn Ahrens, Jason Robert Brown, William Finn, Stephen Flaherty, Adam Guettel, Michael John LaChiusa, James Lapine, Craig Lucas, Terrence McNally, Joshua Schmidt, Stephen Sondheim, John Weidman, Alfred Uhry and many others. In addition he developed the original productions of Violet, The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin, The Spitfire Grill, My Life With Albertine as well as the revival of Moss Hart and Irving Berlin’s As Thousands Cheer. He was Artistic Director of the WBAI Free Music Store, City Center’s Encores! and Producer of Lincoln Center’s American Songbook concert series. In 2009, Weitzman received the Lucille Lortel Award for Sustained Excellence Off-Broadway.

About the Music Director

Andy Einhorn’s Broadway credits include Evita (Assistant Conductor), Brief Encounter (Music Director), Sondheim on Sondheim (Conductor) and The Light in the Piazza. National tours: South Pacific, Sweeney Todd, The Light in the Piazza, The Lion King and Mamma Mia!. Music Director: Audra McDonald (Fall 2011 concert tour, Carnegie Hall) and Barbara Cook (Feinstein’s). Regional: 92nd Street Y “Lyrics and Lyricists,” Goodspeed (Radio Girl), Signature Theatre, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Paper Mill Playhouse, Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Houston Grand Opera. Cast Recordings: Sondheim on Sondheim (Grammy nomination), Stage Door Canteen (DRG Records) and Evita. He is a graduate of Rice University. Upcoming: Fun Home (Public Theatre, Music Director) and Cinderella (Broadway, Music Director).

About the Host

Sean Hartley is a writer, composer, teacher and administrator. He is currently the Director of the Theater Wing at Kaufman Center. As a writer, his musical theater works include Cupid And Psyche, written with composer Jihwan Kim (Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Lyrics); Little Women (with songs by Kim Oler and Alison Hubbard), which has had several regional productions, including Syracuse Stage; Love And Real Estate (with composer Sam Davis), which received rave reviews this summer as part of the Summer Shorts Festival 2012; and Snow, which won the ASCAP Harold Arlen Award for Best New Musical, and is currently being developed for production by the Fifth Avenue Theater in Seattle. His works for television include songs for the Disney Channel’s The Book of Pooh and Bear In the Big Blue House. As producer/host for Merkin Concert Hall’s Broadway Close Up and Broadway Playhouse series, he has had the pleasure of interviewing many great artists including Sheldon Harnick, Stephen Schwartz, David Yazbeck, David Zippel, Alan Menken, Charles Strouse, Gerard Alessandrini and John Kander.

About The Artists

Liz Baltes is honored to be a part of André and Ira’s celebration. Her NY debut as Proserpine in A Minister’s Wife at Lincoln Center Theatre in 2011 was followed by her role as Mom/Buddhadalirama in the Hair tour and her Broadway debut in One Man, Two Guvnors, all while meeting and falling in love with her wonderful fiancé Michael. She is very grateful to André and Ira for opening the door to this abundant adventure over the past year and a half. Other favorite credits include Oliver! tour, A Minister’s Wife at Writer’s Theatre (Supporting Actress Jeff Award), The 25th Annual…Spelling Bee, Seussical, You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown, I Love You…Now Change, Closer Than Ever and Anything Goes.

Will Chase currently stars as John Jasper in the Broadway revival of The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He was most recently seen as Michael Swift on the hit NBC show Smash. Other television appearances include Rescue Me, Pan Am, Unforgettable, White Collar, Royal Pains, Blue Bloods, Law and Order: Criminal Intent, Cupid, Conviction, Third Watch, One Life To Live, Guiding
Light, All My Children and As The World Turns. He has appeared on Broadway in Rent, Miss Saigon, The Full Monty, Aida, Lennon, High Fidelity, The Story Of My Life and Billy Elliot. Will was also seen at New York City Center Encores! in Bells Are Ringing and most recently Pipe Dream. Film credits include the upcoming Butterflies of Bill Baker, Four Single Fathers, Shaft and Rent: Filmed Live On Broadway. Recordings include the original Broadway Cast recordings of High Fidelity and The Story Of My Life, A Little Princess: Studio Cast Recording, Love On A Summer Afternoon: Songs of Sam Davis, This Ordinary Thursday: The Songs of Georgia Stitt and Thirteen Stories Down: Songs of Jonathan Reid Gealt. Will Chase trained at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

Victoria Clark won the Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards for her performance in The Light in The Piazza, and a Tony nomination for Sister Act. Other Broadway shows include Guys and Dolls, Titanic, Cabaret, Uninetown and How To Succeed in Business…. Victoria has starred in multiple Encores! productions, Off-Broadway plays, and concerts throughout the U.S, including The Grapes of Wrath at Carnegie Hall. Film and TV credits include Cradle Will Rock, The Happening, Harvest, Main Street, Tickling Leo, Archaeology of a Woman as well as Law and Order, Law and Order: SVU and Mercy. Victoria has taught throughout the United States and Europe, and serves on the Board of Directors of New York City Center and The Kurt Weill Foundation. Ira Weitzman’s encouragement and vision led Vicki to become an actor, and André Bishop and Lincoln Center Theater gave her the opportunity of a lifetime. My heartfelt love and thanks to you both.

Malcolm Gets is very happy to be a part of this evening. Under the guidance of Mr. Bishop and Mr. Weitzman, he appeared in the original companies of Michael John LaChiusa’s Hello Again and William Finn and James Lapine’s A New Brain, both directed by Graciela Daniele. He has also appeared in many plays in New York and around the country. Most recently Malcolm appeared in Ten Cents a Dance and Merrily We Roll Along, both directed by John Doyle. He also was seen on HBO’s Emmy Award-winning Grey Gardens. He can be soon seen on The Good Wife and Blue Bloods, both on CBS. He made his Carnegie Hall debut opposite Barbara Cook in her production Mostly Sondheim, available on DRG. Malcolm can be heard on a dozen original cast CDs. He released his first solo CD last year, The Journey Home, available on PS Classics.

Lisa Howard was most recently seen flying from the rafters as a Diva in Broadway’s Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. Other Broadway credits include Missy Hart in 9 TO 5 the Musical, Head Nurse in Lincoln Center Theater’s revival of South Pacific and Rona Lisa Peretti in The 25th Annual Putnam Country Spelling Bee, for which she won a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble Performance. Lisa also toured the U.S. in the national company of Les Miserables. She has played leading roles regionally at St. Louis MUNY, Olney Theater Center, Human Race Theater and Kansas City Starlight. She will be making her feature film debut as Siobahn in the upcoming Twilight Saga, Breaking Dawn, Part 2. She also released her debut solo CD, Songs of Innocence and Experience, available on itunes. Lisa is a graduate of the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

Nikki M. James, winner of the 2011 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical for her role as Nabalungi in Book of Mormon in which she is currently starring. Other Broadway credits include All Shook Up (Lorraine) and The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Other Theatre: Romeo and Juliet (Juliet), Caesar and Cleopatra (Cleopatra opposite Christopher Plummer) at Stratford Shakespeare Festival, Dorothy in The Wiz (Craig Noel Award) La Jolla Playhouse, Adela in Bernarda Alba (Lincoln Center Theater), Otilie in House of Flowers (City Center Encores!) and Walmartopia (Off-Broadway). Film: Lucky Stiff and The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby. TV: 30 Rock, Law & Order: Criminal Intent, Third Watch and The Jury. She holds a BFA in Drama from NYU. For Poppy and Ozzie.

Laura Osnes can’t wait to don glass slippers as the title role in Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella, opening on Broadway in January. Other Broadway credits include Bonnie Parker in Bonnie & Clyde (Tony nomination), Hope Harcourt in Anything Goes (Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Astaire Award nominations), Nellie Forbush in LCT’s South Pacific and Sandy Dumbrowski in Grease. Other NYC appearances: Suzy in Encores! Pipe Dream (new cast recording), Maria Von Trapp in Carnegie Hall’s staged concert of The Sound of Music and Sondheim: The Birthday Concert at Avery Fisher Hall (on DVD). Laura recently released her debut solo album, Dream A Little Dream - Live at the Cafe Carlyle and will perform a solo show of Maury Yeston songs at 54 Below at the end of this month.

**Michael Winther** has appeared on Broadway in *33 Variations*, *Mamma Mia*, *The Crucible*, *1776*, *Artist Descending a Staircase* and *Damn Yankees*. Off-Broadway: *Merrily We Roll Along* (Encores!), *Songs From An Unmade Bed* (NYTW; Drama Desk Nomination), *Radiant Baby* (NYSF/Public) and *Hapgood* (LCT). Regional: *33 Variations* (CTG/LA), *Plaid Tidings* (Old Globe), *Band Geeks!* (Goodspeed), *Grey Gardens* (Theatreworks/Palo Alto), *Most Wanted* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Falsettos* (George Street), *Boys from Syracuse* (Baltimore Centerstage) and *The People’s Temple* (Guthrie/Perseverance). Recent concerts: Fred Hersch & Michael Winther (54Below); *The Songs of Fred Hersch*, Finn’s *Songs of Innocence and Experience* (American Songbook); *Lennon and McCartney* and *Songs of James Taylor* (Merkin Hall), Broadway Cabaret Series, Broadway By The Year (Town Hall). Film/TV: *The Avengers*, *The Break Up*, *Mr. & Mrs. Smith* and *Law & Order*. Graduate: Williams College.