

## **BY THERESA REBECK**

# SEPT. 13-OCT. 6 ☐ theREP★

Philip Morris Chief Executive Officer

theREP presents

#### SEARED

**By Theresa Rebeck** 

Featuring (in alphabetical order)

Rin Allen\* Kyle Cameron\* Jovan Davis\* Caesar Samayoa\*

Brian Prather+ Set Design

Andrea Adamczyk Costume Design Travis McHale+ Lighting Design Jeffrey Salerno+ Sound Design

Stephanie Klapper, csa Casting Director Kate Kern\* Production Stage Manager

Michaela Savoie\* Assistant Stage Manager Gabi Bazinet Douglas Food Designer/Safety Manager Yvonne Perry Intimacy Coordinator

Directed by Margaret E. Hall++

SEARED is presented by arrangement with the author

\*Denotes Member of AEA



++ Denotes member of SDC







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#### SEARED By Theresa Rebeck CAST PAGE (in order of appearance)

Harry	CAESAR SAMAYOA*
Rodney	JOVAN DAVIS*
Mike	KYLE CAMERON*
Emily	

#### TIME AND PLACE Now Park Slope, Brooklyn

#### THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

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#### PHOTOGRAPHY

As a result of an agreement between the League of Resident Theatres and United Scenic Artists, photographs of the set may be taken <u>before</u>, <u>during intermission</u> and <u>after</u> the show.

HOWEVER, PER THE RULES OF ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION AND MTI LICENSING, <u>NO PHOTOS, VIDEOS OR RECORDINGS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED</u> <u>DURING THE SHOW AND/OR AT ANYTIME ACTORS ARE ON STAGE</u>. VIOLATORS OF THIS RULE WILL BE ASKED BY THE THEATRE MANAGEMENT TO DELETE ALL RECORDINGS BEFORE LEAVING THE THEATRE.

## **Cast Bios**



**Rin Allen\* (she/her) (Emily)** is delighted to make her debut at theREP! Regional stage credits include Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Milwaukee Rep, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Weston Playhouse, The New Theatre in Kansas City and Adirondack Theatre Festival. Rin has appeared on New York City stages at The Theatre at St. Clements, New York Classical Theatre, and the Baryshnikov Arts Center, as well as streamed performances with Abingdon Theatre Company, The Curtain and Women's Theatre Festival. On television, Rin has appeared on "Law & Order:

Organized Crime" and she worked as a stunt performer on multiple episodes of "Gotham." She's also been employed by some great restaurants and is stoked to be doing so on the stage this time. She is a proud member of Actors' Equity and SAG-AFTRA.



Kyle Cameron\* (Mike) NYC: "By the Water" (MTC), "Chains" (Mint Theater), "Pushkin" (the American vicarious). Proud member of the 52nd Street Project. Regional: SF Playhouse ("Significant Other," Theatre Bay Area & SF Critics Circle Award Nominee; "Trouble Cometh," world premiere), Denver Center ("Anna Karenina," Henry Award Nominee), Studio Theatre, DC ("The Hard Problem"), City Theatre, Pittsburgh ("The White Chip"). International: three tours with Green Thumb Theatre ("CRANKED," Dora Mavor Moore Award, world premiere), Arts Club (Vancouver),

The Belfry (Victoria). Film: "Vampire" (Sundance). TV: "FBI: Most Wanted", "Law & Order: SVU", "The Blacklist", "Orange is the New Black", "The Lottery", "Murdoch Mysteries". Training: NYU Grad Acting.



Jovan Davis\* (Rodney) is an actor and a writer based in Brooklyn, NY. He has written several poems as well as a full-length play, and is currently working on his first TV pilot! He is an avid lover of theater and is extremely grateful for the opportunity t be back at theREP for his third go in another wonderful play! He would like to thank his friends and family for their unrelenting love and support. Some memorable credits include: Othello in "Othello," Oberon in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Jim Fingal in "Lifespan of a Fact" and Hotspur in "Henry IV."



Caesar Samayoa\* (Harry) most recently starred as Dr. Emilio Amigo in "How to Dance in Ohio" on Broadway. Original Broadway Companies include "Come From Away" (Kevin J./Ali); "Sister Act" (Pablo); "The Pee Wee Herman Show," "Hot Feet." Off-Broadway/Regional: "Evita" (Perón), A.R.T./STC; "Los Otros" (Carlos), A.R.T./New York; "Love's Labour's Lost" (Don Armado), The Delacorte Theater; "Bernstein's Mass," Carnegie Hall; Yale Rep, La Jolla Playhouse, Goodspeed Musicals, Tectonic Theater Project, Seattle Rep. Film/TV: "Come From Away" (Apple TV+); "FBI"

(CBS), "Ray Donovan" (Showtime), "The Blacklist" (NBC). Awards: 2022 HOLA José Ferrer Tespis Award, 2024 Harold Prince Award (Third St Gala). CaesarSamayoa.com @CaesarSamayoa

## **Creative Bios**

**Margaret E. Hall** (Director) has worked internationally as a director, stage manager and drama teacher. She currently holds the full-time position of Associate Artistic Director at theREP, where she manages several programs (most notably, theREP's NEXT ACT! New Play Summit and Neighbors For Neighbors programs) and directs both on the MainStage and within the in-school touring program. Margaret made her MainStage directorial debut at theREP in 2017 with "An Iliad" and has since directed: "Sweat" 2024; "Secret Hour" (World Premiere and BroadwayWorld Nomination for Best Director Central NY, 2023); "Live From WVL Radio Theatre: It's a Wonderful Life" (2019); "Red Maple" (World Premier and BroadwayWorld Winner for Best Direction of a New Play 2019); and was the Assistant Director to Kevin McGuire for theREP's 2015 production of "Hamlet." Additionally, Margaret has directed: "Shakespeare: The Remix;" "Harriet Tells It Like It Is!;" "Pure Poe: Three Tales of the Macabre;" "Petticoats of Steel;" "Cinderella;" "Alice In Wonderland!;" "Sleepy Hollow;" "A Midsummer Night's Dream;" "Friend of a Friend: Tales of the Underground Railroad;" "They Built America: Workers of the Erie Canal;" "An Iliad;" and "The Remarkable and Perplexing Case of Henry Hudson;" for theREP's On-The-Go! in-school touring program.

Additional directorial credits include: "Circus Olympus;" "Into the Woods Jr.;" "Disney's The Aristocats Kids';" "Peter Pan and Wendy;" "The Wizard of Oz;" and "The Just So Stories;" she's a collaborator with Conflict Relief, the Arab Israeli Theatre Collaboration; and has directed readings with Troy Foundry Theatre, Theater Voices, and PlayGround Theatre. Margaret is a proud member of SDC (Stage Directors and Choreographers Society) and AEA (Actors' Equity Association), holds a BA in Theatre Arts from SUNY New Paltz, and an MFA in Theatre Directing from the University of Essex in London.

**Theresa Rebeck** (Playwright) is an Award-winning and widely produced playwright, whose work has been staged across the globe. Her most recent Broadway play "I Need That" (starring Danny DeVito) premiered in fall 2023 at the Roundabout Theatre Company's American Airlines Theatre, where it broke the theater's record for the highest-grossing week of any show, play or musical. Additional Broadway: "Bernhardt/Hamlet," "Dead Accounts," "Seminar and Mauritius."

Other notable plays include the New York Times Critics Pick "Dig" (which she also directed) at Primary Stages/59E59 Theaters; "Mad House," which played a critically acclaimed world premiere on London's West End starring David Harbour and Bill Pullman; "Seared" (MCC), "Downstairs" (Primary Stages), "The Scene," "The Water's Edge," "Loose Knit," "The Family of Mann" and "Spike Heels" (Second Stage), "Bad Dates," "The Butterfly Collection" and "Our House" (Playwrights Horizons), "The Understudy" (Roundabout), "View of the Dome" (NYTW), "What We're Up Against" (Women's Project), "Omnium Gatherum" (Pulitzer Prize finalist). As a director, her work has been seen at The Alley Theatre (Houston), the REP Company (Delaware), Dorset Theatre Festival, the Orchard Project and the Folger Theatre. Major film and television projects include Trouble, with Anjelica Huston, Bill Pullman and David Morse (writer and director), "NYPD Blue," the NBC series "Smash" (creator), the female spy thriller 355 (for Jessica Chastain's production company), and her most recent film Glimpse, available for streaming now. As a novelist, Rebeck's books include "Three Girls and Their Brother" and "I'm Glad About You." Rebeck is the recipient of the William Inge New Voices Playwriting Award, the PEN/Laura Pels Foundation Award, and a Lilly Award.

**Brian Prather**+ (Scenic Designer) is excited to return to theREP after designing last season's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Previous work at theREP includes, "The Irish and How They Got That Way," "Red Maple," "Miss Bennet," "Blithe Spirit," "She Loves Me," "Mamma Mia!" and "Camelot." Off-Broadway work includes "Daniel's Husband" (Primary Stages), "Mrs. Warren's Profession" (Gingold Theatre Group), "Becoming Dr. Ruth" (Westside Theatre), and "Freud's Last Session" (New World Stages), etc. International: "Chung-mu Hall" (South Korea). Regional and other: Asolo Rep., Alley Theatre, Goodspeed Musicals, Barrington Stage Co., TheatreWorks Hartford, Virginia Rep., Broad Stage, Mercury Theatre, Delaware Theatre Co., Penguin Rep., among others. Awarded the Joseph Jefferson Award (Chicago), two Berkshire Theatre Critics Assoc. Awards, and nominated for an Emmy (New England) for the design of "The Kate" concert series on Public Television. Brian is the Asst. Professor of Scene Design at Central Connecticut State University, an Associate Artist at Barrington Stage Co., and a proud member of USA Local 829. See Brian's work at <u>www.brianprather.com</u>.

Travis McHale+ (Lighting Designer)—theREP: "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," "Honky Tonk Angels," "Jersey Boys," "Shakespeare In Love," "Mamma Mia!," "Camelot," "The Irish...," "Blithe Spirit" and others. Recent designs include "Get Happy! A Judy Garland Celebration" (Carnegie Hall), "Is There Still Sex In The City?," "Mister Miss America" and "#DateMe" (off-Broadway). McHale has also designed over a dozen shows for Norwegian, Regent, Oceania, & Carnival Cruises. Regional Theatre: Alabama Shakespeare, Bucks County Playhouse, Cape Playhouse, Northern Stage, Riverside Theatre, Theatre Aspen, Westport Country Playhouse, Weston Theatre Company, among others. Broadway: Associate Designer for 11 shows and tours, including "Sunset Boulevard" and "Something Rotten!" Seven seasons designing for NY Fashion Week. Faculty: SUNY New Paltz. Member: USA829. <u>www.travismchale.com</u>

Jeffrey Salerno+ (he/him) (Sound Designer) is a New York City based Sound Designer and a proud member of IATSE Local 829. He is thrilled to be returning to Capital Repertory Theatre after having designed "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," "Sweat," "Million Dollar Quartet Christmas," "Honky Tonk Angels" and "Wizard of Oz." Jeffrey's work has been heard throughout the country and he has been awarded with CT Region Broadway World's Best Sound Design for "The Agitators." Most Recently, Jeffrey designed the World Premiere of "The Spell of the Red River" with Millikin University and Assistant Designed "Dead Outlaw" at Minetta Lane Theatre for Audible Productions. Off Broadway credits include MCC: Associate Sound Designer to Nathan Leigh "Space Dogs." Other regional credits include Berkshire Theatre Group: "Godspell," "What the Jews Believe;" Playhouse on Park: "Indecent," "Pippin," "The Agitators." Jeffrey would like to thank his fiancé Melanie, his cat Thomas and his community for their love, support and constant music recommendations. For more information about his current or past projects and what's coming up next, visit www.jeffreysalerno.com @SalernoSoundDesign on Instagram

Andrea Adamczyk (Costume Designer) was nominated for a Broadway World Award – Central New York, for "Secret Hour" by Jenny Stafford – theREP 2023. Other designs include the Discover Albany City Seance ghost tour 2023, theREP's On-the-Go school tours of "Harriet Tells It Like Is Is" and "Henry Johnson," the Summer Stage Young Acting Company 2023, 2022 and 2021 and specialty pieces for theREP's production of Ethel Waters', "His Eye is on the Sparrow." She was Assistant Costume Designer working with Howard Kaplan for "The True." As a freelance Costume Technician in New York City, she built costumes for specialty events and industrials for Polaroid, Chase MetroTech and Vanity Fair as well as theatrical productions for New York City Opera Company, Virginia Opera Company, NYU Educational Theatre, Dollywood and others. Locally, she designed and built hundreds of costumes for the Bethlehem Central School District – "Titanic," "Beauty and the Beast," "The Wizard of Oz" and many others. Andrea is the Costume Shop Manager here at theREP.

**Gabi Bazinet Douglas** (she/they) (Food Designer) is so excited to be back at theREP doing her dream job. Gabi previously worked on "Seared" at MCC Theatre Off-Broadway as a member of the Stage Management team and leader of the food prep and is thrilled to be returning to this play now as a designer. Recent performance credits include "Legally Blonde" and "Something Rotten" (Playhouse Stage Co.), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Wizard of Oz" here at theREP. She is also on the Performing Arts faculty at The Albany Academies. Big thanks to Maggie and the whole team here at theREP! **Kate Kern\*** (Production Stage Manager) is absolutely thrilled to be the Production Stage Manager for Seared. Kate loves working with Capital Repertory Theatre and has worked as a Stage Manager and Assistant Company Manager for the past few years, working on shows such as "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," "Sweat," "Million Dollar Quartet Christmas" and "Honky Tonk Angels." Kate is also a company member of Troy Foundry Theatre, where she has worked as the Stage Manager for shows such as "Illium Burns: Where There's Smoke" and "City Of Myth: Illium Sings." She is also proud to have worked with wonderful local companies such as the Black Theatre Troupe, Proctors, and the Theatre Institute At Sage. Kate is a recent graduate from Russell Sage College-majoring in Business Administration and Theatre, where she was the Stage Manager for 4 years at the Theatre Institute At Sage. Kate is loves working with the people at Capital Repertory Theatre, and she wants to thank her family, friends, all the wonderful people at theREP, and NJH for all their support.

**Michaela Savoie** (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be working for Capital Repertory Theatre and has worked as an Assistant Stage Manager and Assistant Company Manager. Prior to working on Seared, Michaela has worked backstage for "The True," "Jersey Boys," "Dracula: a Comedy of Terrors," "Wizard of Oz," "Secret Hour," "A Midsummer's Night Dream," "Honky Tonk Angels," "OTG Shakespeare: the Remix," "Three Mothers" and "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical." Michaela is a graduate from SUNY Purchase with a degree in Theatre & Performance with a concentration in Stage Management. She would like to thank her family for their never-ending support.

## **BY THERESA REBECK**

## WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Welcome to the small Park Slope restaurant, that we (theREP's cast and director) have affectionately donned "Sam's," where there's a line of folks around the block waiting to be sat ... and the incredible menu changes nightly. Harry, the head (and only) chef is quite particular about what he cooks, and even more particular about the ingredients he selects to cook with. He is an artist and working with the right ingredients is the **only** way to go—and this is his kitchen, so no one is going to tell him what to do.

Mike, Harry's business partner in the restaurant, is the one manning the books and the one who knows, intimately, that things are tight in this small Brooklyn joint. Despite the line around the corner, with only sixteen seats the profit margin is slim to none—on a good night—if something doesn't change soon they may not survive. But let's not get bogged down by the books right now. Let's focus on what's on the menu—what **you** will really see and smell cooking on theREP's stage.

The playwright, Theresa Rebeck, gives you some clues for what's on the menu, but not a single recipe. Enter the productions food designer, Gabi Bazinet-Douglas, who worked with the director, Margaret E. Hall, on the menu. But what good is a menu if you can't actually taste the food? Here are a few of the recipes for the food that was actually cooked in this production, all recipes courtesy of Gabi Bazinet-Douglas (save the Scallops).

#### The Pasta

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Caramelize 4 thinly sliced yellow onions until jammy.
- 2. Boil pappardelle pasta until al dente.

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- 3. Add 2 tbsp of butter to a pan on medium heat.
- 4. Add fennel seed, chopped sage, and coarse ground black pepper.
- 5. When aromatics become fragrant, add caramelized onions and ricotta cheese and mix to form a sauce.
- 6. Add pappardelle to the pan with 1/4 cup of pasta water and mix thoroughly.
- 7. Add salt to taste.
- 8. Plate, and garnish with parsley and lemon wedge.

#### **Ingredients:**

pappardelle pasta 4 tbsp salted butter 1 tsp fennel seed 1 tbsp chopped sage leaves 1 tsp coarse ground black pepper 4 yellow onions 1/3 cup ricotta cheese salt lemon parsley

### The Gnocchi

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Cure 2 egg yolks in a 1:1 ratio of white sugar and salt for 2-3 days.
- 2. Boil Yukon gold potatoes until fork tender and blend until smooth.
- 3. Form a well in the center of flour and add potato purée, pumpkin purée, ricotta, 2 egg yolks and salt.
- 4. Fold flour into the well of wet ingredients with your hands and knead to form a dough.
- 5. Let dough sit in the fridge for 4 hours to overnight and roll into tubes to your desired thickness of the gnocchi. Cut pieces with a bench scraper or knife. Roll gnocchi pieces on a gnocchi board or with a fork to form ridges.
- 6. Blend fresh basil, kale leaves, toasted pine nuts, 1 tbsp sea salt and 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil until pesto forms.
- 7. Boil gnocchi until they float, about 1-2 minutes and add to pan with pesto. Mix thoroughly to combine.
- 8. Add salt to taste.
- 9. Garnish with shaved cured egg yolks and Parmesan cheese.

#### **Ingredients:**

- 2 medium Yukon gold potatoes 1 tbsp ricotta cheese 4 egg yolks
  - 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour 2 tbsp sea salt
    - 1/4 cup pumpkin puree
    - 2 bunches fresh basil
    - 1/3 cup toasted pine nuts
- 1/2 cup curly kale, stems cut out
  - 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup shaved Parmesan cheese 1 cup kosher salt

1 cup white sugar

## The Short Ribs (with polenta, mushrooms & broccoli rabe)

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Heat avocado oil in a Dutch oven on medium-high heat and sear each side of the bone-in short ribs.
- 2. Add head of garlic, shallots, bay leaves, peppercorns, anise seeds and red wine. Let reduce for about 5 minutes.
- 3. Add beef stock and cover. Let cook for 4 hours, or place in a 350° oven for 2 hours.
- 4. Make polenta by adding corn meal, 1 cup of water and heavy cream to a pot to simmer on low.
- 5. When short ribs have cooked, remove the short ribs from the Dutch oven and run the remaining liquid through a strainer.
- 6. Add 4 tbsp butter and sliced portabella mushrooms to a pan.
- 7. When they've cooked down, about 3 minutes, add the liquid from the short ribs.
- 8. Plate the polenta, followed by the mushrooms and red wine reduction and top with short ribs. Garnish with parsley.

#### **Ingredients:**

makes two servings coarse ground corn meal 2 cups heavy cream 4 tbsp butter avocado oil red wine portobello mushrooms 1 head of garlic with top cut off 4 shallots, quartered broccoli rabe 4 bone-in short ribs 2 bay leaves 2 tbsp peppercorns 4-5 anise seed stars 4 cups beef stock

## The Seared Wild Salmon with Bengali Onion Chutney and Fresh Spring Asparagus

#### **Directions:**

the chutney:

- 1. Dice 4 shallots and 6 cloves of garlic, set 2 chopped cloves aside.
- 2. Heat a pan to medium heat.
- 3. Add chopped shallots and 4 cloves of garlic to a pan with 2 tbsp butter.
- 4. When slightly browned, add chiles, spices and brown sugar. Stir well and continue to toast in pan.
- 5. When fragrant, add to a blender with pumpkin purée and coconut milk and blend until smooth.

#### the salmon:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Heat a pan to medium high and add avocado oil.
- 3. Place filets in the pan and hold down with fingers for about 20-30 seconds so skin doesn't curl.
- 4. Salt the filets and add 2 tbsp butter to the pan.
- 5. Add a generous sprinkle of smoked paprika to both filets and baste with butter.
- 6. Add white wine to the pan and place in oven for about 5-7 minutes until cooked.

#### the asparagus:

- 1. Heat a pan to medium.
- 2. Add 2 tbsp butter and asparagus sprigs.
- 3. Season with salt and pepper.
- 4. Sauté until tender, about 5 minutes.

#### to finish:

Smear the chutney on the plate, add sautéed asparagus and salmon filet on top. Garnish with fennel pollen and addition lemon juice.

And for those who might like to try their hand at the scallops ... or a version of them:

## **Ginger Lemongrass Scallops**

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Make the Sauce: mix the lemongrass paste, garlic, ginger, fish sauce and brown sugar together in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook until sugar is dissolved. Set aside.
- 2. In a skillet add the olive oil. Pat the scallops dry and season with salt and pepper and add to the skillet.
- 3. Sear scallops on each side for about 4-minutes.
- 4. Spoon sauce on a serving plate. Transfer the scallops to the plate and garnish with the scallions.
- 5. Serve with a piece of baked polenta and some fresh steamed asparagus.

#### Ingredients:

2 filets wild sockeye salmon 4 shallots 6 cloves of garlic 1/2 cup pumpkin puree 1 tbsp mustard seeds 1 tbsp curry powder 1 tbsp smoked paprika 4 dried firebird chiles 1 lemon 8-12 sprigs asparagus 1/4 cup avocado oil 1/2 cup butter 1/4 cup coconut milk 1/4 cup brown sugar fennel pollen, for garnish 1/2 cup white wine salt pepper

#### **Ingredients:**

- 12 large sea scallops
  salt and pepper (to taste)
  1/4 cup olive oil
  1 Tbsp lemongrass paste
  1 Tbsp fish sauce
  2 cloves minced garlic
  1 Tbsp grated ginger
  1/4 cup brown sugar
  - 3 chopped scallions

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