



RAGS PARKLAND

ALBUM CELEBRATION

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DECEMBER 9 @ 7PM ET

THE BAND

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

RICK / ACCORDION **RICK BURKHARDT**
RAGS PARKLAND / GUITAR **ANDREW R. BUTLER**
GILL / SAXOPHONE **TONY JARVIS**

DEVO / DRUMS **JESSIE LINDEN**
BEAUX WEATHERS **STACEY SARGEANT**
ESS PINVINT / BASS **DEBBIE CHRISTINE TJONG**

PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER **CODEY LEROY BUTLER**
LIGHTS OPERATOR **MATT LAZARUS**
SOUND OPERATOR **GEORGE FAYA**
BROADCAST OPERATOR **SEAN LEO**

***RAGS PARKLAND SINGS THE SONGS OF THE FUTURE* ORIGINALLY PREMIERED AT ARS NOVA IN THE FALL OF 2018**

BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY
ANDREW R. BUTLER
DIRECTED BY **JORDAN FEIN**
ORCHESTRATIONS, ARRANGEMENTS
& ADDITIONAL MUSIC BY **RICK BURKHARDT,
ANDREW R. BUTLER, TONY JARVIS,
JESSIE LINDEN, MADELINE SMITH, MAYA SHARPE
& DEBBIE CHRISTINE TJONG**

SCENIC DESIGN **LAURA JELLINEK**
COSTUME DESIGN **QWEEN JEAN**
LIGHTING DESIGN **BARBARA SAMUELS**
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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ANDREW R. BUTLER (Book, Music & Lyrics / Orchestrations, Arrangements & Additional Music / Rags Parkland / Guitar) is an actor, writer and composer. He performed at Ars Nova for the first time in 2010's ANT Fest, premiering the very first iteration of *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future*. Ars Nova's 2018 production of the musical received 9 Drama Desk Award nominations and won the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Musical. The original cast recording, released by Broadway Records, is available on all streaming platforms. You might have seen Andrew in *Futurity* (Ars Nova/Soho Rep); *The Skin Of Our Teeth* (TFANA); *Edelweiss* (On The Rocks); *American Cryptids* (Joe's Pub) or on screen in the Peacock series *Girls5Eva*. andrewbutler.com

RICK BURKHARDT (Orchestrations, Arrangements & Additional Music / Rick / Accordion) is an Obie-award-winning composer, performer, playwright and director whose original music, theater and text pieces have been performed in over 40 US cities, as well as in Europe, Canada, Mexico, Australia and Taiwan. As songwriter / accordionist, he has shared stages with artists such as Pete Seeger, the Indigo Girls, Utah Phillips, Holly Near, and Peter Yarrow, and his original songs have aired nationally on NPR's "Morning Edition" and Pacifica's "Democracy Now."

TONY JARVIS (Orchestrations, Arrangements & Additional Music / Gill / Saxophone) is a multi-instrumentalist (sax, guitar, bass clarinet), singer, composer, songwriter, producer and music director. Originally from Madison, Wisconsin, he was a member of punk/funk band Tar Babies (Sst Records). In addition to his most recent original project, N to the Power (Ntothepower.com), Tony has toured with Sharon Jones, Charles Bradley and many others. Theater credits include: *Fela!* (Broadway, London), *Miss You Like Hell* (Public Theater) and music direction at *Sleep No More* & *The Box*. Television credits include HBO's *Treme*, *The Deuce* and *Vinyl*.

JESSIE LINDEN (Orchestrations, Arrangements & Additional Music / Devo / Drums) is a drummer and percussionist originally from Cleveland, OH. She plays in both Broadway and Off-Broadway shows, as well as numerous concerts and events. Recent productions include *Come From Away*, *West Side Story*, *Beetlejuice*, *Aladdin* and *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs of the Future*. Jessie is thrilled to be back amongst the Ars Nova family tonight!

STACEY SARGEANT (Beaux Weathers) a child of a Trinidad & Tobago parentage, Stacey Sargeant was born & raised in the East New York section of Brooklyn and is a graduate of LaGuardia HS of Performing Arts and Syracuse University's BFA musical theater program. She received Drama Desk, Drama League and Lucille Lortel nominations for her work in the *NYTimes* Critic's Pick *Rags Parkland Sings the Songs of the Future* at Ars Nova. Stacey can be seen in the Netflix film, *The Forty-Year-Old Version* and in the latest season of Nat Geo's *Genius: Aretha* as Dinah Washington. For more info visit www.staceysargeant.com

DEBBIE CHRISTINE TJONG (Orchestrations, Arrangements & Additional Music / Ess Pinvint / Bass) is a multi-instrumentalist, singer and actress. An alumni of Berklee College of Music, she has been working professionally as a singer and piano player for 10 years. In addition to piano and voice, she plays the bass, guitar and drums. She has appeared in numerous Off-Broadway productions, most recently being in the ensemble and understudying the female lead in *The Wrong Man*, helmed by the team of *Hamilton*. Off-Broadway: *The Wrong Man* (MCC Theater), *We're Gonna Die* (Second Stage), *Rags Parkland* (Ars Nova), *Red Roses*, *Green Gold* (Minetta Lane Theater), *Missed Connections: A Craigslist Musical* (New Ohio theater).

ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND

Ars Nova operates on the unceded land of the Lenape peoples on the island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta) in Lenapehoking, the Lenape Homeland.

We acknowledge the brutal history of this stolen land and the displacement and dispossession of its Indigenous people. We also acknowledge that after there were stolen lands, there were stolen people. We honor the generations of displaced and enslaved people that built, and continue to build, the country that we occupy today.

We are also gathered together in virtual space to watch this performance. We encourage you to consider the legacies of colonization embedded within the technology and structures we use and to acknowledge its disproportionate impact on communities of color and Indigenous peoples worldwide.

We invite you to join us in acknowledging all of this as well as our shared responsibility: to consider our way forward in reconciliation, decolonization, anti-racism and allyship. We commit ourselves to the daily practice of pursuing this work.



"ARS NOVA IS UNUSUAL – CREATIVELY, STRUCTURALLY AND OTHERWISE. IT'S NOT A TRADITIONAL THEATRE COMPANY; IT'S A FINDER, DEVELOPER AND NURTURER OF UNCONVENTIONAL ARTISTS WORKING IN HYBRID FORMS." *THE NEW YORKER*

"AN ESSENTIAL CIVIC INSTITUTION." ADAM FELDMAN, *TIME OUT NEW YORK*

"A COMPANY KNOWN FOR POP-CULTURE-SAVVY EXPERIMENTATION, WITH A HIPNESS THAT SETS IT APART." *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

Ars Nova exists to discover, develop and launch singular theater, music and comedy artists in the early stages of their professional careers. Our dynamic slate of programs supports outside-the-box thinking and encourages innovative, genre-bending work. Dubbed by *The New York Times* as a "fertile incubator of offbeat theater," Ars Nova blurs genres and subverts the status quo. With our feverish bounty of programming, we are the stomping ground and launching pad for visionary, adventurous artists of all stripes. By providing a protective environment where risk-taking and collaboration are paramount, Ars Nova gives voice to a new generation of diverse artists and audiences, pushing the boundaries of live entertainment by nurturing creative ideas into smart, surprising new work.

Ars Nova has been honored with an Obie Award and a Special Citation from the New York Drama Critics' Circle for sustained quality and commitment to the development and production of new work. Notable past productions include: *The New York Times* critic's pick *Dr. Ride's American Beach House* by Liza Birkenmeier, directed by Katie Brook; "Outstanding Musical" Lortel Award-winner and *The New York Times*' "Best of 2018," *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future*, created by Andrew R. Butler and directed by Jordan Fein; "Outstanding Musical" Lortel Award-winner *KPOP*, created by Jason Kim, Max Vernon, Helen Park and Woodshed Collective, directed by Teddy Bergman; "Best New American Theatre Work," Obie Award-winner and "one of the best new plays in the last 25 years" (*The New York Times*), *Underground Railroad Game* by Jennifer Kidwell and Scott R. Sheppard with Lightning Rod Special, directed by Taibi Magar; "Outstanding Musical" Lortel Award-winner *FUTURITY*, by César Alvarez with The Lisps, directed by Sarah Benson; *The New York Times*' and *New York Post's* "Best of 2015," *Small Mouth Sounds* by Bess Wohl, directed by Rachel Chavkin; the Tony Award-winning smash-hit *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* by Dave Malloy, directed by Rachel Chavkin; *Jollyship the Whiz-Bang* by Nick Jones and Raja Azar, directed by Sam Gold; the world premiere of the 2009 season's most-produced play *boom* by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb, directed by Alex Timbers; the show that put Bridget Everett on the map, *At Least It's Pink* by Everett, Michael Patrick King and Kenny Mellman, directed by King; and Lin-Manuel Miranda and Thomas Kail's first New York production, *Freestyle Love Supreme* by Anthony Veneziale and Miranda, directed by Kail (now on Broadway).

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Sharon Steinerman
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Violet Willensky
Diana Williams
Mesa Winder
Ellen Winter
Olivia Wolfgang-Smith
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Weng Yi Wong
Beverly Wooding
Corinne Woods
Lauren Yakatan
Morgan Yim
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