

## Production Acknowledgements



This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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NY Classical's performances of *A {15-Min!} Christmas Carol* adapted and directed by Stephen Burdman are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



We gratefully acknowledge support from The New York Community Trust's NYC COVID-19 Response & Impact Fund for generously helping us to maintain operations during this crisis.



### A note from New York City Council Member, Ben Kallos

I'm so glad to see NY Classical still getting these special events done as our City battles COVID-19. I am proud of the support my office has provided through City Council budget allocations and looking forward to getting even more later this season. Visit [BenKallos.com/Events](http://BenKallos.com/Events) for the latest information on our offices' monthly events targeted for our communities.



Back by Popular Demand!



Online Encore Reading  
December 17 to 20, 2020

Original Production made possible with a commissioning grant from ArtsBrookfield

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### **The Cast**

Ian Antal\* .....Charles Dickens  
John Michalski\* .....Ebenezer Scrooge

### **Production Team**

Stephen Burdman<sup>t</sup>, Adaptor and Director  
Yetti Steinman\*, Reading Stage Manager  
Matthieu Chapman, Literary Director

*\*member of Actors' Equity Association*

*<sup>t</sup>member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society*

Original Voice/Speech Coach: Joan Melton  
Original Production Designer: Sydney Maresca

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS

AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS

SAG-AFTRA

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in  
permitting the Artists to appear on this program.

**NY Classical**'s mission is to create and reinvigorate audiences for the theatre by presenting all-free productions of popular classics and forgotten masterpieces in public spaces throughout New York City.

We believe that everyone—regardless of social, economic, or educational background—should have the opportunity to enjoy live professional theatre together as a community. Since 2000, NY Classical has presented over 700 free performances for more than 250,000 New Yorkers. We have produced extensively in non-traditional settings: outdoors in Central Park at West 103rd Street, The Battery at Castle Clinton National Monument, Carl Schurz Park, and Brooklyn Bridge Park at Pier 1 and indoors in Brookfield Place, Roosevelt Island's Tata Innovation Center, and the Church of the Epiphany.

By producing at no direct cost to our audiences, we reach every demographic in our urban community. To date, we have staged 42 all-free productions by classical playwrights including Shakespeare, Molière, Chekhov, Shaw, and Wilde.



**Ian Antal** (Charles Dickens): New York Classical Theatre (Associate Artist): *Romeo & Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *As You Like It*, *A {15-Min!} Christmas Carol*, *The Seagull*, *Twelfth Night*, *Playing Moliere*, *Henry V*. Regional/International: *Aesop's Fables* (Jim West Puppet Productions); *Peril on the Red Planet* (Open Dream Ensemble); *Emil und die Detektive* (Stella Theater, Berlin); *What Next?*, Verdi's *Macbeth*, *Von Heute auf Morgen* (Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin). TV/Film: "MUG," "The Jew of Malta," "Familie Krassnick." Educational: *Two Shakespearean Actors*, *Hamlet*, *On the Razzle*, *Saint Joan*. BFA from University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Ian loves his lady, Sarah.



**John Michalski** (Ebenezer Scrooge): NY Classical Theatre (Associate Artist): *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Rivals*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Measure for Measure*, *A {15-Min!} Christmas Carol*, *The Tempest*, *The Seagull*, *Twelfth Night*, *Playing Moliere*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*. Broadway: *Herzl* (opp. Paul Hecht); *Gorey Stories* (dir. Tony Tanner). Off-Broadway: *Under My Skin*, *Homer's Odyssey* (Handcart Ensemble); *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials Of Oscar Wilde* (Minetta Lane); *Martin Luther on Trial*. Regional: *One Man, Two Guvnors* (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis); *Freud's Last Session*, *The Crucible* (Pioneer Theatre, Salt Lake City); *Dracula* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park & Repertory Theatre of St. Louis). John is a Group II graduate of the Juilliard School Drama Division.

Artists make New York a vibrant place to live.  
Your gift to NY Classical secures their future here.

**Your “e-basket” donation today pays our actors, directors,  
designers, and technicians.**

Please contribute in support of NY Classical’s artists—  
professionals who earn a living wage, health insurance, and  
pension funds—in crafting classical theatre for everybody. In  
the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, they need your  
philanthropy now more than ever.

Our talented multi-ethnic ensembles range in age from 20-  
Somethings to Senior Citizens. These artists have lost months of  
income from their jobs being canceled, and they remain deeply  
concerned about their high risk for COVID-19 infection. They  
rely on you, generous NY Classical patrons, to continue their  
life’s work.

Our artists are still serving our community, as they have year  
after year, at no direct cost to our audiences. We hope you enjoy  
this special online benefit performance—and give the gift of  
classical theatre to your neighbors, friends, and family this  
holiday season.

[nyclassical.org/give](https://nyclassical.org/give)



**Stephen Burdman** (Adapter/Director/Artistic Director):  
Stephen has directed and produced over half of  
Shakespeare’s canon for NY Classical Theatre. Favorite  
productions include: *The Importance of Being Earnest*  
(*Two Ways*), *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Rivals*, *Measure for*  
*Measure*, *A {15-Min!} Christmas Carol*, *The Seagull*,  
*Playing Moliere*, *Henry V* (New York Times Critic’s  
Pick), *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Misalliance*, and *Mary Stuart*. MFA  
University of California, Irvine; National Theater Institute. Member of  
Stage Directors and Choreographers Society since 1994. Stephen is the  
former Chair of the Artistic Committee of the Shakespeare Theatre  
Association. He has also been a panelist with the National Endowment  
for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, ART/New York, and  
the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation.



**Matthieu Chapman** (Literary Director): Matt earned his  
MLitt in Dramaturgy and MFA in Acting from Mary  
Baldwin College’s Shakespeare and Renaissance  
Literature in Performance Program and his Ph.D. in  
Theatre History, Theory, and Criticism from the UC San  
Diego Department of Theatre and Dance. He has acted on  
the American Shakespeare Center’s Blackfriar’s stage and  
served as a dramaturg for San Diego Repertory Theatre and worked for  
the La Jolla Playhouse, as well as dramaturged and directed numerous  
university productions. His research focuses on ontological structures  
of blackness in the Early Modern World. His monograph, *Antiblack*  
*Racism in Early Modern English Drama: The Other Other* is available  
from Routledge Press. He has also published articles in *Medieval and*  
*Renaissance Drama in England*, *Theatre Topics*, *TheatreForum*, and  
*Early Theatre*. He has presented at numerous national and international  
conferences, including the Renaissance Society of America, the  
American Society of Theatre Research, the American Comparative  
Literature Association, the Mid-America Theatre Conference, and  
others. Other research interests include: Contemporary Black Theatre,  
Cross-Cultural and Trans-National Adaptations of Shakespeare, and the  
Dramaturgy of Black Bodies.