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presents

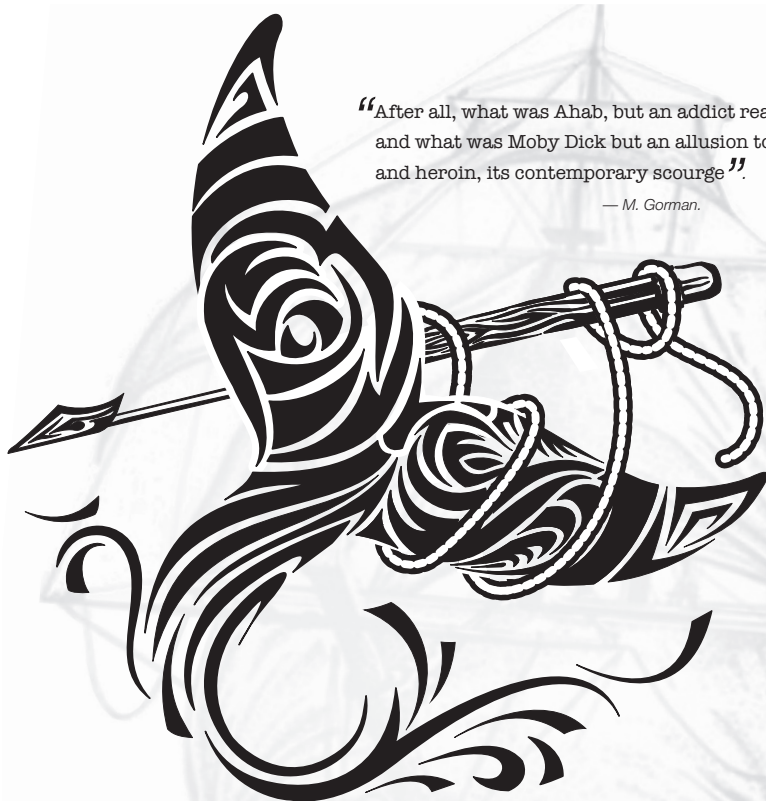
## CHASING THE NEW WHITE WHALE

Written by Mike Gorman

Directed by Arthur Adair

“After all, what was Ahab, but an addict really,  
and what was Moby Dick but an allusion to opium,  
and heroin, its contemporary scourge”.

— M. Gorman.



Ellen Stewart Theatre  
66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003  
November 23 - December 9, 2018

# Chasing the New White Whale

A Forty Hour Club production

Written by Mike Gorman

Directed by Arthur Adair

Lighting Design by Chris Akerlind

Set Design by Donald Eastman

Costume Design by Sarah Boyden

Projection Design by Lacey Erb / Donna Daly

Music Composed & Performed by

Sammo & Billy Flynn

Stage Manager: Kathryn Meister

Natali Arco: Assistant Lighting Designer

Tessa Bookwalter: Lighting Programmer

## Cast

Michael Gorman

Jim Reitz

Alan Barnes Netherton

Meridith Nicholaev

Mark Daly

Khari Constantine

Victoria A. Villier

Chris Cornwell

Trey Adams

Rae Nelson

Sabrina Fara Tosti

Sarah Boyden

The Chaplain

Elijah

Robbie

Therese

Ray

Steven

Michele

Johnny

Fedallah

Chorus/Fisherfolk/Phantom

Chorus/Fisherfolk/Phantom

Hungry Ghost

## PRODUCTION TEAM

**Mike Gorman** (Playwright/The Chaplain) is the newly appointed Playwright in Residence for La MaMa's 57th Season and Director of The Forty Hour Club—a collective of independent artists dedicated to creating work that asks the question, "To what consequence?" The productions focus on the economic, environmental and systemic destruction facing working communities and the paramount issue of sustainability. Mike is currently working on an epic National project *Chasing The New White Whale* that deals with the issue of opiate addiction in the commercial fishing community of New England and beyond. He made his debut at La MaMa in 1994 as a member of performance duo The Fabulous Giggin' Bros. and has since had more than a dozen productions staged at La MaMa, including *If Colorado Had an Ocean...* (2014); *The Honor and Glory of Whaling* (2007-8); and *UltraLight* (2000)—the three plays in his trilogy. Mike makes his home in Maine and New York City.

**Arthur Adair** (Director) as director/playwright, known for musically-charged total-theatre works, *Your War'try Grave*; *Manifest the Whale, the Teacup Destiny*; *Sound of the Sun*; and "classically-contemporized" staged adaptations, Alfred Jarry's *Ubu Roi*; Euripides' *Bacchae*; Anton Chekhov's *Three Sisters* (translation); & Eugene O'Neill's *The Emperor Jones*. Design awards: Set (Innovative Theatre Award/NYC); Light (B. Iden Payne/ATX). At La MaMa: Great Jones Repertory Company member; Education Outreach Coordinator, Coffeehouse Chronicles; Artist-in-Residence (97-07). Membership: SDC, AEA, DG. Assistant Professor, Queensborough Community College/CUNY. arthuradair@live.com.

**Christopher Akerlind** (Light Design) lit Karin Coonrod's *The Tempest*, and Billy Boesky's *Fallen Angel* at La MaMa. His work spans almost thirty years, and 600 productions, downtown and uptown, in theater, opera, and dance, across the US and abroad. Recent work includes *Roberto Devereux* for San Francisco Opera, *Time and the Conways* on Broadway, *Babette's Feast* at the theater at Saint Clements, and *Lucia di Lammermoor* for the Santa Fe Opera.

**Donald Eastman** (Set Design) returns to La MaMa with the Forty Hour Club and Mike Gorman for his premiere of *Chasing The New White Whale*. Donald has also worked with Mike on past La MaMa productions: *Fishing For Paradise*; *If Colorado Had An Ocean*; and *How & Why I Robbed My First Cheese Store*. His other constant collaborators here

founding are Theodora Skipitares, and Martha Tornay—East Side Dance Project. Other recent and upcoming premiers include: *Possessing Harriet* by Kyle Bass and Syracuse Stage; *Jubilee* by Tazewell Thompson for Arena Stage; and *BLUE*, a new opera by Jeanine Tesori and Tazewell Thompson for Glimmerglass Festival. Donald is a grantee of the NEA/National Opera Institute, and is a recipient an OBIE Award for Sustained Excellence in Set Design.

**Sarah Boyden** (Costume Design/Hungry Ghost) is a Portland, Maine based artist. She has worked with Mike Gorman in all three plays of his trilogy. *Ultralight* (2000), *The Honor and Glory of Whaling* (2008) and *If Colorado had an Ocean* (2014). She first met Mike on the island of Vinalhaven where he and his brother Will were performing as the fabulous Giggin Brothers, and has been hooked ever since. She is primarily a collage artist who works extensively with kids and is committed to reviving the arts in elementary education.

**Lacey Erb** (Projection Design) is a projection and lighting designer. Recent credits include *JJ's Place* (Spinning Dot Theatre/Univ of Michigan), *Wake..Sing..* (Meta-Phys Ed, NY); *Monet and Subway's Are For Sleeping* (York Theatre, NY); *The Seagull* (Columbia Univ); *This is Not Mozart's 40th* (Princeton Univ); and *Reflective Impulse* (SXSW Interactive, ATX). She is projection associate to Andrew Lazarow on *Head Over Heels* (Broadway), and Sven Ortel for *Ever After and Candide* (Alliance Theatre, GA). She has an MFA from the University of Texas at Austin. [www.laceyerb.com](http://www.laceyerb.com)

**Donna Daly** (Projection Design/Production Manager) is the Production Manager & Co-Director of The Forty Hour Club. She is thrilled to be partnering with Mike on this incredible production, and will be working with him to help bring the play to working waterfront communities around the country. Donna has a background in film and arts administration, and prior to joining the Forty Hour Club she renovated, started, and ran an historic Theatre and arthouse cinema on the coast of Maine where she lives.

**Sammo** (Composer/Musician) is a Brooklyn based musician, singer, producer and composer who considers himself to be the bastard love child of Emily Dickinson and Frank Zappa. He has scored plays and documentaries, released albums where he plays all the instruments and performed one-man shows best described as “musical theater for people who hate musical theater.” He is excited to be working with Mike Gorman, Arthur Adair and the stellar cast Of Chasing the New White Whale on another production at La MaMa. ([www.livesammo.com](http://www.livesammo.com))

**Billy Flynn** (Composer/Musician) is a Drummer/Composer who has recorded and toured with several artists including: Geggy Tah (Virgin/Luaka Bop), Opm (Atlantic) & Jim Wilson (Daniel Lanois). He is currently in post-production on his debut EP recorded at the legendary Cherokee Studios in Los Angeles. 323drummer@gmail.com

**Kathryn Meister** (Stage Manager) They/Them. Selected New York Credits: Hamlet, Romeo & Juliet (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival); Lu! Lu! 40th Anniversary of Spiderwoman Theater (La Mama); Clover (La Mama/Planet Connections); Hyena (Edinburgh Fringe Festival; United Solo Festival; La Mama); Blueprint Specials (Waterwell); Capriccio, La Fanciulla del West (Apotheosis Opera). Graduate of the University of Southern California. @meisterkate

## CAST

**Trey Adams** (Fedallah) is a professional actor and YouTuber that loves to spread peace, love, and wisdom. He does this on his YouTube channel “TreySP” with comedic skits, video game commentary, and also his new conversation videos. Where he, with a guest, talks about very serious, real word problems, mind sets, and flawed morals. “Trey” is a nickname, and he prefers to be called this instead of his real name. “It’s a long story”. Trey has been in a few small film production in front of the camera and behind. He has mostly done acting on stage in Queensborough Community College, all of which were Lead Roles.

**Khari Constantine** (Steven) is a graduate of SUNY Oswego, with a B.A. in Theatre. He’s honored to share the La MaMa stage once again with the incredible cast and crew of *Chasing The New White Whale*. His favorite credits include Claudius from Hamlet, and King Pentheus from The Bacchae. He’s a proud member of the National Theatre Honor Society – APO. To Harpooning Addiction!

**Chris Cornwell** (Johnny) is from Austin, Texas and holds a B.F.A. in Theatre from Texas State University. He recently acted in and served as the music director for Rusalka (Theatre 4the People) which won several awards in this year’s Planet Connections Theatre Festivity including “Outstanding Production of a Musical, Or Play with Music.” Some other recent credits include Cry Eden (Access Theater), and Kiss It, Make It Better (Theatre 4the People). Chris is also the co-founder the bluegrass rock ‘n’ roll band, The Rusty Guns. Chris would like to dedicate his performance to his late friend, Jesse Foley.

**Mark Daly** (Ray) After a long hiatus from the theater world, Mark is thrilled to be back on the boards. He is very happy for the opportunity to be working with La Mama and The 40 Hour Club on this project. He has been involved in New York theater since the early 1990's as a member of the original Kraine Theater as well as working with Ensemble Studio Theater and the Workshop Theater Co. He studied Theater/ Acting at the Univ. of Maine and here in NYC. at Hunter College. Being away from acting was like having an itch on my back that I just couldn't reach.

**Rae Nelson** (Chorus/Fisherfolk/Phantom) is an appreciator of fig trees, string quartets and warm sweaters. Her passions include reading, singing, and devising for the stage and screen. She was most recently seen on stage as the title role in Hamlet at the Access Theater, on (mobile) screen as the face of Glossier's Zit Stick instagram campaign and come January, as Zita in Comedy Central's The Other Two.

**Alan Barnes Netherton** (Robbie) is an actor, puppeteer, raconteur, and bona fide renaissance man. He's a lifetime member of the Forty Hour Club and the Czech-American Marionette Theatre. He doesn't always do theatre but when he does he "wants to melt their little (edit) faces off."

**Meridith Nicholaev** (Therese) is an actress born and raised in the Berkshires of Massachusetts. She studied theater and art at Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire and Shakespeare at Richmond University in London. She continued her studies at the Maggie Flanigan studio. Recent projects include: Beateous at LAByrinth and Cherry Lane; various voice over promotions; holding her shit together since the presidential election; fixing her credit and learning to love herself more. Meridith is excited for her LaMama debut and would like to thank Margaret and Fred for her quick wit and high cheekbones.

**Jim Reitz** (Elijah) lives in Rockport, Maine, with his wife Lois Anne, a visual artist and poet. He is a self-employed carpenter and IATSE union member working on feature films. Jim has been acting since 1993 and is thrilled to be working here at La MaMa in this production with such a talented cast and crew. In 2005 he appeared here in Mike Gorman's play "Death by Joinery".

**Sabrina Fara Tosti** (Chorus/Fisherfolk/Phantom) is thrilled to be making her LaMama debut. She is a Meisner trained actress. Most recently, she did a reading of Strange Cousins with The Workshop Theater. A favorite credit is Carly in reasons to be pretty. When not acting, Sabrina is baking up a storm. She wants to thank Arthur for the opportunity to be a deckhand in this company. [www.sabrinafaratosti.com](http://www.sabrinafaratosti.com)

**Victoria A. Villier** (Michelle) is a recent college graduate (BA Theatre Performance) of Marymount Manhattan College. When she is not performing, she is writing poetry, editing her short stories, or forging through archival images at the Picture Collection. She is very happy to be part of collaborative production working amongst talented artists. Victoria would like to thank Arthur Adair and Mike Gorman for this amazing opportunity.

## **THANK YOU:**

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La MaMa



# LA MAMA



## RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



*Rendering: 74 East 4th St.*

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit [www.lamama.org/remakeaworld](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)



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November 24 - December 9, 2018  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

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November 29 - December 9, 2018  
The Downstairs

**Poetry Electric  
Freedom Writers  
December 3, 2018  
The Downstairs**

**Poetry Electric  
Lower East Side Girls Club  
December 10, 2018  
The Downstairs**

**Artist Talk with Marco Martinelli  
December 13, 2018 at 7pm  
The Downstairs**

## **COMING SOON**

### **Terra Mia**

December 13 - 16, 2018  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### **Indian Market & Social**

December 14 - 16, 2018  
The Downstairs

**Shell Shocked Nut  
December 20 - 23, 2018  
Ellen Stewart Theatre**

**La MaMa Kids  
Winter Wonderland  
December 22, 2018 at Noon  
The Downstairs**

**Grey Rock  
January 3 - 7, 2019  
Ellen Stewart Theatre**