

Lil' Explosions presents:

# In the Blue Hour

June 14 - June 17

A new play by Martina Potratz  
Directed by Melissa Crespo

## In the Blue Hour

A Lil' Explosions Production

*Concept, idea and text:*

Martina Potratz

*Directed by:*

Melissa Crespo

*Projection Design:*

Caite Hevner

*Featuring:*

Kathryn Rossetter\*, Spencer Scott Barros\*, Rosie Sowa,  
Brittany Bellizeare\*, John Clarence Stewart\* and Herbie  
Go

*Dates:*

June 14 - June 17, 2018

*Location:*

La Maison D'Art, 259 W 132nd Street, New York, NY  
10027

\*Equity Member appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association  
without benefit of an Equity contract in this Off-Off Broadway production

## The Play

What are we supposed to make of a life?

Vanessa, the perfect hostess, invites her friends to attend one last party. Over the course of an evening, visitors from the past arrive as memories and dreams begin to oscillate with the present, and we begin to understand the beautiful imperfection of it all.

In *the Blue Hour* takes the concept of audience interaction to a new level by gently embedding audience members into the story line. Invited as guests to Vanessa's dinner party, they are required to fill out a questionnaire prior to their arrival. The answers provided in advance feed directly and seamlessly into the play.

## The Company

Lil' Explosions produces original work that is poetic, slightly surreal and always contains a dance number. Written by Martina Potratz, our plays are developed in artistic collaboration with directors, actors, designers and the audience itself. This probably explains why we have a fondness for immersive work and are constantly refining concepts of audience interaction. You can find our work performed in private apartments, art galleries and hardly ever, theatre spaces.

[www.lilexplosions.com](http://www.lilexplosions.com)

Social Media: @lilexplosions

## Who's Who

**Kathryn Rossetter** (Vanessa) is an actress, writer, teacher and director. Credits: Broadway: *Death Of a Salesman* opposite Dustin Hoffman; *Time Of The Cuckoo* and *Shows For Days* (Lincoln Center). Many productions Off-Broadway. Film: *Death Of A Salesman*; *Speed II*; *Fearless*; *Shakedown*; *The Night We Never Met*; *Whatever*; *Pose Down*; *The Unidentified*; *Ten Stories Tall*. TV: *Law & Order SVU*; *Touched by an Angel*; *Full House* and many more. Recipient of a Tennessee Williams Theatre Fellowship for developing a one-person show. Teaches acting: MFA Drama at The New School University and BFA at NYU, Tisch.

**Spencer Scott Barros** (Robert) Associate Artistic Director of Liberation Theatre Company and a producer of the Obie Award winning *48Hours in...Harlem* and *48Hours in...Da Bronx* theatre festivals. plays: *Deepest Man*; *Fabulous Darshan*; *The Venus DeMilo is Armed*; *Yellowman*; *Ti Jean Blues* and *Death and the King's Horseman*. TV: *Third Watch*; *Law & Order*; *Law & Order: SVU*; *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and *Chappelle's Show*. He is honored to have participated in the readings and now production of *In the Blue Hour* with this amazing cast, wonderful direction by Melissa and beautiful script by Martina.

**Brittany Bellizeare** (Emily) Theatre credits: New York: *A Raisin in the Sun* (Gallery Players). Regional: *Skeleton Crew* (Baltimore Center Stage); *The Bluest Eye* (The Guthrie); *Sunset Baby* (TheaterWorks Hartford); *The Last Tiger in Haiti* (La Jolla Playhouse/Berkeley Repertory Theatre); *The Mountaintop* (Northern Stage); *Seven Guitars* (Two River Theatre); *Archy & Mehitabel* (the Yard). Educational Tour: *Sunjata Kamalenya* (McCarter Theatre). Film/TV: *The Blacklist*; *Eye Candy*; *The Knick*; MFA: The New School for Drama; BS: Spelman College. NAACP Theatre nomination for Best Ensemble in a play, *The Last Tiger in Haiti* (2017/18).  
[www.brittanybellizeare.com](http://www.brittanybellizeare.com)

**Herbie Go** (The Ghost) is an actor, director and teacher from the Philippines. Prior to moving to NYC in 2007, he was the Artistic Director of Tanghalang Pilipino, the resident theatre company of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. He also taught acting and directing at the Philippine High School for the Arts for almost a decade. In NYC, he has performed with International Wow, East River Commedia, and Panoply. He once appeared in drag in a New York Lottery commercial. He dreams of staging the Scottish play while serving special Filipino dishes like pig's blood stew, duck fetus, and barbecued intestines.

**Rosie Sowa** (Anne) is a New York based actor and singer and is thrilled to be putting this piece on its feet with such an incredible group of artists! Favorite credits include: NYC: *PETE REX* (59E59th); *The Improbable... John Law* (New Ohio, Dreamscape); *Miss; Medea; Pericles; Whale Song*. Regional: *All My Sons; Last Five Years; Miracle on 34th Street; Titanic*. TV: *Bull* (CBS); *America's Most Wanted* (FOX). Film: *The Fugue; I'm With Joy; You're Not Sexy* and others. Rosie received her MFA in Acting from The New School for Drama. Love to her family and friends, especially Greg.

**John Clarence Stewart** (Theo) Theatre credits: *Choir Boy* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *Fit for a Queen* (The Classical Theater of Harlem); *Kind Souls* (Libra Theatre); *MUST*. Regional Theatre: *The Whipping Man; Choir Boy; A Christmas Carol; Songs to Grow On* (The Alliance Theatre); *brownsville song b-side for tray* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Lombardi* (The Aurora Theatre). TV: *The Mysteries of Laura* (NBC); *Gotham* (FOX); *Blue Bloods* (CBS); *Luke Cage* (Netflix); *The Good Fight* (CBS). Recently: *Bud, Not Buddy* at The Kennedy Center.

**Meghan P. Johnson** (Dancer Meghan)

**Matty Mahoski** (Dancer Matty) Is an interdisciplinary artist currently on hiatus from their studies at NYU Tisch School for the Art's Experimental Theatre Wing. Recent performance

credits include *The Golem* (dir. Liz Swados), *Salvador* (dir. Laurie Carlos), *Eat and You Belong To Us* (dir. Melissa Crespo), and *The House of Bernarda Alba* (dir. Andrea Arden-Reese). Thank you so much to the cast, crew, and creative team of In The Blue Hour.

**Emily Stolp** (Dancer Emily) Originating from Tasmania, Australia, Emily (she/her/they/them) is an interdisciplinary artist and collaborator, and founder of Nameless Art Collective in New York City. Their artistic research focuses on metaphysical and philosophical concepts that challenge preconceived notions of reality. With an emphasis on the spiritual, Emily works to explore the marvel of the mundane through many mediums such as physical acting and movement, dance, choreography, music and vocal composition, visual arts, and stop-motion animation. Emily is a recent graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, and has trained at The Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute and the Experimental Theatre Wing.

**Martina Potratz** (Playwright, Producer) is a performer, writer and theater maker. With her company Lil' Explosions, Martina creates work that is not necessarily written for traditional theater spaces. Her plays include *A Sitcom for the Apocalypse: Episode 1 & 2* (Lil' Explosions and Snowballs Festival); *In the Blue Hour* (Lil' Explosions); *Stormchaser*. Several of her short plays have premiered at Intar Theatre's One Minute Play Festival. Her article on the correlation of movement in the work and life of a performer was published in *Nomadic Sojourn: Winter Solstice*. As a performer, Martina has devised Drama-Desk nominated work with the International WOW Company and originated parts in new plays at Intar Theatre, Dixon Place, IRT, The Brick, HERE Arts. Playwright Residency at Jentel Arts; VSC Playwright Fellow at Vermont Studio Center. The Canton Zug in Switzerland has supported her work with a Berlin Studio Residency as well as two Grants for Young Swiss Artists. BFA: HKB University of Arts (Switzerland).

**Melissa Crespo** (Director) is a NYC based director of theater, opera, film and television with a focus on new work. She is most known for Vid Guerrero's *¡Figaro!* (90210) which had its world premiere at LA Opera and ran Off-Broadway at The Duke on 42nd Street. Melissa recently returned from directing the world premiere of Nathan Louis Jackson's *Brother Toad* at Kansas City Repertory Theatre. She also directed *Tar Baby* written and performed by Desiree Burch with Dan Kitrosser seen in NYC, London, New Zealand, Finland and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where it received the Scotsman Fringe First. Upcoming: *Pedro Pan* by Rebecca Aparicio and Stephen Elkins (NYMF), *graveyard shift* by Korde Arrington Tuttle (San Francisco Playhouse) and *Native Gardens* by Karen Zacarías (Syracuse Stage, Geva Theatre Center and Portland Center Stage). Melissa has served as the Allen Lee Hughes Directing Fellow at Arena Stage, Van Lier Directing Fellow at Second Stage Theatre, and is an alum of the Drama League. She is a Usual Suspect at New York Theatre Workshop and just completed the Time Warner Fellowship at WP Theatre (The Women's Project). Melissa received her MFA in Directing from The New School for Drama. <http://www.melissacrespo.com>

**Caite Hevner** (Projection Design) Broadway: *In Transit*. Select Off-Broadway: *Derren Brown: Secret* (Atlantic Theater Company); *DISCORD* (Primary Stages); *Ugly Lies the Bone* (Roundabout); *Tail! Spin!* (Lynn Redgrave Theater); *My Mother Has 4 Noses* (The Duke); *Baghdaddy* (St. Luke's Theatre); *Triassic Parq* (Soho Playhouse); *Orwell in America* (59E59); *The Elephant in Every Room I Enter* (New York Theater Workshop Next Door); *Parade* (Avery Fisher Hall). Select Regional: Guthrie, Seattle 5th Avenue, Kennedy Center's Broadway Center Stage, Alley, Arena, McCarter, Williamstown, Alliance, Alabama Shakespeare, Baltimore Center Stage, Cleveland Play House, Dallas Theater Center, Pasadena Playhouse, Long Wharf, People's Light, Playmakers Repertory Company, Syracuse Stage, Everyman, Marin Theatre Company, Barrington Stage, Northern Stage. [www.caitedesign.com](http://www.caitedesign.com)

**Katie Kennedy** (Stage Manager) is a proud West Virginia native. Since moving to New York five years ago she has consistently worked as a stage manager on a variety of shows, including *Urinetown*; *The Review Or How to Eat Your Opposition*; *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson*; and *The Public's Latin History for Morons* with John Leguizamo. Katie is beyond excited to be a part of this incredible production. She credits her family and friends for making her who she is today. Without their constant love and support, none of this would have happened!

**Dara Swisher** (Assistant Stage Manager/ Propsmaster) is a dance artist, physical actor, and theatre creator. They received a BA with Honors in Dance Performance and Teaching/Choreography from Mercyhurst College, and an MFA in Choreography from Jacksonville University. Most recent credits include: performing in and stage managing the immersive escape experience *Paradiso: Chapter 1*, devising and performing a dance theatre work for the Association for Theatre in Higher Education 2017 Conference in Las Vegas, and leading the Writopia Worldwide Plays Festival 2018 as Production Stage Manager. Love to Bee.

**Thank You to our Supporters:**

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**For Being Important to the Show in Many Other Ways:**

Flo Ankah, Charlotte Booker, Adam R. Burnett, Inés Del Castillo, Tommy McGinn, Leonie, Evan True, Canton Zug Switzerland, Jentel Arts, Vermont Studio Center. And Berlin.

*\*In the Blue Hour is dedicated to Silvia Fugazza Potratz\**



**Actors' Equity Association** ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 actors and stage managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org)