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Mackenzie Newbury presides over a twisted carnival of presidential killers in "Assassins" at NextStop Theatre starting October 19 near Reston Town Center (Photo by Lock & Company)

NextStop Takes a Shot at Sondheim's *Assassins*

Cast announced for killer musical coming to Herndon/Reston

Herndon, VA / Washington, D.C. – On October 19, NextStop Theatre Company, near Reston Town Center, will open the Tony Award-winning musical "Assassins" by Stephen Sondheim. The darkly comedic show, which depicts presidential assassins throughout American history has gained relevance of late; the show's themes of anger over the unfulfilled promise of the American dream mirror a deeply divided country. Casting of the much anticipated production, which will play through November 12 in Herndon, has just been announced.

“We started talking about producing this show before Trump was elected, but it was already clear that the political divisions in our country are very real and run very deep,” said Producing Artistic Director Evan Hoffmann. “The show is even more relevant now that we see anger and resentment boiling over that was simmering beneath the surface.”

With cameos ranging from John Wilkes Booth to Lee Harvey Oswald, “Assassins” deals with discontent and the place of violence in American culture. Audiences get a taste of several genres of music along with a non-traditional history lesson from one of Broadway’s most well-known composers.



“Assassins” is the first in a pair of shows about the Presidency in NextStop’s 2017/18 season. The play “45 Plays for 45 Presidents” in January will provide a lighthearted counterpoint to “Assassins” among a season of point and counterpoint productions. Each of six shows are juxtaposed and “paired” with one another with the intention of building community through discussion of opposing views.

The cast will include **Andrew Adelsberger** (“Charles Guiteau”), **Mikey Cafarelli** (“John Hinckley, Jr.”), **Brice Guerriere** (“Giuseppe Zangara”), **Bobby Libby** (“John Wilkes Booth”), **Katie McManus** (“Sara Jane Moore”), **Mackenzie Newbury** (“The Proprietor”), **John Sygar** (“The Balladeer/Oswald”), **Daniel Westbrook** (“Czolgosz”), **Jaclyn Young** (“Lynette ‘Squeaky’ Fromme”), and **Alex Zavistovich** (“Samuel Byck”). Members of the ensemble are **Megan Adrielle**, **Madeline Cuddihy**, **Jason Hentrich**, and **Colton Needles**.

The production is directed by prominent Washington DC artist **Jay D. Brock** whose direction of last season’s “Eurydice” garnered wide acclaim in the metro area for its haunting performances.

In addition to Brock, the creative team includes Music Director **Bryan Lilley**, Assistant Director **Christie Graham**, Set Designer **JD Madsen**, Costume Designer **Kristina Martin**, Lighting Designer **Catherine Girardi**, Stage Manager **Laura Moody**, Props Coordinator/Assistant Stage Manager **Jade Brooks-Bartlett**, Costume Apprentice **Marilyn Lopes**, Assistant Stage Manager/Sound Mixer/Fight Choreographer **Quoc Tran**, and Master Electrician **Jonathan Abolins**.

Performances are Thursdays through Sundays from October 19th to November 12th, 2017. General Admission tickets start at \$20 and increase as performances fill up. Tickets are available online at www.NextStopTheatre.org or by calling [866-811-4111](tel:866-811-4111). All seating is General Admission. Additional fees may apply. Advance booking is strongly recommended.

Information on how NextStop is using their 2017/18 Season of Shows to build the bonds of community can be found at www.NextStopTheatre.org/Together.

About NextStop Theatre Company:

NextStop Theatre Company is an award-winning professional black box theatre just moments away from Reston Town Center, Historic Downtown Herndon, Dulles Airport, and Wiehle-Reston Metro. The company has established a strong regional reputation for producing critically acclaimed productions and educational programs, while showcasing a wide array of local talent, Broadway headliners, and locally-driven arts relevant to the community.

NextStop Theatre is made possible in part by generous support from the following valued donors: The Town of Herndon, The Ruth & Hal Lauenders Charitable Trust, The Nelson J. & Katherine Friant Post Foundation, The Arts Council Fairfax County, The Virginia Commission for the Arts, The National Endowment for the Arts, and NextStop's loyal patron donors.

NextStop's 2017/18 Season is sponsored by AutoScandia.

LOCATION:

NextStop Theatre
269 Sunset Park Drive
Herndon, VA 20170

GROUPS:

Group discounts are available for 8 or more tickets in the same transaction using promotion code: "GROUP8". Book online or by phone.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/NextStopTheatre

Instagram and Twitter: [@NextStopTheatre](https://www.instagram.com/NextStopTheatre)

Cast and Creative Team Biographies:

Andrew Adelsberger (Charles Guitau) DC AREA: *The Pirates of Penzance* (Major General Stanley), *Trial by Jury* (Usher) REGIONAL: *Gianni Schicchi* (Gianni Schicchi), *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Dr. Bartolo), *La Cenerentola* (Don Magnifico)

Megan Adrielle (Ensemble): DC AREA: *Evita* (ensemble, small feature, Olney Theatre Center), *A Year With Frog and Toad* (Swing, Imagination Stage), *National Anthem* (Camden Yards, Baltimore Orioles), *Spring Awakening* (Wendla, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center). Megan is thrilled to be joining the cast of *Assassins* for her first appearance with Next Stop Theatre. She wishes to thank her friends and family for their continued support.

Mikey Cafarelli (John Hinckley) NEXTSTOP: *The Secret Garden*, *Go Dog, Go!* DC AREA: *Avenue Q* (Constellation Theatre - Helen Hayes' Nomination for Best Supporting Actor, Helen Hayes' Winner for Best Ensemble); *Tommy* (Open Circle Theatre); *Who's Your Baghdaddy* (New Musical Foundation); *Sweeney Todd: Prog Metal Version* (Landless Theatre); *Jerry Inside Out* (Spooky Action Theatre); *Visible Language* (WSC Avant Bard); *Flora the Red Menace* (1st Stage); *Grease*, *The King and I* (Toby's Dinner Theatre); *The Emperor's Nightingale*; *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (Adventure Theatre); *Mulan*, *Bunnica* (Imagination Stage). Infinite love to my fiancée, Jen, and our kitties, Bazille Pembroke and Gordon Atticus Bevarelli.

Madeline Cuddihy (Ensemble) NEXTSTOP: Madeline is thrilled to be making her NextStop Theatre debut! DC AREA: *Family Portrait* (Jo, DC Theatre Workshop Co.), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Katharina u/s, Chesapeake Shakespeare Co.), *54Below Concert* (with La-Ti-Do, NYC) . TV/FILM: Digital Host for WUSA9 on Great Day Washington, *You Are The President* (Vivienne, TV miniseries), *Amtrak All The Way* (Lead Singer). Be sure to check out Madeline's Facebook live series every Friday! Love & thanks to family, friends, CUA, NextStop and Jay! Twitter/Instagram: @madelinecuddihy

Brice Guerriere (Guiseppe Zangara) NextStop debut! DC AREA: *Memphis* (ArtsCentric), *Parade* (Keegan Theatre), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Iron Crow Theatre), *The Wild Party* (Iron Crow Theatre), *Hunt: A Political Drama* (Capital Fringe Festival), *The Who's Tommy* (Kensington Arts Theatre); REGIONAL: *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers* (Jackson Hole Playhouse). As always, love to Jess and love and thanks to Mom, Dad and the whole family near and far.

Jason Hentrich (Ensemble) NEXTSTOP debut. DC AREA: *The Fall of the House of Usher* (Roderick), *Codename: Cynthia* (Stephenson) at Pallas Theatre Collective; *Becoming George* (Gérard) at MetroStage; *Alice* (Mad Hatter/Mock Turtle) and *The Tempest* (Caliban/Ferdinand) with Lean and Hungry Theater. Concert soloist in *Carmina Burana* and *Vespro della Beata Virgine* with Live Arts Maryland. Music faculty at Prince George's County Public Schools and Peabody Preparatory, former faculty at Imagination Stage and Washington College. Follow on social media @jasonhentrich.

Bobby Libby (Booth) NEXTSTOP: *Urinetown*, *City of Angels*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Secret Garden*. DC AREA: Constellation: *Urinetown*; Adventure Theatre-MTC: *Jumanji*, *Caps for Sale* (also in NYC in co-production with the New Victory Theatre); Landless: *Sweeney Todd: Prog Metal Version*. BALTIMORE: Stillpointe Theatre: *Grey Gardens*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Hair*, *The*

Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin. CHICAGO: Lights Out Theatre Company: *Song for a Future Generation*. EDUCATION: Towson University. Thank you to Jay and Brian, his friends and family, and, most of all, Abbie.

Katie McManus (Sara Jane Moore) NEXTSTOP/ESP: *City of Angels* (Donna/Oolie, Helen Hayes nom, Outstanding Lead Actress); *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife); *The Divine Ms. McM* (cabaret); *Side Show* (Violet). REGIONAL: Signature: *Titanic*, *Chess*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Fix*; Shakespeare Theatre: *Two Gentlemen of Verona: a Rock Opera*; Studio Theatre: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*; Ford's: *Violet*. DC AREA: Keegan: *Big Fish*, *RENT* (Helen Hayes award, Outstanding Ensemble), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Man of La Mancha*, *National Pastime*; Creative Cauldron: *Blues in the Night*, *Ruthless!*, *And the World Goes 'Round*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well...* (Helen Hayes nom, Outstanding Ensemble).

Colton Needles (Male Ensemble) Colton is overjoyed to be making his NextStop debut in his favorite musical! **DC AREA:** *Our Town* (Annapolis Shakespeare Company), *Hamlet* (Compass Rose Theater) **REGIONAL:** *They're Playing Our Song* (Neil Simon Festival) **OTHER:** *RENT*, *Next to Normal*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Henry V*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Romeo and Juliet* **EDUCATION:** B.S. in Theatre Arts, Southern Utah University

Mackenzie Newbury (The Proprietor) NEXTSTOP: *Catch Me If You Can* (Brenda Strong), *City of Angels* (Mallory/Avril). DC AREA: *The Most Happy Fella* (Cleo) at Catholic University, *South Pacific* (Nellie u/s, performed and Nurse) and *A Christmas Carol* (Ghost of Christmas Future, dance role), Toby's Dinner Theatre; *Silence! The Musical* (Dream Clarice) at Studio Theatre. REGIONAL: *Shrek the Musical* (Princess Fiona), *Oklahoma*, and *42nd Street* at Allenberry Playhouse, *The Drowsy Chaperone* at Totem Pole Playhouse. Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre, the Catholic University of America. Thanks to Jay, Bryan and Evan. Love to the family. MackenzieNewbury.com, @mackenzienewbury on Instagram.

John Sygar (Balladeer) Next Stop: *Urinetown*, Constellation Theatre Company: *Peter and the Starcatcher*, 1st Stage : *Floyd Collins*, Adventure Theatre MTC: *Knuffle Bunny*, *Garfield* (Helen Hayes Nomination Best Supporting Actor) *Pinkalicious* , Atlas Performing Art Center: *Sing Down the Moon*, Artcentric: *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Education: BM Catholic University, London Dramatic Academy. Upcoming: Signature Theatre:*Light Years*

Logan Wagner (son of Sarah Jane Moore) is excited to be returning to the NextStop Theater stage. NEXTSTOP/ESP: *The Giver* (Asher); *Into the Woods, Jr.* (The Baker). LOCAL: *Xanadu Jr.* (Sonny Malone); *Legally Blonde, Jr.* (Kyle); *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* (Bookseller). Stagedoor Manor: *The Boyfriend* (Lord Brockhurst). Logan would like to thank his family for their love and support.

Daniel G Westbrook (Leon Czolgosz) DC AREA: *Noah:Apocalypse* (Ollie/Fight Captain, LiveArtDC), *Duck* (Fight Choreographer, Highwood Theatre) *Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventure* (Red Queen U/s, Imagination Stage) REGIONAL: *Boeing Boeing* (Robert, Wayside Theatre) Dan is excited to be appearing at NextStop for the first time! He is a graduate of James

Madison University's School of Theatre and Dance, and an Actor-Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors. Check out future projects at www.danielgwestbrook.com.

Jaclyn Young (Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme) NEXTSTOP/ESP: *Willy Wonka* (Mrs. Bucket), *Balloonacy* (Old Woman), *Crimes of the Heart* (Chick Boyle), *Seussical* (Gertrude McFuzz), *Love Loss and What I Wore* (Geraldine and others), *Into the Woods* (Lucinda), *Metamorphoses* (Alcyone and others), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia), *Side Show*. DC AREA: *Visible Language* (WSC-AvantBard), *Jungle Book* (Imagination Stage). REGIONAL: *Alice in Wonderland* (Prairie Fire Children's Theatre), *Seussical*, *A Christmas Carol* (Civic Theatre of Allentown). Jaclyn is the Education Coordinator for NextStop and the proud mama of 2 boys.

Alex Zavistovich (Samuel Byck) is the founder and Artistic Director of Molotov Theatre Group, America's second-oldest Grand Guignol Theater. An AEA-eligible stage actor and member of the Screen Actor's Guild, Alex was last seen in NextStop's production of "Eurydice," as "Lord of the Underworld" and "Nasty Interesting Man." He has acted with Studio Theatre, Rep Stage, the Annapolis Shakespeare Company, and the late, great Baltimore Shakespeare Festival. A graduate of the Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory, Alex is presently developing the National Edgar Allan Poe Theatre in Baltimore. He sends his thanks to Jay and his love to Jennifer.

Creative Team:

Jay D. Brock (Director) is thrilled to return to Next Stop after directing the critically acclaimed *Eurydice* last season. Recent credits include: OFF-BROADWAY revival of *Spike Heels* produced by Howl at the Moon Productions/Chase-Avon Productions, the regional premiere of *F#@king Up Everything* produced by Off the Leash Productions/New Musical Foundation at The Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, and the regional premiere of *Sisters of Swing* with NYC's Infinity Theatre Company. REGIONAL CREDITS: *Dance for Her* (Pasadena Playhouse 2nd Stage, CA); *Life in Death* (The Kennedy Center, DC); *Souvenir, The Last Five Years, Do I Hear a Waltz* (1st Stage, VA); *In the Beginning* (The Fibonacci Center TX, and Tour); *It's a Wonderful Life: Radio Play, The Tempest* (Annapolis Shakespeare, MD); *West Side Story* (Riverside Theatre Center, VA); *The HP Lovecraft Nightmare Suite, Normal* (Molotov Theatre, DC); *The Rocky Horror Show* (The Washington Savoyards, DC); *After Hours in the Whale Room* (Dana Point Theatre, CA); *Closer Than Ever* (Limelight Theatre, MD); *Ubu Roi* (Journeymen Theatre, DC); *Romeo et Juliette, Cavalleria Rusticana, I Pagliacci* (Maryland Lyric Opera); *Eleemosynary* (Boo Box Productions, CA). Jay is an Associate Professor of Acting/Directing at The Catholic University of America and is an associate member of SDC. jaydavidbrock.com.

Catherine Girardi (Lighting Designer) NEXTSTOP: *Eurydice* DC AREA: *Our War* (Arena Stage); *Seussical* (Imagination Stage); *Well* (1st Stage); *Smoky Mirrors* (Sweet Spot Aerial Productions); *Into the Woods, Sweet Charity, Shakespeare in Hollywood* (Catholic University); *Failure: A Love Story, In A Word, The Typographer's Dream* (The Hub Theatre); *Always...Patsy Cline, Noises Off* (University of Mary Washington). REGIONAL: *The North Pool, The Complete History of Comedy abridged* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); *A Christmas Carol, Tommy, Ain't Misbehavin', All My Sons* (Clarence Brown Theatre); *Doubt* (NC Stage Company). Education: MFA University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Christie Graham (Assistant Director) Recent credits include: Hairspray (Toby's Dinner Theatre); Into the Woods (MC Summer Dinner Theatre); Seven Brides (MC Summer Dinner Theatre); Urinetown (Catholic University); Into the Woods (Catholic University). Christie is very excited to be a part of her first show with NextStop Theatre Company!

Marilyn Lopes (Costume Assistant) is a junior pursuing a Bachelor's of Music in Musical Theatre at The Catholic University of America. Other costuming credits include CUA's *City of Angels* (Costume Crew) and CUA's *Little Women* (Costuming Assistant Stage Manager). She hopes you enjoys show!

JD Madsen (Scenic Designer) NEXTSTOP THEATRE: *Eurydice, Middletown, Death Trap, Richard III*; SELECTED REGIONAL CREDITS: *Sex With Strangers, Abigail/1702, Pas de Duex, Cripple of Inishmaan, Italian American Reconciliation, The Temperamentals, , West Side Story, The Addams Family, Carousel, Sweet Charity, The Drowsy Chaperone, Little Women, The Little Mermaid, The Two Character Play, Reckless, The Crucible, Dracula, Alice in Wonderland, Songs for a New World, 1776, Big River, Sister Act*; TEACHING: Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at the Johnny Carson School for Theatre and Film. EDUCATION: MFA University of Maryland-College Park '12, BS Weber State University '06

Kristina Martin (Costume Designer). REGIONAL: Catholic University of America; Little Women (Costume Designer), Keegan Theatre Company; Six Degrees of Separation (Costume Designer), Theatre Prometheus; Cymbeline, Macbeth (Costume Designer), Urban Arias; Independence Eve (Costume Designer, NextStop Theatre: Urinetown the Musical, Boeing Boeing, Willy Wonka, Eurydice, City of Angels, Snow White, Crimes of the Heart, Seussical the Musical, Middletown, No Spring Chicken, Kiss Me Kate, Aladdin, The Secret Garden, A Man For All Seasons, Love Loss and What I Wore, Gutenberg! The Musical, A Charlie Brown Christmas, Sylvia, Miss Electricity (Costume Designer), Infinity Theatre Company; A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline, Godspell, Million Dollar Quartet, Almost Heaven (Costume Designer/Wardrobe Supervisor). To learn more, visit her website at KristinaMartinDesign.com.

Laura Moody (Stage Manager). Previous Stage Management credits include: NEXTSTOP: *The 39 Steps, Kiss Me, Kate, City of Angels, Deathtrap, Crimes of the Heart, Gutenberg! The Musical, Much Ado About Nothing, Boeing Boeing, A Grand Night For Singing, Willy Wonka, Urinetown The Musical (ASM), Into The Woods (ASM), Gidion's Knot (ASM), Sylvia (ASM), The Secret Garden (ASM)*. ESP: *Frozen, Caroline, or Change (ASM), Tomfoolery (ASM), Metamorphoses (Hunger/Midas's Daughter/Lucina/Q)*. DC AREA: *Play It Again, Sam* (Little Theatre of Alexandria), *House Of Blue Leaves* (Dominion Stage), *The Foreigner* (Taking Flight Theatre Company), *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Taking Flight Theatre Company). DC AREA IMPROV: *Last Ham Standing*.

Quoc M. Tran (ASM) DC AREA: Catholic University of America; Little Women (Production Assistant/Projections Coordinator), Into the Woods (Stage Manager), Imagination Stage; Wonderland, Snow Angel (Assistant Lighting Designer), Uncle Funsy Productions; Numesthesia (Stage Manager), THE Theatre Company; The House of Yes (Stage Manager), Naked Theatre Company; Clickb@it (Lighting Designer). Quoc is excited to be working with NextStop for the first time. He would like to thank the cast, crew, and NecxtStop for being part of an amazing production. quocmtran.com

Dana Wilson (Casting Director) Dana received her BBA from William and Mary before deciding to pursue her love of the performing arts as a professional NYC based actor. She has worked aboard Celebrity and Holland America Cruise Lines, in various regional theatre houses as well as touring for 7 holiday seasons with the Radio City Christmas Spectacular as a featured vocalist. After relocating to the DC area in 2015, she is thrilled to be a part of the local theatre community by joining the NextStop family.