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**Cheyenne Jackson and Kevin Cahoon**  
lead cast of  
***LA CAGE AUX FOLLES***

**Book by Harvey Fierstein**  
**Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman**  
**Based on the play by Jean Poiret**  
**Directed by Sam Pinkleton**

**Now through Sunday, December 15, 2024**

**Tickets at [pasadenaplayhouse.org](https://pasadenaplayhouse.org) or by calling 626-356-7529**

PASADENA, CA (November 17, 2024) – Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, presents its new production of *La Cage aux Folles* now through December 15, directed by **Sam Pinkleton** (Broadway's *Oh, Mary!*), with book by Harvey Fierstein, music and lyrics by Jerry Herman, based on the play by Jean Poiret. Tickets are available at [pasadenaplayhouse.org](https://pasadenaplayhouse.org), by phone at 626-356-7529, and at the box office at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101. Tickets start at \$44.

The cast of *La Cage aux Folles* is led by **Cheyenne Jackson** (*American Horror Story*) as Georges and Tony Nominee **Kevin Cahoon** (Broadway's *Shucked*) as Albin.

Joining them are **Ryan J. Haddad** (*The Politician*) as Jean-Michel, **Shannon Purser** (*Stranger Things*) as Anne, **George Salazar** (*Impeachment: American Crime Story*) as Jacob, **Michael McDonald** (*MADtv*) as Edouard Dindon/M. Renaud, **Nicole Parker** (*MADtv*) as Marie Dindon/Mme. Renaud, **El Beh** (*American Conservatory Theater's The Wizard of Oz*) as Francis, and **Shea Diamond** (*FX's Pose*) as Jacqueline.

The cast is completed by **Kay Bebe Queue**, **Cody Brunelle-Potter**, **Salina EsTitties**, **Rhoyale Ivy King**, **Ellen Soraya Nikbakht**, **Suni Jade Reid**, and **Paul Vogt** as Les Cagelles.

The full creative team for *La Cage aux Folles* is rounded out with music direction by Darryl Archibald (Broadway's *Some Like it Hot*, Pasadena Playhouse's *A Little Night Music* and *Jelly's Last Jam*), choreography by Ani Taj (*Neon's The End*, Broadway's *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*), scenic design by David Zinn (2024 Tony Award winner for *Stereophonic*, as well as *SpongeBob SquarePants* and *The Humans*), costume design by David Reynoso (2024 Tony Award Nominee for *Water For Elephants*, Obie Award-winning costume designer of Punchdrunk's *Sleep No More* and *The Burnt City*), lighting design by Stacey Derosier (2024

Drama Desk nominee for *Uncle Vanya*, Obie Award Special Citation for *Fat Ham*), and sound design by Daniel Erdberg and Ursula Kwong-Brown (*Jelly's Last Jam*, *A Little Night Music*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Head Over Heels* at Pasadena Playhouse). Casting is by Ryan Bernard Tymensky, CSA.

Beautiful. Bawdy. Bizarre. Welcome to *La Cage aux Folles*, the hottest drag club in town and one of theater's all-time biggest hits. Immerse yourself in this groundbreaking musical comedy with a heartfelt score by Jerry Herman (*Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*) and a hilarious script by Harvey Fierstein (*Torch Song Trilogy*). The Tony Award-winning musical comes to life in this all-new Playhouse extravaganza.

"It's funny, heartwarming and terrific." – *Variety*

*La Cage aux Folles* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

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

This production is partially underwritten by our very generous Honorary Producers, The David Lee Foundation, Mary Lou Byrne & Gary W. Kearney, Bill Resnick & Michael J. Stubbs, and Tammi & Lenny Steren.

### **About Pasadena Playhouse**

Pasadena Playhouse, the official State Theater of California and recipient of the 2023 Regional Theatre Tony Award, is one of the most prolific theaters in the country. The Playhouse has staged thousands of original productions since its founding in 1917 including premieres of works by Tennessee Williams, Eugene O'Neill, Suzan-Lori Parks, Gloria Calderon Kellett and hundreds more. For decades, its pioneering School for Theater Arts was a training ground for actors and theatermakers who went on to make significant contributions to the entertainment industry. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman since 2016, Pasadena Playhouse's productions and community programs are centered on its founding idea of being a living force in its community, making theater for everyone.

### **Calendar Listing for *La Cage aux Folles***

#### ***La Cage aux Folles***

Book by Harvey Fierstein

Music and lyrics by Jerry Herman

Based on the play by Jean Poiret

Venue: Pasadena Playhouse, 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Dates: Now through Sunday, December 15

Tickets: Memberships available starting at \$225  
Single tickets start at \$44  
Online -- [PasadenaPlayhouse.org](http://PasadenaPlayhouse.org)  
By phone at 626-356-7529

In person -- Pasadena Playhouse Box Office, located at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Performance Schedule: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m.; Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.;

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m.;  
Sunday, November 24, December 8, and December 15 at 7:00 p.m.

## BIOGRAPHIES

**For a full list of company bios to date, visit**

<https://www.pasadenaplayhouse.org/event/la-cage-aux-folles/>

**Harvey Fierstein** (Book): Harvey Fierstein is the author of the Tony-winning hit, *Kinky Boots*, as well as *Torch Song Trilogy* (Tony, Drama Desk and Obie Awards), *La Cage aux Folles* (Tony and Drama Desk Awards), *Newsies* (Tony nominated), *Casa Valentina* (Tony nominated), *A Catered Affair* (12 Drama Desk nominations), *Safe Sex* (Ace Award), *Legs Diamond*, *Spookhouse*, *Flatbush Tosca*, *Common Ground* and more. He has recently rewritten *The Wiz* for live TV broadcast, and penned a revised book for *Funny Girl*, currently running in London. His political editorials have been published in the *New York Times*, *TV Guide* and the *Huffington Post* and broadcast on PBS's *In the Life*. His children's book, *The Sissy Duckling* (Humanitas Award), is now in its fifth printing. As an actor, Mr. Fierstein is known worldwide for his performances in films including *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Independence Day*, and *Bullets Over Broadway*, on stage in *Hairspray* (Tony Award), *Fiddler on the Roof*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Torch Song Trilogy* (Tony Award), and on TV shows such as *Smash*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *The Good Wife*, *Cheers* (Emmy nomination), *The Simpsons*, *Family Guy*, and *Nurse Jackie*.

**Jerry Herman** (Music and Lyrics): *Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*, and *La Cage aux Folles* are home to some of the most popular, most-often performed and most successful musical hero(in)es of all time, and have given Jerry Herman the distinction of being the only composer-lyricist in history to have had three musicals that ran more than 1,500 consecutive performances on Broadway. His first Broadway show was *Milk and Honey* (1961), followed by *Hello, Dolly!* (1964), *Mame* (1966), *Dear World* (1969), *Mack & Mabel* (1974), *The Grand Tour* (1979), *La Cage aux Folles* (1983), *Jerry's Girls* (1985) and *Mrs. Santa Claus* (1996), a CBS TV special starring Angela Lansbury. *Showtune*, a revue of his life's work, is performing in regional theatres around the country and two of Jerry's classic songs are the emotional highlights of the hit Disney-Pixar film *WALL-E*. His string of awards and honors includes multiple Tony Awards, Grammys, Olivier Awards, Drama Desk Awards, the Johnny Mercer Award, the Richard Rodgers Award, the Oscar Hammerstein Award, the Frederick Loewe Award, the Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Theatre Hall of Fame and most recently The Kennedy Center Honors.

**Sam Pinkleton** (Director): Sam Pinkleton most recently directed Cole Escola's *Oh, Mary!*, currently running on Broadway at the Lyceum Theater. Previously at Pasadena Playhouse he co-created and directed *Pasadena Playhouse Holiday Spectacular* and co-directed *Head Over Heels* (with Jenny Koons). Other highlights: *You Will Get Sick* (Roundabout), *The Wizard of Oz* (ACT – San Francisco), *Untitled DanceShowPartyThing* (Virgin Voyages – with Ani Taj), and Liz

Swados' *Runaways* (City Center Encores/Shakespeare in the Park). Highlights of his work as a choreographer include Stephen Sondheim's final musical *Here We Are* (The Shed), *Soft Power* (Center Theater Group/The Public Theater), and numerous shows on Broadway including *Natasha*, *Pierre*, and *the Great Comet of 1812* for which he was nominated for a Tony Award.

**Cheyenne Jackson** (Georges) Grammy®-nominated Cheyenne Jackson is a multi-talented stage, television and film actor, singer, and songwriter. Cheyenne was most recently seen in *Call Me Kat*, the *Saved by the Bell* revival, *American Horror Story: Apocalypse*, and Disney's *Descendants 3*. Cheyenne starred in the HBO biopic of Liberace, *Behind the Candelabra*, and appeared in *American Woman*, *Full Circle*, *Glee*, and *30 Rock*. He originated the role of Matthew in the off-Broadway musical *Altar Boyz* and starred in *All Shook Up*. Additional Broadway credits include *Xanadu*, *Damn Yankees*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *The Performers*, and *Into the Woods*. Cheyenne has also appeared in numerous films, including *The Green*, *Love is Strange*, *Price Check*, *A Beautiful Now*, and the Oscar®-nominated *United 93*.

**Kevin Cahoon** (he/him) (Albin/Zaza): *Shucked* (Tony and Drama Desk nominations), *The Wedding Singer*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *The Lion King*, *The Rocky Horror Show* revival, *The Who's Tommy*. Off-Broadway: *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (also Boston, San Francisco, Edinburgh Festival), *How I Learned To Drive* (Second Stage), *The Foreigner* (Roundabout – Lortel nomination), *The Shaggs* (Playwrights Horizons), *The Wild Party* (MTC). Regional: Old Globe, Guthrie, Williamstown, among others. Select TV/Film: *Monarch*, *Glow*, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, *Nurse Jackie*, *Elementary*, *NCIS*, *Modern Family*, *The Mentalist*, *The Good Wife*, *CSI*, *Criminal Intent*, *Six Degrees*, *Black Box*, *The Royale*, *I Am Michael*, *Mars Needs Moms*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. A director and musician, Kevin received the OutMusic Award for his debut album, *Doll*.

**El Beh** (all pronouns only in rotation; they/them if only using one) (Francis): El Beh is a genderqueer, Chinese-American theatre artist, performer, actor, musician, singer, composer, drag artist, mover, shaker, educator, forever student, and glowing aunche to many a nibbling. Growing edges and digging deep are their fuel along with shared experiences, community making, alternative mutual aid solutions and constantly trying to fuck up the systems that need fucking. He was most recently seen in Taylor Mac and Matt Ray's *Bark of Millions* (World and US premiers), and James Harrison Monaco's *Travels* (Ars Nova). Other favorite play friends include For You Productions (*Artists and Elders* projects), The Bengsons (*Hundred Days*), César Alvarez (*Noise, Potluck, Egg*), and American Conservatory Theater (*Wizard of Oz*). Love to Roo, Meevinor, and the Baba/Behs. Free Palestine!

**Shea Diamond** (she/her) (Jacqueline): Shagasyia Diamond, known as Shea Diamond, is an accomplished American singer, songwriter, and actress born on March 17, 1978, in Little Rock, Arkansas. With a powerful narrative shaped by her experiences, Shea blends soul, R&B, and pop in her music. She gained recognition for hits like "I Am America" and has been nominated for a GLAAD Award. Shea's acting credits include a supporting role in the film *F.L.Y.* and appearances in the series *Pose*. A passionate advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and mental health awareness, Shea actively mentors aspiring artists from underrepresented communities, using her platform to promote diversity and inclusivity in the arts.

**Ryan J. Haddad** (he/him) (Jean-Michel): Ryan J. Haddad is an actor and playwright. His autobiographical plays include *Dark Disabled Stories* (Bushwick Starr/Public Theater, Obie for

Best New American Play); *Hi, Are You Single?* (Woolly Mammoth/IAMA, Helen Hayes nomination); and the upcoming *Hold Me in the Water* (Playwrights Horizons, Spring 2025). Off-Broadway: *american (tele)visions* (New York Theatre Workshop/Theater Mitu, Lortel nomination); *The Watering Hole* (Signature). TV: *A Murder at the End of the World* and *The Politician*. Haddad received the Drama Desk's 2023 Sam Norkin Off-Broadway Award, Vineyard Theatre's 2021 Paula Vogel Playwriting Award, and a 2020 Disability Futures Fellowship. "For my wonderful parents, my fabulous aunt Janice, and my gay uncles who've been young and in love for 42 years." @ryanjhaddad

**Michael McDonald** (Edouard Dindon/M. Renaud): Michael McDonald was born and raised in Fullerton, California. He graduated from USC with a degree in Business and became a loan officer at a bank in LA. A friend took him to see a sketch comedy/improv show at LA's famous Groundling Theater, and everything changed for him. McDonald quit his banking job, enrolled in the Groundlings Improv Program, and became a member of the troupe from 1992 to 1997. His first professional writing and acting jobs came from Concorde Pictures, Roger Corman's infamous low-budget movie studio. He later starred on MADTV and appeared in films/series such as *Austin Powers*, *The Heat*, *House of Lies*, *What We Do in the Shadows*, and most recently, *Mother of the Bride*.

**Nicole Parker** (Marie Dindon/Mme. Renaud): Nicole Parker played Celine Dion in the Off-Broadway hit *Titanique*. She made her Broadway debut in *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*. Other Broadway credits include Elphaba in *Wicked*, and *The People in the Picture*. She played Mae in the musical *Reefer Madness* in Hollywood this summer, as well as Ursula in *The Little Mermaid* at the MUNY. Nicole was a series regular and contributing writer on *MadTV* for six years. She played Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl* at 3-D Theatricals (Ovation Award for Best Actress). TV and film appearances include *Key and Peele* and Jordan Peele's *Us*, and Penelope Pitstop in Warner Bros. *Wacky Races*. She co-hosts an improvised comedy podcast with Paul F. Tompkins called *The Neighborhood Listen*.

**Shannon Purser** (she/her) (Anne): Shannon was nominated for an Emmy for her scene-stealing, fan-favorite role of 'Barb' on the hit Netflix series *Stranger Things*. She has not stopped working since, recurring on the hit CW series *Riverdale* for Greg Berlanti, *Wish Upon* opposite Joey King, and the titular lead in Black Label Media's Netflix feature *Sierra Burgess is a Loser* as 'Sierra.' She was also in every episode of Jason Katims' NBC musical drama *Rise*. Shannon can currently be seen on the Showtime series *The First Lady*.

**George Salazar** (he/him) (Jacob): Broadway: *Be More Chill* (Drama Desk/Outer Critics Circle nominations); *Godspell*. National Tour: *Spring Awakening*. Off-Broadway: *Be More Chill* (Lucille Lortel Award); *The Lightning Thief* (Drama Desk Nomination); *tick, tick... BOOM!*; *Here Lies Love*. Regional: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Pasadena Playhouse); *Head Over Heels* (Pasadena Playhouse); *Pasadena Playhouse Holiday Spectacular* (Pasadena Playhouse); *The Untitled Unauthorized Hunter S. Thompson Musical* (La Jolla Playhouse); *The Bottoming Process* (IAMA); *Broadway Bounty Hunter* (Barrington Stage). TV: *Superstore*; *American Crime Story: Impeachment*; *Nancy Drew*; *Alice's Wonderland Bakery*. Albums: *Be More Chill* (Original Cast & Original Broadway Cast); *Two-Player Game*; *The Jonathan Larson Project*; *The Lightning Thief*; *Godspell*. This and everything else for STL. Repped by Innovative Artists, Principal Entertainment LA, and SRDA.

**Kay BeBe Queue** (she/they in drag; he/they out of drag) (Cagelle): Kay BeBe Queue is excited to make her musical theater debut! Kay splashed into the LA drag scene as a Semi-Finalist in Billy Francesca's *Dragged Out Season 6*, a finalist in Ongina's *Can You Even Drag*, and introduced Idina Menzel at WeHo Pride. She can also be seen in Q Allan Brocka's film *EKG*. Out of drag, Tim J Lim is a filmmaker (MFA: UCLA Narrative Film Directing) and performer who starred in the West Coast premiere of *Comfort Women: A New Musical*, and was in the company of *This is Me* at the 90th Oscars with Keala Settle. Huge thanks to my partner Darin, and to Ben for sending me the casting notice for this show! @kaybebequeue

**Cody Brunelle-Potter** (they/them) (Cagelle): Cody Brunelle-Potter is a non-binary dance artist based in Los Angeles. They began their performance career in New York City attending the American Musical And Dramatic Academy, then working with In-Sight Dance Company. Since moving to Los Angeles, they have made live performances with WhyteBerg, Mollie Wolf, Invertigo Dance Theatre, Rosanna Gamson World Wide, Acts Of Matter, Iris Company, Summation LA, and Derion Loman. Their commercial credits include work with Toogie Barcelo, William Ylvisaker, Jessie Lee Thorne, Reggie Watts, Amy O'Neal, Panther Modern, Ani Taj, Sam Pinkleton, Billie Eilish, Fyohna, Austin McKenzie, Heavy Boots, AJ Lambert, and Teddi Gold. They are thrilled to work with this cast and team at the Pasadena Playhouse.

**Salina EsTitties** (Cagelle): Salina EsTitties (Jason De Puy) is a dynamic performer known for her standout appearance on the Emmy Award-winning Season 15 of *RuPaul's Drag Race*. With a BFA in Musical Theater from AMDA LA and a 2013 graduate of LA's prestigious Edge Performing Arts Center scholarship program, she has dazzled audiences on and off the stage and television screens. This multifaceted social media personality, seasoned drag artist, and self-proclaimed "Ghetto Superstar" continues to entertain and inspire fans worldwide through her talents and advocacy in the LGBT, Latine, and SoCal Recovery communities. Follow her on all platforms @estitties and visit [www.estitties.com](http://www.estitties.com) for more including her latest endeavor, her podcast: *Homegirl Hotline*.

**Rhoyale Ivy King** (he/him) (Cagelle): Rhoyale Ivy King is from Houston, TX. He got his start as a Broadway Award Winning Actor/Singer. He's been Angel Dumott Schunard in *Rent*, the national tour of *Fame The Musical*, the Tinman in *The Wiz* tour, and Chad Danforth in *High School Musical*. Rhoyale is known for his role as Nathaniel Hardin in CW's hit series, *All American: Homecoming*, the network's first non-binary BIPOC character. Rhoyale plays a character that he needed to see growing up, and his impact on today's youth and LGBTQ+ community is not going unnoticed. Rhoyale strives to be the role model and friend who leads with love and pushes people to become the best (and happiest) versions of themselves.

**Ellen Soraya Nikbakht** (they/them) (Cagelle): Ellen is thrilled to be making their Pasadena Playhouse debut. Originally from Tennessee, but a recent MFA graduate from UC San Diego, they decided to stick around California a bit longer. *Love All* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Fun Home* (Kansas City Rep); *Indecent* (Chautauqua Theatre Company); *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Urinetown*, *Candide*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, *A Christmas Carol*, *South Pacific* (Clarence Brown Theatre). @koochoooloooo

**Suni Jade Reid** (they/she) (Cagelle): Suni Jade Reid is thrilled to be performing at the historic Pasadena Playhouse in the company of *La Cage aux Folles*. Previous credits include *Hamilton* (NYC, Chicago), *Aida* (The Muny). Suni is the founder and owner of Auntie's, a coffee and

matcha bar in Highland Park. She is a creative producer for Sunphillage Productions. She is a proud member of the Burlesque Haus of Marie and can be seen performing and hosting all over Los Angeles. For Argentine & Sophia & Matthew. IG: @mxsunijade

**Paul Vogt** (he/him) (Cagelle): Broadway: *Hairspray* (Edna Turnblad), *Chicago* (Amos Hart). Regional: Replaced Harvey Fierstein in Vegas (*Hairspray*). National/International tour of *Chicago*. Paul was authorized to play Ursula in Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (MUNY), *Laurel and Hardy* (Falcon Theater), *Idaho* (Forestburgh-World/ The Smith Center Vegas Premiere), *Funny Thing...Forum* (Paper Mill), *Hairspray* (NSMT, Sacramento, MUNY, PCLO, TUTs, North Shore, Tuacahn), Disney's *Aladdin* (Tuacahn), *Minsky's* (Ahmanson World Premiere), and the original cast of Garry Marshall's *Happy Days the Musical*. Film: *Valentine's Day*, *Princess Diaries 2*, *Good Boy*, *Lilo and Stitch 2*, *Blonde Ambition*. TV: *Perfect Harmony*, MADtv, *The Orville*, *Side Hustle*, *The Rerun Show*, *Raising Hope*, *Glee*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Hannah Montana*, *Arrested Development*, *Reno 911*, *Maximum Bob*. paulcvogt.com. YouTube: @paulievogt TikTok: @paulcvogt