



# Amanda Forbes Silva

editingwritingreviews



Actorsingers Fringe Project performing at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre, Nashua NH Presents

# BAT BOY

THE MUSICAL

## Story and Book by Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe

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Original New York production produced by Nancy Nagel Gibbs, Riot Entertainment, Robyn Goodman, Michael Alden, Jean Doumanian and the Producing Office.

Original cast recording available on RCA/Victor.

BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL was developed in New York City at The Directors Company, Michal Parva, Artistic/Producing Director.

BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL had its initial production at The Actors' Gang in Los Angeles, CA.

The Authors wish to acknowledge the generous support provided through the Richard Rodgers Development Award and the Richard Rodgers Production Award. The Richard Rodgers Awards are administered by the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Directed by: Mia Berardi Musical Direction by: Jed Holland Choreography by: Logan Higgins

> Friday, Aug 26, 2016, 8pm Saturday, Aug 27, 8pm Sunday, Aug 28, 2pm

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

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Sept 1 - Online Season Package sales begin Sept 25 - Individual ticket sales begin for both shows! www.Actorsingers.org







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#### APPLAUSE .... APPLAUSE .... APPLAUSE ... APPLAUSE ....

Thank you to Mia, Logan, Jed, & the cast for such an amazing experience. Bat Boy is truly special. Thanks for taking a chance on me!

Bat Babies: Thank you for your hard work. You are all so talented and I hope you have a fabulous show. Break a leg and wings!

A shoutout to Mem on her first post-grad theatre experience!! May you continue acting, as we both know it is a source of de-stressing, networking, camaraderie, and fun!!! May your new audiences enjoy your talent as much as your family, friends, and prior audiences have!

Bat Boy (the show and the actor) would be dead without the following people: Paul Shea, Don Smith-Weiss, Evelynn Decker, Chuck Emmons, Cheryl Stocks, Alex Rinaldi, Arthur Taylor, Katie Tocci, Wenrich family... I can't even begin to convey my thanks (so I opted for a short shoutout).

Sarah, you always a-muse us! Have a blast! Love, Your Proud Family  $\nabla$ 



# Special Thanks to...

Don Smith-Weiss

Cheryl Stocks

Evelynn Decker

Wenrich Family

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#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

Picture yourself in Hope Falls, West Virginia somewhere around the 1960s. This town is dull, and the most exciting thing that happens all year is the Revival Meeting. That is...until a bat creature is found in a cave! Chaos soon erupts as news spreads of this creepy, fanged creature, and multiple cow deaths are subsequently documented. What does this creature want with the citizens of Hope Falls? Is he really the cause of the cattle deaths? What will we do?!

This show comes straight out of an old monster horror film, and my concept for it is simple: keep it simple. *Bat Boy* is filled with character doubling and ridiculous, campy humor, so it is important to keep the comedy as intended. However, while working through my concept, I realized that there was a part to the show that I didn't like. That part was the character of Pan (sorry Andrew!). Pan is the Greek god who comes out to sing one number and then is never seen again. I love musicals and how random they are, but this was even way too random for me. There was no connection or explanation for why Pan appears and starts an animal love fest...and this bothered me. After much research, I came up with an idea. I added a Greek chorus and I called them the Muses.

In Greek mythology, the Muses are goddesses of the arts (and even science!), and they are often called upon to help in the inspiration of literature and art. After having established a connection between a Greek chorus and the Muses, I was able to create a new way to tell you the story of Bat Boy. The Muses create an entire musical, complete with song and dance, to entertain you, tell you the story of Bat Boy, and teach you a valuable lesson. The Muses use their magic to conjure up the characters of the show while bringing everything to life for the audience. I really wanted the Muses to participate in the art that they were creating, as well, so I purposefully blocked them into numerous parts of the show, and they often directly interact with characters onstage. Of course, the characters themselves don't see these magical beings because they are the Muse's own creation.

I get it, it's pretty out there...but honestly, if there was ever a show to do this with, *Bat Boy* is absolutely that show. The Muses and I invite you to play along with them and watch the story that they have created. Please do not be alarmed if one of them sits right beside you and watches a scene, and be prepared to witness some audience interaction; it is all meant to give you the best show possible.

The cast and crew of this show have worked so incredibly hard and I am so thankful to everyone involved. Please enjoy the show and thank you so much for supporting community theatre!

Mia



#### The Actorsingers...

The Actorsingers is a nonprofit charitable organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Hampshire. We are located at 219 Lake Street, Nashua, New Hampshire, with a mailing address of PO Box 91. Nashua. New Hampshire 03061.

#### **Board of Directors for 2016-2017**

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#### PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Allison Szklarz (Costume Design) is excited to be part of Bat Boy, working with this talented cast and crew. Mostly known for her award winning work with Peacock Players, she is pleased to be working at Actorsingers and collaborating with Mia and the team on this production. Recent works include Other Desert Cities with M&M productions, Big Fish with Stagecoach production, Wedding Singer with Actorsingers Teens, Tarzan and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee with Peacock Players and Spamalot with Actorsingers.



**Cathie Schofield** (Props) Cathie has worked behind the scenes doing props for several productions with Actorsingers, Stagecoach and Genesys. It's always fun to watch a show come together! Thank you for letting me be a part of *Bat Boy*. I also want to thank my husband for my nightly tech week dinner delivery and all his support.

Cam Cassella (Props) Cam is thrilled to be working on his fourth Actorsingers Production, *Bat Boy The Musical*. This time he is not on stage and is starring as the Assistant Stage Manager. Cam has been performing for over 10 years in many many shows. His favorites include Cam in *American Idiot* (Actorsingers) Zacky Price *Big Fish* (Stagecoach), Linus in *YAGMCB* (CCP), Amos Hart *Chicago* (MCC). Cam would love to thank his stage manager Lauren for being his partner in crime on this exciting project, and he would love to thank Mia, Jed, Logan, and the entire cast for their hard work, dedication and creativity throughout this crazy and Hot process. A shout out to his family and friends for their constant support and especially Dan, his true partner in crime in life, the dynamic duo that can confirm anything he loves you Dan. Now hold on to your seats and get ready to laugh and be frightened at the same time because you never know where the Bat Boy is!

#### PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

**Eric Hill** (Sound Design) is excited to be running the sound board for *Bat Boy*. He would like to thank his friends and family for all the support they've given to helping him and his wife so they could perform in a show together.





**Don Smith-Weiss** (Set Design) Over the past thirty years, Don has designed dozens of sets for professional and community theatre in NH and ME, including *M Butterfly*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Rocky Horror*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Sound of Music* (2011 NHTA nominee). He was TD of the Palace Theatre in Manchester. He regularly creates the sets for the Nauss Hall Players of Nashua, with whom he also acts. He appeared as Joey

Biltmore in Actorsingers' *Guys and Dolls* and as The Major and Murdoch in Stagecoach Productions' *Titanic*. His play, *Dodo*, was produced in 1975. Don is a professional kitchen designer and cartoonist (www.qlowntown.com) who also composes music and plays several instruments. He thanks his wife Brenda for putting up with his inability to say "no" when asked to take on yet another project.



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#### **CAST**

Bat Boy: Ben Levine

Meredith Parker: Laura Millar
Thomas Parker: Stuart Harmon
Shelley Parker: Julie Shea

Sheriff Reynolds: Tim Daughters

Mrs. Taylor / Rev. Billy Hightower / Roy / Institute Man: Glen Grimard

Pan / Bud / Daisy: Andrew Holland

Rick Taylor / Lorraine / Doctor / Mr.Dillion: Billy Girginis Ron Taylor / Maggie / Clem: Armando Belliard-Harmon

Ruthie Taylor / Ned: Jen Ryder

#### Muses / Voices in Head:

Lynda Aramento Tina Cassidy Patrice Doherty Meredythe Leonard Becca Tarr Katie Tocci Sarah Wenrich The Ensemble:

Lynda Aramento

Location: Hope Falls, West Virginia

**Time:** Not *too* long ago, but not *too* recent, either... you know,

somewhere in between.

# The Orchestra

Jed Holland - Keyboard

John Carey - Keyboard

Paul Desmarais - Guitar

Christopher "Chezz" Chesna - Bass

Aaron David Taub - Drums



#### PRODUCTION CREW

Director	Mia Berardi
Music Director	Jared Holland
Choreographer	Logan Higgins
Producers	Paul Shea, Ben Levine
Technical Director	Craig Brennan
	Lauren Lambert
Assistant Stage Manager	Cam Cassella
Set Design	Don Smith-Weiss
Lighting Design	Craig Brennan
Sound Design	Eric Hill
	Alison Szklarz
Props	Cathie Schofield, Gretchen Gray
Makeup/Prosthetics	*Jon Fisher, Joanne Dudka, Beth Schwartz, Jen Ryder
Assistant Choreographer	Leah Schwartz (tap)
	Don Smith-Weiss, Don Berardi, Bill Wenrich, Bill Cote,
	. Matt Kaiser, Lauren May, Janine Leffler, Matthew Smith,
	Cheryl Berardi, Bob Silva, Armando Belliard-Harmon
	Jillian Turner, Molly Cassella, Kian Cassella, Bob Frasca,
	Kelly Frasca, Catherine Andruskevich, Dave Atkinson
	*Paul Shea, Ben Levine, Julie Shea, Mia Berardi
	*Evelynn Decker
Program Ad Coordinator	Chris Wenrich
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design	
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design Photography	Chris Wenrich Cheryl Stocks Arthur Taylor, Judy Tarr
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design Photography Poster / Graphics Design	Chris Wenrich
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design Photography Poster / Graphics Design House Managers	Chris Wenrich
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design Photography Poster / Graphics Design House Managers Candygrams	Chris Wenrich Cheryl Stocks Arthur Taylor, Judy Tarr Manny Ramirez, Daniel Richard Gallaher Howie Levine, Jackie Levine Lorraine Louie
Program Ad Coordinator Program Design Photography Poster / Graphics Design House Managers Candygrams Cast Coordinators	Chris Wenrich Cheryl Stocks Arthur Taylor, Judy Tarr Manny Ramirez, Daniel Richard Gallaher Howie Levine, Jackie Levine Lorraine Louie Laura Millar
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#### PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Paul Shea (Producer) is Executive Director of Great
American Downtown, an organization with a mission centered
around economic and cultural vibrancy in Downtown Nashua. He
is an International Man of Mystery. He does a bunch of other
stuff, but doesn't want to bore you with all that noise. Most
importantly, he lives in Downtown Nashua's French Hill
neighborhood with his wife Julie, their dog Andrew, and four
outstanding cats, Nessie, Tuxedo, Vivian, and Kitty Boy. This is his first foray
as a Producer.



Craig Brennan (Technical Director / Lighting Design) is pleased to return to Actorsingers for Bat Boy, having previously lit Young Frankenstein, Music Man, Les Miserables, Curtains, Annie, Aida, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Seussical, Cats, Oklahoma and others. Craig has been extensively involved in lighting for local theater groups, including Stagecoach Productions and Ghostlight Theater, and professionally at Yellow Taxi

Productions, American Stage Festival, Lyric Stage Company and Publick Theatre in Boston, and Pirate Stage Company in New York. Craig has received the NH Theatre Award for lighting design 3 times (in 2003, '08, and '13).

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#### PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Mia Berardi (director) is ecstatic to see her first non-educational directing project come to life! Mia is a graduate from Florida Southern College who holds her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre performance. She has recently been seen in Actorsingers' production of Into the Woods (Cinderella) and in Stagecoach Productions' All Shook Up (Natalie). Mia would like to thank Actorsingers for giving her this wonderful opportunity and would like to thank her boyfriend for



being super supportive and believing she could pull this off. Love you Doody!



Jared Holland (Music Director) It was November of 1981 when Jed first worked in our orchestra pit (as pianist for Gypsy). Three decades, fifty shows, countless good friends and one good wife later, he says he still loves this group. Jed thanks all who have supported Actorsingers: it takes quite a village to raise each "child" as we do twice a year. In memory of Actorsingers past, with love to M,A,R,M,M,C.

Logan Higgins (Choreographer) Logan is absolutely ecstatic about his debut as a choreographer with Actorsingers Fringe and the cast and crew of Bat Boy: The Musical!! November will start his 14th year performing, starting in 5th grade with the lesser known musical The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree (Solider #2). This October will mark his 3rd season with Actorsingers, appearing as Candi, the cross dressing pole dancer at the Venus Gentleman's

Club. Recent credits include: Spamalot (Actosingers) Big Fish (StageCoach), American Idiot (Actorsingers Fringe), and West Side Story (Majestic). Since 2014, he has been learning various dance styles including Jazz, Ballet, Tap, Lyrical, and pole through Kathy Blake Dance Studios, Northern Ballet Theatre, and New Perspectives Pole and Aerials. Logan would like to thank Phyllis Drennen and Jill Pennington for all the love and support over the years, as well as all his friends and family. @loganbizzle



**Lauren Lambert** (Stage Manager) is excited to be stage managing with Actorsingers for the first time. Before coming to Bat Boy, Lauren was on a 9 month tour with Children's Stage Adventures and stage managed Bernadette Peters' charity event Broadway Barks in NYC. Lauren studied musical theatre and psychology at Monmouth University with a semester at Regents University London studying British theatre. Lauren would like to

thank her family and friends for all the love and support.

## **SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS** ACT 1

Overture - Orchestra Hold Me, Bat Boy - Pan, Muses Christian Charity - Sheriff, Meredith, Shelley Ugly Boy - Shelley, Meredith Whatcha Wanna Do? - Rick, Shelley A Home for You - Meredith, Bat Boy Another Dead Cow -

Sheriff Reynolds, Maggie, Bud, Ned, Roy, Lorraine, Drunk Dance With Me. Darling - Dr. Parker. Voices Mrs. Taylor's Lullaby - Mrs. Taylor, Rick, Ron Show You a Thing or Two - Company Christian Charity (reprise) -

Dr. Parker, Sheriff Reynolds, Maggie, Bud, Ned, Roy, Lorraine, Drunk A Home for You (reprise) - Bat Boy Dr. Parker's Epiphany - Dr. Parker Comfort and Joy - Company

--- Intermission ---

#### ACT 2

A Joyful Noise - Reverend Hightower, Townspeople Let Me Walk Among You - Bat Boy A Joyful Noise (reprise) - Company Three Bedroom House - Meredith, Shelley Children, Children - Pan, Bat Boy, Shelley, Muses *Inside Your Heart* - Shelley, Bat Boy Apology to a Cow - Bat Boy Finale: I Imagine You're Upset - Company

Finale: Hold Me, Bat Boy (reprise) - Company

#### **CAST BIOGRAPHIES**

Andrew Holland (Pan / Bud / Daisy) is excited to be in another Actorsingers production! Previous roles include Ren in *Footloose*, Billy Idol Impersonator in *The Wedding Singer*, Elle's Dad in Legally Blonde, and Danny Zuko in his senior class production of GREASE. Andrew is returning as a sophomore to the Young Americans School of Performing Arts this fall, where he will travel through the UK teaching song and dance to children in schools.



Andrew couldn't ask for a better, more supportive cast this summer. He is truly grateful to be a part of this fun show.



Armando Belliard-Harmon (Maggie / Ron Taylor / Clem) is enthralled to be playing as Maggie, Ron, and Clem in his first Actorsingers show! Most recently Armando took part in the dance ensemble in a Pentucket Player's production of Chicago. Before that he played as Fyedka in the Voice's Of Hope Production of Fiddler On The Roof at the North Shore Music Theatre! Armando would like to thank the cast and staff of Actorsingers for their

welcoming support and the constant love and support of his family and friends.

Becca Tarr (Muse) is beyond happy to return to the Actorsingers theatre community after spending a year working at Walt Disney World. Her most recent performance was Mitzie in NHTA's award winning Best Musical Crazy For You (Actorsingers). but she has also appeared as Beth in Little Women (Stagecoach), and Nellie in *Floyd Collins* (Stagecoach). She would like to thank her parents for their unconditional love and support, as well as everyone who came out to see the show. Hang around and don't fly away!





#### CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Stuart Harmon (Dr. Thomas Parker) Stuart is thrilled to finally be performing in BatBoy. Yeah, he's done some shows, but who really cares? During his free time he teaches English and Film Studies at The Academy For Science and Design. He dreams of someday completing a triathlon. An aging rocker, he likes rainbows, unicorns, wandering in the woods and a nicely distorted bass. He effusively thanks the family: his wife Kym, the kids,

Roxanne, Daltrey, Colette and Harrison. They have spent far too much time being theatrical widow and orphans.



Tim Daughters (Sheriff Reynolds) is delighted to be making his Actorsingers debut with this talented cast. Recently Tim has appeared as Albert in Secret Garden (Nashoba Players), Murdoch and Widener in Titanic (Theatre III), and Lord Chamberlain in The Slipper and the Rose (Cannon Theatre). He has performed in several ensemble roles with Savoyard Light Opera Company and Sudbury Savoyards. Off stage. Tim creates parody music videos

that can be seen on his YouTube channel. Then, there's that engineering day iob. as time allows.

Tina Cassidy (Muse) is Artistic Director of Northern Ballet Theatre and a proud performer with Actorsingers for eleven years. Tina holds an MFA from the Boston Conservatory. She has choreographed for Actorsingers, Peacock Players, MADCO, Burklyn Ballet, and for the American College Dance Festival. Tina has previously been Corresponding Secretary of the Actorsingers Board and is a member of the Nashua Arts Commission.





### **CAST BIOGRAPHIES**

Lynda Aramento (The Ensemble) has been in theatre for 25+ years. She has performed in productions ranging from musicals to plays, movies to commercials. She Music Directed at the Palace Youth Theatre & The Nutcracker Children's Choir. Some favorite roles are Sylvia, *All Shook Up*; Carol Strong, *Catch Me If You Can*; Edith Frank, *Diary of Anne Frank*; Alice Beane, *Titanic*; Caroler, *A Christmas Carol* (8 years running); Christine, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Thanks to my family and friends for their constant support.



Meredythe Leonard (Muse) is beyond excited to be a part of her first Actorsingers production! She recently graduated from Saint Anselm College where she was extremely active in the Abbey Players. Past credits include Velma Kelley in *Chicago*, Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and Chiffon in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Meredythe would love to thank her friends and family for their support, and especially everyone involved with *Bat* 

Boy for making her feel extremely welcome to the AS family!

Patrice Doherty (Muse) has enjoyed every moment of becoming a muse for this show! Seeing everyone slowly turn into their characters with every rehearsal has been amazing to watch and experience. This is her fifth show with Actorsingers, not including a handful of Junior/teen Actorsingers shows she did starting in 1999/2000! When not on stage, she enjoys flying on magical ponies and endless prancing through prairies.





Sarah Wenrich (Muse) is thrilled to be performing with Actorsingers again! Being no stranger to the stage, Sarah has always been heavily involved in theatre. A few of her favorite roles include a Laker Girl in *Spamalot* (Actorsingers), Sandra Templeton in *Big Fish* (Stage Coach Productions), and ensemble in *American Idiot* (Actorsingers). This fall, Sarah will begin her second year teaching special education preschool and will be returning to the

stage as Destiny in *Rock of Ages*. Sarah would like to thank her family for their unconditional love, endless encouragement, and strength and motivation to persevere.



#### **CAST BIOGRAPHIES**



**Ben Levine** (Bat Boy) is excited to be performing in *Bat Boy: The Musical*. Ben has been participating with Actorsingers since 1999, and he's appeared in a number of junior, teen, and mainstage productions. Favorite A/S roles include Willard in *Footloose*, LeFou in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Robin in *Spamalot*. After having directed *Avenue Q* as a student at Boston University, this is Ben's first time co-producing a

production. Huge thanks to the cast, crew, the organization, Mia, and the parents.

**Billy Girginis** (Rick Taylor/Lorraine/Doctor/Mr. Dillion) Billy is very excited to be a part of the production of *Bat Boy*. He was most recently in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Spamalot*, and will be following this up with *Rock of Ages*. He is thankful for all the support from friends and family, and he hopes you enjoy the show!





**Glen Grimard** (Mrs. Taylor / Rev. Billy Hightower / Roy / Institute Man) began working with Actorsingers during the 94/95 season and has been awarded Life-Membership status. He's worked crew, stage managed, directed and produced. He's also served the organization as treasurer and board member. But performing is the best and favorite - past and recent roles include: Sgt of Police (*Pirates of Penzance*), Melvin Thorpe (*Best* 

Little Whorehouse) and Big Daddy (Cat on a Hot Tin Roof). Enjoy the show! Volunteer! Support community theater! You are needed!



#### **CAST BIOGRAPHIES**

Jen Ryder (Ruthie Taylor/Ned) is very excited to be part of the Actorsingers Fringe production of *Bat Boy!* Jen has been a part of Actorsingers since her first show with them, *Groovy*, when she was 7 years old. She was last seen on the Actorsingers' stage in their Fringe production of *American Idiot* and you can see her in Actorsingers' upcoming main stage production of *Rock of Ages* playing Sapphire, a Venus Club dancer. Jen would like to send out a big thank you to the *Bat Boy* cast and crew and to her friends and family who supported her throughout this production! Enjoy the show!

**Julie Shea** (Shelley Parker) is excited to be part of her second Fringe Project show with Actorsingers, after being in *American Idiot* last summer. Julie was most recently seen on stage in Amherst PTA's production of *Shrek* as the Sugarplum Fairy and backstage in the pit chorus for *Spamalot* with Actorsingers. Julie would like to thank the entire cast and crew for making this show such a great experience, and a huge thank you to the audience for supporting

your local community theater!

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#### CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**Katie Tocci** (Muse) is thrilled to be playing the part of a Muse in *Bat Boy: The Musical* She has performed and choreographed shows with the Actorsingers on and off for the past nineteen years. Katie would like to thank her loving family and boyfriend Arthur for everything they do! She would also like to congratulate her good friends Mia Berardi and Logan Higgins on their debuts as director and choreographer! Thank you both for an unforgettable experience!





Laura Millar (Meredith Parker) is excited to be playing Meredith in *Bat Boy*. Her most recent roles include The Witch in Stagecoach's *Big Fish*, and The Dragon in the Amherst PTA production of *Shrek The Musical*. She is very excited to be able to sing something not 100% belting in a role for the first time since, no joke, 2009. Laura spends the majority of her non-theater time teaching middle school and voice lessons (NaxosVoice.com, if

you're interested).. Thank you to the cast and crew of this wonderful show!

