



presents

ALL IS CALM: THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

Written by **Peter Rothstein**

With vocal arrangements by **Erick Lichte and Timothy C. Takach**

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 22, 2024

Directed by **Charlie Flynn-McIver**

Music Direction by **Simone Bernhard**

Starring

Adam Kampouris*

Steve McConnell*

Willie Repoley*

Choir

Richard Blue • Gabriel Coll-Battencourt • John Hall
W.A. Lampley • Glenn Lawson • David Leader
Mark Lieberman • Jonathan Ross • Nick Toner

Production Stage Manager Carrie Day*

Assistant Stage Manager Abigail McMahan

Rehearsal Accompanist Rob Blackwell

Lighting Design CJ Barnwell

Sound & Projections Design Charlie Flynn-McIver

“All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914” was developed and produced by Cantus Vocal Ensemble and Theatre Latté Da in Minneapolis, MN, December 2007.

The show premiered Off-Broadway in 2018 produced by Laura Little Theatricals

“All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914” is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing Global (www.BroadwayLicensing.com)

*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States appearing under a Small Professional Theatre SPT Tier 4 Contract

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All is Calm

The Christmas Truce of 1914

CAST

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Adam Kampouris*
Steve McConnell*
Willie Repoley*

CHOIR

Tenor I

David Leader
W.A. Lampley

Tenor II

Nick Toner
Richard Blue

Baritone

Glenn Lawson
Mark Lieberman
Jonathan Ross

Bass

Gabriel Coll-Bettencourt
John Hall

SETTING

The Western Front of World War I
Christmas Eve, 1914

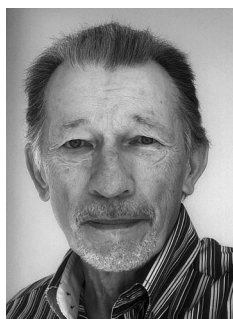
This play is performed in one act with no intermission.

Special Thanks to Laura Little Theatricals

Cast Bios



Adam Kampouris* is a theatre artist, musician, and wilderness guide based in Barnardsville, NC. (@brdrwlkr / @bluerigehikingco). Adam was most recently part of the directing team for the Montford Park Players' *Henry VI* and did the fight choreography for Venture Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. This is his first time back on the boards as an actor since 2019. Grateful to be back! **NYC:** *Oresteia* (Classic Stage Co./Ashes Co.); *Twelfth Night: A Folk Musical* (Essential Theatre Group); *Cymbeline* (Wyrd Theatre Company), *Henry V* (Knickerbocker Players). **Regional:** *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night* (Philly Shakes); *The Ladies Man* (Creede Rep.); *The Illusion*, *X-mas Carol* (Triad Stage); *Romeo & Juliet* (NC Shakespeare Festival); *As You Like It* (NC Stage); *WVL: It's a Wonderful Life* (Immediate Theatre Proj. '17, '18, '19 Shout out: Willie Repoley). Hi Mom. #AVLStrong



Steve McConnell* is a retired Professor of Theatre Arts from the Boston Conservatory and as an adjunct faculty member at The Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Massachusetts. He has a BA from Allegheny College and an MFA in Acting from Brandeis University. For over forty years he has acted and directed in New England area theaters, most notably for the Lyric Stage of Boston and the Merrimack Repertory Theatre. He now resides in the Kenilworth area of Asheville and is making his first appearance on a North Carolina stage.



Willie Repoley* considers himself very lucky to have had an artistic home at NC Stage since their inaugural production in 2002. In 2004, he co-founded Immediate Theatre Project and The Redundant Theatre Company Theatre (the latter now, alas, defunct, unfortunately). He has also worked regionally at Flat Rock Playhouse and the former NC Shakespeare Festival. Film/TV includes *Genius: Aretha* with Cynthia Erivo, *First Man* with Ryan Gosling, and the locally produced feature *Quiet River*. As a student and trainee of renowned voice teacher Patsy Rodenburg, OBE, Willie coaches groups and individuals on authentic communication; please check out upcoming classes at www.willierepoley.com. Thanks especially to his family, without whom his art would be neither possible nor worthwhile.

Choir Bios

Richard Blue is a retired English teacher and is excited to join this production. The Christmas Truce of 1914 has always fascinated him, even more so after having visited Ypres in Belgium where the incident took place. Richard's roles have included: Fagin (*Oliver!*), Edna (*Hairspray*), Padre (*Man of LaMancha*), Atticus (*To Kill a Mockingbird*), Giver (*The Giver*), Danforth (*The Crucible*), Emcee (*Cabaret*), Albin (*La Cage Aux Folles*). Richard and his wife moved to Flat Rock from Rhode Island 20 years ago and couldn't be happier.

Gabriel Coll-Bettencourt is a Baritone based in Asheville, North Carolina. He studied with Dr. Robert Wells during his time at UNC Greensboro, and is now completing his Bachelor's degree in Music Technology at UNC Asheville. Gabriel is interested in a broad range of musical and creative outlets and is thrilled to join the cast for *All is Calm*.

John Hall is pleased to be singing in the chorus for *All is Calm*. His vocal career has been a varied one, from performing in an a cappella ancient music group to singing jazz at a nightclub in Chicago. Among John's acting credits are several roles in the *Jeeves & Wooster* series at NC Stage. As the artistic director of Mockingbird Theatre Productions, he has produced and acted in such shows as *RED*, *Birds of North America* and *Popcorn Falls*. John is also the associate director of the Black Mountain Center for the Arts.

W.A. Lampley is a veteran of New York Theatre and Los Angeles Film and Television. He performed in the First National Tour of *Grease* as replacement for John Travolta when John moved to another show. W.A. has performed with Ann Miller, Veronica Lake, Robert Conrad, Richard Deacon, Matt Dillon, Amanda Bynes, Kenan Thompson, and Jerry Seinfeld. He was the original legendary Jean Shepherd character "Flick" in four films which predate and foreshadow the cult favorite ... Jean Shepherd's *A Christmas Story*. W.A. Lampley is grateful and honored to be a part of NC Stage Company.

Glenn Lawson was last seen as King Charlemagne in *Pippin* at ACT. Previous shows include: *The Fantasticks*, *Mid Life Crisis-The Musical*, *Mary Poppins*, *Falsettos* and Baritone soloist for The Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida in addition to his home with The Asheville Gay Men's Chorus. Come join us! Love to his husband Joe for 25 years and to his pup Scout who reminds him it's always a good time to play.

David Leader is thrilled to reprise the Ensemble role in *All is Calm* that he performed in 2017 at NC Stage, his professional theater debut. He was part of *The Defiant Requiem* at the Thomas Wolfe in 2019, and in the Ensemble of *Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* at Parkway Playhouse in 2019. He has been a member of the Kol Simcha ("All Joys") Choir and Sacred Music Team at Congregation Beth HaTephila. Thanks to Charlie Flynn-McIver, Simone Bernhard, and Rob Blackwell for their faith in me, and to my wonderful spouse of nearly 45 years, Susan!

Mark Lieberman is excited to be performing in this deeply moving and powerful musical portrayal of the World War I Christmas truce *All is Calm*. He has performed in many theater productions in Philadelphia and Western North Carolina featuring dramatic, comedic, and musical shows, including most recently, in HART Theatre's production of *Spamalot*. Mark also sings with the Asheville Symphony Chorus, the Flat Rock Chorus, and the Carolina Concert Choir. In his spare time, he teaches classes in law and democracy at the College for Seniors at UNC Asheville. Mark also hosts podcasts on law, politics and social issues called The World According to Mark.

CHOIR BIOS

Jonathan Ross holds a BM in Vocal Performance from James Madison University and an MM in Opera Performance from Binghamton University. A former resident artist at Tri-Cities Opera, he has performed a number of operatic roles. He has also performed with Asheville Lyric Opera, the Crested Butte Music Festival, Asheville Symphony, (and Chorus), and more. Jonathan is currently a bass section leader, graphic/web designer, and marketing consultant.

Nick Toner is an Asheville based actor and singer. He studied musical theatre at Boston Conservatory at Berklee College of Music as well as acting at Western Carolina University. On stage he has recently appeared as Prince Hal/Henry V in *Henry IV* Pts 1 & 2 and *Henry V* at Montford Park Players, and as Rolf in *The Sound of Music* at Asheville Community Theatre. On screen, he recently appeared as Malcom in *Days of August by 1716 Digital*. Nick is excited to make his NC Stage debut!!!

Creator Bios

Peter Rothstein (*Creator*) has directed 78 mainstage productions for Theater Latté Da, including 11 world premieres. Other collaborations include the Guthrie Theater, the Children's Theatre Company, Minnesota Opera, Ten Thousand Things, Minnesota Orchestra, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Seattle's 5th Avenue Theater, the Zach Theatre, Boston Lyric Opera, and Asolo Repertory Theatre. He is the creator of *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* which won the 2019 New York Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience. Peter was named the 2015 Artist of the Year by the Star Tribune, Theater Artist of the Year by Lavender, and Best Director by City Pages. He has received nine Ivey Awards and has been awarded grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Theatre Communications Group, the Minnesota State Arts Board and the McKnight Foundation. He holds a B.A. in Music and Theater from St. John's University and a Master of Fine Arts in Directing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Visit: www.Peter-Rothstein.com

Erick Lichte (*Arranger*) has been hailed by Washington Post for the "audacity" of his programming and noted by the Chicago Tribune for the "meticulous preparation" of his choirs. Fanfare Magazine declared that he created and helmed "the premier men's choir in the United States." As a founding member, singer and Artistic Director of the male choir Cantus, Lichte created and sustained one of only two full-time choirs in the United States. His work with Cantus garnered the 2009 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, the highest honour from the professional choral organization Chorus America. In January 2013, he began his tenure as Artistic Director of Vancouver BC's Chor Leoni Men's Choir, one of the most active and popular amateur choirs in North America. His first recording with Chor Leoni, *Wandering Heart*, received a perfect five-star review from the UK's prestigious *Choir and Organ Magazine*, and Oregon Arts Watch has declared that, under his leadership, Chor Leoni is now "one of the best male choirs on the continent."

Production Bios

Charlie Flynn-McIver (*Director*) Charlie Flynn-McIver is the artistic director and co-founder, with his wife, Angie Flynn-McIver, of NC Stage. He has appeared most recently in *Jeeves Intervenes*, *A Doll's House Part 2*, and *Stones in His Pockets* as well as NC Stage's world premieres of *Someone Else* and *Stalking the Bogeyman*. At Flat Rock Playhouse, he appeared in *The Odd Couple*, *12 Angry Men* and *The 39 Steps*. Some NC Stage credits include: *Hamlet*, *Loot*, *Art*, *All in the Timing*, *Chesapeake*, and *Macbeth*. National tour: *Wit* with Judith Light. Off Broadway: *Ice Island*, *the Wait for Shackleton*. Directing credits for NC Stage include: *The Book Club Play*, *The Understudy*, *R. Buckminster Fuller: The History (and Mystery) of the Universe*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Annapurna*, *4000 Miles*, *All is Calm*, *Rapture Blister Burn*, and *Other Desert Cities*. Charlie has a Bachelor of Music in Music Theatre from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music and an MFA in acting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Carrie Day* (*Production Stage Manager*) has spent most of her life in theatre as a professional dancer, electrician, stagehand, and rigger, and is thrilled that this is how she gets to spend her time. She has been Production Manager at NC Stage Company for the past 6 years, and started Stage Managing last season for *What the Constitution Means to Me* and *The Case for the Existence of God*. Carrie has all the love and special thanks for her daughter, Catherine, who is very patient while her mom is away in long rehearsals.

Simone Bernhard (*Music Director*) Conductor and singer Simone Bernhard serves as Artistic Director of the Asheville Gay Men's Chorus. Her many years of experience as a choral and orchestral conductor have honed her talents as an ensemble leader, vocal builder and diction specialist. As a jazz singer, Simone has appeared with trios and small groups as well as traditional big bands. She has also performed in operas and dinner theatre, and has appeared in and directed musical theatre productions. Simone has served as cantor and soloist in numerous churches of varied denominations. When she is not making music, Simone stays busy helping clients buy and sell homes as a Realtor with Preferred Properties. She lives in the River Arts District with her partner, Robert, and his son, Hunter.

CJ Barnwell [he/him] (*Lighting Designer*) With an impressive portfolio that includes collaborations with Mountain Theatre Company, North Carolina Theatre, Theatre Raleigh, Flat Rock Playhouse, West Virginia Public Theatre, TheatreSquared, and Orlando Shakespeare Company, CJ brings vibrant lighting and projection designs to life. At NC Stage, CJ's work has lit productions like *Jeeves Intervenes*, *Brave New World*, *Grounded*, and two previous iterations of *All Is Calm*. Recent highlights include *Catch Me If You Can* at Mountain Theatre Company, the regional premiere of *Bull Durham* at Theatre Raleigh, and *Boulevard of Bold Dreams* at Orlando Shakes. His designs have illuminated productions such as *The Color Purple*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *West Side Story*. With a passion for storytelling and a keen eye for detail, CJ continues to elevate theatrical experiences for audiences nationwide. www.CJLights.com and [@cj_Lights](https://www.instagram.com/cj_lights).

Actors' Equity Association ("*Equity*"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional 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. #EquityWorks.

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