ROCK & ROLL MAN



ROCK & ROLL MAN

NEW YORK PREMIERE ⬡ **NEW WORLD STAGES** ⬡ **JUNE 2023**

U.K. TOUR PREMIERE ⬡ **SALISBURY, WINDSOR, CAMBRIDGE, AND POOLE** ⬡ **FEBRUARY 2026**

STARRING **CONSTANTINE MAROULIS** AS **ALAN FREED**

ORIGINAL MUSIC AND LYRICS BY **GARY KUPPER**

BOOK BY **GARY KUPPER, LARRY MARSHAK & ROSE CAIOLA**

PRODUCED BY **CAIOLA PRODUCTIONS**

ALL PRODUCTION PHOTOS BY PAMELA RAITH



Constantine Maroulis as Alan Freed

THE SHOW

ROCK & ROLL MAN is the original musical about a musical original. Alan Freed was a Cleveland DJ who heard the future—and knew he had to let it sing. He named the genre "Rock & Roll," bringing music to the masses and integrating artists and audiences on the airwaves and in concerts for the first time in history. Along the way, he became an icon to the nation's youth—and a target for the nation's establishment.

Freed's passion for music inspired the generation that changed society forever.

ROCK & ROLL MAN features a book by Gary Kupper (*Freckleface Strawberry The Musical* - Outer Critics Circle nomination), Larry Marshak (editor of *Night Beat Magazine* and *Rock Magazine*), and Rose Caiola (*Freckleface Strawberry The Musical* - Outer Critics Circle nomination), original music and lyrics by Gary Kupper, vintage Rock & Roll elements developed by Marshak Classic Music LLC and Gary Kupper Music, direction by Tony Award® nominee Randal Myler (*It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues*), and choreography by Stephanie Klemons (Associate Choreographer and Global Dance Supervisor of *Hamilton*).

THE MUSIC

INCLUDING

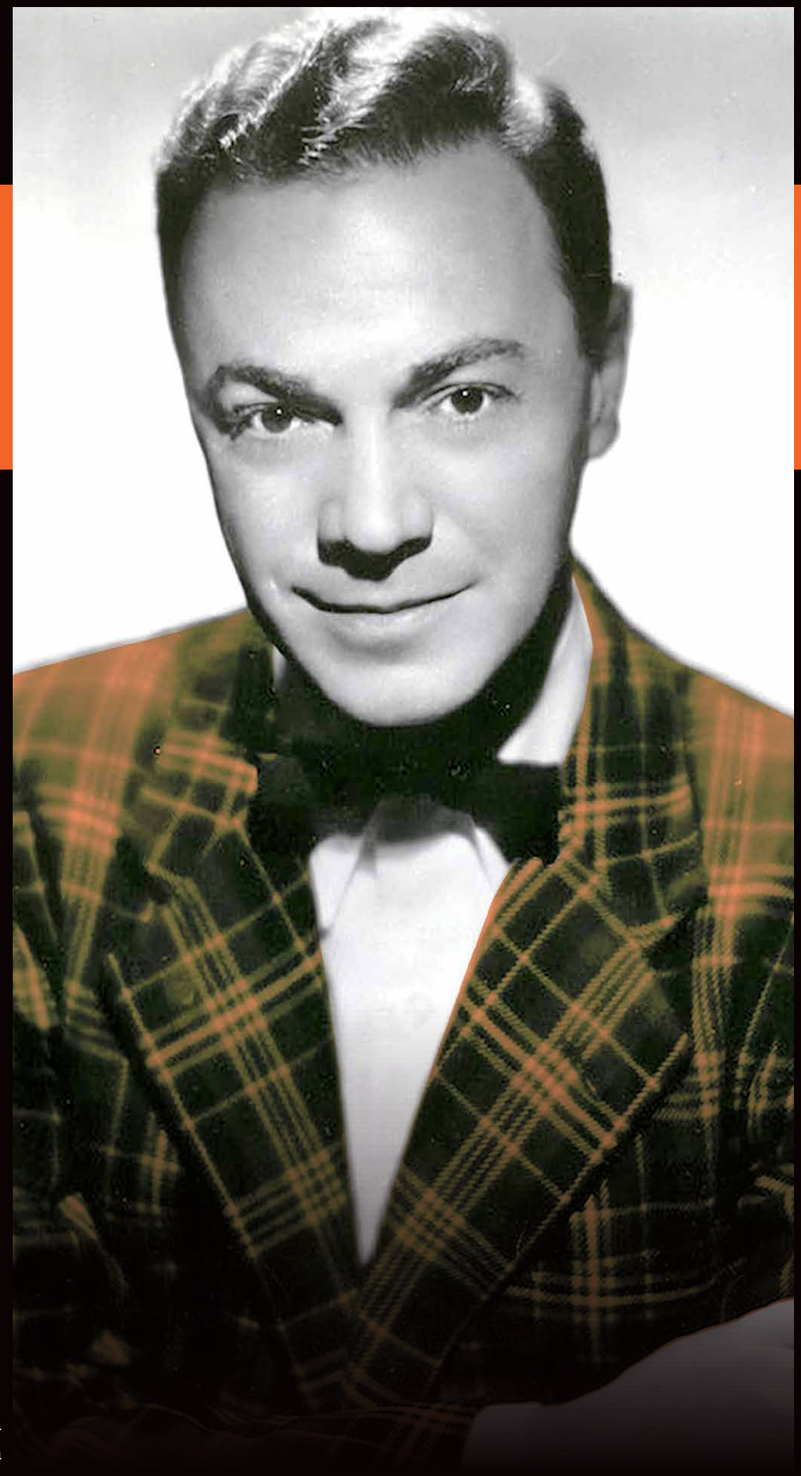
Roll Over Beethoven, Tutti Frutti,
Sh-Boom, Ain't That A Shame,
Yakety Yak, Why Do Fools Fall in Love,
Great Balls of Fire, Sixty Minute Man,
Maybellene, Good Golly Miss Molly, See See
Rider, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, and more

In addition to explosive original songs written just for the stage by Gary Kupper, ***ROCK & ROLL MAN*** features some of the most well-known rock & roll classics created by legends such as **Little Richard**, **Chuck Berry**, **LaVern Baker**, **Buddy Holly**, **Bo Diddley**, **Jerry Lee Lewis**, **The Drifters**, **The Coasters**, and **The Platters**.

Anton Stephans, Marquie Hairston, Jairus McClanahan, Joey James (l-r)

THE MAN

Rock & Roll Man charts the incredible rise and fall of DJ Alan Freed, who brought the Rock & Roll sound to the world. Freed popularized black artists like Chuck Berry and Little Richard—playing their music, producing concerts, finding an audience coast to coast, and becoming "the voice" of a generation. For the first time in history, Black and white artists performed together on stage for multiracial audiences, a significant cultural shift. By the dawn of the '60s, Freed was the biggest name in music and a tireless promoter of the genre. He was a hero to the youth of America. He was a threat to the establishment. And scandal made him a target for enemies like J. Edgar Hoover, who led the charge to destroy Freed's influence on America's youth. Join us for this original musical about the man who changed music forever.



Alan Freed
Photo by James J. Kriegsmann

PRODUCTION

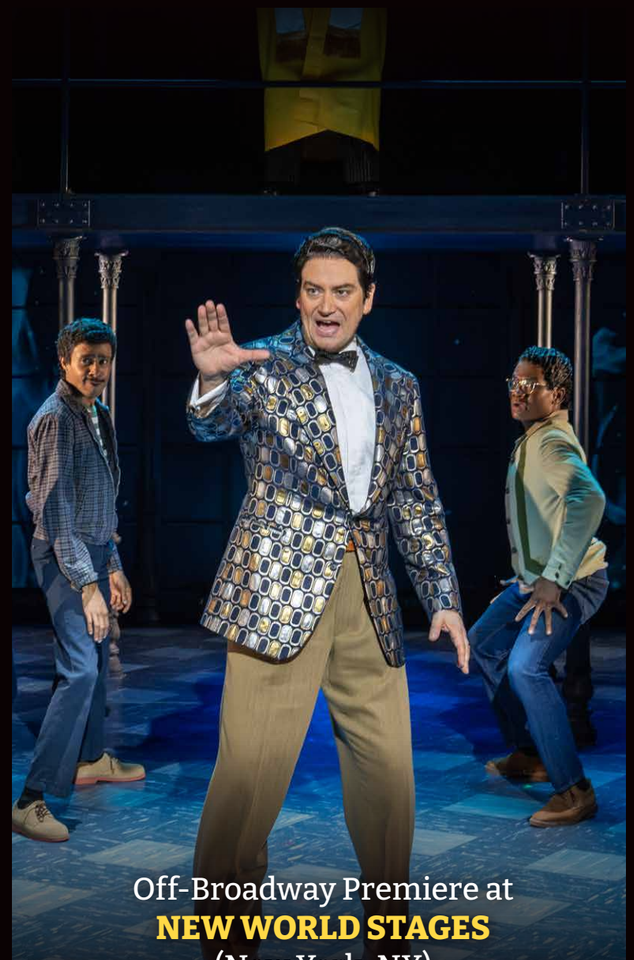
ROCK & ROLL MAN has been bringing audiences to their feet since its world premiere in 2017.



BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE
(New Hope, PA)
September 12, 2017 – October 1, 2017



BERKSHIRE THEATRE GROUP
(Pittsfield, MA)
June 27, 2019 – July 21, 2019
BEST NEW MUSICAL for Berkshire Theatre Festival

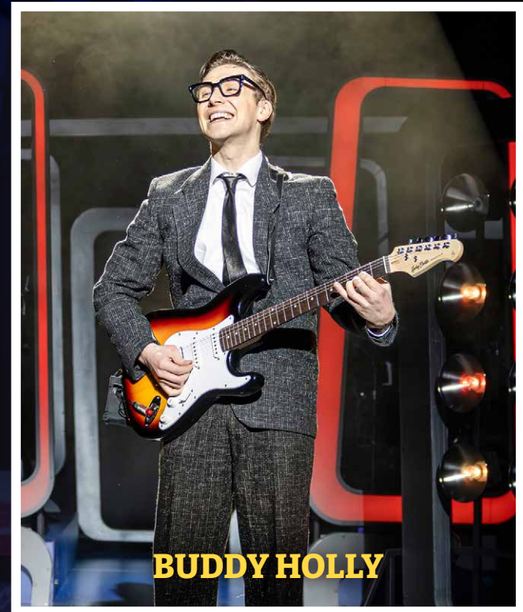


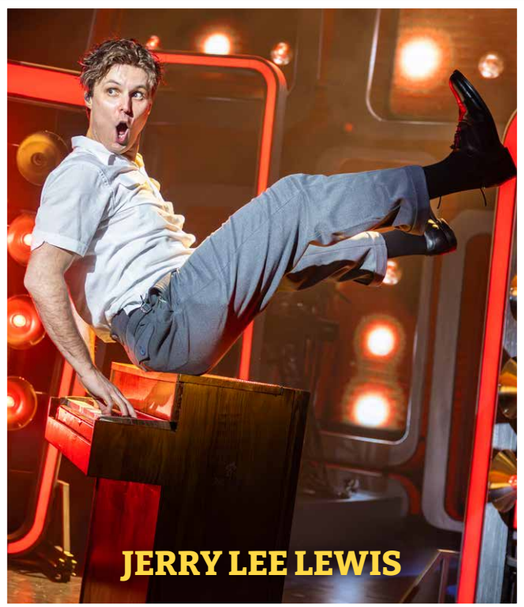
Off-Broadway Premiere at
NEW WORLD STAGES
(New York, NY)
June 2, 2023 – September 1, 2023

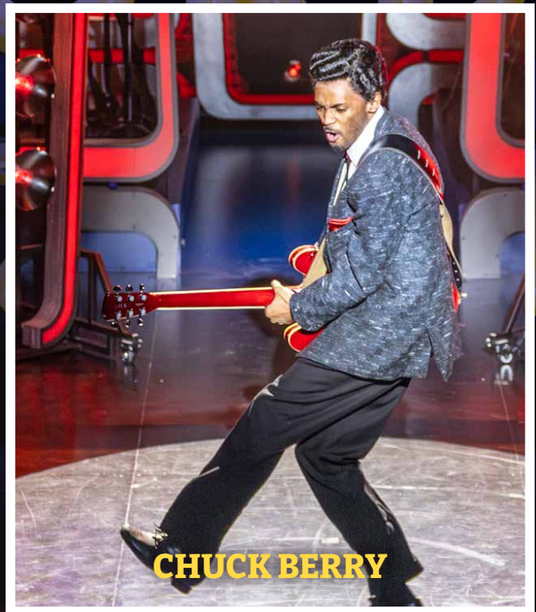


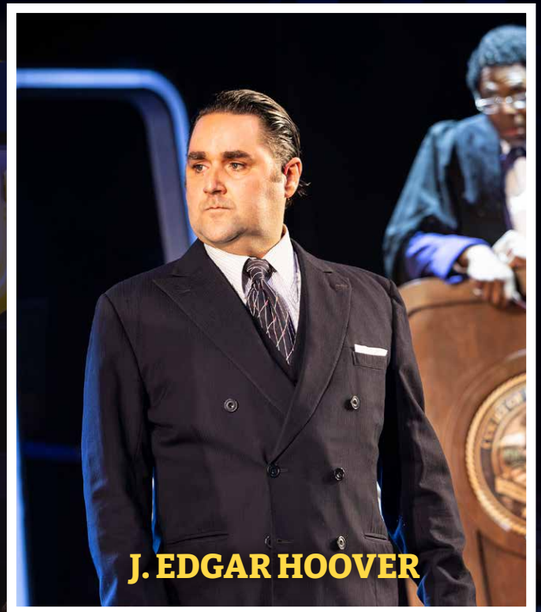
U.K. Tour Premiere at
SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE
(Wiltshire, England)
February 13, 2026 - March 7, 2026

LEGENDS OF ROCK AND ROLL


BUDDY HOLLY


JERRY LEE LEWIS


CHUCK BERRY


J. EDGAR HOOVER


LEO MINTZ & ALAN FREED


LAVERN BAKER


LITTLE RICHARD

TOP L-R: Joe Bence as Buddy Holly; Dominique Scott as Jerry Lee Lewis; Joey James as Chuck Berry; Mark Pearce as J. Edgar Hoover
BOTTOM L-R: Gary Turner as Leo Mintz, Constantine Maroulis as Alan Freed; Cherece Richards as LaVern Baker; Jairus McClanahan as Little Richard

VIDEO



OFFICIAL PRODUCTION TRAILER



THE VIEW



MEET THE CAST



MORNING JOE

Click on an image to view video.

REVIEWS

"**TANTALIZING. DISRUPTIVE ELECTRICITY!** ***Rock & Roll Man***'s songs include pioneering works tattooed upon the national memory. You have to give points for chutzpah to a musical that imagines Little Richard and J. Edgar Hoover as adversaries in a celestial courtroom."

– Ben Brantley, The New York Times

★★★★★

"A FAULTLESS PERFORMANCE."

– West End Best Friend

★★★★

"The audience believes they've died and gone to **ROCK & ROLL HEAVEN!**"

– New York Stage Review

"AN ABSORBING SHOW THAT PACKS IN THE ROCK WHILE PAYING TRIBUTE TO A FORGOTTEN HERO."

– The Daily Mail

★★★★

"A HIGH-ENERGY ROCK AND ROLL MUSICAL WITH REAL HISTORICAL BITE."

– Theatrelife.co.uk

★★★★★

"THIS IS A SHOW YOU'LL WANT TO SEE AGAIN AND AGAIN!"

– Experience Salisbury

Constantine Maroulis as Alan Freed

THE TEAM

Original Music and Lyrics by **GARY KUPPER**

Book by **GARY KUPPER**, **LARRY MARSHAK** & **ROSE CAIOLA**

Director - **RANDAL MYLER**

Choreographer - **STEPHANIE KLEMONS**

Musical Director - **DOMINIQUE SCOTT**

Music Supervision and Arrangements - **DAVE KEYES AND GARY KUPPER**

Scenic Designer - **MORGAN LARGE**

Lighting Designer - **TIM MITCHELL**

Sound Designer - **TONY GAYLE**

Video Designer - **HAYLEY EGAN**

Associate Choreographer - **CHRISTIAN KNIGHT**

Casting Director - **HARRY BLUMENAU - CDG**

Vintage Rock & Roll Elements - **MARSHAK CLASSIC MUSIC LLC & GARY KUPPER MUSIC**

General Management - **GREEN ROOM ENTS LTD**

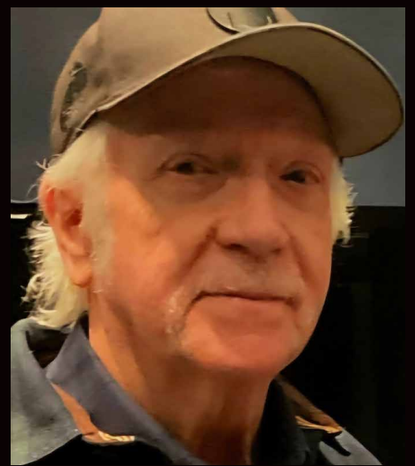
Executive Producers - **ROSE CAIOLA AND JULIAN BIRD**

New York premiere presented at New World Stages in 2023 by Caiola Productions, Benedetti Productions,

Maria Caiola, Colleen Freed, HopeJoy Productions, Jay & Cindy Gutterman, BlueJay Productions, and MTTM Theatrics

Full Company

THE TEAM



RANDAL MYLER
Director

Randal, a Tony Award®-nominated director and playwright, is excited to be back in the UK where he last directed the legendary Ronnie Spector (lead singer of The Ronettes) in her triumphant UK tour of her bio-musical *Beyond the Beehive*.

Mr. Myler's many New York credits include: directing and co-writing the Broadway hit *It Ain't Nothing But the Blues* (five Tony® nominations, including Best Musical); his popular Janis Joplin musical *Love, Janis* (director/author), which ran for over 750 performances at the former Village Gate; his critically acclaimed bio-musical *Hank Williams: Lost Highway,* which ran successfully in both NYC and for two years at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville; and *Dream a Little Dream* with former The Mamas & The Papas lead singer Denny Doherty.

He has also guest directed in most of the major regional theatres in the US, from the Lincoln Center in NYC and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC to the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles.

Mr. Myler is married to film and television actress Catherine Curtin (*Stranger Things, Orange Is the New Black*).



STEPHANIE KLEMONS
Choreographer

Stephanie is an award-winning performer, director, and choreographer. Original cast and Associate Choreographer of Lin-Manuel Miranda's Tony®/Olivier Award-winning trifecta: *Hamilton, Bring It On,* and *In the Heights* (Drama Desk, AACP Awards).

Additional original cast credits include: Michael Grief's *If/Then* (Broadway/OOT); Baayork Lee's *Bombay Dreams* (first national tour).

Credits in NYC and beyond include: Director/Choreographer for *Mozart: Her Story* (Carnegie Hall and West End's Drury Lane); Co-Choreographer for *Heathers*, Choreographer for *A Commercial Jingle for Regina Comet*, Choreographer for *Rock & Roll Man* (AUDELCO Award nomination) (Off-Broadway); Director/ Choreographer for NYCCT's *PINOCCHIO*; Director/Choreographer for *In the Heights* (Kennedy Center); Choreographer for *Fly* (DTC and LaJolla).

Screen choreography includes: *Sesame Street;* Associate for *Hamilton* film; *Hunted* (Netflix original series); Choreographer behind viral 2017 Super Bowl commercial "Time of Our Lives" featuring Odell Beckham Jr. and Eli Manning (World Choreography Award nomination).

Find out more: @DANCEism



ROSE CAIOLA
Producer, Book Writer

Caiola Productions, led by Rose Caiola, has won eight Tony Awards® as well as numerous Drama Desk and Olivier Awards. It has produced over 60 Broadway shows. Its Tony®-winning productions include: *Company, The Inheritance, Once on This Island, Dear Evan Hansen, The Color Purple, All the Way, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?,* and *Parade.*

Rose Caiola is a musical book writer and was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award for *Freckleface Strawberry the Musical*. She received an AUDELCO Award as book writer of Best New Musical for *Rock & Roll Man*, which is currently on tour in the UK.

Rose is the owner of Manhattan Movement and Arts Center in New York City, as well as the exciting new MMAC Theatre, which opened this past January with its pilot production, *My First Ex-Husband*.

Rose wishes to thank Wiltshire Creative and Julian Bird, as well as her cherished family for their constant love and support. This production is dedicated to the memory of her beloved brother and father, Luigi and Benny Caiola.

THE TEAM



DOMINIQUE SCOTT
Musical Director

Dominique is an award-winning actor and pop/rock artist who has performed around the world in Broadway productions such as *Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Bandstand, Rock of Ages, Million Dollar Quartet, and Kinky Boots*. Dominique made his UK debut with *Rock & Roll Man*, a show he originated Off-Broadway in 2023.

He also performs with several bands, including Rubix Kube, the Rock of Ages Band, and Sugarmore, as well as his solo project, The Dom Scott Experience. Dom Scott just released his debut pop album *RISE* (Spotify/ Apple Music/etc), which his mom says is the best music she's ever heard.

Thanks to Rose, Randy, Gary, Stephanie, Mikey, KMA, Wiltshire Creative, and Salisbury Playhouse, as well as this amazing cast/crew/band. Love to Staz/ Mullen crew and my wife, Shannon. @domscottrocks | domscott.com



GARY KUPPER
Co-Bookwriter, Composer, Musical Supervisor, Arranger

Studied acting at Boston University. Gary has an extensive acting and writing resume. As an actor/musician, he toured with *Pump Boys and Dinettes and Diamond Studs*, *Life of Groucho* with Gabe Kaplan and many other productions. He co-wrote the award-winning children's show *Freckleface Strawberry*, based on Julianne Moore's children's book of the same name. It was a smash Off-Broadway production, receiving rave reviews and running for two years in NYC. It has toured all over the world licensed by Musical Theatre International. His current musical, *Rock & Roll Man*, for which he co-wrote the book and original music, was produced at Buck's County Playhouse and the Colonial Theater in Pittsfield, Mass. starring Tony® nominee Alan Campbell and George Wendt of "Cheers" fame. It went on to receive an Off-Broadway production starring Constantine Maroulis in 2024.

As a musician, Gary has played with many great acts including Chuck Berry for over 25 years, The Drifters and Coasters, blues great Otis Rush, The Red Clay Ramblers, Nashville Bluegrass Band, Minnie Pearl, Peter Yarrow, and many more. As a performer/songwriter he recorded a well-received album on Polydor Records entitled *Shoot For The Moon*, backed up by Van Morrison's band, recorded at the fabled Bearsville Studios in Woodstock, N.Y.

THE TEAM



MORGAN LARGE
Designer

Morgan is an award-winning designer from the UK.

Training: The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts

West End and London includes: *Sister Act, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Last Tango, Midnight Tango, Dance 'Til Dawn, Flashdance, Sign of the Times, Footloose* (West End); *The Invention of Love* (Hampstead Theatre); Disney's *Newsies* (Troubadour Theatre).

Other credits include: *Dear Evan Hansen* (Nottingham Playhouse/world tour); *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Crossroads/ UK tour); *Frank and Percy* (The Other Palace/ Theatre Royal Windsor); *I Think We Are Alone* (Frantic Assembly); *An Enemy of the People, Wonderland, Beauty and the Beast* (Nottingham Playhouse); *Othello, Lives in Art* (Sheffield Crucible); *Room on the Broom* (Lyric Theatre/Garrick Theatre/ world tour); *Single White Female, Fatal Attraction, Rock of Ages, Fame, Love Me Tender, Tango Moderno* (UK tours).

International credits include: *Sunset Boulevard* (Sydney Opera House/Princess Theatre, Melbourne/Opera Australia); *Wicked* (Santander Theatre, São Paulo); *Vallora, Stage Struck, Viva La Musica, Fiera, Spotlight Bar* (Princess Cruises); *Evita* (Villa Lobos Park, São Paulo).

Awards include: UK Theatre Award for Best Design for *Wonderland*; Olivier Award for Best Revival of a Play for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.



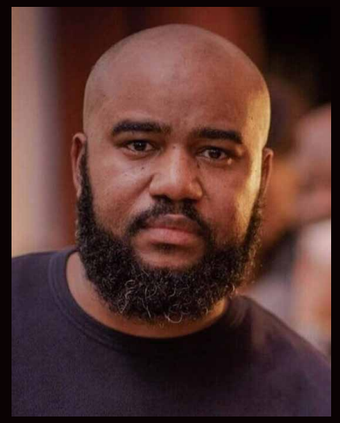
TIM MITCHELL
Lighting Designer

Tim is an Associate Artist for the RSC and a Fellow of the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama.

Awards include: Knight of Illumination Award for *Taken at Midnight* (Chichester); Nalieda Award for *King Kong* (Fugard Theatre).

Nominations include: Olivier Award and Off West End Award in the UK, Green Room Award in Australia, Critics' Award for Theatre in Scotland, Fleur du Cap Award in South Africa, two Helen Hayes Awards in Washington DC.

Credits include: *Top Hat* (Chichester); *Sister Act* (West End, UK and international tour); *Singin' in the Rain* (international tour); *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Leeds Playhouse and UK tour); *A Christmas Carol* (RSC); *Idiots Assemble: Spitting Image Live, Upstart Crow* (West End); *Wicked* (Oslo); *Les Demoiselles De Rochefort, Hello, Dolly!* (Lido Paris); *Wicked* (Frederica Teater, Denmark); *Rent* (Theater St Gallen, Switzerland); *HMS Pinafore, The Force of Destiny, Fidelio, Iolanthe* (ENO); *L'Orfeo, Fairy Queen* (Longborough); *Sinatra the Musical, The Play What I Wrote, Atlantis* (Tivoli); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Orlando/Nashville); K*inky Boots, West Side Story* (Cape Town); *Funny Girl, Guys and Dolls* (Théatre Marigny, Paris); *Margrethe Pressure* (Toronto); 14 productions for Grange Park Opera; recently working with Metropolitan Opera New York.



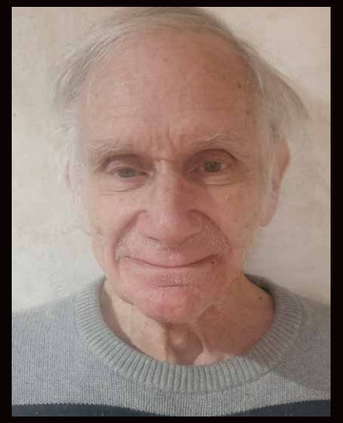
TONY GAYLE
Sound Designer

Recent work includes: *Pinocchio* (Shakespeare's Globe); *Two Strangers* (*Carry a Cake Across New York*) (Broadway, West End/ Kiln Theatre); *The Harder They Come* (Theatre Royal Stratford East); *Come Fall in Love* (Manchester Opera House); *Marie & Rosetta* (Chichester Festival Theatre); *Wild Rose* (Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh); *My Neighbour Totoro* (West End, RSC at Barbican Theatre); *Becoming Nancy* (Birmingham Rep Theatre); *The Purists* (Kiln Theatre); *Shifters* (West End and Bush Theatre); *Next to Normal* (West End and Donmar Warehouse); *Gatsby* (American Repertory Theatre); *The Lonely Londoners* (Jermyn St); *Beneatha's Place* (Young Vic); *Greatest Days* (UK tour); Disney's *AIDA* (Holland); *Pygmalion, Sylvia, The 47th* (Old Vic); *Newsies* (Troubadour Theatre); *Kinky Boots* (New Wolsey Theatre); *Spring Awakening* (Almeida Theatre); *Get Up, Stand Up! The Bob Marley Musical* (Lyric Theatre); *And Breathe…* (Almeida); *Gin Craze!* (Royal & Derngate); *The Living Newspaper, Shoe Lady, Poet in da Corner* (Royal Court); *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical* (UK tour); *Lazarus* (King's Cross).

Awards: Oliver Award and WhatsOnStage Award for Best Sound Design (*My Neighbour Totoro*); Black British Theatre Awards (BBTA); Light & Sound Recognition Award (2019 and 2021).

Tony is a Wise Children Trustee and a Stage Sight Co-Director.

http://www.tonygayle.co.uk/



LARRY MARSHAK
Writer

Larry was a staff writer and editor at *Night Beat Magazine* and the editor of *Rock Magazine*. He has written over 200 published pieces on the rock and roll culture, including in the autobiography of Bruce Springsteen. His first published piece was an interview in *The Village Voice* with Alan Freed. He produced dozens of rock and roll concerts, including the series of 30 original rock & roll shows in partnership with CBS Broadcasting in NYC.

Marshak has had six productions in Las Vegas, including the longest-running show in history, *Love Potion #10*. He was the house producer at the Sid Caesar Theater and produced the road shows for *Golda, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Play It Again Sam,* and *Groucho*, as well as for *Forever Motown, The Golden Years of Music*, Aaron Banks's *Wonderful World of Martial Arts*, and *The Golden Years of Comedy*. He is the producer of the current touring version of *Forever Motown* and *Lonesome Traveler* and has managed The Drifters for 40 years.

REVIEWS

"**GO, JOHNNY, GO** to New World Stages to see *Rock & Roll Man*, the fab jukebox musical about Alan Freed, the groundbreaking DJ and concert promoter who brought black music to the fore and called it rock and roll. Tony nominee/American Idol **CONSTANTINE MAROULIS IS AMAZING AS FREED**, both in his singing and acting. In fact, **THE WHOLE CAST IS TOPS**, including **JOE PANTOLIANO** in two pivotal roles, **VALISIA LEKAE** as a defiant and talented LaVern Baker, **BOB ARI** as a hatey J. Edgar Hoover, **RODRICK COVINGTON** as the 'Dairy Queen' himself (Little Richard), **JAMONTÉ** as Frankie Lymon, **ANDY CHRISTOPHER** as Pat Boone/ Buddy Holly, and everyone else.

AS DIRECTED BY RANDAL MYLER, THE SHOW MOVES, IT CAPTURES THE ERA, IT TROTS OUT ALL YOUR FAVORITES, and Constantine moors it as the idealistic yet ultimately tainted guy whose demise was egged on by a hypocritical Congress. (Nothing much has changed since the 1950s and '60s, believe me.)

The show should move to Broadway, but **GET YOUR GREAT BALLS OF FIRE OVER THERE AND SEE IT NOW**!"

– Michael Musto

(Click any link below to read review)

Theatre Life

Experience Salisbury

West End Best Friend

Spy in the Stalls

Pink Prince Theatre

Salisbury Radio

Theatre and Arts Review

New York Stage Review

Showbiz 411

DC Theater Arts

Harlem Community News

New York Amsterdam News

New York Theatre Wire

Theatre Criticism

Times Square Chronicles

WBAI Radio

Dominique Scott as Jerry Lee Lewis, Photo by Joan Marcus

FEATURES

(Click any link below to read feature)

Star-Ledger
feature on Constantine Maroulis

Register Citizen (Hearst Media)
feature on Joe Pantoliano

WOR Radio "A MoMent of Xen"
interview with Constantine Maroulis VIDEO AUDIO

New York Sun feature on *Rock & Roll Man*
with quotes from Constantine Maroulis and Rose Caiola

The Broadway Show
interview with Constantine Maroulis

WCBS Radio
interview with Constantine Maroulis

WOR Radio Morning Show with Len Berman & Michael Riedel
interview with Constantine Maroulis

WPIX "New York Living"
interview with Constantine Maroulis and Joe Pantoliano

WNBC "New York Live"
interview with Joe Pantoliano

The View
Joy Behar highlight



Constantine Maroulis as Alan Freed

WINNER!

2023 AUDELCO AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN BLACK THEATRE

BEST MUSICAL

FEATURED ACTOR IN A MUSICAL
RODRICK COVINGTON

Rodrick Covington as Little Richard and the cast of *Rock & Roll Man* in New York Premiere, photo by Joan Marcus

ROCK & ROLL MAN



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rose Caiola • Lead Producer, Co-Book Writer
Caiola Productions • Winner of 8 Tony Awards®
rcaiola@manhattanmovement.com
caiolaproductions.com/rose-caiola/

ROCKANDROLLMANTHEMUSICAL.COM

Full Company