

IAMT presents

Mews: The Musical!

Book by Paul Hufker
Music & Lyrics by
John Ertman and Joseph Mathusek



2.21.2025

An amewsing new mewtical comewdy about cats
and their people!

MEWS: THE MUSICAL!

**AN EMOTIONALLY BROKEN WRITER IN NYC
DESPERATELY SEARCHES FOR HIS IDENTITY AS
HIS LIFE FALLS APART. HE IS AIDED BY HIS CATS,
WHO TRY TO TEACH HIM THE VALUE OF BUILDING
AN ANXIETY-FREE SELF. CRAZINESS ENSUES IN
THIS ADORABLE-BUT-DRAMATIC (AND HOPEFULLY
PROFOUND) MUSICAL, WHERE HUMANS AND CATS
LEARN TO FIND THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER.**



**SHOULD WE DO
A MEWSICAL?**

**THIS HILARIOUS
NEW MEWSICAL WAS
INSPIRED BY PAUL'S
TWO CATS!**



TOTALLY!

FRIEDRICK (FRIDA)

BRUCE

**I CHANGED MY
MIND. SLEEP.**



**LOOK HOW HARD
THEY'RE WORKING!**

**MEWS REHEARSES
AT THE TANK,
WITH MEGHAN
FINN DIRECTING**





MAIN CHARACTERS:

***BIGGER ONE: 35, MALE – A DEPRESSED NYC WRITER GOING THROUGH AN IDENTITY CRISIS. HE ADORES HIS TWO CATS.**

***BRUCE: A 16-YEAR-OLD GRAY-AND-WHITE CAT, EQUAL PARTS SWEET AND SURLY**

***FRIDA: A 4-YEAR-OLD ORANGE-AND-WHITE CAT (PRONOUNCED FREE-DUH, AS IN FRIDA KHALO) YOUNG, ENERGETIC AND EAGER, BUT GOING THROUGH HER OWN IDENTITY CRISIS**

***DA LADY: EARLY 30'S, FEMALE, AN EMPATHETIC, SPIRITUAL, MODERN WOMAN WITH EASTERN PHILOSOPHICAL SENSIBILITIES AND A PASSION FOR ANIMALS**



**WHY WEREN'T WE
ON THE LAST
PAGE?**

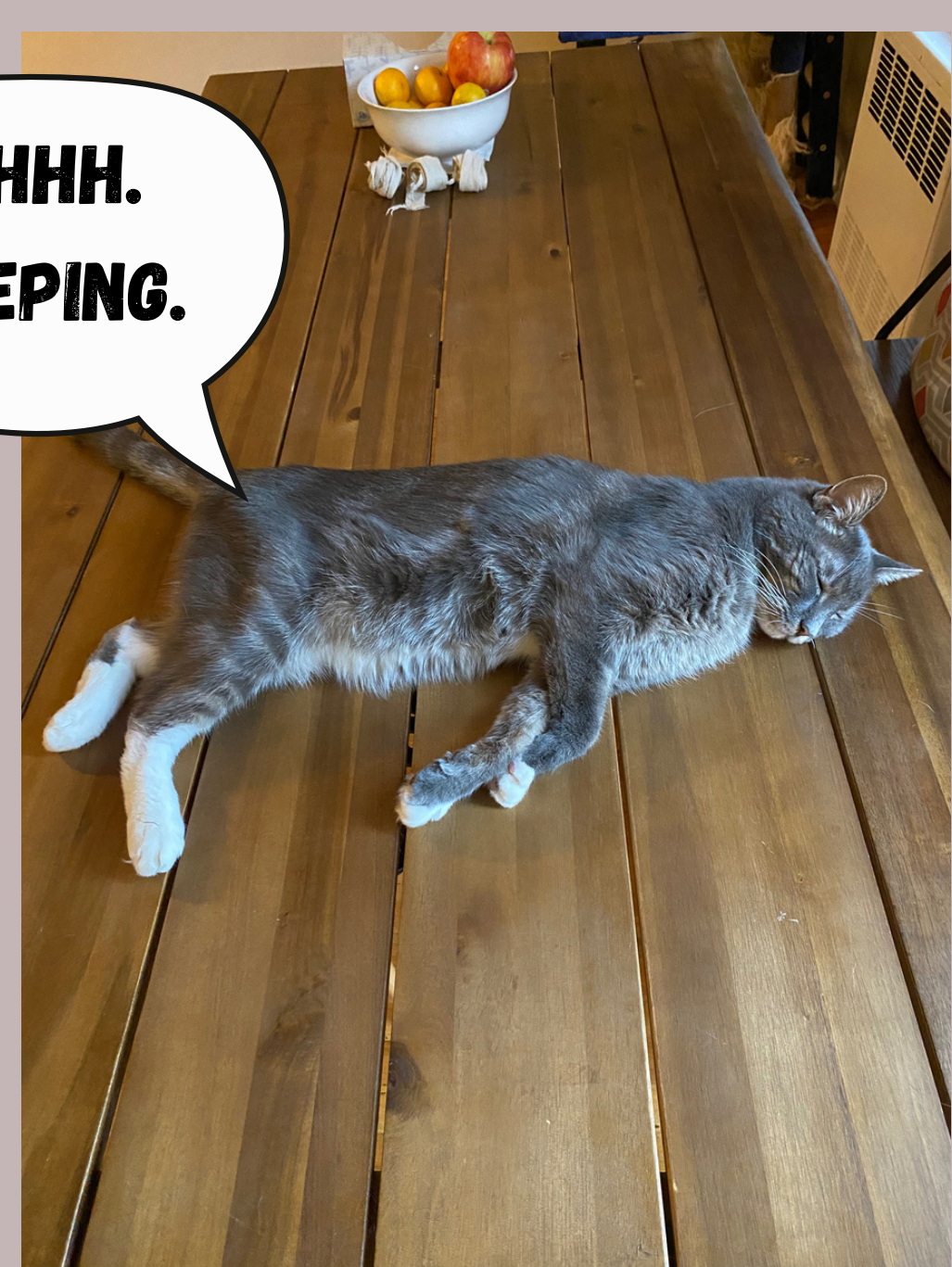
WITH FUN SONGS, LIKE:

**“TELL YOUR STORY,”
“ALL BLOCKED UP,”
AND “CAT GOT YOUR
TONGUE,”**

**THIS IS SURE TO BE THE
PURRRRRRFECTIONAL MUSICAL FOR ITS
MOMENT!**

WHO DOESN'T LOVE CATS!?!?

**SHHHH.
SLEEPING.**





LISTEN TO THESE AMAZING LIVE RECORDINGS HERE: PAULHUFKER.WIXSITE.COM/PAULHUFKER

CREATIVE TEAM

PAUL HUFKER, BOOK



JOHN ERTMAN, LYRICS + MUSIC



JOSEPH MATHUSEK, MUSIC + LYRICS



MEGHAN FINN, DIRECTOR



Bios

JOSEPH MATHUSEK

JOSEPH MATHUSEK IS A MUSICIAN TRAINED IN PERFORMANCE, COMPOSITION, ARRANGING, AND MUSIC PRODUCTION. HE CURRENTLY FINISHING HIS STUDIES AT BYU-IDAHO WHERE HE IS ACTIVE IN THE MUSIC AND COMPOSITION SCENE AND IS FINISHING A DEGREE IN VOCAL PERFORMANCE. JOSEPH HAS PARTICIPATED IN MULTIPLE PERFORMING GROUPS, AS BOTH A PERFORMER AND A DIRECTOR. HE DIRECTED/MUSIC DIRECTED MULTIPLE MUSICALS INCLUDING: SHREK THE MUSICAL (R3 THEATRE), ALONE (AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE PROJECT, CONCEPT ALBUM) AND YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (NO DRAMA THEATRE) JOSEPH HAS WRITTEN TWO MUSICALS, ALONE: A NEW MUSICAL (CO-MUSIC/LYRICS, ARR.) AND MEWS: THE MUSICAL (CO-MUSIC, ARR.) WITH COLLABORATOR JOHN ERTMAN AND HAS PUBLISHED SEVERAL ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENTS, ORCHESTRATIONS, AND ORIGINAL SONGS. RECENT WORK IN ARRANGING/ORCHESTRATION INCLUDES: SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' (COVER), I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (COVER), AND ALONE: A NEW MUSICAL (FULL SCORE).

JOHN ERTMAN

JOHN IS A PROFESSIONAL WRITER, DIRECTOR, AND AEA ACTOR BASED IN NEW YORK. JOHN HAS WRITTEN TWO MUSICALS, ALONE (AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE PROJECT, CONCEPT ALBUM) AND MEWS (THE TANK) WITH COLLABORATOR, JOSEPH MATHUSEK. HE HAS INDEPENDENTLY PRODUCED THREE POP ALBUMS: THE ABBEY ROAD LIVE SESSION, IDLE GROWTH, AND REALITY AND HAS HAD HIS WORK PERFORMED AT VENUES SUCH AS 54 BELOW IN NEW YORK CITY AND THE BEDFORD IN LONDON AND STUDIOS SUCH AS ABBEY ROAD AND POWER STATION NE. JOHN IS AN AWARD WINNING DIRECTOR OF IMMERSIVE THEATRE, INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BY CRITICS FOR HIS INNOVATIVE APPROACH. SELECTED AWARDS INCLUDE: BEST NEW MEDIA AWARD (LONELY WOLF UK 2023), AUDIENCE CHOICE FOR BEST INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE (FIVARS 2021), AND 4X CRITICS' PICKS FOR BEST INTERACTIVE THEATRE (MEDIUM/NO PROSCENIUM 2020-2022). AS A PERFORMER, JOHN ORIGINATED A ROLE IN FIFTY-SEVEN AT APAP IN 2023 AND LED THE MOSQUITICAL AS NEWMAN AT NYMTF. JOHN EARNED A B.A. IN COMMUNICATIONS FROM NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, WHERE HE MAJORED IN THEATRE AND WAS A MEMBER OF THE INAUGURAL CLASS OF THE MUSIC THEATRE WRITING & COMPOSITION PROGRAM. JOHN IS ALSO A STUDENT OF SEVERAL ESTABLISHED COMPOSERS INCLUDING MARK HOLLMANN (URINETOWN), MASI ASARE (PARADISE SQUARE), CRAIG CARNELIA (WORKING), AND MICHAEL R. JACKSON (A STRANGE LOOP).

PAUL HUFKER

PAUL HAS BEEN AN AEA ACTOR, PLAYWRIGHT AND DIRECTOR IN THE NYC AREA FOR OVER 17 YEARS. HE IS A PROUD GRADUATE OF BROOKLYN COLLEGE'S MFA PLAYWRITING PROGRAM, UNDER MAC WELLMAN AND ERIN COURTNEY.

PAUL HAS WORKED WITH MANY NYC THEATRE COMPANIES INCLUDING: THE BECHDEL GROUP 12 PEERS THEATRE COMPANY, THE TANK THEATRE COMPANY, VARIATIONS THEATRE COMPANY, AND THEATRE COMPANY, THE 29TH ST PLAYWRIGHTS' COLLECTIVE (MEMBER), CUT EDGE COLLECTIVE (MEMBER) AND MANY OTHERS THEATRE COMPANIES ACROSS THE US.

HIS LATEST PRODUCTION WAS OF HUNTSVILLE WHICH PREMIERED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN 2024.

PAUL HAS WORKED WITH FASHION DESIGNER AND POLITICAL ACTIVIST CARLA FERNANDEZ, WRITING HER LONDON FASHION SHOW/PROTEST PIECE, WHICH DEBUTED IN LONDON IN 2018. ALSO IN 2018, PAUL WORKED WITH WORLD-RENOUNDED VISUAL ARTIST PEDRO REYES, WRITING HIS NOAM CHOMSKY-INSPIRED PUPPET PLAY MANUFACTURING MISCHIEF, WHICH PREMIERED IN NYC AND INTERNATIONALLY, AND WAS DIRECTED BY MEGHAN FINN. IN THE FALL OF 2017, PAUL WROTE THE SCRIPT FOR PEDRO REYES' MASSIVE ART INSTALLATION IN BROOKLYN ENTITLED DOOMOCRACY, ALSO DIRECTED BY MEGHAN FINN. HE IS CURRENTLY WORKING AGAIN WITH PEDRO FOR A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT NUCLEAR WAR, WHICH HE HOPES TO SELL TO NETFLIX.

HE IS A 2023 NEW VOICES RESIDENCY WINNER FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, A 2018 EUGENE O'NEILL PRIZE SEMI-FINALIST, A 2016 GREAT PLAINS THEATRE CONFERENCE INVITED PLAYWRIGHT, A 2015 AND 2016 HIMAN BROWN AWARD WINNER (THROUGH BROOKLYN COLLEGE), A 2016 O'NEILL CONFERENCE SEMI-FINALIST, A 2016 AMERICAN THEATRE IN HIGHER EDUCATION EXCELLENCE IN PLAYWRITING AWARD FINALIST, A 2015 JEROME FELLOWSHIP FINALIST, A 2014 PRINCESS GRACE AWARD SEMI-FINALIST, AND A 2011 O'NEILL CONFERENCE SEMI-FINALIST. HIS WRITING COLLABORATIONS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN NYC, THROUGHOUT THE US, AND IN TORONTO, CANADA, AS WELL AS AT MIT, THE MUSEO JUMEX IN MEXICO CITY AND THE SERPENTINE GALLERY IN LONDON. HIS PLAYS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED BY MASQUE AND SPECTACLE MAGAZINE AS WELL AS NEXT STAGE PRESS. HE IS CURRENTLY A FULL-TIME ASSISTANT TEACHING PROFESSOR AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, IN THEIR WRITING PROGRAM, AND A PROUD GRADUATE OF WEBSTER UNIVERSITY WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS BFA IN THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE.

MEGHAN FINN

THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF THE TANK. HER DIRECTORIAL WORK HAS BEEN SEEN AT THE TANK, 3LD ART & TECHNOLOGY CENTER, CSC, THE V&A, SERPENTINE GALLERIES LONDON, THE WEXNER CENTER, SCAD, THE LOGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN CHICAGO, MUSEO JUMEX MEXICO CITY, POWERHOUSE THEATER, THE POWER PLANT, CANADIAN STAGE, CLUBBED THUMB, HERE, THE BRICK, THE BUSHWICK STARR, SOHO GALLERY, PS122, DIXON PLACE, SOHO REP, ARS NOVA, MONTCLAIR STATE, NEW GEORGES, THE FLEA, THE BROOKLYN ARMY TERMINAL FOR CREATIVE TIME, THE ROES THEATER ATHENS GREECE, AND THE ONSTAGE! FESTIVAL IN ROME AND MILAN. BA THEATER USC, MFA DIRECTING BROOKLYN COLLEGE.

WWW.MEGHANFINN.COM

THANKS FOR READING! WE HOPE YOU FOUND IT AMEWSING!

**HEY, WHERE YA
GOIN'?**

**YEAH, COME BACK HERE
AND PRODUCE THIS
MEWSICAL! AT LEAST
BRING ME SOME WET
FOOD!**

