

SCOTT JACOBS was a Chicago journalist, screenwriter, and film producer who covered five presidential races, producing three Election Specials for PBS on the 1992 campaign and four books on the 1996, 2004, 2008, and 2016 races. Around 2018, he turned his attention to writing stage plays. "Child of the Century" is an adaptation of Ben Hecht's acclaimed autobiography. Other plays include "Big Boys & Little Ladies" and "Quarantine." He also wrote three screenplays—"Sumo Football," "Chicago Bridge" and "Marty Zipco's Ballroom"—and a story collection titled, *Famous Ski Hills in Wisconsin (And Other Delusions of Grandeur)* that was named 2014 Book of the Year by the Chicago Writers Association.

J. R. SULLIVAN (Director) is a director and producer, having worked in theaters nationwide. Sullivan previously was artistic director of New York's Pearl Theatre (2009-2013), whose resident acting company was presented with a Drama Desk Award in 2011. For the Pearl, he directed productions of *Hard Times*, *Playboy of the Western World*, and *Richard II* among others. His 2019 Off-Broadway Mint Theatre revival of Lillian Hellman's *Days to Come* was named one of the best of the season by the *Wall Street Journal*. More recently Jim directed the premiere of the musical *Parcel from America* at the Smock Alley Theatre in Dublin, Ireland. More at www.jrsullivan.net

STEVEN ROSOFSKY (Projection Design) has been shooting, editing, producing and directing films, commercials and documentaries for many years for clients that include Encyclopedia Britannica, Michael Jackson, HBO/Cinemax and Playboy TV. His association with Scott Jacobs dates to the glory days of Chuck Olin Associates and Scott's post-production house: IPA. Currently, he focuses on commercials, industrials, and arts-based documentaries.

SHAWN WALLACE (Piano) is widely acclaimed as a composer and performer. He has written and arranged musical works for Chicago theatre companies as well as educational touring productions. Since 2002 he has been a featured performer in J.R. Sullivan's annual holiday show *Hometown Holiday* presented in Rockford, IL. He has also done sound design for many Chicago theatres including the Greenhouse Theatre. Most recently, he was accompanist for The Shakespeare Project's productions of *Dear Rhoda* and *Songbook Shakespeare*.

EMILY FURY DALY (Hecht's Mother/Fanny Brice/Pixie) is a Chicago-based actor and comedian with over a decade of performing at theaters across the country, such as The Great River Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh Public, American Players Theatre, and La Mama Experimental Theatre. She performs stand-up comedy across Chicago and her solo show, *Furious*, had successful performances at the Edinburgh Fringe, NYC's Soho Playhouse, and The Annoyance Theatre in Chicago.

JOE DEMPSEY (Uncle Manny/Reporter/Victor Fleming/Peter Bergson) is a long-time Chicago actor whose recent shows include *It's a Wonderful Life* at American Blues and *Judgment Day* at Chicago Shakespeare. Around Chicago, Joe has also acted at Goodman, Northlight, Court, Victory Gardens, Paramount, Drury Lane Oak Brook, Remy Bumppo, Theatre Wit, many others, and regionally at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Centerstage (Baltimore) and City Theatre (Pittsburgh). TV and film work include *Chicago PD*, *Somebody, Somewhere*, *Imperfections*, *Chicago Fire*, *What*

About Joan?, *Early Edition*, and *E.R.* Joe is an alum of the Neo-Futurists and The Second City National Touring Company, an artistic affiliate with American Blues Theater, and a proud union member of Actors' Equity and SAG/AFTRA.

WILLIAM DICK (Carl Sandburg/Frat Boy/Charles Ort/Billy Rose) recent credits include *Inherit The Wind*, and *A Christmas Carol* (Goodman Theatre). *The Comedy Of Errors* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre). *Choir Boy* (Steppenwolf Theatre). TV: *Emperor Of Ocean Park*, *A League Of Their Own*, *4400*, *Fargo*, *Chicago Fire*, *Empire*. Film: *Fred Claus*, *Stranger Than Fiction*, *The Break Up*, *The Merry Gentleman*, *Oz The Great And Powerful*, *The Company*. williamdick.net

JODI GAGE (Rose Caylor) Select credits: *Coronation* (Refracted) *Romeo & Juliet* (Oak Park); *Inanimate* (Theater Wit); *Night Watch* (Raven); *The Writer* (Steep); *Merrily We Roll Along* (Blank); *Next to Normal* (Dunes Summer Theater); *Falsettos* (u/s) (Court & Timeline) *Richard III* (u/s), *Judgment Day* (u/s) (Chicago Shakespeare). She toured internationally in *Song of Home* (Theatre Lumina). TV credits: *Chicago Med*.

PETER GARINO (Sherwood Anderson/Bursar/Captain Helpert) is the artistic director of The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. He recently directed *Shakespeare For My Father* by Lynn Redgrave in Vail, Colorado, and *The Winter's Tale* for The Shakespeare Project. Many thanks to J.R.

KEVIN GUDAHL (Ben Hecht, Narrator) is an award winning Chicago based actor who's been performing on stage & screen for almost 40 years. He has performed in numerous Chicago productions including *Hamlet*, *The House of Martin Guerre*, *Pacific Overtures*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Comedy Of Errors*. He's worked at many prominent theaters like Chicago Shakespeare, The Goodman, Court Theatre, Steppenwolf and Writer's Theatre.

TORREY HANSON (Sherman Reilly Duffy/Mac McEvoy/David O. Selznick) is a Chicago-based actor. He's performed in over 160 productions, regionally at Milwaukee Rep (seventeen seasons), Oregon Shakespeare Festival (five seasons), Alley Theater, Seattle Rep, Cleveland Play House, Indiana Rep, Intiman Theatre, A Contemporary Theatre, Empty Space Theatre, and Utah Shakespeare Festival; in Chicago at Steppenwolf, Goodman, Chicago Shakespeare, Writer's, Drury Lane, Profiles, Silk Road, The House, Provision, and next month at Northlight. He's had guest, recurring and co-star roles in episodes of *Emperor Of Ocean Park*, *Somebody Somewhere*, *Fargo*, *The Exorcist*, *Shining Girls*, *Chicago Med*, *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, *South Side*, *Empire*, *Crisis*, *Cheers* and *Wings*. He played Jack Hyde in Jordan Peele's remake of *Candyman*. Upcoming: *Monsters: The Ed Gien Story* on Netflix.

PAUL SANDBURG (Jack Malloy/Stoolie Don DiMico/Brooks Beitler) Theatre credits include Utah Shakespeare Festival, Cleveland Playhouse, Huntington Theatre, The Court, Ensemble Theatre of Santa Barbara, Briar Street Theatre and Steppenwolf.

CHARLES STRANSKY (Clarence Darrow/Cameraman/Rabbi Chaim Levin) A veteran actor of stage, television and film, he attended Brandeis University (MFA, Acting). He then worked in Chicago at the beginning of its burgeoning theatre movement before being called to Broadway and Hollywood. In New York, he worked on Broadway, Off -Broadway, and Off-Off Broadway.

(continued on back cover)

A Child of the Century

adapted from the book by BEN HECHT
by SCOTT JACOBS

Directed by J. R. SULLIVAN

Piano accompaniment by SHAWN WALLACE

Stage Manager BARBARA ZAHORA*

Projection design, with items from the Newbery Library Ben Hecht archive, by STEVEN ROSOFSKY and SCOTT JACOBS

CAST

Ben Hecht, Narrator	KEVIN GUDAHL*
Ben Hecht, Writer	DEMETRIOS TROY*
Rose Caylor, Ben Hecht's second wife	JODI GAGE
Charles MacArthur/Frat Boy/Henry Justin Smith	DANIEL PATRICK SULLIVAN*
Martin Hutchens/Herman Mankiewicz/Richard Little	H. B. WARD
Sherman Duffy Reilly/Mac McEvoy/David O. Selznick	TORREY HANSON*
Carl Sandburg/Frat Boy/Charles Ort/Billy Rose	WILLIAM DICK*
Margaret Anderson/Helen Hayes/Pixie	NETTA WALKER
John Eastman/John Barrymore	JAMES KONICEK
Uncle Manny/Reporter/Victor Fleming/Peter Bergson	JOE DEMPSEY*
Sherwood Anderson/Bursar/Captain Helpert	PETER GARINO*
Clarence Darrow/Cameraman/Rabbi Chaim Levin	CHARLES STRANSKY*
Ben's Mother/Fanny Brice/Pixie	EMILY FURY DALY*
Jack Malloy/Stoolie Don DiMico/Brooks Beitler	PAUL SANDBURG

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Lucy Jacobs

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Niles-Maine District Library

Peter Garino and The Shakespeare Project

*This program is generously supported by the
Paul M. Angell Family Foundation.*

* Member Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

He has worked in many regional theatres throughout the U.S.; including the Delaware Theatre Company where he was directed by Mr. J.R. Sullivan in *Glengarry Glen Ross* playing Moss.

DANIEL PATRICK SULLIVAN (Charles MacArthur/Frat Boy/Henry Justin Smith) has been a Chicago-based actor since he appeared first in *The Body Politic's* contribution to *The International Theater Festival* with Ireland's Tom Murphy directing his own *A Whistle In The Dark*. Other productions include *Prelude To A Kiss*, *Six Degrees Of Separation*, *A Long's Day's Journey into Night*, and several Chicago Shakespeare Project productions. Television: *Chicago PD*, *Chicago Med*, *Chicago Fire*, *Crisis*, *The Chi*.

DEMETRIOS TROY (Ben Hecht, Writer) is a Chicago based actor, and director. His film credits include, *Chicago PD*, *Chicago Fire*, *Empire*, *Utopia*, *Station Eleven*, *Ripple*, *David: A Kings Calling*, and *The Chosen*. He has appeared on stage at Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, Looking Glass, The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Timeline, Milwaukee Rep, Utah Shakespeare, Indian Repertory Theatre, Syracuse Stage and many others.

NETTA WALKER (Margaret Anderson/Helen Hayes/Pixie) Most recently seen in *The Lion in Winter* (Court Theater), *How to Defend Yourself* (Victory Gardens); *Yen* (Raven Theatre, Jeff Award for Best Supporting Actor); she

has also worked with *The Gift*, *Definition*, *The Goodman*, *Steppenwolf*, *Milwaukee Rep*, among many others. Film: *Come As You Are* (SXSW/Cannes), *Whole* (Holly Shorts Oscar Contender). TV: *All American* and *All American: Homecoming* on the CW, *The Big Leap*, *The Chi* and *Chicago Fire*. Love you, Pops.

H. B. WARD (Martin Hutchens/ Herman Mankiewicz/ Richard Little) has worked with many Chicago theatre companies, including *Shattered Globe Theatre*, *A Red Orchid Theater*, *The Artistic Home*, *Timeline Theater*, *Theater Oobleck*, *American Blues Theater*, *Jackalope Theatre*, and *Rivendell Theatre*. Film work includes *Ghostlight* and *Saint Francis*. Television work includes *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago Med* (NBC), and *Somebody Somewhere* (HBO). He is represented by Paonessa Talent Agency.

BARBARA ZAHORA (Stage Manager) is Chair of Theatre Conservatory and Associate Professor of Theatre at Roosevelt University. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Theatre from Bowling Green State University, and an MFA in Theatre Performance from Roosevelt University. As an actor, Barbara's credits include *The Winter's Tale* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *All My Sons* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (American Players Theatre); *Hamlet*, *Heartbreak House*, *A Little Night Music*, and *Misalliance* (Writers' Theatre).

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PROJECT
OF CHICAGO

A Child of the Century: Theatrical Reading adapted from the book by Ben Hecht by Scott Jacobs

Saturday, March 1, 2025

1pm

