

**JOHN CAMERON MITCHELL & AMBER MARTIN** 

in

## **CASSETTE ROULETTE**

Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 9:30pm Tryon Festival Theatre

## **PROGRAM**

JOHN CAMERON MITCHELL & AMBER MARTIN

## **CASSETTE ROULETTE**

Tony Award-winning star of stage and screen John Cameron Mitchell (Joe vs. Carole, Hedwig and the Angry Inch), one of alt-culture's boldest creators, joins forces with international cabaret star Amber Martin and special guests for an evening of songs, stories, and characters, all chosen by the hand of fate and the "cassette roulette." Backed up by Hedwig's Broadway music director, Justin Craig and band, it's never the same show twice!

Created & Performed by Amber Martin & John Cameron Mitchell Produced by ArKtype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann Lighting by Jojo Franjoine Costumes by Erik Bergrin Video by Michael Zumbrun Music Direction by Justin Craig

World Premiere: MASSMOCA, North Adams, Massachusetts, July 16, 2022

This show will be presented without an intermission.

#### THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS PERFORMANCE

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## **PROFILES**



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John Cameron Mitchell directed, starred in, and wrote, with Stephen Trask, the film Hedwig and the Angry Inch (2001), for which he won Best Director at the Sundance Festival and was nominated for a Golden Globe as Best Actor. His recent Broadway

production of Hedwig garnered him Tony Awards for his performance and for Best Revival. He won an Obie Award for Hedwig Off-Broadway as well as for starring in Larry Kramer's The Destiny of Me. He directed Tennessee Williams' Kingdom of Earth Off-Broadway with Cynthia Nixon and Peter Sarsgaard. He directed the films Shortbus (2006), as well as Rabbit Hole (2010) and How to Talk to Girls at Parties (2018) both starring Nicole Kidman, who was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar for the former. Recent TV roles include Peacock's Joe Vs. Carole, Hulu's Shrill, HBO's Girls and Vinyl, CBS's The Good Fight, Amazon's Mozart in the Jungle, and Netflix's The Sandman. He stars in, wrote (with Bryan Weller), and directed the musical podcast series Anthem: Homunculus and is in development on a new podcast, Cancellation Island.



Amber Martin is a celebrated New York City vocalist, cabaret star, and comedic monologist. Named one of the Top Performers of the Year by The New Yorker, Martin brings a combination of cabaret, belting vocals, and no-holds-barred comedy to her live,

raucous, genre-hopping musical performances. She previously made her Broadway debut in Tales of the City at the Music Box Theater. Some of her performances include appearing with Joan Rivers on Celebrity Apprentice and opening for Joan's live New York City shows. You can hear her belting out featured vocals on the Scissor Sisters single "Inevitable" (co-produced with Pharrell). She was a featured vocalist with comedian Sandra Bernhard at Town Hall in New York City and has twice been a featured guest on Sandra's Sirius XM radio show, Sandyland. Amber has performed her own solo shows in New York City and New Orleans, as well as at the TBA Festival; Treefort Festival: Outsider Festival: Jazz and Blues Festival in Altomonte, Italy; and has recurring New York City residencies at Alan Cumming's Club Cumming, Joe's Pub, and the Cutting Room. Amber continues to evolve as writer, curator, choreographer, and star of her own performances, The Days of My Lives and Three Women: Joplin, Midler & Nyro (Solo Artist Residency at Joe's Pub, New York City), Hi! (Best Solo Performance Drammy Award), Wigshop, Stoned Soul: In Love with Laura Nyro (Residency at Feinstein's/54 Below), and Janis: Undead (a continuing US/international tour). She is also touring her original album, A.M. Gold, including two songs featured in John Cameron Mitchell's recent film. How to Talk to Girls at Parties.

**Justin Craig** (Music Director and Guitarist) is a Grammy-nominated record producer, composer, and New York City-based musical director (Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Broadway and first national tour). Coming up in pop/rock, he spent years writing, recording, and touring with artists and bands all over the world. After relocating to New York City in 2011, he began orchestrating and performing in musical theatre productions in addition to his studio work as a producer and

PHOTO: MATTHEW PLACEK

musician. Additionally, he has worked in film as a composer, score mixer, and performing multi-instrumentalist (How to Talk to Girls at Parties, The Nice Guys, Match, Admission, Lovelace, Little Fockers, and more.

"Jojo" A. Franjoine (Production Manager / Lighting Director) is a lighting artist interested in synchronizing space with waveform. With various flavors of waves and photons, Jojo seeks to discover harmonious aural and visual environments that resonate deeply within the human spirit. By charting and creating patterns over a stretch of time, Jojo expresses the present with bright attitude in an emotionally saturated overtone. View more of Joseph's work: www.josephfranjoine.com @designojojo

**Erik Bergrin** is a costume designer and fiber artist based in New York City. His work has been featured in galleries and museums such as Marlborough Contemporary, the State Historical Museum in Moscow, Envoy Enterprise Gallery, David Fierman Gallery, AC Institute, the Society of Arts and Crafts in Boston, a banner of his work flying in the New York City Garment District, HERE arts, and many more. He has designed costumes for shows such as John Cameron Mitchell's Origin of Love tour and Goodbar at the Public Theater, and for musicians such as Lady Gaga and Peaches. His costume designs have been featured in TV shows such as. America's Next Top Model and Make Me a Supermodel, and highlighted in films such as Violet Tendencies. Erik's creations have been in articles and publications including Dazed and Confused, Zink, The New York Times, New York Magazine, Star, King Kong, Zoo, Dust, Bullett, ODDA, and many more.

**Michael Zumbrun** (Live Video Design) is a concert production and lighting specialist. He is currently part of The Box production team, and formerly of

the Metropolitan Museum of Art's performance arm, MetLiveArts. Other notable clients and venues include Webster Hall, Skrillex, Erykah Badu, Alva Noto, and John Varvatos. Michael lives and works in New York City.

**ArKtype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann** (Producer) is a management and production company specializing in new work development and touring. Over the past 15 years, ArKtype's work has grown to encompass renowned artists from thirty different countries, multiple genres, and commercial and nonprofit support structures resulting in new work for a variety of spaces. His acclaimed work as producer has been seen worldwide, proudly beginning his work in the production, development and touring of emerging ensembles. His work includes projects with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Peter Brook, Kaneza Schaal, Victoria Thiérrée-Chaplin, Yael Farber, Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar, John Cameron Mitchell, Lisa Peterson, Peter Sellars, Tony Taccone, and Julie Taymor. Recent premieres include Sam Green's 32 Sounds with JD Samson, nora chipaumire's NEHANDA, Bryce Dessner's Triptych (Eyes of One on Another), Sam Green and Kronos Quartet's A Thousand Thoughts, Byron Au Yong and Aaron Jafferis' Trigger, Kaneza Schaal and Christopher Myers' CARTOGRAPHY, Big Dance Theater / Mikhail Baryshnikov's Man in a Case, and the US premiere of Nalaga'at Deaf-Blind Theater's Not by Bread Alone. Ongoing collaborations include Bryce Dessner, Rude Mechs, 600 HIGHWAYMEN, Toshi Reagon, Sam Green, Scott Shepherd, Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen, nora chipaumire, Adrien M. and Claire B., Big Dance Theater and Compagnia T.P.O. Upcoming premieres include Justin Peck and Sufjan Stevens' ILLINOIS, and Scott Shepherd's This Ignorant Present. More info at arktype.org.

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The University of Illinois System carries out its mission in its namesake state, which includes the traditional territory of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, and Chickasaw Nations. These lands continue to carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois has a particular responsibility to acknowledge the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them.

This acknowledgment and the centering of Native peoples is a start as we move forward.

Krannert Center affirms the commitment by the university to move beyond these statements, toward building deeper relationships and taking actions that uphold and preserve Indigenous rights and cultural equity.

As we gather to experience this performance, we have an opportunity to reflect on the ways that systems of oppression have shaped our society. We can work together to create systems that support human dignity, establish equity, strengthen cross-cultural relationships, and draw upon the creative capacity of all people that make up this community, state, nation, and world.



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Demonstrating their steadfast dedication to the arts, members of the Foellinger Society have donated or pledged \$500,000 to \$999,999. Because of their generosity, everyone in this community can unite in joyful and engaging experiences. These magnanimous arts lovers celebrate the spirit of Helene Foellinger, whose memorial gift honored her sister, Loretta Foellinger Teeple, and established the Marquee Performance Endowment.



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## WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE AT THE CENTER

We work to create the best possible setting for the experiences you seek and find here.

#### **NECESSARIES**

Restrooms are located in the foyers of Foellinger Great Hall, Tryon Festival Theatre, and Colwell Playhouse; the east entrances on the Lobby level; and in each elevator lobby on Level 1 and Level 3. Lobby restrooms and one restroom in each elevator lobby are fully accessible and contain baby-changing stations.

Ushers will be happy to provide you cough drops courtesy of St. Joseph Apothecary, or disposable foam earplugs if the place starts rockin'.

If you or a companion needs medical assistance, contact an usher or other staff member.

Please take a moment before the performance to note the theatre exits nearest to you. If it becomes necessary to evacuate the theatre, please remain calm, follow the instructions of the house staff, and exit in an orderly fashion to the appropriate safe meeting location, which will be announced to you.

#### **PHONES AND DEVICES**

The use of cell phones, cameras, and recording devices during performances is prohibited unless otherwise announced from the stage.

#### LATE ARRIVALS

As a courtesy to performers and audience members, latecomers will be seated only at times selected in advance by the artist. Should you find that you've arrived late to a performance, our Patron Services staff will keep you informed about the earliest seating opportunity.

#### **LOST ITEMS**

If you are in need of Lost and Found, please visit the Patron Services counter. We will do our best to reunite object and owner!

#### TICKET RETURNS

If you find you can't attend a performance, please contact the Ticket Office in advance, preferably by 6pm the day before the performance (kran-tix@illinois.edu). We never charge a handling fee on ticket transactions.

#### **ACCESSIBILITY**

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts is committed to making experiences accessible for all patrons, and we are delighted to provide a number of services to assist you. Krannert Center is equipped with an assisted listening system, wheelchair-accessible and no-step/few-step seating, and large-print programs, Braille programs, and American Sign Language interpreters are available with three weeks' advance notice.

For assistance regarding your visit, please email:

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U of I students, come on in. In whatever clothes, whatever state of mind, from whatever world of experience, you are welcome here. We don't have a dress code, we don't have an opinion code, and we want the Center to be your kind of place. Because of the vital support of Krannert Center donors and the Krannert Center U of I student fee, U of I students never pay more than \$10 for a ticket, and dozens of events each year are completely free.

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When you come to Krannert Center, we promise that you'll leave different: refreshed, reaffirmed, renewed!

