

**NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE**

David Ellenstein, Artistic Director

Bill Kerlin, Managing Director

PRESENTS

**JOHN STEINBECK'S  
OF MICE AND MEN**

DIRECTED BY **Richard Baird**

**CAST**

*(in order of appearance)*

GEORGE ..... **Jacob Sidney\***  
 LENNIE..... **Nicholas Mongiardo-Cooper\***  
 CANDY ..... **John Greenleaf\***  
 THE BOSS..... **Ted Barton\***  
 CURLEY ..... **Wallace Bruce**  
 CURLEY'S WIFE..... **Sierra Jolene**  
 SLIM ..... **J. Stephen Brantley\***  
 CARLSON..... **Max Macke**  
 WHIT ..... **Justin Lang**  
 CROOKS ..... **Laurence Brown\***

SET DESIGN  
**Marty Burnett**

LIGHT DESIGN  
**Matt Novotny**

COSTUME DESIGN  
**Elisa Benzoni**

SOUND DESIGN  
**Aaron Rumley**

PROP DESIGN  
**Andrea Gutierrez**

HAIR & WIG DESIGN  
**Peter Herman**

STAGE MANAGER  
**Aaron Rumley\***

**Act 1** Scene 1: A sandy bank of the Salinas River. Thursday night.  
Scene 2: The interior of a bunkhouse. Late Friday morning.

**Act 2** Scene 1: The same as Act 1 — Scene 2. About seven-thirty Friday evening.  
Scene 2: Crooks' Room. Ten o'clock Saturday evening.

**Act 3** Scene 1: One end of a great barn. Mid-afternoon, Sunday.  
Scene 2: Same as Act 1 — Scene 1. Sunday night.

**Time:** The present

**Place:** An agricultural valley in Northern California.

*There will be a 15 minute intermission*

*"OF MICE AND MEN" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.*

**Season 36 has been made possible by the generosity of The Step Family Foundation**

**This production has been made possible by the generosity of Leonard Hirsch and Dr. Charles & Judith Wheatley**

\*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org)

# PROFILES



**JOHN STEINBECK** (Author) was an accomplished American writer best known for his novels about the social consequences of the great depression in America. His most famous works include: *Of Mice and Men* (1937), Pulitzer Prize winner, *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) and *East of Eden* (1952). He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962. John Steinbeck wrote profoundly about the economic problems faced by the rural class during the Great Depression. His deep interest in the subject and authenticity came

from his own experiences working as a manual laborer before choosing writing for a career.



**RICHARD BAIRD** (Director) is the founding Artistic Director of New Fortune Theatre Company: *The Birthday Party*, co-director *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and *Henry V* (San Diego Critics Circle Award for Direction). He served as Associate Artistic Director of Southwest Shakespeare Company: *As You Like It*, *The Winter's Tale*. Intrepid Theatre: *Much Ado About Nothing*; Diversionary Theatre: *Edward II*; Oregon Shakespeare Festival Black Swan Series: *The Changeling*. As Poor Players Artistic Director he directed over 20

productions of Shakespeare's plays. *Of Mice and Men* marks Mr. Baird's nineteenth production at North Coast Rep. He is a proud member of Actors' Equity.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY CAROL & DR. JEFFREY CHANG**



**TED BARTON\*** (Boss) is pleased to return to North Coast Rep, where he played Mayor Meekly in *Unnecessary Farce* and Saunders in *Lend Me a Tenor*. He has worked at Mark Taper Forum, TheatreWorks, Sacramento Theatre Company, Ensemble Theatre Company, Foothill Theatre Company, MainStreet Theatre Company, Coeurage Theatre Company, Sierra Repertory Theatre, Warehouse Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Playhouse, Actors Theatre of Phoenix, Native Voices at the Autry, Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum; California, Colorado,

Lake Tahoe, and Kingsmen Shakespeare Festivals; Southwest Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare Sedona, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, on a national tour of *On Golden Pond*, and as an Equity Guest Artist at the University of Alabama.

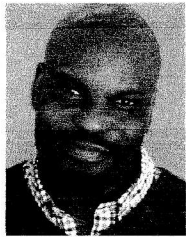
**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY BARBARA BURRILL AND DENNIS COOPER**

# PROFILES



**J. STEPHEN BRANTLEY\*** (Slim) is a New York-based actor, playwright, and producer. Off-Broadway: *Mope* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), *Murder In The First* (The Directors Co. at 59E59), *Pirira* (Theatre 167). Regional: *The Night Alive* (Guild Hall), *Of Mice And Men* (Bay Street), and *Romeo And Juliet* with its zombie sequel *R & J & Z* at Stonington Opera House. TV: "The Blacklist" (NBC), "Neon Joe, Werewolf Hunter" (Adult Swim), "Difficult People" (Hulu). Brantley is an eight-time New York Innovative Theatre Award nominee and recipient of the Micheál MacLiammóir Award for Best Actor at the 2013 Dublin International Gay Theatre Festival.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY BOBBIE BALL**



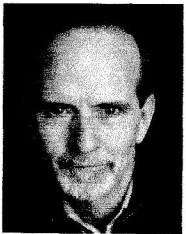
**LAURENCE BROWN\*** (Crooks) is a San Diego native and a member of SAG/Aftra Equity. He attended Dillard University in New Orleans. He was awarded a Craig Noel Theater award in 2017 for his role as Canewell in *Seven Guitars*. Some of his local theater credits include: North Coast Rep's *Gee's Bend*, Moxie Theater's *WET* and *Devil Dog Six*, Cygnet Theater's *King Henley II*, *A Rasin in the Sun*, *Piano Lesson*, *Gem of the Ocean*, and *Muthafucker with the Hat*. Some of his national commercial and TV credits include: "Hulu Plus," "Chevy," "Scrubbing Bubbles," "Monk," and "I Carly."

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY JIM & KATIE FISH**

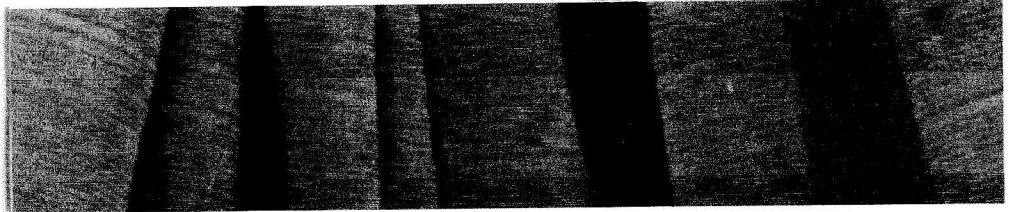


**WALLACE BRUCE** (Curley) is honored to work on this great American classic. He studied theater at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York, moved to Los Angeles and has acted steadily since. He's appeared in over fifteen plays in LA. His regional theater credits include: *The Judy Garland story*, *End of the Rainbow*, David Ives' *The Heir Apparent*, and most recently, *Crimes of the Heart*. He has enjoyed memberships in both the Echo Theater Company and Theater of Note. Wallace would like to thank David Ellenstein for this opportunity and the Quinn family of Maine for raising him behind the curtain.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY RYAN BELMER**



**JOHN GREENLEAF\*** (Candy) North Coast Rep: The Amenuensis/ Geronte in *The Illusion*; Oriole in *Now You See It*. Four years with John Houseman's The Acting Company, four years with The Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival, shows with Steppenwolf, South Coast Rep; Northlight Rep; PCPA; Players Theatre, Columbus. *Nicholas Nickleby* at the Blackstone Theatre, Chicago. New York and Washington DC Fringe: *Alternative Methods*. Theatre Row, New York: Doc in *Small Craft Warnings*, directed by Austin Pendleton. Dickens Museum,



London, Christmas Eve 2014: Marley in my adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*. TV: PBS Theatre in America: Christy in *The Playboy of the Western World*. Thank you, Richard and David! [www.johngreenleaf.net](http://www.johngreenleaf.net)

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY DAVID TANSEY & KATHLEEN ROCHE TANSEY**



**SIERRA JOLENE** (Curley's Wife) spends most of her time acting in the San Francisco Bay Area and is thrilled to be performing at the North Coast Repertory Theater for the second time after being seen as Saskia in *At This Evening's Performance*. Favorite Bay Area theater credits include: Ann Deever in the Jewel Theater Company's production of *All My Sons*, Tamsin in the Bay Area premier of *The Monster Builder* at The Aurora Theater Company, as well as Malcolm in *Macbeth* and Lucrece in *The Liar* at the Santa Cruz Shakespeare Festival. She was also seen at South Coast Repertory Theater's Pacific Playwright's Festival as Bianca in Amy Freed's new play *Shrew!* Sierra is a graduate of the California Institute of the Arts with a BFA in acting. <http://sierracu.wixsite.com/sierrajolene>

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY LISA COHEN & MIKE STEP**



**JUSTIN LANG** (Whit) This is Justin's North Coast Repertory Theatre debut. He has worked with; ion Theatre, Diversionary, Intrepid, Moxie, La Jolla Playhouse, New Village Arts, and Sierra Rep. Mr. Lang is currently teaching and directing with San Diego Junior Theatre. He is a company member and the production manager for New Fortune Theatre Company.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY SHIRLEY & HAROLD PIDGEON**



**MAX MACKE** (Carlson) is ecstatic to be back at North Coast Rep. He was last seen here in *Way Downriver* as Deputy Buckworth and *Leading Ladies* as Butch. Other credits include: Moe in *Awake and Sing*, Brendan in the Weir, Bob Ewell in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Martini in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Carlino in *Wait Until Dark* and Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing* for New Village Arts. Stanley in *The Birthday Party* with New Fortune. Jeff Skilling in *Enron*, and the Devil in *Eurydice* for Moxie. Max is an original member of the Poor Players Theatre Company, with whom he appeared in over a dozen Shakespearean plays. Max would like to thank his wife and daughter for their continued love and support.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY REENA HOROWITZ**

# PROFILES



**NICHOLAS MONGIARDO-COOPER\*** (Lennie) Off-Broadway: *Rothschild and Sons*, *Lonesome Traveler*, *Julius Caesar*. NY: *SubUrbia*, *The Female Terrorists Project*, *Iolanthe*, *Slavs!*, *Three Days of Rain*. Regional: *Our Lady of 121st St.*, *Ferdinand the Bull*, *Behind the Gates*, *Slaughterhouse Five* (Action!) *Once*, *Lucky Duck*, *The Borrowers*, *Edward Tulane* (SCR), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (SBCCLLO), *Words By* (SDTCC Nom.), *Side By Side By Sondheim*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Great Nome Gold Rush* (North Coast Rep), and *Side Show* (La Jolla Playhouse). TV: "Fuller House" (Netflix/WB), "Superstore" (NBCUniversal) "Casual" (HULU) LaGuardia High School, BFA: NYU. Proud AEA member since 2003. [www.nicholasmongiardocooper.com](http://www.nicholasmongiardocooper.com)

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY DEBRA & JIM LAMPLEY**



**JACOB SIDNEY\*** (George) *Uncanny Valley* (ICT Long Beach). Los Angeles: *The Tragedy of JFK* (The Blank); *The Behavior of Broadus*; *Hamlet Max* (Hamlet, Sacred Fools); *You Can't Take It With You* (Antaeus); *The Government Inspector*, *The Treatment* (Boston Court); Sparks' *The Seduction of Ingmar Bergman* (Ford Amphitheater, Dir. Guy Maddin); *Hamlet* (Horatio, Dir. Jessica Kubzansky); *Hamlet* (Guildenstern, *A Noise Within*, Dir. Michael Michetti); *The Beastly Bombing*; *Peer Gynt* (Peer). Films: "Worm," "Cockroaches," "Killer Bud," "The Velocity of Gary." Further stage: *Bent* (Horst); *The Normal Heart* (Felix); *A Chorus Line* (Paul); *The Grapes of Wrath* (Tom). Baritone Soloist, San Gabriel Valley Choral Company.

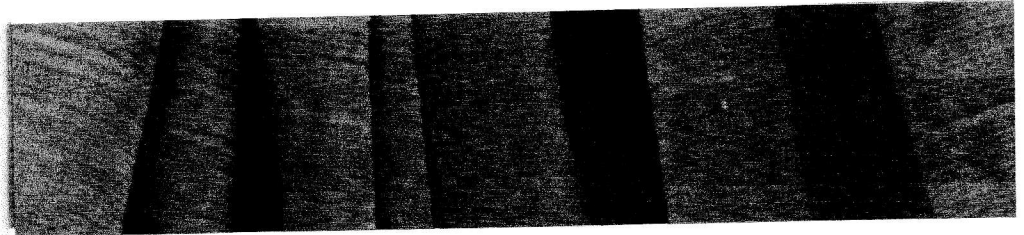
**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY DORI & JEFF PATTERSON**



**LYNNIA SHANLEY** (Curley's Wife Understudy) Proud graduate of The University of the Arts (Philly) with a BFA in Theatre Arts with continued studies specializing in physical theatre & devising movement at The Actors Movement Studio NYC, Headlong Performance Institute & MCIT along with many others. Theatre: *An Ideal Husband* (Walnut Street Theater), *Reasons to be Pretty* (Ion Theatre Company), *August Osage County* (Arden Theatre), *MORT* (New Paradise Laboratories). Co-manager to the San Diego modern rock band Ki. Big thanks to Richard, cast & NCRT for inviting me to the ranch!

**AARON RUMLEY\*** (Stage Manager) has stage managed over 50 shows at North Coast Rep, and designed lights, sound, and projections. Aaron received a BA in Theatre from University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and is the Production Manager at the North Coast Repertory Theatre. Aaron is a member of Actor's Equity Association.

**THIS ARTIST SPONSORED BY THE ESTATE OF REE & MAURICE MILLER**



**SONNY** (Candy's Dog) would like to thank his owners **Fran and Dan Morilak** for allowing him to make his debut at North Coast Rep.

## DESIGN TEAM

**MARTY BURNETT** (Resident Scenic Designer) Marty is in his 26th season as Resident Designer/Technical Director at North Coast Rep. He has designed the last 175 shows. Other venues include Laguna Playhouse, Portland Stage Company, Drury Lane [Chicago], Claridge Hotel (Atlantic City), Union Plaza, Sahara Hotel, Hacienda in Las Vegas, Coronado Playhouse, Scripps Ranch Theater, Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Marty is a proud alumnus of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

**MATTHEW NOVOTNY** (Light Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to 40 shows over the past seven years. Matthew is currently the Lighting Designer in Residence for San Diego Musical Theatre as well as North Coast Rep, and his work can be seen at a wide variety of theatres across San Diego. Matthew holds a BA in Technical Theatre from San Diego State, and a master's degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is married to his beautiful wife Amanda, with 3 gorgeous children: Ragan, Harper and Heston.

**ELISA BENZONI** (Costume Design) is thrilled to be working with North Coast Rep again. Previous work with North Coast Repertory Theatre includes: *At This Evening's Performance*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Travels with my Aunt*, *The Fox on the Fairway*, for which she was nominated for a Craig Noel Award; Other select credits: *Sex with Strangers* (Geffen Playhouse), *Constellations* (Old Globe) *Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre*, *Reckless*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Measure for Measure* (Old Globe/USO); *The Who and The What*, *Our Town*, *Tall Girls*, *Brahaman/1*, *Sam Bendrix at the Bon Soir* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Emilie*, *Sylvia*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (New Village Arts), *Snakeskin*, *Lifeblood Harmony*, *Chagall*, *A Man Found Wanting* (Malashock Dance); *The Storm*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *A Man, His Wife, and His Hat* (UCSD). Elisa holds a costume design MFA from UCSD. [www.elisabenzoni.com](http://www.elisabenzoni.com).

**ANDREA GUTIERREZ** (Prop Design) has been working at North Coast Rep since 2012, beginning as the Stage Manager and Prop Master for our theatre school. She worked as backstage crew for the 32nd and the beginning of the 33rd Season, before taking over as Supervising House Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. She has done prop design for numerous shows at North Coast Rep, as well as two seasons as Properties Assistant at Starlight Theatre. She received her B.A. in Theatrical Design and Production from UCLA's School of Theatre, Film & Television, and a M.A. from Johns Hopkins University.

**CREW — HANNAH DORSS**