hub theatre company of boston

Lauren Elias – Producing Artistic Director
Daniel Bourque – Associate Artistic Director

www.hubtheatreboston.org **hubtheatreboston**
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PRODUCTION HISTORY 2013 - 2025

2013 • *Lebensraum* • *Love, Loss & What I Wore* • *Goodly Creatures* • *Sand Mountain* • **2014** • *Three Days of Rain* • *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* • *6 Hotels* • **2015** • *Loot* • *Laughing Wild* • *The Love of the Nightingale* • **2016** • *"Art"* • *The Good Body* • *Wit* • **2017** • *Coyote on a Fence* • *Waiting for Waiting for Godot* • *Robyn is Happy* • **2018** • *True West* • *The Taming* • *Peter and the Starcatcher* • **2019** • *The Clearing* • *Steel Magnolias* • *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* • **2020** • *Intermittent Dreams* • *Much Ado About Nothing* • **2021** • *Solitaire Suite* • *Love's Labour's Lost* • **2022** • *Slow Food* • *Into The Breeches!* • **2023** • *Love, Loss & What I Wore* • *The Book of Will* • **2024** • *Burn This* • *46 Plays for Americas First Ladies* • *Tartuffe* • **2025** • *The Understudy* •

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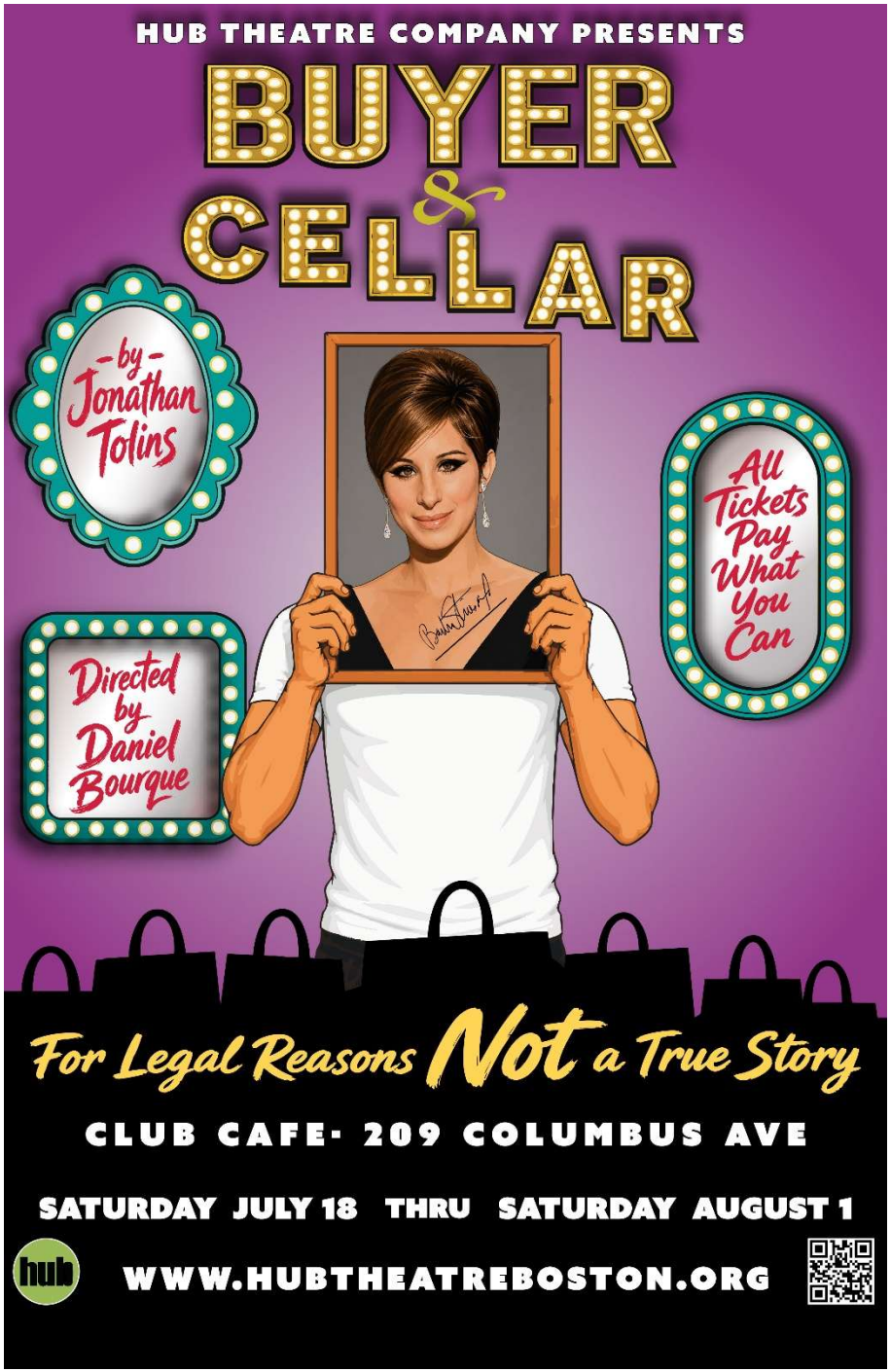
2026 HUB THEATRE COMPANY OF BOSTON SEASON

The Bald Soprano & The Lesson
By Eugène Ionesco
February 20 – March 8
Boston Center for the Arts

Buyer & Cellar
By Jonathan Tolins
July 18 - August 1
Club Cafe

ALWAYS PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN
EVERY SEAT, EVERY SHOW, EVERY TIME



Hub Theatre Company of Boston presents

Buyer & Cellar

By Jonathan Tolins

Directed by Daniel Bourque

CAST

Victor L. Shopov
as Alex More

PRODUCTION TEAM

Lauren Elias	Producer
Nona Ferney	Stage Manager/Dance Captain
Zel Tracey	Assistant Stage Manager
Kiki Samko	Choreographer
Justin Lahue*	Set/Projection Design
Sara LaFever	Prop Designer
Gage Baker*	Sound Designer
Rachael Harned	Lighting Designer
Cate Healey	Costume Designer
Taylor Kaufman	Technical Director
Nate C. Kelleher	Production Manager
Maddy Poston	A1
Brooks Reeves	Poster art

**Member of United Scenic Artists Local USA 829*

Time & Place: Now and then. A basement in Malibu.

The play runs approximately 100 minutes with no intermission

Flashing lights are used during this production

CONSIDER YOURSELF WARNED: this play includes gay humor, dick jokes and creepy dolls. It also includes sunglasses, frozen yogurt, obscure film references, unhealthy doses of snark, and Yiddish!

JONATHAN TOLINS (playwright) is best known as the playwright of *Buyer & Cellar*, one of the most produced plays in America in 2016. The play won the Lucille Lortel Award for Best Solo Show and was named "Best Unique Theatrical Experience" by the Off-Broadway Alliance. Other plays include *The Last Sunday in June*, *Twilight of the Golds*, and *Secrets of the Trade*. Tolins co-wrote the book for *Take the Lead* with his husband Robert Cary which premiered at the Paper Mill Playhouse in 2025. He is the showrunner and executive producer of *Elsbeth*, which just concluded its critically acclaimed third season, and his television credits also include *Schmigadoon!* and *Queer as Folk*.

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SPECIAL THANKS

Club Cafe, Boston Center for the Arts, Madison Park Development, The Dewitt Center, Prop Co-op, Suffolk University, Alma Elias, Kristin MacDougall, Reginald Johnson, Maggie Steig, Katie Kuan-Yu Chen, Cleveland 'Mac' Nicoll, Jim Henson and the Muppets, Kai Chao, and of course Barbra – we love you!

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Hub Theatre Company of Boston

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Harvard, Northeastern, Suffolk, Brandeis, and College of the Holy Cross. He holds a BA in Theatre from Suffolk University and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. **www.justinlahue.com**

SARA LAFEVER (Props Design) is a prop manager and artisan based in Boston. She graduated from Boston University in 2025 with a degree in Film & Television and discovered her passion for props through a theatre club on campus. She's previously worked on *Time to Act*, *Urinetown*, and *Legally Blonde* for Boston Conservatory and on the world premieres of *Sacco and Vanzetti's Divine Comedy* and *Southern Harmony* for Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater. She's so excited to work on her first show with Hub Theatre and hope you enjoy the show!

CATE HEALEY (Costume designer) is so excited to be working on *Buyer & Cellar*! She is a recent graduate of Suffolk University and will be attending Boston University in the fall for her MFA in Costume Production.

GAGE BAKER (Sound Design) is a New York-based sound designer who is thrilled to be returning for his 3rd summer with HUB. His work has been heard at New York Theatre Workshop, SpeakEasy Stage, Catastrophic Theatre, Rec Room Arts, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, Geva Theatre, Shakespeare in Clark Park, Moonbox Productions, Adam Theatre, Commonwealth Lyric Theater, Wheelock Family Theatre, Blumenthal Arts, and the Wang, Shubert, and Emerson Colonial Theaters. Recent credits include Off-Broadway's *Tartuffe* starring Matthew Broderick and Bianca Del Rio, *iBoss* at Great Barrington Public Theater, and *Driving Miss Daisy* at Axelrod Arts. He is the recipient of the 2025 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Sound Design and recently concluded a 322-performance run as audio engineer for *Blue Man Group*. Gage holds a BFA from the University of Houston, an MFA from Boston University, and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. **gagebaker.com**

RACHAEL HARNED (Lighting Designer) Is thrilled to be working with HUB! Rachael works in theatre, dance, ballet and opera. As a recent MFA graduate from Boston University, she is excited with each opportunity she has had to work in the performing arts here in Boston. Recent lighting design credits include: *Urinetown*, *Good Breeding* (Boston Conservatory at Berkley), *Calf Scramble*, *Florencia en el Amazonas* (Boston University), *Echoes of Time*, *Unchosen* (Cambridge Dance Complex), *Classical Queens* (The Morrison Center), *Between Here and There* (Boise Contemporary Theatre) **rachael-harned.com**

NATE KELLEHER (Production Management) is so excited to be back with the crew here at Hub after working on *The Bald Soprano & The Lesson* and *The Understudy* in a stage management capacity. He is very grateful to be working beside an incredible team of people. You can find him later this year working with The Huntington's Calderwood Pavilion and with the recently launched Revolution StageWorks. **nateckelleher.carrd.co** *@nate_c_kelleher*

Welcome to *Buyer & Cellar* the second show of the Hub's fourteenth season as we return to our summer home at Club Cafe. A fabulous, fast-paced, frozen yogurt filled farce, *Buyer & Cellar* is an outrageous comedy about the price of fame and the funny side of retail therapy. Descend with us into the world of Alex More, an unemployed actor who lands the role of a lifetime running the private shopping mall in Barbra Streisand's basement after an ill-fated stint as a cast member at Disneyland. At first things are fine, until Alex finds himself in over his head, because when your boss is a world-famous celebrity, every day is filled with drama. One man, one mall, one very famous customer… what could possibly go wrong?!

Buyer & Cellar is a one-man show and features long time Hub favorite Elliot Norton and IRNE award winning actor Victor Shopov in every role. This show concludes our current season, but we hope to announce our next one soon so please subscribe to our mailing list and follow us on social media for all the exciting details.

Thank you for supporting live theatre - as you know, we are Boston's only pay-what-you-can theatre, every show, every seat, every time, and we appreciate your support. Enjoy the show!

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CAST

VICTOR L. SHOPOV (Alex) is very happy to return to Hub after previously appearing in *Burn This*, *Slow Food*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, *True West*, and *Art*. Other local credits include *People, Places, and Things* (Elliot Norton Award, Outstanding Production) and *Bad Jews* with Speakeasy Stage Company; *Steve*, *Faceless*, *The Boys in the Band*, *The Submission*, *Bent* (Elliot Norton Award, Outstanding Actor; IRNE Awards, Best Actor & Best Play), *The Normal Heart* (Boston My Theatre Award, Best Actor; IRNE Award, Best Play), *Punk Rock* (Elliot Norton Award, Outstanding Production), *Enron* (IRNE Award, Best Actor), and *Farragut North*, all with Zeitgeist Stage Company; and *Death of a Salesman*, *33 Variations*, and *The Temperamentals* with the Lyric Stage Company. Outside of theater, Victor works in research administration for Massachusetts General Hospital and enjoys a semi-prolific voiceover career. He is a graduate of both Emerson College and Northeastern University.

PRODUCTION TEAM

DANIEL BOURQUE (Director) has directed plays in bars, churches, a tent, a barn, and on Zoom. A three-time IRNE nominee, his Hub productions include *Burn This*, *Slow Food*, *Solitaire Suite*, *The Clearing*, *True West*, *Coyote on a Fence*, *Art*, *Loot*, *Six Hotels* (Co-directed with John Geoffrion) and *Three Days of Rain*. Other credits include John Geoffrion's *Our Town Plus Zombies* (Providence Fringe) and *Bad Hamlet* (Providence and Seacoast Fringe) Trent England's *A Play About Nothing* (PortFringe and the Providence Fringe) and Leslie Powell's *The Way Life Should Be* at the Actor's Studio of Newburyport. He began his career at Capital Repertory Theatre in Albany, NY as Assistant to the Artistic Director/Literary Intern where he spent two years and has also worked with Stageworks in Hudson NY, and the Westport Country Playhouse. A member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab and Directors Lab West, he is a graduate of the University of Southern Maine and a Maine native.

NONA FERNEY (Stage Manager & Dance Captain) Select Regional Credits: Playhouse on Park's *Steel Magnolias* (Asst. Stage Manager), The Connecticut Shakespeare Festival (Asst. Stage Manager), *In The Heights* (Asst. Stage Manager), and The Hub Theatre Company of Boston's *The Bald Soprano & The Lesson* (Stage Manager). Select Emerson Stage credits: *16 Winters* (2nd Asst. Stage Manager), *POTUS*: … (1st Asst. Stage Manager), and …*Spelling Bee* (Stage Manager). Select Emerson College credits: *Tanner Maverick's Book of Sound* (Producer) and *Hair* (Producer), EmShakes' *No Exit* (Producer) and *The Inheritance* (Stage Manager), Mercutio Troupe's *The Effect* and *The Thanksgiving Play* (Producer), and The ERA Awards 2024 & 2025 (Production Supervisor / Stage Manager). Nona also holds the 2025 ERA Award of Distinction. Nona holds their BFA in Stage & Production Management from Emerson College and works full-time as the Associate Producer of Emerson College's UnCommon Corner Presented by PNC Bank. They are so excited to be working with Hub again!

ZEL TRACEY (Assistant Stage Manager) Previous work has been with Cunning Folk Theatre Company: Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* (stage manager, lighting designer, sound designer), *A Neufaust* (costume designer), *Stories* (stage manager, lighting designer, sound designer) *2 1/2 Lesbians* (stage manager, sound designer). Zel has worked variously as a haunted house scarer, gift shop attendant, and bartender; experiences which, combined with an AA in Theater from BHCC and endless support from friends, family, and their partner, have given them the chance to help with the creation of something here they're very excited about.

KIKI SAMKO (Choreographer) is a feminist, fashionista, fitness enthusiast, and fringe theatre-maker. Past credits with Hub include *Burn This* (Anna); *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* (Assistant & Movement Director); *The Understudy* (Choreographer) and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Movement). She is director in residence and ensemble member with the Gold Dust Orphans and a frequent collaborator with imaginary beasts, where she co-writes, choreographs, and performs in their annual Panto. Her work onstage as a director, performer, and choreographer has been critically acclaimed. She trained in dance at the Dance Place in Arlington and Mary Flynn Murphy Dance Studio in Somerville, as well as at Tufts University, and the Actor's Movement Studio in New York City. This one is dedicated to her Small Witch, Diane, who Barbra would have loved. **www.kikisamko.com**

LAUREN ELIAS (Producer) Selected area acting credits include Hub Theatre's *The Bald Soprano & The Lesson*, Tartuffe (Elliot Norton Award Nominee- Outstanding Actor and Outstanding Production), *The Book of Will*, *Into The Breeches!* (Elliot Norton Award Nominee-Outstanding Production), *Love, Loss and What I Wore*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* (IRNE Award Nominee-Best Play/Best Ensemble), *Wit* (IRNE Award Nominee-Best Supporting Actress); She has also worked with Arlekin Players, Theatre UnCorked, Hovey Players, Dream Role Players, The Gold Dust Orphans T@F, Speakeasy Stage, and Commonwealth Shakespeare. Much love and gratitude to this amazing team for all their hard work and dedication.

JUSTIN LAHUE (Scenic/Projections Designer) is a Boston based theatre artist and filmmaker. Hub credits: *The Bald Soprano & The Lesson*, *Tartuffe* (Elliot Norton nomination), *The Understudy*, *46 Plays For America's First Ladies*, *Burn This*, *Love, Loss and What I Wore*, *Into the Breeches*, *Slow Food*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Solitaire Suite*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, *The Clearing*. Boston Credits: Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Central Square, Company One, Wheelock Family Theater, Firehouse Center for the Arts, Speakeasy Stage. NYC: My Dinner With André (Harbor Stage) and *Click* (world premiere - The Tank). Regional: Alleyway Theatre, Harbor Stage, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater (2022 BroadwayWorld Award - *Straight White Men*), Seacoast Repertory Theatre (2025 BroadwayWorld Award - *The Wild Party*), and Westport Country Playhouse. Film: *A Passage of Time*, *The Drive to Sing*, *Not on This Night* (Cannes Film Award, Regional Emmy nomination). He is a frequent guest artist and speaker for colleges across New England with select credits at Boston Conservatory,