

the epic **warning** about
absolute power...

THE
RESISTIBLE
RISE OF
ARTURO UI
by Bertolt Brecht



12 Performances
Sept 27 - Oct 13
MLTLive.org

produced and directed by
Greg Mancusi-Ungaro

marblehead little theatre **2024**

mlt

Marblehead Little Theatre

translated by George Tabori,
revised by Alistair Beaton,
presented with the cooperation
of the heirs of Bertolt Brecht

Director's Note

"The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" seems an ordinary tale about grocers and grifters and cauliflower and vegetables. But it's an epic tale, birthed in dangerous times, that deals with the most important questions that a society can face. In this darkest of comedies, Brecht lays bare the fragility of the democratic system, reminding all that it is so easily threatened by those who are not afraid to upend societal conventions, subvert the justice system, and corruptly use the threat of violence and actual violence to bring a people to their knees in front of an all-powerful tyrant.

At the end of the evening, you may think that Arturo Ui is "ripped from the headlines." But that is the core of Brecht's ironic message. He was "ripping" from headlines that are now almost one hundred years old. And similar headlines have been written many times since then. Hopefully they will not need to be written too many more times.

Brecht's timeless story about grifters wanting to take over Chicago's grocery trade is a warning. He begs us to look around our world and take notice. He implores us to stand up and fight back. To resist. Before it is too late. Before we lose that which is most precious. Are we equal to the task?

Steven Levitsky writes in his book, *How Democracies Die*: "If a charismatic outsider emerges on the scene, gaining popularity as he challenges the old order, it is tempting for establishment politicians who feel their control is unraveling to try to co-opt him. ... And then, establishment politicians hope the insurgent can be redirected to support their own program. This sort of devil's bargain often mutates to the benefit of the insurgent ..."

Thank you, to this amazing cast and team. It has been my great privilege to get to know these actors, and with them explore Brecht's language, his characters, and his deeper meanings. It has been a powerful (and humbling) journey.

We present, for your consideration, "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui."

Greg Mancusi-Ungaro

The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui by Bertolt Brecht

translated by George Tabori
and Alistair Beaton

Presented with cooperation of the Heirs of Bertolt Brecht

Scene/Locations

Chicago, the Depression

Part 1		Intermission	
Prologue		Part 2	
Scene 1	A private club	Scene 9	A courtroom
Scene 2	A downtown bar	Scene 10	A country house
Scene 3	Ui's room's	Scene 11	Ui's rooms
Scene 4	A country house	Scene 12	A garage
Scene 5	City Hall	Scene 13	Givola's shop
Scene 6	Ui's rooms	Scene 14	A cemetery
Scene 7	A warehouse	Scene 15	A cemetery
Scene 8	A street	Scene 16	A large meeting hall

Cast

Billy Lewand.....	Arturo Ui
Cornelius Twohig.....	Ernesto Roma
Victor Brandalise.....	Guisseppi Givola
Stephen Turner.....	Emanuele Giri
John Melczer.....	Clark
Dave Foye.....	Butcher
Junior Therenciel.....	Sheet
Cole Brown.....	Bowl/Inna
Carla Perrotta.....	Betty Dullfoot
William Engelbrecht.....	Tedd Ragg/Ignatious Dullfoot
June Dever.....	Dockdaisy
Norman Bendroth.....	Dogsborough
Christopher Vazquez.....	Young Dogsborough
Tim Doane.....	Greenwool
Jim Butterfield.....	The Actor
Nora Falk.....	O'Casey
Michelle Gatta.....	Smith
Steve Feiven.....	Policeman, Ensemble
Jeremy Kovac.....	Ensemble

Production Staff

Producer/Director.....	Greg Mancusi-Ungaro
Stage Manager.....	Lisa Fama
Set Designer.....	Greg Mancusi-Ungaro & Andrew Barnett
Lighting Designer.....	Greg Mancusi-Ungaro
Sound Designer.....	Greg Mancusi-Ungaro
Costume Designer.....	Laura Dillon
Props Manager/Set Dressing.....	Lynn Turner
Artist/Painter.....	Alicia Cohen
Set Construction & Painting.....	Lou Schoenthal & Andrew Barnett
Technical Director.....	Andrew Barnett

Cast Bios



Norman Bendroth (Dogsborough) Norman is thrilled to be in his first show at the MLT. He has trained at the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute and Boston Casting. Last summer, h was in “Love in An Elevator,” a play which premiered at the Boston Center for the Arts. Norman has acted in twelve short films, including “Citizens of Kattaquam,” which was nominated for a Best Independent Short Film award in Boston. He has also done voiceover for two productions, one of which is an anime feature film” A’Tika.”



Victor Brandalise (Guisseppi Givola) most recently performed at MLT in "Arsenic and Old Lace" as Teddy Brewster. He has been performing on stage in New Hampshire, Texas, New Jersey, and California.



Cole Brown (Bowl/Inna) Cole began acting his sophomore year of high school. When he graduated, he went to Dean College for a degree in theatre. After two years, he decided that he wanted to try his luck in the professional world, auditioning for every project he could find. This will be his second performance at MLT, with his most recent theatrical performance being the "Court Scribe" for “Mother of the Maid” Other notable roles Cole has played were Colonel Mustard in “Clue,” Slim in “Of Mice and Men,” and Grandfather in “The Dining Room.”



Jim Butterfield (Master of Ceremonies, ensemble) Jim appeared in the very first show at the Firehouse, as the StageManager in Our Town. He has done a few other shows for MLT, most recently as Father Garnett in Equivocation.



June Dever (Dockdaisy) June is excited to make her debut performance with MLT. When not onstage, she works as a IT Project Manager and a Zumba Instructor. Favorite past theatrical roles include Mrs. Muller in *Doubt*, *A Parable*, Suzy in *Wait Until Dark*, and Anne Boleyn in *As She Likes It*. She is

thankful to be part of such a welcoming and talented cast and sends a special thank you to Darin for his continued love and support.



Tim Doane (Greenwool) Tim just beginning his acting career. He makes his debut in *Arturo Ui*. "Everyone here helps each other and has welcomed this newcomer with open arms!" He looks forward to more parts in future plays



William Engelbrecht (Ted Ragg/Ignatius Dullfoot) William is passionate about all aspects of the theatre. William enjoyed acting in his high school productions of *Les Miserables* and *Hello Dolly*. He enjoys singing, playing musical instruments and spending time with his two children. This is William's MLT acting debut!. William is looking

forward to many more theatre productions!



Nora Falk (O'Casey, ensemble) Nora is beyond thrilled to play Brecht at MLT, where she has been seen and heard in various roles since her move from Vienna to the US in 2001. A definite highlight in her acting resume was to originate the role of Erika Buchmann in Anne Lucas' "*From Silence*", first at the Theater for The New City in NYC under Peter

Zachari's direction and then again at MLT under John Fogle. Last October, again in NYC, she played Gertrude in "*The Chesapeake Chicks*", written and directed by Peter Zachari. Off stage, Nora is an avid student of languages and history, anti-fascist, postcard writer and award-winning textile artist.



Steven Feiven (A gangster) Steven is thrilled to be performing his first show with Marblehead Little Theater! Steven is a lifelong resident of Marblehead. He is a chef and a baker at Treat Baking company in Hamilton , MA. He has performed at Salem State University as Chief In One Flew Over the Cookoo's Nest,,at St Peter's Church as Antonio in The Tempest, at stage 284 in the adult ensemble in Oliver! He also once played the King of Siam in The King and I at Marblehead High School. Steven Studied Theater at the Stella Adler Conservatory of acting at New York University and at Salem State University.



David Foye (Butcher) David has appeared in several recent MLT productions, including The Great Gatsby, Tuck Everlasting, Equivocation, Gypsy, Translations and Young Frankenstein. Although he began his theatre career in his late 50's, he is a dedicated supporter of MLT. He is very excited to be a part of the Resistance.



Michelle Gatta (Smith, ensemble) Michelle has worked at theatres from Cambridge to Marblehead as actor, dance coach, and make-up artist. Credits include "Our Town," "Caucasian Chalk Circle," "Marat/ Sade," "Through The Looking Glass," and "Balcony Scene." She is a historical interpreter at three Colonial Era properties in Marblehead and Salem. She appears in Fort Sewall Tours By Fort Rangers, an MHTV Online Video Special.



Jeremy Kovac (Ensemble) Jeremy has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sound Design fro Marymount Manhattan College. He has been volunteering at the Marblehead Little Theatre for the past few years as a follow spot, sound designer and stage crew member. Jeremy has worked on "Spamalot," "The Pirates of Penzance," and "A Gentleman's Guide To

Love and Murder."



Billy Lewand (Arturo Ui) Billy is a Salem-based actor making his debut with MLT. Recent roles include Caliban in “The Tempest” (Olde Essex Stage Company) and Cecil in “The Importance of Being Earnestine” (Castle Hill Productions). Next up he will be co-directing “Twelfth Night” with Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe. Much love and gratitude to the rest of the cast for this wild and fun experience, and Emily, Junebug, and the rest of his friends and family for their constant support!"



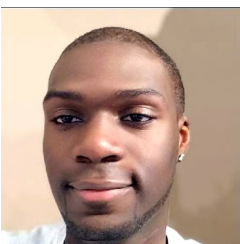
John Melczer (Clark) is an aspiring writer. Why not? Previous acting credits (with Director John Fogle) include: “The Marriage Proposal” (Lomov), “Equivocation” (Tom Wintour & Edward Coke), “The Sunshine Boys” (Patient zero), “The Crucible” (Reverend Parris), “The Visit” (sedan chairman).

Other ensemble pieces include: “One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest”, “The Odd Couple”, “The Tempest”, “Fiddler on the Roof”, “Inherit the Wind”. There are also three films: “Straight to the Heart of the Sun”, “The Mirrored Horse”, “Variations on a Theme By 1167 @ 2008.” John would like to dedicate his performance to Stanzi, Wilbur, & Wolfie (RIP).



Carla Perrotta (Betty Dullfoot) is thrilled to make her MLT debut with this production. She has performed with various theatre groups in the area including Footlight Club, Theatre III and Moonbox. Favorite past roles include Curley's Wife in Of Mice and Men, Mollie in The Mousetrap, and Actress/Lizzie Borden in Blood Relations, for which

she received a DASH award nomination for Lead Performance in a Drama. Offstage, Carla is an attorney.



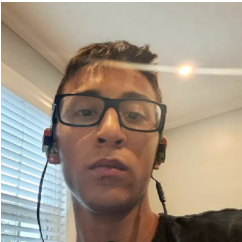
Junior Therenciel (Sheet, ensemble) This is my first acting gig and I am enjoying every minute of it. As a former spoken word poet I'm now happy to add actor to my resume.



Stephen Turner (Emanuele Giri) Steve is excited to be back home on the MLT stage; he's also appeared here in "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Equivocation," "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime," and "The Tempest." Some other stage credits: "Anna Christie" (Tower Theatre, London), "King Lear" (Cape Ann Shakespeare Troupe), "The Birds" (Theatre at First), "The Unexpected Guest" (Stage 284), "Pygmalion" (Flat Earth Theatre).



Cornelius Twohig (Ernesto Roma) Cornelius is happily returning to the MLT stage where he was last seen as Jaques D'Arc in "Mother of the Maid." Relatively new to the North Shore, he has been in multiple productions in the Washington, DC area, most recently as Banquo in "Macbeth" with the Port Tobacco Players. He has also appeared in many TV and film productions filmed in the DC area and hopes to do the same here. Thanks to Greg for allowing me to join "The Resistance." Thanks also to my family, and a heartfelt thanks to my friend and line coach, Sue.



Christopher Vasquez (Young Dogsborough) is a resident of Marbehead. "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" marks the first time he has been cast in an MLT mainstage production.

Production Team Bios

BERTOLT BRECHT (Playwright) Born in Bavaria, 1898. At 24, his cutting-edge *Drums in the Night* won him Expressionist recognition. His quickly written *Threepenny Opera* was Germany's greatest hit of the 1920s. Revolutionary in form for 1928 Berlin – non-operatic, anti-highbrow musical theater – and cynically satirical, it irritated the Nazis; Brecht left Germany with his family in 1933. He continued to write in Scandinavia (e.g. *Mother Courage*) until the Nazi invasion. In California, along with some work for Hollywood he wrote *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *Galileo*, produced in L.A. in 1947. The House Un-American Activities Committee interrogated him that same year; he left the U.S. the following day. He established the Berliner Ensemble in 1949 in East Berlin, opening *Mother Courage* with his wife Helene Weigel; its 1954 tour to Paris brought him recognition as Europe's most important director, a year before his untimely illness and death.

Greg Mancusi-Ungaro (Producer/Director) has worked extensively as a producer, director, and designer at theatres from Providence to Gloucester. Recent producing and design credits include the musicals "Once on this Island," *The Pajama Game*, "Guys and Dolls," "Godspell," "Tuck Everlasting," "Gypsy," "The Light in the Piazza+," and "The Addams Family;" Plays include "The Elephant Man," "Reckless," "Wit," "Swimming in the Shallows," "The Real Thing," "Heroes," "Shining City," "Our Town," "Deathtrap," "An Inspector Calls+," "Terra Nova+," "Death of Salesman," "Equivocation," "Translations+," and *Mother of the Maid+* Greg has created numerous designs for ballet and modern dance, including for the Nina Weiner Dance Company, Wheaton College Dance Company, Coastline Ballet, and *Illusions in Dance*. He has received multiple EMACT/DASH award nominations, earning a recent DASH award for his lighting design work on the MLT production of "Translations." Greg is committed to theatre education and has been active at the secondary and university levels. He was a member of the professional staff at the Williamstown Theatre Festival in the 1970s,, taught and worked at SUNY Fredonia in the early 1980s, and, more recently, at Wheaton College and Emmanuel College. *Arturo Ui* is the first show Greg has directed at MLT. (+DASH Award Nomination)

Lisa Fama (Stage Manager) is happy to be working on a show after many years toiling in the business world. This is much more fun. She studied theatre as an undergraduate at Saint Michael's College. "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" is Lisa's first MLT credit -- she hopes it is the first of many.

Laura Dillon (Costumer) has costumed shows including "Something Rotten", "Mother of the Maid", "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder," "The Great Gatsby," "Plaza Suite," "Tuck Everlasting" (Marblehead Little Theatre), "As You Like It," "The Importance of Being Ernestine," "Romeo and Juliet," "Arcadia," "Sense and Sensibility" (Castle Hill), "Show Me Eternity" (Culture Lab and New York Theatre Festival). Laura was awarded the 2024 EMACT/DASH award for best costumes for her work on "Something Rotten."

Lynn Turner (Props) is a retired Public Health Nurse. I am honored to be

working with all the amazing and talented cast and crew. I am greatly appreciate all those who provided support and shared their expertise with sourcing props and having trust in me!

My experience with MLT as Prop Maven includes "Equivocation"(DASH Nominee) , "Tuck Everlasting" and "Arsenic and old Lace" and "Mother of the Maid". Previous experience with the Arts includes many years of being a backstage Dance Mom/Grandmother and backstage seamstress at Paulette's Dance school of Needham and Anthony William's "Urban Nutcracker". So many feathers and sequins! Supported CAST tour in London("Anna Christie)" with set painting. Set Nurse for PBS's 1995 documentary " You Don't Have to Ride Jim Crow".

Andrew Barnett (Technical Director) designed and built his first set at the Marblehead Middle (Village) School in 1992 for *Fiddler on the Roof*. Since then, he has built sets for Rebel Shakespeare Company, Endicott College, Gordon College, Opera Boston, Gloucester Stage, Roxbury Center for the Arts, MassJam, Perkins School for the Blind, Boston Center for the Arts, Mssng Lnks, and Marblehead Little Theatre. Andy was a member of the production team as master carpenter, designer and technical director of Watertown based Revels Inc., for more than 25 years, creating The Summer Revels, Riversing, and The Christmas Revels His shows are dedicated to his wife Jessica, sons Nick and

Jeremy and their spouses, and grandchildren Jacob, Vivienne, and Rose, and to Marblehead Little Theatre for providing great live theatre to patrons of all ages.

The logo for Marblehead Little Theatre, featuring the lowercase letters 'mlt' in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Marblehead Little Theatre

2024-25 SEASON

THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF ARTURO UI

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 13, 2024

BY BERTOLT BRECHT

DIRECTED BY GREG MANCUSI-UNGARO

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

JANUARY 17-26, 2025

BY ARTHUR MILLER

DIRECTED BY KOLTON BRADLEY

LITTLE WOMEN THE MUSICAL

FEBRUARY-MARCH, 2025

BOOK BY ALLAN KNEE, MUSIC BY JASON HOWLAND

LYRICS BY MINDI DICKSTEIN

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

DIRECTED BY ALEXANDRA DIETRICH

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Marblehead Little Theatre

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ARTURO UI THANK YOUs....

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Preferred Arms, Inc., Kris Holmes, The Huntington Theatre
Dayle Persons, Mark Sasha, Mary-Liz Murray
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