

IS HIS DREAM HERE YET?

Written and Directed by Casey Bell
The Strand Center for the Arts

STRAND

Lakewood, NJ

Friday, January 12, 2024 at 7:00PMEST

For Virtual Tickets readywritercsb.com

For In-Person Tickets strand.org

Welcome to "Is His Dream Here Yet?" As I write this with the knowledge I have, I am both excited and nervous for this production. Back in 2008, I was waiting for the bus, and a young gentleman came to the bus stop. Long story short, I judged him according to his appearance, and inwardly I made a prejudice comment. Holy Spirit caught me immediately. I then immediately humbly repented and asked for forgiveness. I then realized that I was a part of the problem and not the solution. A part of the problem of judging people by their looks and not by the content of their character. I was disappointed in myself and I knew then I had self-work to do. As I began to think, I realized it wasn't only skin color I was judging people by. It was clothing, demeaner, piercings, tattoos, etc., and I knew I had to do better. I then realize this wasn't a me problem or a they problem, this was a WE problem. We all are guilty of not judging by the content of character. I then decided to write a play for an audience who wants change and not an argument. I knew immediately it would be a different kind of play, weird, strange, odd, if you will. It took me two days to write the play. Due to lack of funds, I did not officially copyright it until 2012. Since 2008, I have sent the play or inquiry letters to theatre companies, theatre festivals, competitions, and contests. All inquires ended with rejections or declines. I then attempted to produce the show myself several times. I would quit though, as soon as a road block was seen. Recently in 2020, I started a Twitter page for ReadyWriter Co, to market and promote the play in hopes that someone would see the post and inquire about producing the

play. That turned into nothing. Finally in May 2023, I awoke and said I was going to produce this play. I didn't know the who, what, where, when, or the how, I simply knew I wanted to finally produce this play. As I began, I was hopeful and excited. By the time I got the location (Strand Center for the Arts) secured, I was really excited. As I began to look for actors, that's when I started to rethink the whole idea. I began to question whether or not this was meant to be. Everything else up until then was going fine. As time went on, I thought of quitting and cancelling the show multiple times. I finally prayed and asked for a solution, and I heard a voice. I wasn't sure who the voice was, at the time I ignored it. I was not about to do what I heard. As I continued to seek a cast for this show, things only got worst. I knew I only had two options, follow the voice or cancel the show. I have attempted to produce this show and I cancelled every time there was a road block. I decided I wasn't cancelling anymore. So, I went with that voice. An idea that seemed so strange to me. I decided to do it anyways. First, I decided to pre-record and edit this play into a video with the actors I could get. The rest of the actors as you will notice I chose to use Artificial Intelligence. It was not what I wanted; it was all I had. So, as you see some strange faces, I ask you do your best to pay more attention to the words, the dialog, and the monologues being spoken, because they are more important than the talent, whether they are human or AI. Thank you for being here. I greatly appreciate your support.

CAST



Roy Chay (Asian Male)

Model work- BeriWorks dining show, Concert commercial Film- 30 for 30, Music video Go back, The last message, Human in box **HBO-Boss!** As an artist I do have experiences of exploring and learning new things in many different fields. While attending Art school, I thought of numerous factors about life. Art and life have been connected close in modern

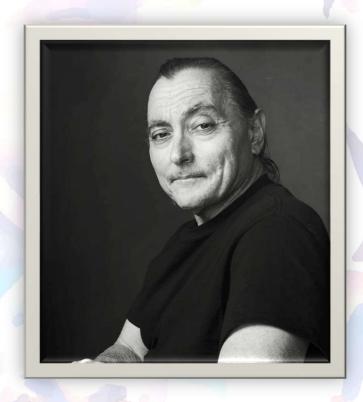
society. Combining life and art results in philosophy as a conclusion. Learning fine art deeply as an artist helped me to understand life deeply. Sometimes what started from conflict tend to be beautiful and there are enough cases where what we thought was right become wrong. Having worked in various fields, my experience has been come down to one conclusion. No matter what field you work in that needs management process. I majored in three different field: interior design, fine arts, and acting. After going through many conflicts over a long period of time, I became more matured artist. I believe that acting is understanding the character's life. Bringing the character in my own perspective makes actor realistic. I am a 26 years old well experienced artist who can enroll in many different roles.



Kathy Devitt, MA Ed (Brunette Woman)

Kathy Devitt MA Ed, is an actor, artist, teacher, and social worker from Beach Haven, NJ. Her acting credits include Miracle on 34th Street, Ebenezer, and Footloose with the Surflight Theatre, and Lend Me A Tenor, You Can't Take it with

you, Steel Magnolias, Hedda Gabler, and Calendar Girls with the Little Egg Theatre Company. Kathy is owner and instructor of Master Peace Art & Soul which offers children's art, music, and acting/theatre classes. Kathy is also employed by Saint Francis Center Family Support Services. Some things she enjoys are playing guitar and singing, arts and crafts, and shopping thrift stores and estate sales for vintage clothing and collectibles. She is happy to have this chance to work with and support her friend the talented artist Casey Bell.



Carlo Fiorletta
(White Man)
Carlo Fiorletta
played the lead
male in the feature
"Detours" with Paul
Sorvino and Deirdre
O'Connell,
streaming on TUBI
and other services
and available on
DVD. He recently

played elder Chimney in "Tate's Parade" (Instagram: tates_parade_film) and a lawyer in Casey Bell's "#MaleToo." He can be seen in several "Mysteries at the Museum" and Investigation Discovery dramas.

Stage credits: title roles in the Broadway Bound festival *Saving Stan* and Hemingway's *The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber*; mobster Sal in David Rabe's *Those the River Keeps*; and several Shakespeare and Chekhov roles.

He is married to Mara Lesemann.



Amari A. Flynn (Black Girl)

Amari Flynn, originally from South Carolina, moved to New York City in the Autumn of 2020 to begin a professional theatrical career.

Amari has attended

multiple artistic institutions (Fine Arts Center of Greenville, SC, SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, and AMDA). A few of Amari's credits include: Sleeper, The American I.D. Channel, and NATIVES.



Maffer Valsanz (Teen Girl)

Maffer Valsanz, a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, is a versatile talent trained in acting, vocals, dance, and musical theatre. As a soloist, her voice has graced two Cabarets, and she has performed with the Hillsong NYC

Choir. Maffer took center stage as the leading lady in "The Wizard of Oz" and has showcased her skills in plays like "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," "Flipping the Script," "Two Rooms," "The Drowning Girls," and "A Sketch of New York." With a dynamic blend of acting, singing, and dance, Maffer brings a captivating energy to the stage, making her a triple threat sensation in the world of performing arts.



Izabella Paz (White Girl)

Izabella Paz is a theatre and dance artist based in NYC. Izabella is a recent graduate from Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania where she studied acting and dance. Izabella recently finished a run of Snow White at the Santa Monica Playhouse where she worked and performed for children. Additionally, Izabella worked with playwright Jess Schumacher debuting the role of Atalanta in her play, "& Medea." Enjoy the show!



Casey Bell

Playwright, Director,
Producer, Editor
Casey Bell is a
playwright, published
author, ASCAP
songwriter, and
independent
screenwriter. He is the
founder of CSB Television
and ReadyWriter

Company. His play, "The Day the Rainbow Broke Up," was produced in 2017 (The Strollers Theatre Company, Maplewood, NJ, Director/Producer: Dena Daniel), 2019 (The Strollers Theatre Company, Maplewood, NJ), 2020 (ReadyWriter Co for The Strand Center for the Arts via CSB Television on YouTube), 2022 (Master Peace Art & Soul Children's Theatre Class, Director/Producer: Kathy Devitt), and 2023 (Venice Island Performing Arts and Recreational Center, Director/Producer: Dena Daniel). He produced his Live Sketch Comedy Show, CrazyFun in 2007 (Word Up Ministries, Inc - Woodbridge, NJ) and in 2012 at The Treco Theatre-Toms River, NJ. He recently produced the short films, Don't Rush, and #MaleToo for his online network, CSB Television (csbtv.co). He also has published an array of books. He is the proud uncle of 11 amazing people. Casey is happy to finally produce this show.

THANK YOU \$UPPORTERS

Thank you to those who financially supported this project.

Raleigh Bell Patty James Eileen Valentine

Thank you to the CAST for being a part of this project.

Additional actors were created with perchance.org/ai-text-to-image-generator d-id.com/
Videoleap App

Thank you to the Staff and Crew of The Strand Center for the Arts. Thank you to Amy Freeman, Caitlyn Jones, and Karen Ann for your help and assistance.

