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Is A Door Productions  
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Book, Music and Lyrics  
by Sam Pitt-Stoller

August 8, 10, 13, 16, & 24

Theatre 80  
80 St. Mark's Place  
New York, NY

FringenYC 2014

**Hadass Silver** (Assistant Director) became involved in theater at four, and performed in two off-Broadway productions: as rain in Lasall Preschool's "The Little Red Hen" and Argo the Alien in Franklin Elementary School's "Be Smart, Don't Start." After a 14-year hiatus from the theater, Hadass came to prefer production and now works for Public Square Films, an NYC-based production company. She is also the ACR for *Jump Man*.

**Lesley Stoller** (Music Director, Pianist) has written many songs over many years, and has sung them in many rooms. He is newly retired from teaching music for the NYC Department of Education, where he worked with emotionally handicapped students for three decades. He is a permanent member of the BMI Lehman Engel Advanced Musical Theater Workshop where he wrote *The Talking Cure*, a new full-length musical about the origins of psychoanalysis. During 2006-2008, Stoller served as music director and resident composer for The Night Kitchen Radio Theatre, founded by Maurice Sendak and Arthur Yorinks. *The Stationary Sun*, Stoller's new album of original songs with Brad Stoller and Don Wood, will be available in September. Lesley is extremely happy to be working with the brilliant cast of *Jump Man*.



The producers of *Jump Man* wish to extend special thanks to Kefah Crowley Spreitzer, Brad Stoller, Mike Sweeney, and the many generous supporters who have made this show possible.

## who is Mario?

Like so many people, I grew up playing the **Mario Brothers games**. Even though I largely stopped playing video games **at some point in the mid-90's**, the Nintendo/Super Nintendo games and characters hold a very important place in my memories and my **consciousness**. And I know that the same is true for many of you. When I started to think more about the warm, positive feelings we have for these characters, I realized that it's a unique phenomenon.

Early on, the characters didn't have real personalities, voices, or stories. We knew they were plumbers; we knew they traveled to other worlds through pipes; some of us knew that Mario and Luigi's last name was Mario. But we didn't know much else. In this sense, the characters were blank slates upon which we could impress our own ideas of who they were—of what heroes should be. On top of that, we literally controlled what they did. The kid holding the controller had *incredible influence over who the character was*. We loved the Ghostbusters and the Ninja Turtles too, but they were who they were, and there was nothing we could do about it.

Over time, of course, the Mario Brothers characters gained depth and developed back-stories—versions of them were portrayed on television and film (RIP Bob Hoskins). But when I recall these characters, I don't think of those inventions—I think of amazing times with friends—I think of myself, *being* Mario.

This is why this cast of characters is uniquely qualified to be parodied in this musical; they are iconic reflections of ourselves—archetypal representations of a generation.

— Sam Pitt-Stoller

# Cast of Characters

Mario.....Jeff Essex\*  
Luigi.....Benny Oyama  
Toad, Judge Kevin.....Luke Schwartz  
Peach.....Rachel Oyama  
Jarles Jarwin.....Alexa Green\*  
Bowser.....Erik DeCicco\*  
Vicky, Little Kid, and various roles.....Angela Gould\*  
Arthur.....Jacob Mirer\*  
Sister Mario, and various roles.....Julia DiVergilio  
Baby Mario, and various roles.....Michael Armstrong Barr\*  
Pregnant Woman, and various roles.....Aaron Marshall DeCicco  
Sonny Crono.....Himself  
Brooklyn resident.....Zack Leopold  
Ferdidando.....Elijah Amitin

\* Appears courtesy of Actors Equity Association

# Production Staff

Playwright.....Sam Pitt-Stoller  
Director/Choreographer.....Myla Pitt  
Producer.....Jack Barrett  
Executive Producer.....Reh Pontone  
Assistant Director.....Hadass Silver  
Stage Manager.....Hannah Delmore  
“Street Knowledge” Choreography by.....Michi Osato  
Costume Design.....Kima Baffour  
Lighting Design.....Gustavo Valdes  
Sound Design.....Sachar Mathias  
Production Design/Animator.....Neil Dvorak  
Set and Props Consultant.....Josh Iaccovelli  
Program and Web Design.....Danny Pitt Stoller

# Band

Les Stoller.....**Music Director/Pianist**  
Elijah Amitin.....**Bass Guitar**  
Sam Pitt-Stoller.....**Guitar**  
Zack Leopold.....**Drums**  
Tom Lewandowski.....**Electric Guitar**

# Musical Numbers

Regular People.....Ensemble and Mario  
Sidekick Song.....Luigi, with Toad  
Street Knowledge\*.....Brooklyn Residents  
Used to Be\*\*.....Luigi and Peach  
The Lesson.....Mario and Little Kid  
Bowser’s Reflection.....Bowser and Friends  
Personal Hell.....Jarles Jarwin  
Maybe I Belong Here.....Mario and Ensemble  
Ease My Mind.....Mario and Peach  
Preparation Song.....Company

\* Additional lyrics by Sonny Crono and Zack Leopold

\*\* Adapted from the Black Dragon song “Used to Be the Man”

## who's who



**Michael Armstrong Barr** (Baby Mario, Vinny, Andy, Cop, Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of this wacky musical and such a talented group. Directly prior to *Jump Man*, he completed a leading role in a new drama about the 2005 London Bombings, *Mind The Gap*. Other NYC credits include *Lucky Stiff* (Harry Witherspoon), *Angel of the Amazon*, The Alec Baldwin

Fellowship. Recently, Mike made his TV debut, costarring on *Boardwalk Empire* (Episode 406) opposite Shea Whigham. He just wrapped a short film and begins shooting an Indy feature, *Case at Midnight*, next month as the film's comic relief. He thanks his manager Susan Campochiaro-Confrey at CBU Management, family, his beloved Lindsay, and the "The Guy Upstairs." Graduate of Villanova University and AMDA.



**Elijah Amitin** (Ferdinando, Bass Guitar) fronts an NYC-based rock band called Palomino. He also plays bass for the LA-based band Zopa, and guitar in the space-based band Black Dragon. He's currently writing an electro-acoustic concept album called *6 Years*. He's also writing a book of unconventional wisdom called *A Book is a Terrible Thing to Read*.

**Kima Baffour** (Costume Design). Kima's works have ranged from fantasy to contemporary styling. She began her career in London on the site-specific opera *The Secret Consul* and since then has had her designs showcased in *Stitches In Time* (Liberty Hall Museum), and *Encompass* (Raw: Natural Born Artist). Kima does costume design for many platforms including Web, theater, film and television. Proudest accomplishments include *Afropop* (PBS: season 6), *Sasquatch! The Musical* (New York Musical Theater Festival), *Just the Three of Us* (Official Selection: Black Star Film Fest), *Space Man* (Official Selection: IFF Boston), *Donald Newman* (Official Selection: Raindance Webfest), *Olivia* (Italian Vanity Fair). Website: [kimabaffour.squarespace.com](http://kimabaffour.squarespace.com).

**Jack Barrett** (Producer) is a reality television producer born and raised in New York City. Over the past decade he has worked on various productions

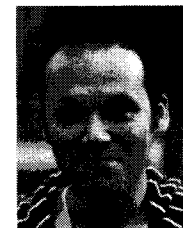
including *Lizard Lick Towing* and *Queer Eye*. Jack is also a member of the NYC-based funk group **Black Dragon**. Jack graduated from Hampshire College in 2005 with a focus in narrative filmmaking.



**Sonny Crono** (Himself) earned his MFA at Yale with the focus on the masterful art of berating young children and animals. Crono is the star and creator of his own hit TV show, *Not In My House!*, where he scolds babies for not acting their age in an effort to scare them straight. If you would like your baby yelled at, contact Crono at [blackdragon.bandcamp.com](http://blackdragon.bandcamp.com).



**Aaron Marshall DeCicco** (Pregnant Woman, Ensemble) is excited for this opportunity to be a part of such a fun and talented cast, especially since she gets to perform with her new husband, Erik. Regional credits include: *Reefer Madness* (Mae); *Rocky Horror Show Live!* (Columbia); *Sweeney Todd* (Pirelli); *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona Lisa Perretti). As Musical Director: *The Wildest!*, *Urinetown*, *Blues In The Night*, *Xanadu*, *Once On This Island*. This piano bar dame and closet rocker would like to tip her hat to the kid in her belly. A Fringe show—not a bad debut for a baby!



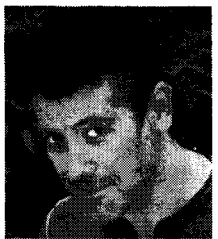
**Erik DeCicco** (Bowser) was born and raised in Jacksonville, FL. He received his MFA in Acting from the University of Louisville and is a member of Actors Equity Association. After working extensively in The Southeast, Erik is happy to call himself a New New Yorker. Past Credits: *Amadeus*, *Next to Normal*, *a Funny Thing Happened...*, *Dividing the Estate*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Full Monty*, and many more! Please visit Erik's site for more info at [www.erikdecicco.com](http://www.erikdecicco.com). Erik would like to dedicate this performance to his beautiful new wife, Aaron, and their very own amazing (yet-to-be-born) baby, also making its NYC stage debut in *Jump Man* (in Mama's tummy)!

**Hannah Delmore** (Stage Manager) is new to New York. She has worked on four shows over the past six months. To sum her up: #hatersgonnahate, Led Zeppelin is life, animals are cooler than people, and tie-dye is a color. She would like to thank her hippie family (roommates) for all their support.



**Julia DiVergilio** (Sister Mario, Bailiff, Ensemble) is a 23-year-old actress hailing from Vegas (baby). She is the only musical theater girl she's met who has multiple tattoos, piercings, and listens to Led Zeppelin. In her spare time she enjoys everything cat-related and watching *Dance Moms*. She still plays Super Mario Bros. She is aware that bios are for writing past accomplishments but doesn't feel like it. Check out her website if you want to see that stuff: [JuliaDiVergilio.com](http://JuliaDiVergilio.com). Big thanks to her sister, Crown Heights Apartment family and Aussie boyfriend for support.

**Neil Dvorak** (Production Design, Animator) often writes in the third person. He would like to continue to do so and thanks Sam Pitt-Stoller for the opportunity. He would also like to thank Sam for his vision and the chance to be a part of this amazing production. [www.neildvorak.com](http://www.neildvorak.com) is where to see more of Neil's work. Neil is an animator/illustrator/comic-creator/sushi-eater.



**Jeff Essex** (Mario) was the muse that inspired Kerouac to revolutionize physics and Krauss to write beat poetry, though the messages got muddled somewhere along the way. Stage: Andre (u/s Freddy) in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (National Tour), Harpo Marx in *A Night in the Kremlin* (world premiere, NYC), Macbeth in *Macbeth* (regional). Screen: *Scourge of the Vagabond Spectre*, *FailSafe*, *Nothing Personal*. Voice: Sam the Rabbit in *The Upstate Four* (CN pilot), the aliens in Sid Meier's *Alien Crossfire* (video game), Tim in *Time Travelers' Convention* (podcast musical). Jeff's novels *Lovely Assistant* and *Jackrabbit Messiah* are available on Amazon. Visit [semperbufo.com](http://semperbufo.com) for everything you ever wanted to know about Essex but were afraid to ask.



**Angela Gould** (Vicky, *Real Estate Agent*, Little Kid, Ms. Marshall, Ensemble). Most recognized for her appearance on the FX show *Louie* where she played opposite the Emmy-nominated comedian Louis C.K., Angela has built strong momentum in NYC only several years out of Northwestern University's theatre program. She has appeared in projects for MTV, Comedy Central, [CollegeHumor.com](http://CollegeHumor.com), and [FunnyOrDie.com](http://FunnyOrDie.com). Angela won Best Supporting Actress at the Wild Rose Film Festival for her performance in "Guest House" with Michael Gross and Heather Lind. Most recently, she appeared in the indie *The First Men*, cast by Matthew Maisto and directed by TriBeCa Film Festival standout Benjamin Kegan. Special thanks to her fiancé Adam, her family, and Stewart Talent Agency.



**Alexa Green** (Jarles Jarwin). FringeNYC debut! Alexa is pumped to be a part of *Jump Man!* Nat'l Tours: *Wicked* (Glinda u/s, LA/San Francisco company), *SCROOGE: The Musical* (Martha Cratchit). NY Theatre: *Company* starring Neil Patrick Harris and Patti LuPone (Vocal Minority) with the NY Philharmonic Live From Lincoln Center filmed for PBS, *Jawbreaker* (Fern/Vylette), *Dust and Shadow* (Annie Chapman), *Small Town Story* (Caroline Barnes). Regional: *Cabaret Verboten* (Hedi, Carbonell Nominee), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Mary Magdalene), *Shenandoah* (Jenny), *Fiddler On The Roof* (Tzeitel), *Les Miserables* (Cosette u/s). Alexa was most recently seen as the soloist for The South Shore Symphony Summer Pops Concert this past July and is currently working on her solo debut show *A Shining Hour* coming to 54 Below this September! CCM grad and proud AEA member. Thanks to Rich, Cori and Deann at Whole Artist Management, you guys are the best! Follow @atAlexaGreen and check out [www.alexagreen.com](http://www.alexagreen.com) for more!



**Zack Leopold** (Brooklyn Resident, Drums) has appeared in more than one hundred films and 150 television programs over the span of his career, portraying more than 220 characters. Although Leopold's acting career has crossed a variety of genres, his deadpan delivery in *Airplane!* marked a turning point in his career, one that would make

him, in the words of film critic Roger Ebert, "the Olivier of spoofs." Leopold enjoyed further success with *The Naked Gun* film series, based on the short-lived television series *Police Squad!* For more information visit Leslie Nielsen's page on Wikipedia.

**Sachar Mathias** (Sound Design) is a Brooklyn-based sound designer whose work spans film, TV, animation, branding, games, live events and installations. She can usually be found discussing the ways that people unconsciously interact with their auditory environments, or banging things together to make noise. Her favorite sounds are laughter and explosions, and she dares you to take a minute to stop and listen to every single thing happening in the space you're in right now.



**Jacob Mirer** (Arthur) is excited to be a part of this unbelievably incredible cast in the production of *Jump Man*. Acting since the age of five, some of his favorite professional theatrical roles include Clarence in *Richard III*, Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Henry Harry in *Brilliant Traces*, Mottel in *Riverside Drive*, and Peter in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Some of his film credits include *Crusher* (Cannes Film Festival), *Vanish* (Columbia University Film Arts Award) and Howard Stern's *Private Parts*. He teaches, directs and has studied in NYC at the Matthew Corozine Studio. He is a proud member of Actors Equity. He is forever thankful to his new baby girl Rebecca, family and friends for all their continued love and support.



**Benny Oyama** (Luigi) is caught in an ecstatic stupor of wonderfullity and is supremely delighted to be here. A prolific animal actor, as seen in *Lassie* (1954), *Flipper* (1964), and *Magnolia* (1999), Benny is now acting in human parts, with human parts (thumbs, etc.). Benny enjoys performing original music in venues and art galleries around the city and offers private guitar and bass lessons to children and adults. He is also a devoted capoeira practitioner and maker of excellent artisanal pizza. He wants to thank his parents and family for their support through the years.



**Rachel Oyama** (Peach) is thrilled to be back on stage in the debut of *Jump Man!* Along with a number of commercials, voiceovers and print ads, Rachel has been featured in TV shows such as *Gossip Girl*, *Person of Interest*, and *Smash*. Many thanks to **Drew** for his unwavering support and for always running lines, even late at night; to her family and friends for their love, enthusiasm and patience with the lack of returned phone calls and emails; and to Sam and Myla for writing/directing an amazing show and letting her be a part of it.



**Myla Pitt** (Director) is thrilled to be working with this talented and creative cast and production team on *Jump Man*. She has appeared in numerous plays and musicals including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Kiss Me Kate*, an original one-woman show, and staged readings directed by Estelle Parsons, Lee Grant, and Leonard Foglia. She was most recently seen in the indie film *Rob the Mob* and the Web series *One Life to Live*. She has directed for the Outrageous Fortune Company at Queens Theatre in the Park and the Small Town Theatre Company in Armonk, NY. She is a certified yoga and Pilates instructor. (EQUITY, SAG, AFTRA)

**Danny Pitt Stoller** (Program and Web Design) teaches English at Repertory Company High School for Theatre Arts. He wrote the book and lyrics for the original musical *Benjamin Starling*. Also, Danny bought the Nintendo that he and Sam used to play on, using his own bar mitzvah money.

**Sam Pitt-Stoller** (Book, Music & Lyrics, Guitar) is filled with gratitude. He thanks everyone who has helped *Jump Man* go from nothing to something.



**Luke Schwartz** (Toad, Judge Kevin) is from Mushroom Land. He splits his time between Mushroom Land and Brooklyn, where he works as a handyman for the Mario Bros. Plumbing Shop. He is loyal to the princess, and has fought with dignity in many battles.