

LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER “Falsettos” TCA Biographies

ANDREW C. WILK

Andrew C. Wilk is a multiple Emmy Award-winning producer and director whose career has encompassed leading roles in many areas of commercial and educational content. Since his arrival at Lincoln Center in 2011, he has served as executive producer of *Live From Lincoln Center* episodes ranging from classical music to dance to theatre. Prior to his work at Lincoln Center, Wilk served as Chief Creative Officer at Sony Music Entertainment, where he oversaw all visual content for Sony's label groups and spearheaded Sony's digital expansion. He also served as Founding Programmer and Executive Vice President of Programming and Production for the National Geographic Channel, where he launched the channel and developed its initial programming and scheduled and commissioned new programs, including specials with PBS and NBC. Wilk has won five Emmy Awards and received 15 nominations. Over the course of his career, he has produced or directed more than 1,000 television shows, ranging from children's programming to news to commercial entertainment, in addition to continuing his work as a conductor of live music concerts.

JAMES LAPINE

James Lapine collaborated with Stephen Sondheim as author and director for *Sunday in the Park With George*; *Into the Woods*; *Passion*; and the multi-media revue *Sondheim on Sondheim*. He also directed *Merrily We Roll Along* as part of Encores at New York City Center. With William Finn, he has collaborated on *March of the Falsettos* and *Falsettoland*, later presented on Broadway as *Falsettos* and recently revived in 2016; *A New Brain*; *Muscle*; and *Little Miss Sunshine*. He has also directed David Henry Hwang's *Golden Child* on Broadway; *The Diary of Anne Frank*; Michel Legrand's *Amour*; *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; and the 2012 revival of *Annie*. Among his many off-Broadway offerings were three Shakespeare productions for The Public Theater. He has been nominated for 12 Tony Awards, winning on three occasions, and has received five Drama Desk Awards and the Pulitzer Prize. In 2011, he was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame, and in 2015 was the recipient of the Mr. Abbott Award presented by the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers for a lifetime of exceptional achievement in the theatre. With Frank Rich, he co-produced and directed the HBO documentary *Six by Sondheim* (Emmy nomination, Peabody Award). Lapine wrote the screenplay for the film version of *Into the Woods*, directed by Rob Marshall, and the film *Custody*, which he also directed. He is also a mentor for the Theatre Development Fund's Open Doors program.

WILLIAM FINN

William Finn is the writer and composer of *Falsettos*, for which he received two Tony Awards: Best Book of a Musical (with James Lapine) and Best Original Score. He has also written and composed *In Trousers*, *March of the Falsettos* and *Falsettoland* (Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, two Los Angeles Drama Critics Awards, two Drama Desk Awards, the Lucille Lortel Award and Guggenheim Fellowship in Playwriting). He wrote the music, lyrics and book (with James Lapine) for *A New Brain*, which was produced at Lincoln Center and was a part of the 2015 Encores! Off-Center season. Finn wrote the lyrics to Graciela Daniele's *Tango Apasionado* and, with Michael Starobin, the music to Lapine's version of *The Winter's Tale*. His musical *Romance in Hard Times* was presented at The Public Theater and Barrington Stage (with a reimagined book by Rachel Sheinkin). Finn wrote *Painting You* (one segment of the eight-part *Love's Fire*, based on Shakespeare's sonnets). His *Songs of Innocence and Experience*, commissioned by Williams College for the 2005 opening of its '62 Center for Theater and Dance, had its New York premiere at Lincoln Center's Allen Room in 2012. A graduate of Williams College, Finn now teaches a weekly master class at the NYU Tisch Graduate Program in Musical Theatre Writing. His most recent projects include *Elegies, A Song Cycle* (Lincoln Center), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Little Miss*

Sunshine with James Lapine, which received a production at Second Stage in 2013. For the past nine years, he has been the Artistic Head of the Musical Theatre Lab at the Barrington Stage Company in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

STEPHANIE J. BLOCK

Stephanie Block has established herself as one of the most relevant and versatile voices in contemporary musical theatre. She received both the 2013 Tony Award and Drama Desk nomination for Best Leading Actress in a Musical for her portrayal of Alice Nutting/Edwin Drood in The Roundabout Theatre's production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Other Broadway credits include Reno Sweeney in the 2011 Tony Award-winning revival of *Anything Goes*, *9 to 5: The Musical* (Drama Desk nomination for Best Actress in a Musical). She created the roles of Grace O'Malley in *The Pirate Queen* and Liza Minnelli in *The Boy from Oz* (opposite Hugh Jackman). Block is best known for her portrayal as Elphaba in the Broadway company of *Wicked*, as well as originating the role in the first national tour, for which she won numerous awards. Block has sung with the NY Pops at Carnegie Hall, Boston Pops, National Symphony Orchestra (under the baton of Marvin Hamlisch), Dallas Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Utah Symphony, Columbus Symphony, Charlotte Symphony and the Cleveland Pops, among many others. Some of her off-Broadway and regional theatrical credits include *Little Miss Sunshine* (Drama Desk nomination), *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Drama Desk nomination), *They're Playing Our Song* (starring opposite Jason Alexander), *Cats* (St Louis' Kevin Kline Award Nominee), *Funny Girl*, *Crazy for You* (L.A. Ovation Award Nominee), *Oliver* (Critics Award), James Joyce's *The Dead*, *Triumph of Love*, *The Grass Harp*, *South Pacific*, *Will Rogers Follies*. and the world premiere of *Wicked*.

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