



# ***THE FLYING KARAMAZOV BROTHERS*** **4PLAY**

**BOOK** Paul Magid and The Flying Karamazov Brothers

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**DMITRI** Paul Magid

**PAVEL** Rod Kimball

**ZUKOV** Jeremiah Meyer

**NIKITA** Andy Sapora

**SCENIC DESIGN** The Flying Karamazov Brothers

**COSTUME DESIGN** Susan Hilferty

**LIGHTING DESIGN** David Hutson

**JUGGLING CZAR** Rod Kimball

**ORIGINAL MUSIC** Mark Ettinger, Doug Wieselmann, Howard Patterson

**CHOREOGRAPHER** Doug Elkins

**MUSIC DIRECTOR** Stephen O'Bent

**STAGE MANAGER** Caraway Tobin

**COMPANY MANAGER** Rebecca McKeon

**EXCLUSIVE TOUR REPRESENTATION** Robin Klinger Entertainment

**PRODUCER/DIRECTOR** Paul Magid

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Zellerbach Theatre

Sunday, November 12 @ 3 PM

There will be an intermission.

## PROGRAM NOTES

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Welcome to The Flying Karamazov Brothers and welcome to the show. What you are about to see is... well, I don't want to spoil it for you, but let me give you some perspective about the world you are about enter from someone who has been living in it since it was formed.

From the beginning when I founded this band of brothers with Howard Patterson (Ivan) in 1973, I have felt that what we were doing was a theatrical experiment. I had started by acting in Shakespearean plays and it was through his example (theatre guy, funny guy, serious guy, guy who does whatever it takes guy) that I formed the idea of the "Theatre of Everything" (without prior knowledge of Wagner's Gesamtkunstwerk). It has often been said that theatre is the queen of all the arts as it encompasses architecture, music, dance, poetry, acting, fashion, painting and pandering. As a thespian (and I use the term loosely), I felt we should embrace this totality fully.

And then there was this juggling thing. At university, we had become obsessed with le jeu de mains (a French term for juggling from which can you draw your own conclusions). We practiced day and night, night and day. As musicians, with each beat beat beat of the club-club, we came to view this art differently than it had been previously. We heard it as music. As a form of expression, it is by its very nature endless in variation and possibility. When we joined this visual music with theatre, we suddenly discovered our voice.

We are also part of an ancient tradition going back to when the first humanoid who made a funny to a fellow cave man or woman as an evolutionary strategy, if you know what I mean. Add to that our associations with Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters, the beat poets and the Grateful Dead, and you get that tangential vision, a jab to the right, a dialogue in which nothing is sacred except the search for a truth that can't be grasped, like a juggling club bouncing out of a hand.

Ultimately, this cardboard world we construct is based on the inevitability of gravity. Each toss is a flirtation with failure, and each time we catch, we deny failure, if only for a little while. Art begins with a choice, an impulse that either falls or flies. But it is the possibility of screwing up that is the dark matter of creativity and generates the tension that keeps us at the edge of our seats. Juggling is dropping.

So, welcome to The Flying Karamazov Brothers. Remember our PLAY is our play and everything you're about to see is actually happening.

Paul Magid  
Director/Founder

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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### **Dmitri Karamazov** (aka Paul Magid; Director, Producer)

Magid co-founded the Flying Karamazov Brothers in 1973. He has created and written many shows for the Flying Karamazov Brothers. He also writes plays. His plays include *The Three Moscowteers* (1984, Goodman Theatre), *L'Histoire du Soldat* (1986, Brooklyn Academy of Music), *Le Petomane* (1992, La Jolla Playhouse, ACT Seattle), *The Brothers Karamazov* (1993, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage), *Room Service* (1997, Mark Taper Forum, ACT Seattle), *L'Universe* (2000 ACT Seattle, Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *Life: A Guide for the Perplexed* (2004 ACT Seattle, ART), *Don Quixote* (2007 San Diego Repertory Theatre), and *Flings & Eros* (2009, Merrimack Repertory Theatre). He has been directing and creating shows in Europe including *Osare* (2006), *Mutamenti* (2007) and *Quemar* (2008). He also directed a series of outdoor theatre spectacles (for over 350,000 viewers) in Puglia including the Spanish group La Fura dels Baus (2008) and *Sogni Segni* for the Pergine International Arts Festival (2009). He created *Mirage* for the Theatre of San Remo (2011). He also produced and directed The Flying Karamazov Brothers for a yearlong run off-Broadway at New York's Minetta Lane Theatre, on London's West End at the Vaudeville Theatre and in Madrid's premier theatre, Teatro Compac Gran Via (in Spanish). In 2019, he staged and directed the hit FKB theatre noir detective mystery, *Club Sandwich*, in Seattle, WA. He loves and thanks his family, the whole mishpocheh, especially his two daughters.

### **Pavel Karamazov** (periodically known as Rod Kimball, Juggling Czar)

Ten of the following eleven facts about Kimball are true: 1. Nine of the following ten facts about Kimball are true: 2. Kimball sent a Big Mac on a cab ride through the Portuguese countryside. 3. Kimball sang "Godless America" on stage at Carnegie Hall. 4. As a child, Kimball temporarily blinded himself by connecting his top and bottom braces with a 9-volt battery. 5. Kimball climbed Mount Fuji wearing only a tri-cornered hat. 6. Kimball made bottled water come out Rosie O'Donnell's nose. 7. Kimball has two extremely great grandmothers who were executed for witchcraft. 8. Reality TV and \$100,000 got Kimball half a house in Florida. 9. Kimball informed Frank Perdue that there are chickens that lay green eggs. 10. Kimball won the 2006 Boulder Colorado Juggling Festival soap juggling contest. 11. Kimball is his own eleventh cousin, once removed. He also wrote a book we're certain you'll find indispensable. Have a look at [www.pathpuzzles.com](http://www.pathpuzzles.com).

**Zukov Karamazov** (secretly known as Jeremiah Meyer)

Meyer is a long-time member of the circus. So long that he's been hearing the Flying Karamazov Brothers jokes since the womb. While he is currently pursuing a history degree (his Russian name comes from a Soviet general during WW2), vaudeville performance has been a long-time passion. Growing up a juggler, musician and acrobat, he is a recent addition and youth diversity hire for the Karamazov troupe. Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, his skills were honed on the streets, busking anywhere and everywhere he could in the duo known as Strangely~Jeremiah.

**Nikita Karamazov** (aka as Andy Sapora)

Sapora is happy to be back for another go-round as Nikita. His other job is to make a ruckus on the pediatric floors of NYC area hospitals through Big Apple Circus Clown Care. Sapora teaches clown, improv, theatre, juggling and acrobatics to children and adults of all levels, privately and through Circus Warehouse, Big Apple Circus and Bindlestiff Cirkus. Sapora's band, The Maestrosities, really is The Coolest Band Ever. He loves and thanks his wife, Elena. [www.andysapora.com](http://www.andysapora.com)

**Susan Hilferty** (Costume Design)

Hilferty has designed over 300 productions from Broadway to the Bay Area and internationally including Japan, London, Australia, Germany and South Africa. Recent designs include *Wicked* (2004 Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk awards and Olivier nomination); *Spring Awakening* (Tony nomination); August Wilson's *Radio Golf* and *Jitney*; *Lestat* (Tony nomination); *Assassins*; *Into the Woods* (Tony and Drama Desk nominations, Hewes Award); *Manon* at L.A. Opera and Berlin Staatsoper; Richard Nelson's *Conversations* in Tusculum; and Frank Wildhorn's *Wonderland*. She works with well-known directors such as Joe Mantello, James Lapine, Michael Mayer, Walter Bobbie, Robert Falls, Tony Kushner, Robert Woodruff, JoAnne Akalaitis, the late Garland Wright, James MacDonald, Bart Sher, Mark Lamos, Frank Galati, Des McAnuff, Christopher Ashley, Emily Mann, David Jones, Marion McClinton, Rebecca Taichman, Laurie Anderson, Doug Wright, Carole Rothman, Garry Hynes, Richard Nelson and Athol Fugard (the South African writer with whom she works as set and costume designer and often as co-director since 1980). Hilferty also designs for opera, film and dance, and chairs the Department of Design for Stage and Film at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Hilferty's many awards include a 2000 Obie for Sustained Excellence in Design.

**David Hutson** (Lighting Design)

Hutson has travelled the globe as a lighting designer and sometimes production manager since 1990. He has contributed designs to The Flying Karamazov Brothers' *Sharps, Flats, and Accidentals*, as well as *Life: A Guide for the Perplexed*. His work has also been seen with Maurice Sendak's Night Kitchen Theater, Circus Flora, MOMIX, Parsons Dance Company, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Jacob's Pillow: Men Dancers, Seattle's Moisture Festival and the NBC broadcasts of the annual Hispanic Heritage Awards: Live from the Kennedy Center.

**Doug Elkins** (Choreographer)

Elkins began his career as a B-Boy, touring the world with breakdance groups New York Dance Express and Magnificent Force, among others. In 1988, he founded the Doug Elkins Dance Company, which performed nationally and internationally for 15 years before disbanding in 2003. Elkins is a recipient of significant choreographic commissions and awards from NEA, National Performance Network, Jerome Foundation, Choo-San Goh & H. Robert Magee Foundation, Dance Magazine Foundation, Metropolitan Life/ADF, Hartford Foundation, Brandeis University Award in Dance, and the New York Dance and Performance Award, among others. In 2006, he was honored in New York City by the Martha Hill Award for Career Achievement and in 2008, he received a second Bessie Award for *Fräulein Maria*. Elkins has taught and choreographed work for Israel's Batsheva Dance Company, The Flying Karamazov Brothers, MaggioDanza and Pennsylvania Ballet. He also worked at Theatre for a New Audience. A graduate of SUNY/Purchase, he received his MFA from Hollins University/ADF in 2007. He currently teaches at The Beacon School on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

**Rebecca McKeon** (Company Manager)

McKeon blames her father for all of this. At his behest and while a young impressionable student of technical theatre at the impressive institution of UC Santa Cruz, her juggling family (though not, please, during the show) attended a Karamazov show. Through a series of bad puns and witty banter, she found herself assisting backstage the next day. Since then, she has gone to exotic people and met wonderful places while enjoying venues all over the country. When not on the road traveling and wrangling jugglers with FKB, she is on the road traveling and wrangling lights with Riverview Systems Group. She enjoys robot t-shirts, carnitas burritos and long walks on the beach. Seriously, bring a tent.

## The Flying Karamazov Brothers

The Flying Karamazov Brothers have been seen on many TV shows nationwide including Seinfeld (season 7 episode 18, "The Friar's Club") *Ellen*, *The Tonight Show*, *The Today Show* and *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, to name a few. Along with Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny DeVito, they starred in the 1985 hit adventure movie *The Jewel of the Nile*. They have shared many stages and screens collaborating with Frank Sinatra, Placido Domingo, The Grateful Dead, The Who, Dolly Parton, Robin Williams, Patrick Dempsey, Ken Kesey, Allen Ginsberg, Kenny Rogers, Los Lobos, The Smothers Brothers, Click and Clack the Tappett Brothers, Joyce Brothers and many more.

The Brothers were born on April 23, 1973, at a renaissance fair in northern California. They went on to play in legit theatres and in 1980 won an Obie Award. Their first show, *Juggling and Cheap Theatrics*, was presented in 1981 at the Goodman Theatre, Chicago and Arena Stage, Washington D.C. They ran in London's West End at the Mayfair Theatre in 1981. In 1982, they played the BAM Next Wave Festival. Their first Broadway run was at the Walter Kerr in 1983 and later that year, they shot a Showtime special of *Juggling and Cheap Theatrics* at the Ed Sullivan Theatre. In 1983, they performed at the Goodman Theatre in Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, directed by Robert Woodruff. In 1984, they performed at the Goodman Theatre in Paul Magid's *The Three Moscowteers*, directed by Robert Woodruff. Also in 1984, they represented America for classic theatre at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles with *The Comedy of Errors*. In 1986, they returned to BAM with Paul Magid and Len Jenkin's *L'Histoire du Soldat*, directed by Robert Woodruff. Also in 1986, they reopened the Vivian Beaumont Theater with *Juggling and Cheap Theatrics*. In 1986, they premiered their new show, *Juggle and Hyde*, at Lincoln Center Theater's Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater. In 1987, they returned to the Vivian Beaumont with *The Comedy of Errors* which was later viewed on PBS' "Great Performances." In the following years, they performed at the St. Louis Repertory Theatre; The Guthrie, Minneapolis; the Wilbur, Boston; the Hasty Pudding, Cambridge, MA; ACT, Seattle; and the Apollo, Chicago.

In 1992, they premiered Paul Magid's *Le Petomane*, directed by Robert Woodruff at the La Jolla Playhouse and again in 1994 at ACT Seattle. In 1993, they premiered Paul Magid's *The Brothers Karamazov* directed by Daniel Sullivan at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and Arena Stage. In 1994, they ran *The Flying Karamazov Brothers Do the Impossible* on the West End at the Criterion Theatre and on Broadway at the Helen Hayes Theatre. That same year, they premiered *Sharps, Flats, and Accidentals* at ACT Seattle. In 1996, they premiered *Club Sandwich* at ACT Seattle. In 1996, they performed *Sharps, Flats and Accidentals* at the New Victory Theatre, New York. In 1997, they premiered Paul Magid's adaptation of *Room Service* directed by Robert Woodruff at ACT Seattle and at the Mark Taper Forum. In 2000, they collaborated with MIT's Media Lab and premiered Paul Magid's *L'Universe*, directed by Gordon Edelstein at ACT Seattle, Arizona Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and at the Carré in Amsterdam. In 2004, they premiered Paul Magid's *Life: A Guide for the Perplexed*, directed by Michael Preston at ACT Seattle, the Lensic, Santa Fe and at ART in Cambridge, MA and then in 2005 at San Diego Repertory Theatre.

In 2007, they premiered Paul Magid's *Don Quixote* at San Diego Repertory Theatre, directed by Sam Woodhouse. In 2008, they premiered *4PLAY*, directed by Paul Magid. In 2009, they premiered Paul Magid's *Flings & Eros* at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers premiered their show of the same name at New York's off-Broadway theatre, The Minetta Lane, in February 2010 to rave reviews. The show continued to play at the Minetta, after a short hiatus, until April of 2011. It then transferred to a theatre on London's West End, the Vaudeville, throughout the summer of 2011. In September 2011, it transferred to Madrid's premier theatre, El Teatro Compac Gran Via, for a month-long run all in Spanish. In 2013, The Flying Karamazov Brothers produced *40 Years of the Flying Karamazov Brothers* at San Jose Repertory Theatre. In 2019, they rewrote a new version of *Club Sandwich* at the Broadway Performing Arts Center in Seattle.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers have been playing with orchestras for the last 15 years including the Cleveland Orchestra, the NSO, the St. Louis Symphony, the San Francisco Symphony, The Seattle Symphony, The Canadian National Symphony, the Toronto Symphony and many more. Starting in 2024, The Brothers will star in their touring show, *50 Years of Juggling* and *Cheap Theatrics*.



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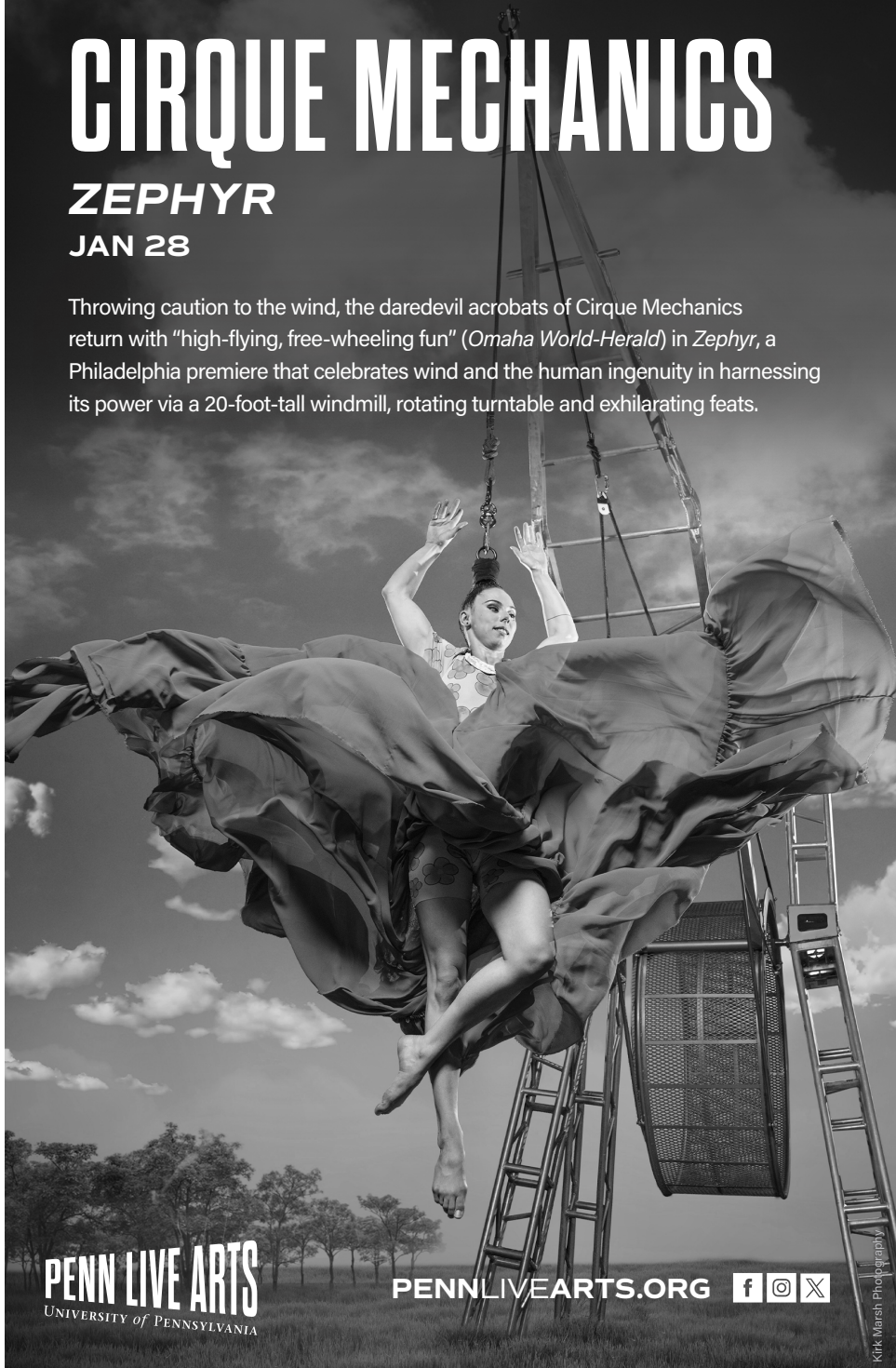
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# CIRQUE MECHANICS

## ZEPHYR

JAN 28

Throwing caution to the wind, the daredevil acrobats of Cirque Mechanics return with "high-flying, free-wheeling fun" (*Omaha World-Herald*) in *Zephyr*, a Philadelphia premiere that celebrates wind and the human ingenuity in harnessing its power via a 20-foot-tall windmill, rotating turntable and exhilarating feats.



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