

# PLAYING ON AIR

For Immediate Release

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## Playing On Air Announces Summer 2023 Season With Sparkling Lineup of Audio Plays Featuring Artists Including David Ives, John Patrick Shanley, Debra Messing, John Turturro, Susie Essman, Steven Boyer, Marchánt Davis, and Emily Bergl

**New York, NY (June 26, 2023)** - Playing on Air today announced its Summer 2023 podcast season, featuring an exciting lineup of nine audio plays curated and produced by Founder and Consulting Director **Claudia Catania**.

Beginning Sunday, July 9, the new season presents exciting short plays like **Aurin Squire's** *JFK TAXI*, an otherworldly urban comedy directed by **Marchánt Davis** (*Good Night, Oscar*, Max's "Reality") and starring **Toney Goins** (Showtime's "Billions"), **Kerry Warren** (*Much Ado About Nothing*) and **Louis Mustillo** ("Mike & Molly"). Later in the season, the incomparable **David Ives** directs **Danny Burstein** (*Moulin Rouge!*, *Fiddler on the Roof*), **Susie Essman** ("Curb Your Enthusiasm," "Broad City"), **Steven Boyer** (*Kimberly Akimbo*), **Brittany K. Allen** (*The Good John Proctor*) and **Lee Wilkof** (*Waitress*, *Wicked*) in the world premiere of his preternatural play *SECOND SIGHT*, in which a retired historian's minor surgery brings up major questions.

The season will also include acclaimed playwright **Lloyd Suh's** *HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. ABERNATHY*, starring **Len Cariou** and **Ken Leung**, and **James McLindon's** *I DON'T KNOW*, starring **Jay O. Sanders**, **Bobby Moreno**, **Sue Jean Kim**, **Jeff Biehl** and **Brittany K. Allen**, as well as gems from **Amanda Quaid** (*ECHO AND NARCISSUS*) and **Cary Gitter** (*THE ARMY DANCE*, directed by **Emily Bergl**). The season also features the world premieres of **Rehana Lew Mirza's** *MARY MARY QUITE CONTRARY* and **Mike Lew's** *TYPHOID MARY*, a **Wordsmith Duo Commission** supported by the **Axe-Houghton Foundation**. Both comedies, inspired by infamous real-life cook "Typhoid" Mary Mallon, were directed by **Moritz von Stuelpnagel** and feel all too relevant in these still "unprecedented times."

In August, the season ends on a high note with the world premiere of **BONNET**, a marital (and martial) comedy written and directed by Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **John Patrick Shanley**, starring **Debra Messing** ("Will & Grace," "Smash") and **John Turturro** ("Severance," "The Plot Against America"), and recorded live during Playing on Air's 10th anniversary benefit celebration at 54 Below.

New episodes will be released each Sunday morning via podcast and on our website, [playingonair.org](http://playingonair.org). To listen, subscribe on Apple Podcasts or search 'Playing on Air' on your favorite podcast platform.

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“Our purpose,” said Founder and Consulting Director **Claudia Catania**, “has always been threefold—to deliver first-rate audio drama that supplements the theater diet of devotees; cultivate theater newcomers with high-quality audio shorts followed by insightful interviews with featured artists; and to provide entertainment to those who may not have the time, means or access to a treasure trove of extraordinary contemporary one-acts. Our Summer 2023 audio continues this tradition. And I’m excited to work with **Yvie Jones**, Playing on Air’s new executive director, to share these lovingly selected and produced plays with listeners everywhere.”

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## About Playing on Air

The long-running audio drama series is the home of America's greatest playwrights, actors, and directors - a new way to experience theater for free and on demand. Every episode includes an interview between the creators, ranging from actors’ theatrical process, to the playwright’s method, to the quirks and themes of each particular work.

Recent episodes have featured **Timothée Chalamet**, **Audra McDonald**, **Amy Ryan**, **Zoe Kazan**, **Adam Driver**, **David Harbour**, **Rosie Perez**, and **Bobby Cannavale** in plays by **Dominique Morisseau**, **David Ives**, **Lynn Nottage**, **Donald Margulies**, **Julia Cho**, and **David Lindsay-Abaire**.

Playing on Air's programs are made possible by the **New York State Council on the Arts** and the **National Endowment for the Arts**. Playing on Air is additionally made possible by the **Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation**, the **Lily Auchincloss Foundation**, the **Axe-Houghton Foundation**, the **Hyde and Watson Foundation**, and other major supporters.