

# DAVID GURSKY

Composer, Conductor, Pianist

Contact via [www.davidgursky.com](http://www.davidgursky.com)

## EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT  
B.A. Music, 1991

[music theory: Janet Schmalfeldt, Laura Nash, Jan Radzynski;  
music history: Claude Palisca, Leon Plantinga, Margot Fassler, Stephen Hinton;  
songwriting: Maury Yeston; conducting: Alasdair Neale, James Ross; orchestration: Jan Radzynski]

## ADDITIONAL STUDIES

The Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY [jazz arranging: Bill Dobbins], 1990  
The New York Conducting Studio [Gary Fagin], 2000–2001  
The Juilliard School (Extension Division), New York City [conducting: Vincent La Selva], 1996  
The BMI–Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop [songwriting], 1998–2000

## CONDUCTING AND MUSICAL DIRECTION (THEATER)

<i>Dames at Sea</i>	Music Director	Broadway (Helen Hayes Theater)
<i>The Nance</i>	Conductor, Piano	Broadway (Lyceum Theater)
<i>Anything Goes</i>	Associate Conductor	Broadway (Stephen Sondheim Theater)
<i>Finian's Rainbow</i>	Associate Conductor	Broadway (St. James Theater)
<i>White Christmas</i>	Associate Conductor	Broadway (Marquis Theater)
<i>Young Frankenstein</i>	Assistant Conductor	Broadway (Hilton Theater)
<i>The Producers</i>	Associate Conductor	Broadway (St. James Theater), 2 <sup>nd</sup> U.S. National Tour ("Leo")
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Associate Conductor	Broadway (Brooks Atkinson Theater)
<i>Dame Edna: The Royal Tour</i>	Standby Conductor	Broadway (Booth Theater)
<i>Damn Yankees, Applause, Finian's</i>	Associate Musical Dir.	<i>Encores!</i> (New York City Center)
<i>Rainbow, Bells are Ringing, Anyone</i>		
<i>Can Whistle, Stairway to Paradise</i>		
<i>The Phantom Of The Opera</i>	Associate Conductor	3 <sup>rd</sup> U.S. National Tour ("Music Box") Netherlands Company (The Hague)
<i>Big</i>	Associate Conductor	1 <sup>st</sup> U.S. National Tour
<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Associate Conductor, Chorusmaster	Kennedy Center Sondheim Festival '02 (Washington, DC)
<i>Forever Plaid</i>	Conductor/Pianist	Off-B'way, several first-class companies
<i>Forbidden Broadway</i>	Conductor/Pianist	Off-Broadway (The Triad)
<i>A Funny Thing Happened on the</i>	Music Director	MUNY Opera (St. Louis, MO)
<i>Way to the Forum</i>		

## COMPOSING/SONGWRITING

THEATER (co-authored by Robert Cary and Benjamin Feldman)

*Palm Beach*

World Premiere Production: La Jolla Playhouse (2005), directed by Des McAnuff,  
musical direction by Eric Stern

*Heartbreakers*

Commissioned by MGM On Stage; based on the MGM Motion Picture  
World Premiere presentation: National Alliance for Musical Theatre's 2010 Festival of New Musicals,  
directed by Christopher Ashley, musical direction by Eric Stern (New World Stages, NYC)

*The Thomas Crown Affair*

Commissioned by MGM On Stage; based on the MGM Motion Pictures

## FILM

*Ira & Abby*, Magnolia Pictures (2006); Song: "Soy Wonder" (performed by Fred Willard, Ken Barnett,  
and Gregory Jbara)

## TELEVISION, CONCERT, ORCHESTRAL, VARIETY

### MUSICAL DIRECTOR OR CONDUCTOR

*The Nance*, nationwide theatrical release, PBS television broadcast (2014)

Joel Grey in concert, Harold Green Jewish Theater, Toronto (2014)

Kate Baldwin in concert, Hartford Stage (2014)

*Broadway On Broadway*, Times Square, NYC (2009)

*The Wonder Pets*, animated television series, Nick Jr. (2008)

### PIANO/KEYBOARDS

Broadway: *Into the Woods* (2022), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*,  
*Anything Goes*, *Crazy For You*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Jane Eyre*, *The King & I*,  
*The Little Mermaid*, *The Producers*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *White Christmas*,  
*Young Frankenstein*

Off-Broadway: *And the World Goes 'Round*, *Pageant*, *Ruthless!*

*Encores!* Great American Musicals in Concert at NY City Center (various, 1991–2020)

*Damn Yankees* in Concert (Roundabout Theater Benefit Concert; Sondheim Theater, 2017)

*West Side Story* in Concert (Katie Couric, Producer; Waldorf Astoria, 2002)

The New York Pops, The Michael Crawford Show, Bernadette Peters in Concert

The Radio City Music Hall Christmas & Easter Spectaculars (1995–1996)

The Yale Symphony Orchestra (1989–1990)

Television: *The Kennedy Center Honors*, *The View*, *Late Night With David Letterman*

## EDUCATION/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 25+ years of private vocal coaching in New York City for musical theater performers of all levels
- NYU Graduate Acting Program: vocal coach/accompanist, studio of Deborah Lapidus
- The Juilliard School (Drama): vocal coach/accompanist, studio of Deborah Lapidus
- *Audition Success* Audition Technique Class (Paul Harman): vocal coach
- Vocal coach/accompanist in the voice studio of Marni Nixon
- Yale School of Music: Vocal coach/accompanist in the voice studio of Lili Chookasian
- Taught and coached music for soloists, choruses, and instrumentalists for production and maintenance of several Broadway, Off-Broadway, regional, and national touring productions

## RECORDINGS

Keyboards (Broadway and *Encores!* Cast Recordings): *Anything Goes*, *Brigadoon*, Cole Porter's *The New Yorkers*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Into the Woods*, *Jane Eyre*, *Paint Your Wagon*, *Pipe Dream*, *Young Frankenstein*

Vocal Arranger: "What Do I Know?", *Shakespeare On Broadway* (Varèse Sarabande, 1996)

"Over The Rainbow" performed by the cast of *Forever Plaid*

S.T.A.G.E. AIDS Benefit Recording, The Music of Harold Arlen, (DRG, 1995)

Music Arranger: *The Great Waltz*, waltzes from *A Little Night Music*, performed and recorded by The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, conducted by John Mauceri (Philips, 1993)

## NOTABLE COLLEAGUES

David has worked with many actors and entertainers as a musical director, conductor, vocal coach or pianist, including Kate Baldwin, Kaye Ballard, Christine Baranski, Roger Bart, Gary Beach, Beyoncé, Christian Borle, Michael Crawford, Tony Danza, Christine Ebersole, Dame Edna, Sutton Foster, Bonnie Franklin, Joanna Gleason, Whoopi Goldberg, Joel Grey, Julie Halston, Sean Hayes, Cady Huffman, Cheyenne Jackson, Jane Krakowski, Nathan Lane, Andrea Martin, John McMartin, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Megan Mullally, Donna Murphy, Marni Nixon, Bernadette Peters, Ron Raines, Lee Roy Reams, Chita Rivera, Jessica Walter, Margaret Whiting, Vanessa Williams, and Rachel York.

He has worked on stages, in rehearsal rooms, and in recording studios with many of the theater industry's leading composers, conductors and arrangers, including Rob Berman, Doug Besterman, Larry Blank, William D. Brohn, Mel Brooks, David Chase, Rob Fisher, Larry Hochman, Peter Howard, Glen Kelly, John Mauceri, Donald Pippin, James Raitt, Sid Ramin, David Shire, Stephen Sondheim, Eric Stern, Jeanine Tesori, and Jonathan Tunick, as well as many directors, choreographers, and casting directors, including Christopher Ashley, Jay Binder, Marc Bruni, John Caird, Warren Carlyle, Denis Jones, Kathleen Marshall, Des McAnuff, Casey Nicholaw, Jack O'Brien, John Rando, Tara Rubin, Randy Skinner, Susan Stroman, and Jerry Zaks.

## RELATED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

Score Editor, *The Nance* (Music by Glen Kelly); prepared score for licensing (2014)

Co-Orchestrator: Sondheim's 70th Birthday Concert (Library of Congress, 2002)

*A Tsar is Born*, *Morocco 'Round The Clock* (Hasty Pudding Show, 1994 & 1996)

*South Pacific* (additional orchestrations, Paper Mill Playhouse, 1994)

*Blue Skies*, *The New Irving Berlin Musical* (Yale Dramatic Association, 1991)

Broadway's *Easter Bonnet Competition* (1994)

Computers: MIDI sequencing, audio recording and editing, Apple Logic Pro, Finale

Language studies: French, Italian, German

## REVIEWS

Review Excerpts, *Palm Beach* (Music by David Gursky), La Jolla Playhouse (2005)

“Combining the snappy humor of great farce with the screwball movies of the ‘30s, this show is blessed with a breezy, often gorgeous score by David Gursky. Toss in clever lyrics by Robert Cary that whimsically combine dripping sarcasm, madcap histrionics and sweet sentiment and wed it to a crazy preposterous and irresistible book by Cary and Benjamin Feldman.” --Jeff Britton, The Desert Sun, June 29, 2005

“There are not enough superlatives to describe the participants of this production. The original book by Robert Cary and Benjamin Feldman, music by David Gursky and lyrics by Robert Cary are all genius.” --Diana Saenger, La Jolla Light

“The music -- a bouncy, jaunty mélange of 1930s musical styles -- provides the show's high points.” --Daryl H. Miller, Los Angeles Times

“The show thankfully includes zany characters, ridiculous situations, terrific dances, and toe-tapping tunes to keep you smiling throughout the entire evening.” --James Colt Harrison, Buzz Magazine

## MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

The Dramatists Guild of America, ASCAP, The American Federation of Musicians (Local 802)

Repertoire lists are on the following two pages.

**REPERTOIRE (by title)**

<i>42<sup>nd</sup> Street</i>	Warren	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
<i>A Funny Thing...Forum</i>	Sondheim	Broadway (St. James Theater), St. Louis MUNY
<i>And the World Goes 'Round</i>	Kander	Off-Broadway (Westside Theater)
<i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>	Berlin	NYC (Pre-Broadway), Bucks County Playhouse (PA)
<i>Anyone Can Whistle</i>	Sondheim	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Anything Goes</i>	Porter	Broadway (Stephen Sondheim Theater)
<i>Applause</i>	Strouse	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Bells Are Ringing</i>	Styne	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Big</i>	Shire	1 <sup>st</sup> National Tour
<i>Brigadoon</i>	Loewe	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Call Me Madam</i>	Berlin	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Can-Can</i>	Porter	Yale Dramatic Association
<i>Cinderella</i>	Rodgers	Broadway (Broadway Theater), College Light Opera Co.
<i>Crazy for You</i>	Gershwin	Broadway (Shubert Theater)
<i>Dame Edna: The Royal Tour</i>	Humphries	Broadway (Booth Theater)
<i>Dames at Sea</i>	Wise	Broadway (Helen Hayes Theater)
<i>Damn Yankees</i>	Adler	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Do I Hear a Waltz?</i>	Rodgers	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Dream</i>	various	Broadway (Royale Theater)
<i>Fanny</i>	Rome	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Finian's Rainbow</i>	Lane	Broadway (St. James Theater), <i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Fiorello!</i>	Bock	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Forbidden Broadway</i>	various	Off-Broadway (The Triad)
<i>Forever Plaid</i>	various	Off-Broadway (Steve McGraw's), various U.S.
<i>Guys &amp; Dolls</i>	Loesser	Yale Dramatic Association
<i>High Button Shoes</i>	Styne	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>How to Succeed in Business...</i>	Loesser	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Sondheim	Broadway (St. James Theater), <i>Encores!</i> , Yale Dramat
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Gordon	Broadway (Brooks Atkinson Theater)
<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	Webber	European Tour (Germany, Netherlands)
<i>The King and I</i>	Rodgers	Broadway (St. James Theater)
<i>La Cage aux Folles</i>	Herman	Pocono Playhouse (PA), Theatre-by-the-Sea (RI)
<i>Lady in the Dark</i>	Weill	Prince Music Theater (Philadelphia)
<i>The Little Mermaid</i>	Menken	Broadway (Lunt Fontanne Theater)
<i>Mack &amp; Mabel</i>	Herman	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>Me and My Girl</i>	Gay	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>The Mikado</i>	Sullivan	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
<i>Music in the Air</i>	Kern	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>The Nance</i>	Kelly	Broadway (Lyceum Theater)
<i>The New Yorkers</i>	Porter	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>No, No, Nanette</i>	Youmans	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
<i>Pageant</i>	Evans	Off-Broadway (The Blue Angel)
<i>Paint Your Wagon</i>	Loewe	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>The Phantom of the Opera</i>	Webber	3 <sup>rd</sup> National Tour (U.S.), Netherlands Company
<i>Pipe Dream</i>	Rodgers	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
<i>The Producers</i>	Brooks	Broadway (St. James Theater), 2 <sup>nd</sup> National Tour
<i>Ruthless!</i>	Laird	Off-Broadway (Players Theater)
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Rodgers	Broadway (Martin Beck Theater)
<i>South Pacific</i>	Rodgers	Paper Mill Playhouse (NJ)
<i>State Fair</i>	Rodgers	Broadway (Music Box Theater)
<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Sondheim	Kennedy Center (Washington DC)
<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i>	Tesori & var.	Broadway (Marquis Theater)
<i>White Christmas</i>	Berlin	Broadway (Marquis Theater)
<i>Young Frankenstein</i>	Brooks	Broadway (Lyric Theater)
<i>Zorba</i>	Kander	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)

# **REPERTOIRE (by composer)**

Adler	<i>Damn Yankees</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Berlin	<i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>	NYC (Pre-Broadway), Bucks County Playhouse (PA)
	<i>Call Me Madam</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
	<i>White Christmas</i>	Broadway (Marquis Theater)
Bock	<i>Fiorello!</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (City Center)
Brooks	<i>The Producers</i>	Broadway (St. James Theater), 2 <sup>nd</sup> National Tour
	<i>Young Frankenstein</i>	Broadway (Lyric Theater)
Evans	<i>Pageant</i>	Off-Broadway (The Blue Angel)
Gay	<i>Me and My Girl</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Gershwin	<i>Crazy for You</i>	Broadway (Shubert Theater)
Gordon	<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Broadway (Brooks Atkinson Theater)
Herman	<i>La Cage aux Folles</i>	Pocono Playhouse (PA), Theatre-by-the-Sea (RI)
	<i>Mack &amp; Mabel</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Humphries	<i>Dame Edna: The Royal Tour</i>	Broadway (Booth Theater)
Kander	<i>And the World Goes 'Round</i>	Off-Broadway (Westside Theater)
	<i>Zorba</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Kelly	<i>The Nance</i>	Broadway (Lyceum Theater)
Kern	<i>Music in the Air</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Laird	<i>Ruthless!</i>	Off-Broadway (Players Theater)
Lane	<i>Finian's Rainbow</i>	Broadway (St. James Theater)
Loesser	<i>Guys &amp; Dolls</i>	Yale Dramatic Association
	<i>How to Succeed in Business...</i>	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
Loewe	<i>Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Menken	<i>The Little Mermaid</i>	Broadway (Lunt Fontanne Theater)
Porter	<i>Anything Goes</i>	Broadway (Stephen Sondheim Theater)
	<i>Can-Can</i>	Yale Dramatic Association
	<i>The New Yorkers</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Rodgers	<i>Cinderella</i>	Broadway (Broadway Theater), College Light Opera Co.
	<i>The King and I</i>	Broadway (St. James Theater)
	<i>Do I Hear a Waltz?, Pipe Dream</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Broadway (Martin Beck Theater)
	<i>South Pacific</i>	Paper Mill Playhouse (NJ)
	<i>State Fair</i>	Broadway (Music Box Theater)
Romberg	<i>The New Moon</i>	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
Rome	<i>Fanny</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Shire	<i>Big</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> National Tour
Sondheim	<i>A Funny Thing...Forum</i>	Broadway (St. James Theater), St. Louis MUNY
	<i>Anyone Can Whistle</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
	<i>Into the Woods</i>	Broadway (St. James Theater), <i>Encores!</i> , Yale Dramat
	<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Kennedy Center (Washington DC)
Strouse	<i>Applause</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Styne	<i>Bells Are Ringing</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
	<i>High Button Shoes</i>	<i>Encores!</i> (NY City Center)
Sullivan	<i>The Mikado</i>	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
Tesori & var.	<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i>	Broadway (Marquis Theater)
various	<i>Dream</i>	Broadway (Royale Theater)
	<i>Forbidden Broadway</i>	Off-Broadway (The Triad)
	<i>Forever Plaid</i>	Off-Broadway (Steve McGraw's), several U.S. companies
Warren	<i>42<sup>nd</sup> Street</i>	College Light Opera Co. (MA)
Webber	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	European Tour (Germany, Netherlands)
	<i>The Phantom of the Opera</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> National Tour (U.S.), Netherlands Company
Weill	<i>Lady in the Dark</i>	Prince Music Theater (Philadelphia)
Wise	<i>Dames at Sea</i>	Broadway (Helen Hayes Theater)
Youmans	<i>No, No, Nanette</i>	College Light Opera Co. (MA)

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