

The background of the entire poster is a close-up photograph of two hands, one appearing to hold the other. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red and teal color scheme. The HB Studio logo is positioned in the upper left corner.

HB

STUDIO

*THE COST
OF TRUTH*

A 2021 Reimagining of Henrik Ibsen's
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

Directed by Pablo Andrade

June 3, 2021 | 6:00PM

Held online via Zoom

HB Studio presents

THE COST OF TRUTH

A 2021 Reimagining of Henrik Ibsen's
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

Translated by Rolf Fjelde
Adapted by Pablo Andrade and the company

Thursday, June 3, 2021
6:00 PM ET

Director Pablo Andrade
Assistant Director Nicolás Torres
Lead Script Editor Marika Kuzma
Stage Manager Melisa Kucevic
Zoom Tech Lorraine de Silva
Marketing Director Ashley Roberts
Executive & Artistic Director Edith Meeks

Special thanks to:

Edith Meeks, Lauren Carole Ritter, Ashley Roberts, Carol Rosenfeld, Moisés Kauffman,
Barbara Pitts McAdams, Scott Barrow.



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the Arts**

Support for HB Studio's online programs is provided by the Noel Coward Foundation

This program is supported in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and many generous supporters.

About Henrik Ibsen

Henrik Ibsen, in full Henrik Johan Ibsen, (born March 20, 1828, Skien, Norway—died May 23, 1906, Kristiania [formerly Christiania; now Oslo]), major Norwegian playwright of the late 19th century who introduced to the European stage a new order of moral analysis that was placed against a severely realistic middle-class background and developed with economy of action, penetrating dialogue, and rigorous thought.

First at Bergen and then at the Norwegian Theatre in Christiania, Henrik Ibsen worked as a director and playwright, trying to create a “national drama.” His early plays were unsuccessful, and the Norwegian Theatre went bankrupt. He left Norway in 1864 and wrote most of his best work in the 27 years he lived abroad.

Henrik Ibsen wrote plays. His early works are in verse, and his later works are in prose. Ibsen’s best-known plays included *A Doll’s House*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Peer Gynt*, *The Wild Duck*, *Brand*, and *Rosmersholm*.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Henrik-Ibsen>

Synopsis

Play translated by Rolf Fjelde and adapted by Pablo Andrade and the company

The town in which the play is set has built a huge bathing complex that is crucial to the town's economy. Dr. Stockmann has just discovered that the baths' drainage system is seriously contaminated. He alerts several members of the community, including Hovstad and Aslaksen, and receives generous support and thanks for making his discovery in time to save the town. The next morning, however, his brother, who is also the town's mayor, tells him that he must retract his statements, for the necessary repairs would be too expensive; additionally, the mayor is not convinced by Dr. Stockmann's findings. The brothers have a fierce argument, but Dr. Stockmann hopes that at least Hovstad's newspaper will support him. However, the mayor convinces Hovstad and Aslaksen to oppose Dr. Stockmann. The doctor holds a town meeting to give a lecture on the baths, but Aslaksen and the mayor try to keep him from speaking. Dr. Stockmann then begins a long tirade in which he condemns the foundations of the town and the tyranny of the majority.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Henrik-Ibsen>

The Cast

DR. THOMAS STOCKMANN..... Dan Owen and Demetrius Blocker
MAYOR PETER STOCKMANN Richard Tanenbaum and Richie Dang
MRS. STOCKMANN Marika Kuzma
PETRA Dorota Ptaszek
MORTEN KIIL Akihiro Hattori
HOVSTAD Fernando Rockenbach
BILLING Kenneth Core
ASLAKSEN Zeynep Ozden
CAPTAIN HORSTER Nicolás Torres

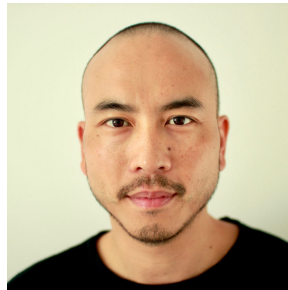
The Company



Demetrius
Blocker



Kenneth
Core



Richie
Dang



Akihiro
Hattori



Marika
Kuzma



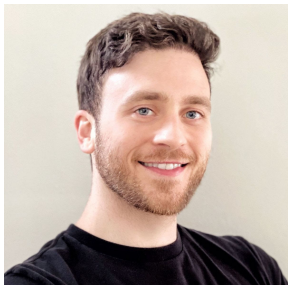
Dan
Owen



Zeynep
Ozden



Dorota
Ptaszek



Fernando
Rockenbach



Richard
Tanenbaum



Nicolás
Torres

The Cast

DEMETRIUS BLOCKER (Dr. Thomas Stockmann) is an honors graduate from New World School of the Arts (BFA) and studies at HB Studio. He's performed with Garth Fagan Dance and works as a runway/print model. He is currently represented by Bella Agency, NY and Wild Models Talent, LA. Acting credits include TV - HBO GIRLS (Episode Boys); Film - THE OTHER WOMAN; FISH; MY DINNER WITH SCHWARTZEY; FRAGMENTS OF ISOLATION; ANDY WARHOL FOR SENATE; Theater - HORSE; MR. CHEKOV MR. PORTER; CALIGULA; STARR STREET; THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE FABULOUS; and THE CHILDREN FROM THE BLUE MOUNTAIN.

KENNETH CORE (Billing) dreamed of becoming an actor while most nine-year-old boys fantasized of becoming firefighters or pilots. Growing up in Belgium's countryside was a challenging backdrop for a young, determined actor but he succeeded and started acting professionally when he was 15. Driven by the CORE values to entertain people, evoke emotion, and make characters come to life, Kenneth feels at home on stage as well as on set. Twenty years of dedication and persistence later, his dream and passion brought him back to New York City, where he's ready to take on the center stage of the world's biggest theater.

RICHIE DANG (Mayor Peter Stockmann) is a 2020 graduate of the Hagen Core Training program at HB Studio and an actor based in New York and Los Angeles.

AKIHIRO HATTORI (Morten Kiil) is a seasoned Japanese actor taking on new challenges with study at HB Studio in NYC. He made his debut as the leading role in the 1999 Moscow production of THE BEAR. His major roles include Dura in Dušan Kovačević's BARKAN SPY (Serbia 2015) and Dr. Dorn in Chekhov's THE SEAGULL (former Yugoslavia and Vietnam 2016-2017).

MARIKA KUZMA (Mrs. Stockmann) is a multilingual actor who has enjoyed working in film and onstage both as an actor and musician. Among her theater credits are appearances at La MaMa Theater (The Sun in MIDWINTER NIGHT with Yara Arts), Berkeley Rep (us/perf Fanny in A WATCH ON THE RHINE), at Marin Shakespeare, as Polly in OTHER DESERT CITIES, Frau Stein in EDITH STEIN, and Williamina in SILENT SKY. Among her music credits are collaborations with Cal Performances, the Mark Morris Dance Group, l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal with Kent Nagano, and Orquesta Simon Bolivar with Gustavo Dudamel. She has taken classes at ACT in San Francisco, Esper Studios, Shakespeare & Co, and at HB Studio with Peter Francis James, Jonathan Lynn, and Rochelle Oliver. She particularly loves productions that bring together art forms. After living in the San Francisco Bay area for many years, she recently returned to the East Coast. Although she was born in the U.S., Ukrainian was her first language.

The Cast

DAN OWEN (Dr. Thomas Stockmann) is delighted to be part of the HB Performance Lab's Zoom experiment with AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE. Born and bred in London, he and his wife, Lisa, preside over a rapidly emptying nest of four children in Bethesda, MD. He works in Social Development at the World Bank on issues of post-conflict reintegration and labor rights. Forays upon the stage in Washington DC have included playing Anthony in TOO CLOSE, awarded Best Drama at the Washington Capital Fringe Festival in 2016, and last performed at HB Studio in New York, Prof. Higgins in Shaw's PYGMALION with the British Players, Deeley in Harold Pinter's OLD TIME at DCAC, Henry VIII in ROYAL GAMBIT and Starkwedder in THE UNEXPECTED GUEST at Dominion Stage, along with various staged readings and voice over work.

ZEYNEP OZDEN (Aslaksen) is a theatre actress, acting teacher, and director. In college she studied Acting and Radio-TV-Cinema. She completed her master's degree in Directing. Since 2001, she has been working as an actress, director's assistant and director in Theatre Pera, a private theatre company based in Istanbul. She has been teaching acting since 2004 in Pera School of Fine Arts. She also enjoys translating plays.

DOROTA PTASZEK (Petra) is a Polish actress and a graduate of the Acting Department of the Film School in Łódź in Poland (2021). She actively collaborates with students of other film schools and is an actress in numerous studies, short films and cinematography exercises. She is also a participant of photo sessions, performances and workshops organized at the Film School. Her performances with Łódź include OPERETKA, directed by Waldemar Zawodziński and DO NOT EAT IT, IT'S FOR CHRISTMAS by Mariusz Grzegorzek - Grand Prix at the VGIK Festival in Moscow, COST OF LIVING by Małgorzata Bogajewska - Grand Prix at Kustendorf Festival in Serbia. She is also a Polish folk dancer, having participated in Warsaw folk groups for 12 years, as well as many dance workshops, including folk, classical and contemporary dance festivals and reviews.

In 2015, she was a dancer at the GAIK Warsaw Song and Dance Ensemble. From 2013-2016, she was an actress at Pijana Sypialnia Theatre in Warsaw and a participant in numerous national theatre festivals. She was a student at the English faculties of the University of Warsaw at the Faculty of Foreign Language Teaching (English and German) and an English teacher in Warsaw for two years, in addition to interning at private and state language schools. In 2018, she received the Erasmus Scholarship for one semester at the Acting Department of Escuela Superior de Arte Dramática en Galicia, Spain with an emphasis on physical theatre, movement theatre as well as dramatic, post-dramatic and experimental acting, plus a voice and national Spanish dances workshop. In 2019 and 2020, she received a scholarship from the headmaster of the Film School. And in 2020, she started a cooperation with the Connecting Arts and Theatre Dance Company in Łódź as an acting teacher and co-creator of the dance performance LINK (2021).

The Cast

FERNANDO ROCKENBACH (Hovstad) is enrolled in the full-time international program at HB Studio and could not be more excited to be part of this incredible ensemble. Always showing an immense love for the performing arts, he has been in small plays ever since he was a kid. During his teenage years, he took a break from theater and eventually graduated college with a degree in Architecture and Urbanism. He kept studying theater after graduation and performed in some plays in Brazil, mostly in the "theater of the absurd" style. Eventually he moved to NYC to focus and ground his abilities as an actor.

DR. RICHARD TANENBAUM (DR. "T") (Peter Stockmann) has an eclectic background as an actor in dramas and musical comedy, a television producer, and a classical and pop singer and producer of Spanish and Italian lyric opera. Recently, he co-starred in TOO CLOSE at HB Studio in NYC, a two man play about the perils of climate change and performed in NEDA WANTS TO DIE, a play about gender-based violence, in venues across the U.S. and abroad. He has produced/hosted television programming for children and adults, his program, DR. T. AND COMPANY aired nationally with a viewing audience of 5 million. Richard writes, produces and performs in entertaining training videos for businesses and is a frequent guest star on television and radio talk shows as Dr. T. As a clinical/business psychologist and an executive coach and leadership consultant, he works with a variety of organizations, including all branches of the military, hospital systems, and the entertainment industry.

NICOLÁS TORRES (Captain Horster) is a Chilean actor currently living in NYC and is part of the International Class Program at HB Studio. He has been trained at Escuela de Teatro UC and Teatro Camino in Santiago, Chile, performing in plays such as ROBERTO ZUCCO, EL TORO POR LAS ASTAS and MI NOMBRE ES MALARROSA. Additionally, he was part of the ensemble for the musicals THE LION KING and CUENTA LA HISTORIA in his country. He is an actor and model for TV commercials and advertisements, and is also a Civil Engineer with a diploma in Computer Engineering from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile.

About this process

By Pablo Andrade

When I came to New York City almost 10 years ago, I spoke barely any English. I was obsessed with learning it fast so that I could communicate properly, and I desperately tried to get rid of my accent... I thought this was the only way I could “fit in” and find my path as an artist in the United States. I wanted to leave my foreign roots behind and embrace this new culture that was receiving me with open arms.

In the process of finding myself—as both an immigrant and an artist—HB Studio gave me a safe haven to grow. I met the most wonderful artists from all over the world and, for the first time, I felt my lack of perfect English wasn’t a barrier anymore. I found an exquisite international exchange that proved to me that art is a universal language. Now, in my work as a director, I’ve been trying to find new ways of telling stories and communicating ideas beyond language. I’ve been pursuing projects that allow me to celebrate diversity and humanity in all its forms.

What you are about to see is not a conventional play. It’s a collective artistic exploration inspired by the famous 19th century work *An Enemy of the People* by the Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen, re-imagined by a multicultural ensemble of remarkable artists. We have conceived this performance using techniques inspired by Moment Work™, a method of devising theater developed by the Tectonic Theater Project. This innovative process has been used to create classic works such as *The Laramie Project*, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, and *33 Variations*; and it’s used to explore the theatrical potential of the elements of the stage in order to develop strong dramatic narratives.

Under the umbrella of HB Studio, our talented international cast has come together to devote themselves toward exploring the creative possibilities of Zoom and devising this work-in-progress. The performers have been developing each “moment”—examining and adapting Ibsen’s script, reimagining its possibilities, and collaborating together as a true ensemble—to try to respond to an idea—the “hunch” as we call it in Moment Work™—, the central question of this performance: “What is the cost of truth? And are we willing to pay for it?”

The Director

PABLO ANDRADE is a Venezuelan-born New York based actor, director and producer. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of Corezon theater company and has been working as a professional theater artist for over 15 years. Since his arrival to New York City in 2011, Andrade has collaborated with companies such as Repertorio Español, Tectonic Theater Project, The Public Theater, Puerto Rican Traveling Theater, Teatro Círculo, Russian Arts Theater, IATI, HB Ensemble Theater, Teatro SEA, LaMicro Theater, INTAR, and others. As a teacher, Andrade has trained actors in the US, Latin America and Europe.



As a director, he has been mentored by Tony Award recipients Jack Hofsis and Thomas Kail. As an actor, he played the leading role of the New York Times Critics' Pick production of Mario Vargas Llosa's AUNT JULIA AND THE SCRIPTWRITER, and dozens of other plays and films. Pablo Andrade is a proud alumnus of HB Studio and The Uta Hagen Institute as well as the Cultural Visitor Program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Some of his awards include: ATI Award for Breakthrough Director (2018), HOLA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Directing (2017), Fuerza Award for Best Director (2017), Latin ACE Award for Best Actor Drama (2015), and HOLA Award for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor (2014).



HB PUBLIC EVENTS

Through free public events, including readings of new plays, performances, and public talks, we invite the community at large to share in a dialog about the range of efforts, intentions, and influences that drive theater artists in creating and producing their work.

View upcoming events: hbstudio.eventbrite.com

HB ONLINE CLASSES

HB Studio offers a series of 5-week and 10-week online classes in:

- Acting
- Acting with the Camera
- Actuar en Español
- Scene Study
- Speech & Voice
- Movement
- Musical Theater and Singing
- Playwriting & Screenwriting
- Acting for Young People
- Teatro para Jóvenes Adolescentes

HB Studio offers a variety of short-term workshops. Our list of upcoming workshops is updated regularly:

- Voice Over
- Audition Technique
- Stop-Motion Animation
- Acting in Accent
- Shakespearean Acting
- many more!

THE UTA HAGEN INSTITUTE

Full-time immersion in the practical approach to the acting craft that characterized Uta Hagen's legendary master classes and classic acting texts.

SUMMER TERM:

Jun. 12 - Aug. 22, 2021
 Part A: Jun. 12 - Jul. 18
 Part B: Jul. 19 - Aug. 22

FALL TERM:

Sep. 13 - Nov. 23, 2021
 Part A: Sep. 13 - Oct. 18
 Part B: Oct. 19 - Nov. 23

Sign up for either Part A or Part B independently (5 weeks each), or join both for the full 10-week term. You may join Part B without taking Part A.

AUDIT A CLASS

We offer the opportunity for new and existing students to audit online classes in order to observe the instructor's teaching style and the culture of the class before making the commitment to register. We encourage you to try virtual learning with us by auditing a class.

HAGEN ACTOR'S LAB ONLINE

Jun. 6 - 13, 2021

HAGEN TEACHER'S LAB ONLINE

Aug. 1 - 8, 2021

HAGEN CORE TRAINING

Sep. 12, 2021 - Jun. 6, 2022

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HB Studio is a vital resource for the NY and global theater community, offering employment, continuity, and creative connection for performing artists through online classes, workshops, performance opportunities, and free online public programming. With students and audiences joining us virtually from across North America, Asia, Europe, South America, and Africa, we are reflecting on this global crisis together and forging meaningful connections that inspire us to look ahead to brighter days. Help us continue our mission-driven work by making a donation today.

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