

BY ANNE WASHBURN SCORE BY MICHAEL FRIEDMAN LYRICS BY ANNE WASHBURN

BELGRADE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS

MR BURNS

A POST ELECTRIC PLAY

FRI 10 & SAT 11 JUL



Playwrights Horizons, Inc. produced the New York City premiere of the play off-Broadway in 2013.

Originally produced in June, 2012 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC, Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Jeffrey Herrmann, Managing Director.

Mr. Burns was Commissioned by The Civilians, New York, NY Steven Cosson, Artistic Director

For the language of the remembering of the Simpsons' episode, Cape Feare, the author would like to credit the Civilians actors involved in the initial workshop: Quincy Tyler Bernstine, Maria Dizzia, Gibson Frazier, Matt Maher, Jennifer Morris, Colleen Werthmann and Sam Breslin Wright

Anne Washburn's imaginative dark comedy - a play with music featuring songs by Washburn and Michael Friedman – propels us forward nearly a century, following a new civilisation stumbling into its future.

After the collapse of civilisation, a group of survivors share a campfire and begin to piece together the plot of The Simpsons episode "Cape Feare" entirely from memory. Seven years later, this and other snippets of pop culture (sitcom plots, commercials, jingles, and pop songs) have become the live entertainment of a post-apocalyptic society, sincerely trying to hold onto its past. Seventy-five years later, these are the myths and legends from which new forms of performance are created.

A paean to live theater and the resilience of Bart Simpson through the ages, *Mr. Burns* is an animated exploration of how the pop culture of one era might evolve into the mythology of another.



BELGRADE

MR BURNS

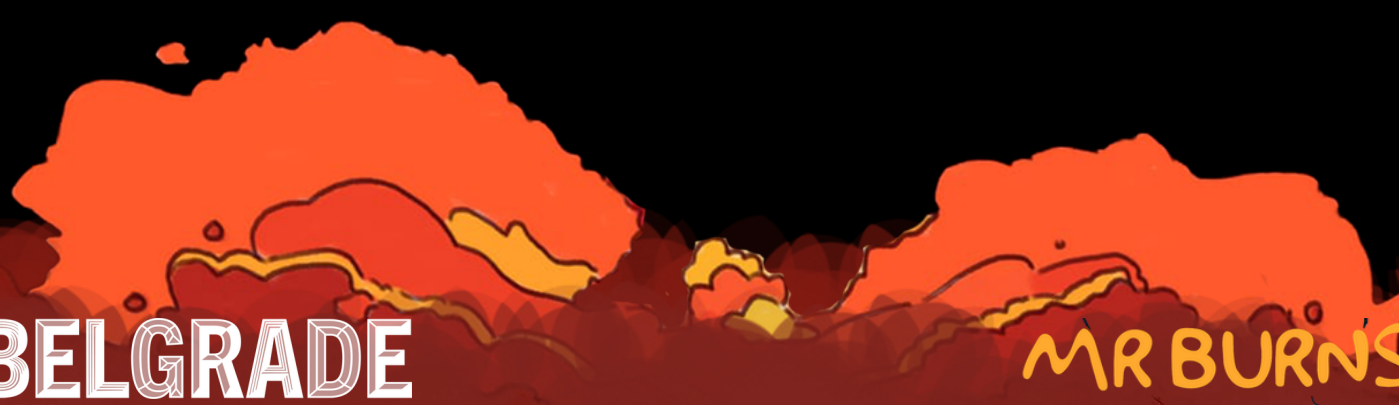
Note from Jay Zorenti-Nakhid, the Belgrade's Associate Director

Building on the success of previous cohorts, the Belgrade Ensemble 2025-26 continues the Belgrade Theatre's investment in early-career talent from Coventry and the wider region.

Created as a free year-long development programme for emerging performers, the Ensemble offers participants the opportunity to train and collaborate within a producing theatre environment.

This year's cohort has followed a three-phase journey: beginning with intensive skills development in the autumn, moving into contextual workshops exploring the themes and ideas of Mr Burns, a post-electric play, and culminating in a rehearsal process for their summer production.

Our belief is simple: local talent deserves local investment.



BELGRADE

MR BURNS

Cast

The Belgrade Ensemble 2025/26 cohort is:

Abby Fletcher	Emmanuella Martins
Bradey Fallon	Frankie Rose
Chantel Esiri	Gabrielle Valkyrie
Charlotte-Louise Webb	George Jasper
Deanna Carr	Milo Machin

creative team

Director - Jay Zorenti-Nakhid
Producer - Emma Worrall
Set and Costume Designer - Kritika Agarwal
Sound Designer - Jasraj Sahota
Lighting Designer - David Phillips
Production Manager - David Phillips
Stage Manager - Debbie Harlow
Vocal Arranger - Corah Fowles
Fight Director - Farrah Hughes
Sound Operator - Katherine Hodgson

BELGRADE

MR BURNS

Anne Washburn — Author & Lyricist

Anne Washburn's plays include *Mr. Burns*; 10 out of 12; *Antlia Pneumatica*; *A Devil At Noon*; *Apparition*; *The Communist Dracula Pageant*; *I Have Loved Strangers*; *The Ladies*; *The Internationalist*; *The Small*; *Little Bunny Foo Foo* and transadaptations of Euripides' *Orestes* and *Iphigenia In Aulis*.

Awards include a Whiting Award; a PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation Theater Award; an Alpert Award; the Guggenheim; a NYFA Fellowship; a Time Warner Fellowship; Susan Smith Blackburn finalist and residencies at MacDowell and Yaddo.

She is an associated artist with The Civilians; Clubbed Thumb; New Georges and Chochiqq, and is an alumna of New Dramatists and 13P.



BELGRADE

MR BURNS

Michael Friedman - Composer

Michael Friedman was an Obie Award-winning composer/lyricist.

He was most well-known as the co-creator of the critically-acclaimed musical *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, which premiered in New York at the Public Theater and subsequently transferred to Broadway.

Other credits include the musical *The Fortress of Solitude*, based on the book of the same name by Jonathan Lethem; *Unknown Soldier*, which premiered at the Williamstown Theatre Festival; and *Love's Labour's Lost*, which premiered at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park.

Michael was a founding Associate Artist of The Civilians, the acclaimed investigative theater company. His work with The Civilians included *Gone Missing*; *In the Footprint*; *The Great Immensity*; *Paris Commune* (co-written with Steve Cosson); *(I Am) Nobody's Lunch* and *This Beautiful City*, as well as the score for Anne Washburn's critically-acclaimed *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*.

His last collaboration with Civilians' Artistic Director Cosson, *The Abominables*, opened at Children's Theater Company in Minneapolis in September 2017.

In the months leading up to the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election, Michael traveled the country creating a series of songs based on interviews he conducted. Those songs became his *State of the Union Songbook*, which was presented by The New Yorker Radio Hour.

Michael received a MacDowell Fellowship, a Princeton Hodder Fellowship and a Meet The Composer Fellowship, and he was a Barron Visiting Professor at The Princeton Environmental Institute in 2009.

At the time of his death, he was the Artist in Residence and Director of the Public Forum at the Public Theater, and was also the Artistic Director of City Center Encores! Off-Center.

In 2018, Michael received a star on the Playwrights' Sidewalk at the Lucille Lortel Theater.

Applications to join the 2026/ 27 cohort of the Belgrade Ensemble are now open!

The Belgrade Ensemble is a free, year-long creative programme for early-career performers looking to develop their craft alongside our creative leadership team. Participants will train together as an ensemble and work on two major performance milestones, culminating in a role within the company ensemble for the Belgrade's flagship main-stage production of Nanny of the Maroons.

To find out more and to apply, visit:

www.belgrade.co.uk/projects/belgrade-ensemble-2627



BELGRADE

Photo of the Belgrade Ensemble
25/26 cohort.

MR BURNS

This amateur production of MR. BURNS, A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings or streams of this production is strictly prohibited, and is an offence under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988