

Log on to www.washingtontheater.org for more details about the Washington Area Theatre Community Honors. KAT received eight nominations in 2004, and Diego Prieto, Man 2 in this show, took home our first two WATCH awards. Congratulations!



bios

Allison Block (Woman 2) is making her debut with KAT in *Closer Than Ever* with some of her most favorite people! Thanks and love to Duane for the opportunity and support. Credits include *Hello Dolly*, *Steel Pier*, *Saturday Night*, *Guys and Dolls & Kiss Me*, *Kate* (TAP), *The Cocoanuts* (LTA) and *Victor/Victoria* (RMT). Much love to husband, Steven, and to Jon & Vienne. Witsy Bitsy Awards - here we come!!

Steve Block (Man 2) This is Steve's fourth performance on the KAT stage. Previous productions at KAT include *The Best of Broadway*, *Songs For a New World*, and *The Stories That We Weave*. Steve would like to thank Duane, Doe, and Shira for all the hard work they have done to make this show successful, and Diego and Mia for bringing it to life. And, of course, Steve is thrilled to be on stage with his beautiful and talented wife, Allison. To Duane, Jon, Vienne, and Allison "Well, if That's the Best You Can Do!"

Mia DeMezza (Woman 1) is thrilled to be making her KAT debut with such a talented and fun cast and staff! She is enjoying the short commute from her Bethesda home, as she has trekked to Virginia for most of her other local shows, including *The World Goes Round* at SCT, *Saturday Night* (Mildred) at TAP, *Steel Pier* (Bette Becker) at TAP, and *A Chorus Line* (Diana Morales) at RCP. When not delivering 10-minute-long musical monologues on the reproductive lives of animals, Mia works at Americans for the Arts and engages in seemingly never-ending home improvement projects with the help of her entire family. Thanks to Craig, Duane, and Doe for this great opportunity. Love to Mom, Dad, Adam and Marc.

Doe B. Kim (Music Director) is happy to be back in the KAT pit after having served as the Steward to Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods*. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with Duane and with the cast, each of whom he has seen on stage in several shows. One could almost classify Doe as a theater stalker of this talented cast. Doe would like to thank Shira for her tireless pounding of the keyboards and Ron for his wonderful bass skills. We're closer than never, over and over!

Erin Lashof (Stage Manager / AD) Although this is Erin's first show with KAT, she is no rookie to theater. She has been performing and working backstage with Rockville Musical Theatre all her life. She first appeared onstage as Young Kim in *Show Boat* with RMT in 1991 and was most recently seen in the ensemble of their production of *Ragtime*. During the summer, Erin is a camp counselor for Imagination Stage's Summer Theatre Campus. Erin is currently attending Hood College where she is a senior Early Childhood Education major. Thanks to the cast/crew/production staff for helping me get to know a new group, to my family and all my friends, and thanks especially to Andrew - I love you always and forever sweetheart.

Duane Monahan (Director / Choreographer) returns to KAT where he was seen on stage in *Rocky Horror* and *Cabaret*. This time he's behind the scenes as the director of *Closer Than Ever*. He's ecstatic to be working with such a talented and dedicated cast and staff. Duane is an accomplished director with *Joseph...*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, and *Best Little Whorehouse* to his credit; he served as choreographer for those shows as well as for productions of *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Gypsy* and *Aladdin*. His on stage acting credits range from Tom Sawyer in *Big River* to Andy Lee in *42nd Street*. Duane is a native of Mt. Savage, MD and a graduate of Frostburg State University. Much love to the "Witsy Bitsy" committee and little Vienne.

Craig Pettinati (Producer) Fresh off directing / producing *The Rocky Horror Show*, Craig is pleased to be producing *Closer Than Ever*. Craig, who is the President and founder of KAT, will be directing KAT's spring offering, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. He would like to thank the staff and cast for all of their hard work and dedication, and he would especially like to thank Elizabeth for her love and support. Enjoy the show.

Diego Prieto (Man 2) is thrilled yet again to be on the KAT stage. Diego was last seen at KAT in *The Rocky Horror Show* as Riff-Raff and will next be seen here in *Kiss of the Spider Woman* as Molina. Diego is excited to be sharing the stage with this incredible cast of extremely talented individuals. To Mia, Allison and Steven, thank you for making this process a laugh-out-loud riot. You guys are wonderful and I am honored to be in this show with you. Duane you are wonderfully gifted and inspiring and I am so thankful for the opportunity to work with you again. Doe as usual it's always fun when you're around! This is for my Lizzie who has helped me grow into a better human!! I love you!

director's notes

We are faced with many decisions each and every day...some are minor and some are life changing. *Closer Than Ever* takes a look at many of the choices and decisions that we come face to face with throughout our lives. From the opening song, "Doors," which deals with delving into the unknown, we begin our journey of exploring choices. A man who makes the decision not to cheat on his wife...a son who decides to follow his father's love of music but in a different path...a wife who wants to break out of her daily routine but can't...a couple who toast to a second chance at love. These are just a few of the scenes and choices that we see portrayed this evening. Regardless of what decision we chose or what path we take, we know that our lives will never be the same. Every day another door!

production staff

Producer	Craig Pettinati
Director/Choreographer	Duane Monahan
Music Director/Program Design	Doe B. Kim
Stage Manager / A.D.	Erin Lashof
Scenic Design	Matt Karner
Master Carpenter	Dave Kaysen
Set Painting Design	Matt Karner
Construction/Painting Crew	Craig Pettinati, Kevin Garrett, Kirk Andersen, Matt Karner, Erin Lashof, Andrew Dodge, Jenna Ballard, Elizabeth French, Diego Prieto, Duane Monahan, Paula Phipps, Doe B. Kim, Cindy Russell, Ryan Manning, Brian Campbell, Shira Yasur
Set Decoration	Vienne Monahan-Wentzel
Properties	Diego Prieto, Elizabeth French
Lighting Design	Vienne Monahan-Wentzel
Lighting Execution	Kirk Andersen
Spotlight Operator	Dave Kaysen
Sound Design/Execution	Kevin Garrett
Costumes	Duane Monahan
Makeup & Hair Design	The Cast
Backstage Crew	Jenna Ballard, Andrew Dodge Elizabeth French
Photography	Mafalda Marrocco

abbreviations

LTA - Little Theatre of Alexandria, RCP - Reston Community Players, RMT - Rockville Musical Theatre, SCT - Springfield Community Theatre, TAP - The Arlington Players, VTC - Vienna Theatre Company

bios

Kirk Andersen (Lighting Execution) is a charter KAT member and KAT's representative to the WATCH organization. He has been involved in most of KAT's productions in some way -- usually with lights or sound or helping with the auditions. In May he will be appearing in *The Fantasticks* (KAT 2nd Stage) at the Gaithersburg Arts Barn in the role of Mortimer. He is thrilled to be returning to that show having played the role of Henry eight years ago with SSTG.