



American Repertory Theater

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MEDIA ADVISORY

JUST RELEASED VIDEO: “LETTERS”

FEATURING LUCAS STEELE, DENÉE BENTON, GELSEY BELL, AND SCOTT STANGLAND
FROM “NATASHA, PIERRE & THE GREAT COMET OF 1812” at A.R.T.

<https://youtu.be/rjQH5uQ91eo>

American Repertory Theater has released an archival video clip of the song “Letters” from the 2015 production of **Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812**. The electropop opera with book, music, and lyrics by Dave Malloy (*Moby-Dick*, *Three Pianos*, *Ghost Quartet*, *Beowulf: A Thousand Years of Baggage*) saw the Loeb Drama Center transformed into a 19th century Russian supper club designed by MacArthur ‘Genius Grant’ and Tony Award winner Mimi Lien that immersed audiences in the romantic world of Tolstoy’s epic novel December 6, 2015 - January 3, 2016.

The clip from the A.R.T. archives features Lucas Steele (*Great Comet* on Broadway - Lucille Lortel Award, *Oliver Twist*, *Emojiland*), Denée Benton (*Great Comet* on Broadway, *Hamilton*, *The Book of Mormon*), Gelsey Bell (*Great Comet* on Broadway, *Ghost Quartet*, *Cairns* sound walk - *NY Times* Best Theater of 2020), and Scott Stangland (*Great Comet* on Broadway, *Once*). **Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812** was directed by Rachel Chavkin (*Moby-Dick*, *Roosevelt*, *Three Pianos*); choreography by Sam Pinkleton (*Burn All Night*, *Kansas City Choir Boy*, *Roosevelt*); video filmed and edited by Johnathan Carr.

Originally commissioned and developed, and premiered by Ars Nova and subsequently transferring to Broadway, **Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812** remains an A.R.T. fan favorite. Learn more about the A.R.T. run at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/GreatComet. #ExploreTheARTArchives for more video clips from past productions.

A.R.T. looks forward to welcoming audiences back to the theater for the return of live, in-person performances in the coming weeks. Subscription packages with three or more shows from A.R.T.’s 2021/22 programming start at \$99 and go on sale to the public on August 10; a pre-sale for A.R.T. donors of any amount, 19/20 subscribers, and 2021 Spring Celebration attendees begins July 29. In-person programming features artists including Ayodele Casel, Idina Menzel, and Whitney White, as well as the premiere of **1776** directed by Jeffrey L. Page and Diane Paulus. **The Arboretum Experience**, a free, self-guided outdoor celebration of nature and resilience produced in collaboration with the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, begins August 21. Learn more about upcoming programming at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/2021-22-Programming.

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