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BRIDGING WORLDS ON STAGE:

RUSSIAN REFUGEE CHILDREN AND THEIR AMERICAN-BORN
FRIENDS UNITE IN JOYFUL RESISTANCE, OFFERING ANTI-WAR
MESSAGES AND REIMAGINING WHAT IT MEANS TO BELONG

ARTSEMERSON PRESENTS

SPACEBRIDGE

CONCEIVED AND DIRECTED BY IRINA KRUSHILINA (VISUAL ECHO)
FOUR PERFORMANCES ONLY
EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER
ROBERT J. ORCHARD STAGE
NOVEMBER 21 – 23, 2025

[Boston, MA – Monday, October 27, 2025]– ArtsEmerson, Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theater and film and the professional presenting and producing organization of Emerson College, is thrilled to present the Boston premiere of **SpaceBridge**, running at the Emerson Paramount Center's Robert J. Orchard Stage from November 21 through November 23, 2025, for four performances. This dynamic new work brings together the voices and creative energy of ten Russian-refugee children-who fled to the U.S. due to their families' anti-war stance and currently reside in NYC shelters- and their ten American peers to create a performance anchored in friendship, resistance, and the power of imaginative connection.



SpaceBridge

Photo credit: Walter Wlodarczyk

In **SpaceBridge**, audiences will witness a vibrant, multimedia stage piece co-devised by Irina Kruzhilina and the young cast, in which movement, story-telling, visual design and real voices cross literal and metaphorical borders.

[Watch film and television legend Sarah Jessica Parker react to seeing SpaceBridge in January 2025 in New York.](#)

“**SpaceBridge** is not political theater—it is a world reimagined by children,” says director Irina Kruzhilina. “With unguarded honesty and boundless imagination, they cut through the noise of division and create a new world—one where empathy, creativity, and intercultural dialogue build bridges instead of walls.”

Tickets for **SpaceBridge** may be purchased 24/7 at ArtsEmerson.org, or by calling 617-824-8400 (Tue-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00PM ET). The Paramount Center Box Office (559 Washington Street, Boston) is open for walk-up service Thu-Sat from Noon - 6:00 PM ET. Tickets start at \$27.50. Groups of 10+ attending a performance save up to 30%.

For production stills and other media kit assets, click [here](#).

LISTINGS INFORMATION FOR SPACEBRIDGE

Dates:

November 21 – 23, 2025

Venue:

Emerson Paramount Center
Robert J. Orchard Stage
559 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111

Performance Schedule:

Friday, November 21, 2025	8:00PM ET	Press Performance
Saturday, November 22, 2025	2:00PM ET	
Saturday, November 22, 2025	8:00PM ET	
Sunday, November 23, 2025	2:00PM ET	

Ticket Information:

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Content:

Recommended for Ages 12+

Language:

SpaceBridge is primarily in English with some portions in Russian. English subtitles are provided for any sections spoken in Russian.

Running Time:

95 minutes, no intermission

Accessibility:

Open Captioned Show on Saturday, November 22 at 2:00PM ET
ASL Interpreted Show on Saturday, November 22 at 8:00PM ET
Audio Described Show on Sunday, November 23 at 2:00PM ET

Public Health Information:

Mask-wearing is strongly encouraged at all times while indoors at the theatre but is no longer required for most* performances and events.

For folks who require a socially distanced seating location or who have other questions or concerns, please contact the Box Office by phone at 617.824.8400 or by emailing tickets@artsemerson.org to arrange seating that accommodates your needs. Masks and face shields will also be available at the theatre upon request.

If you or a member of your party is feeling sick, experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or has been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 10 days, please stay home. Our box office will allow you to refund or exchange performance tickets at any time prior to the event. No one should come to the venue if they are not feeling well.

It is within our values to create a safe space for everyone, full stop. All staff at the Theatres of Emerson College are working to ensure the health and safety of all who are sharing these spaces. Maintaining our community's health and safety requires the effort of all involved. By committing to this Shared Code of Conduct, you are not only protecting yourself, but fellow guests, artists, and staff. Please do all you can to help keep all of us safe. We cannot wait to see you at the theater! [Click here to review full info on Health and Wellness information.](#)

CREDITS & BIOGRAPHIES

Artist Note:

Support for **SpaceBridge** has been made possible by a two-year artist residency at La MaMa ETC. The project was commissioned in part by En Garde Arts' Joan D. Firestone Commissioning Fund and through its Uncommon Voices program and by Creative Engagement—a regrant program supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by LMCC. Additional institutional support was provided by the David Richenthal Foundation and the Leon Lowenstein Foundation.

Educational partnerships include the Stella Adler Center for the Arts and the New School of Drama.

SpaceBridge was originally presented by La MaMa ETC in association with En Garde Arts and Visual Echo, as part of the Under the Radar Festival in NYC.

Conceived and directed by:

Irina Kruzhilina

Irina Kruzhilina is a New York-based director, scenographer, visual dramaturg, experience designer and educator, creating work at the intersection of visual art, live performance, and civic engagement. Her creative endeavors range from interdisciplinary downtown theatre to large scale parades, from opera to site responsive installations. Her work has been shown at Times Square, Tokyo, Disney, BAM, Prague National Theatre, NY Philharmonic, and Barbican Center. She is the founder of Visual Echo, a New York-based performance organization dedicated to facilitating generative dialogues among people from diverse backgrounds. She holds the position of associate professor at the New School of Drama, where she co-developed a new MFA program in Contemporary Theatre and Performance. Irina is a La MaMa resident artist and Joan D. Firestone Fund Award recipient.

Written by:

Irina Kruzhilina and Clark Young

Projection designer:

Peter Nigrini

Associate projection designer:

Zoey Crow

Lighting designer:

Brian H Scott

Sound designers:

Darron L West and Sophie Yuqing Nie

Cinematographer:

Aleksei Postnikov

Choreographers:

Laura Peterson and Robbie Simpson

Composer:

Ian Miller

Voice / Speech coach:

Alba Quezada

Props artists:

Moiria Zhang, Jacqueline Brockel, and Noyu Ueda

Puppet designers:

Yuliya Tsukerman and Nick Lehane

Assistant directors:

Anamaria Willars and Colin Wilson

Stage Manager:

Berit Johnson

Production Manager:

Thijs Beuming

Assistant Coordinator:

Irisdelia Garcia

Devising Assistants:

Lars Montanaro, Pau Zabaleta Llauger, and Rodrigo Pocidonio Silva

Cast:

Ellen Lauren as Samantha Smith

SpaceBridge ensemble:

Alisa Shaverdova, Anastasia Skorobogach, Anna Skorobogach, Arina Skorobogach, Artem Skorobogach, Leon Ladia, Lily Borzenko, Mark Savin, Mars Markelov, Sasha Boikova, Sonia Tsatskina, Adele Nigrini, Alexis Edel, Drake Malave, Henry MacDowell, Isaac Stinson, Maisie Pickar, Nate Hatter, Sabine Gutenberg, Silas MacLean and Zora George

Visual Echo

Visual Echo is a New York-based multidisciplinary performance organization founded by a collective of immigrant artists and educators, led by Irina Kruzhilina. Rooted in our cross-cultural experiences, we create bold, socially engaged performances and educational programs—locally and internationally—that address civic issues such as immigration, polarization, and peacebuilding. We believe in the power of theatre to activate communities, integrate the marginalized, and foster healing. Our work sparks dialogue and dismantles barriers between people of all backgrounds by bringing them together in new and unexpected ways.

La MaMa ETC

La MaMa builds audiences that are integral to the creative process. Our local and global community members who gather in our physical, digital, and hybrid spaces to see new work, are often the first audience for that work. The audience response helps to shape the evolution of the piece for the artist, and is an essential part of the creative ecosystem that La MaMa nurtures. La MaMa believes art is a force for change. Violence, discrimination, and systemic racism will not stop without a unified resistance.

En Garde Arts

En Garde Arts is the award-winning pioneer of New York City's site-specific theatre movement. En Garde has a rich, impactful history of using the city as our stage to create, produce and present bold theatrical experiences that reach across artistic, physical and social boundaries. It has a significant legacy of producing ground breaking productions by Anne Bogart, Chuck Mee, Tina Landau, Reza Abdoh, Jonathan Larson and Mac Wellman, among others.

PRESENTER INFORMATION

ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the professional presenting and producing organization at Emerson College, and its mission is to bring people together to experience powerful performances that delight, provoke, and inspire, celebrating both our differences and common humanity. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard — the year the U.S. Census confirmed there was no single cultural majority in Boston — ArtsEmerson is committed to building a cultural institution that reflects the diversity of our city. Our imaginative and globe-spanning live and virtual performances, films, and conversations invites each of us to be part of a Boston that is more creative, equitable, and connected. ArtsEmerson is led by Interim Executive Director of the Office of the Arts & ArtsEmerson Director of Artistic Programming, Ronee Penoi. For more information visit ArtsEmerson.org.

Emerson College

Emerson College is uniquely dedicated to the arts and communication, educating and inspiring storytellers and artists to impact and advance creative industries and media throughout the world. Distinguished faculty spearhead a dynamic curriculum and guide several thousand undergraduate students and 1,300 graduate students to exhibit an unyielding spirit of creativity, professionalism, and critical thought, to transform lives, and make a profound impact on our community and beyond.

Based in the world-class city of Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theater District, the College offers experiential learning programs in Boston and across the globe: at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands, and at 28 global programs. Emersonians, including 58,000+ alumni, shape industries, inspire change, and amplify voices that redefine our culture. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

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