

The Hamilcast: An American Podcast

**#21: What are the odds the gods would put us all in one spot?**

Hosts: Gillian Pennsavalle and Bianca Soto

Description: This is a milestone episode! Seth Stewart (@IAMSethStewart) is the first Hamilton cast member to come on the podcast! Seth talks backstage at the Tonys, his responsibilities as the Green Captain of “Hamilton”, the moment he realized he’d be best friends with Lin-Manuel Miranda, and why we should all #StayWeird. He also speaks directly to the Hamilfans. Jam!!!

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The Hamilcast’s Transcribing Army

Ok, so we are doing this . . .

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GILLIAN PENSAVALLE: Hey, everybody!

BIANCA SOTO: Hey!

G.PEN: Hi!

B.SO: How are you?

G.PEN: I’m awesome!

B.SO: Yeah me too!

G.PEN: How are you?

B.SO: I’m great!

G.PEN: I’m Gillian

B.SO: I’m Bianca

G.PEN: This is a big ep

B.SO: Big ep!

G.PEN: Milestone ep

B.SO: For sure! We’re at Shetler Studios here in NYC. For those of you who don’t know, it’s a rehearsal studio space

G.PEN: It’s not just a milestone because we’re not in my living room in my apartment, but we have an actual cast member of Hamilton in the flesh, Seth Stewart.

SETH STEWART: Jam!

G.PEN AND B.SO: [Excited noises]

G.PEN: How are you?

S.STEW: Good!

G.PEN: Thank you so much for being here

S.STEW: Of course

G.PEN: It's a really big deal

S.STEW: Of course

G.PEN: So, again, I'm apologizing for audio. My husband Mike says to take a drink whenever I do that because that's how much I do it, but you might hear some pianos, you might hear some rehearsing

B.SO: It's mood music, it's fine. Some auditions

G.PEN: some audition songs, I don't know

S.STEW: It's New York

B.SO: Not so sound proof rooms

G.PEN: We posted a picture, if you look on top of the piano, there are feet marks, there are footprints on top of that because someone

B.SO: Someone was LIVING on that piano

G.PEN: Not marking on that piano

S.STEW: That's great

G.PEN: Awesome. So there are good vibes in this room.

S.STEW: Alright! Cool.

G.PEN: How are you?

S.STEW: Good! We've had a roller coaster ride

G.PEN: You've had a bit of a week, huh?

S.STEW: This cast called Hamilton. We've had a bit of a week. I'm still recovering, as we all are

B.SO: For sure

S.STEW: From the high of the wins and from the party

G.PEN: Yeah, like emotional, physical, mental, you're recovering a lot

S.STEW: And some good whiskey

G.PEN: Oh, what kind of whiskey?

S.STEW: I'm a Johnnie Walker black type of guy. Sorry, underage kids.

B.SO: That's okay, normally, only because we're in a rehearsal studio and we felt it might be inappropriate, we normally have a cocktail to go with every episode

S.STEW: Really? That would be an awesomely terrible idea. Especially because I have a show. And an audition.

B.SO: Yeah, we were like, he has to go to work, let's not give him alcohol

G.PEN: Well, tell us all about the Tonys! Well, first of all, you are ensemble and understudy for

S.STEW: Jefferson/Lafayette. Yes.

G.PEN: In case people don't know, which is weird, because then you must be lost listening to this podcast, we are fans of the Hamilton, I don't know if you've heard about it

S.STEW: Shazam. Yeah, I've been with the show since off-Broadway, obviously, well maybe not obviously to some people, I've been with this creative team since off-Broadway of In the Heights, and so it's just been a freaking blast, the whole thing has been a rollercoaster ride with the three loops, and then now I feel like we're going backwards on the three loops, so I'm just like, can I just touch the ground for a minute? And I understudy Jefferson/Lafayette and I've been on quite a few times and I freaking love that role, I love what Daveed has done for the role, I go on, I do my own sort of thing. I love wearing a purple suit.

G.PEN: I was just going to ask, what does that feel like? That suit is so badass!

S.STEW: I think the few times I've been on, when I come out and people don't see the hair, they get shocked, and I'm like, wait til you see me move

B.SO: Just you wait

S.STEW: Just you wait! As cliché as that is

G.PEN: Hey, welcome to the show.

["Alexander Hamilton" begins playing]

ALEXANDER HAMILTON: Just you wait, just you wait

["Alexander Hamilton" stops playing]

S.STEW: But I mean, it's just such a fun role and I love doing it and I can't wait to go on again, and it's just been a freaking, it's just been so crazy because I think everybody outside is, I think, honestly, more excited, obviously more excited than we are, we're inside still building this house everyday, you know? I mean, the coming down of the Tonys is definitely, "Oh, shit, we have a Tuesday show"

B.SO: For sure, yeah

S.STEW: And we still have to deliver. The Tonys were absolutely incredible, we were at the theater at seven am.

G.PEN: Yeah, what was your day like? Can you walk us through it?

S.STEW: So we were up at seven am, I actually crashed Chris Jackson's hotel room, I was like, I'm sleeping on the couch because I'm not going all the way home, I live in Queens, and he was like, okay.

B.SO: We're Queens girls, too

G.PEN: We also saw on Oak's Instagram the

S.STEW: The video?

G.PEN: The amazing videos

S.STEW: He and Anthony go crazy all the time and I freaking love those guys because we're all in the same vein of, "Let's get as crazy as absolutely humanly possible". So there's kind of been this thing too with those two guys doing their videos and the male ensemble has kind of slowed down but there's a really cool camaraderie where it's like everybody's nuts in the most positive way

B.SO: Well, yeah, it just looks like you guys are having the most fun humanly possible and who wouldn't want to get in on that?

S.STEW: I'm just grateful I can #Squad

G.PEN: Hell yeah!

S.STEW: And everybody can repost and say "Squad goals" because it's like, wow, I'm around really awesome, talented, and down to earth people, sweet

B.SO: You don't always get that

S.STEW: Yeah, and it's like we're doing this thing

G.PEN: A couple episodes ago, Bianca and I hashtagged "Still a weirdo" because everyone's kind of crazy and weird and doing their own thing and when you find your little coven and you get to do your thing

B.SO: When you find your fellow weirdos, it's wonderful

G.PEN: And you get to do the thing you love with your fellow weirdos, it's like, what is happening?

S.STEW: I'm very grateful to be—so I don't consider myself a theater person

G.PEN: Oh, that's weird

S.STEW: Even though this is my third show, it is weird, right? However, well, just because I wasn't really brought up in theater, like I always sang in choir in middle school and high school but I always grew up playing sports, like I wrestled for eight years, I played football for twelve years, and then there's just, you know, my passion for dance and music.

B.SO: When did you start dancing?

S.STEW: Early, when I was like, ten, and then I really started taking it seriously when I was sixteen, but I always thought, and this is no offense to anybody, I always thought theater people were too extra

G.PEN: That's accurate.

B.SO: They are.

S.STEW: That's accurate. And so I never really "got it", but I appreciated it because if it weren't for theater people who kind of are extra and are outside of the box, we wouldn't have great actors and actresses to portray whatever, you know, certain stories need to be portrayed. So I have much more respect for serious theater people, but with this group, it's like, it's kind of exciting for me because I've always felt like a weirdo being between the theater world and the love of hip hop, and just in the middle being a crazy person and I feel like all those people are in the same boat

B.SO: I feel like you all found each other and that's amazing

G.PEN: I feel like there are three of us in this room right now, because Bianca and I grew up, you know, we're both actors and we love this whole world, but I don't consider myself a theater—I think there are theater people, and there are "theater people" does that make sense?

S.STEW: Yeah, for sure, respect to all of them

G.PEN: Yeah, I get it

S.STEW: But I don't even have a book, isn't that terrible? I don't even have a songbook, I have two things that I've always sang at auditions, I just don't really, I should know standards

B.SO: Well, they're working, so I don't think you need to expand that book anytime soon, I think you're good

G.PEN: My book has No Doubt and Tick-Tick-BOOM! in it.

S.STEW: Shazam

G.PEN: So, I mean...

S.STEW: I feel like I should be more professional when I see people come in with legit books and I'm like, I definitely don't have that

G.PEN: Um, I think you're okay, I don't think you have to worry about...

S.STEW: And, actually, with that being said, I think the other thing, and I just realized it having this conversation for anybody who wants to do theater or anything, is, surprisingly enough, whether you want to do TV or film or theater, I guess I'm realizing that the right show will find you.

G.PEN: Totally.

S.STEW: You know? Because between Heights and this, and Hamilton, I mean, I did a lot of crazy stuff, and I just wasn't finding shows that fit me, and I had to wait

B.SO: How did you come across In the Heights? Did you know Lin and those folks beforehand, or did you just audition for it?

S.STEW: I didn't! During Heights, I had just come off tour, I think? Oh, wow, that was 2007?

G.PEN: Tour with...? I'm sorry, I just have to ask because I know you...

S.STEW: J Lo. Or I did it after Heights, I don't remember. I think it was before. I did a promotional tour for her. But that's what my career was, I toured with Madonna, and then I did my first Broadway show was Sweet Charity, which most people don't know I did, I'm actually a Fosse addict

G.PEN: Have you met my friend Bianca?

B.SO: Oh my gosh! As am I!

S.STEW: Actually, any show of Fosse is the reason that I actually had any clinging, any sort of thing towards theater, because I was like, oh, you can, the darkness, the reality, I've always seen Broadway as very campy, but then so the reality aspect coming in and telling a true story and the fact that Fosse usually choreographed and directed and co-created, I was like, oh, this is awesome

B.SO: And sometimes performed in as well in some cases

S.STEW: So I'm a fanatic about that but I was hitting it a lot, I was really busy, and then they brought me in and I was just in the ensemble for that and then Lin and Tommy and Quiara allowed my character to grow into a principle role, which is really cool, and then I think they knew that I was hungry and I was ready to kill, like, whatever you put on my plate, I'm going to eat all of it, and I'll still be hungry for more. They were new in the

game in some aspects, and I was still new but I had enough under my belt, and they're all nerds

B.SO AND G.PEN: Yes.

G.PEN: Lin, especially. He's the biggest Nerd.

B.SO: It feels like the friends and people you hang out with and talk to anyway and it's just like, yeah, everybody gets it, everybody gets excited, has the passion and the love and can get really giddy over things that people would be like, okay...

S.STEW: I remember when I saw through that whole thing, when I saw Lin with a Nintendo book bag, I was like, we can be friends. And then I realized how much he loved, like, De La Soul and Tribe Called Quest, like, we just became best friends. It feels like the scene out of Step Brothers.

G.PEN: Yeah, we're now best friends. My husband's iPhone case is an old Nintendo controller.

S.STEW: Shazam.

G.PEN: That was given to him by my best friend Ashley who's been on the show before who's a New York City high school teacher who uses the show to get her kids excited about Hamilton

S.STEW: Awesome!

G.PEN: So it all comes together, we're all nerds and weirdos, everybody

S.STEW: Yes! So be weird

G.PEN: So that's the thing! Be weird.

S.STEW: I guess that's the theme today, stay weird.

G.PEN: Okay, but, so, Tonys.

S.STEW: Alright, back to Tonys!

G.PEN: So it was an exhausting day, it was a long day

S.STEW: It was a long day, yeah

G.PEN: You guys had shows, didn't you?

S.STEW: We had a show, yeah

G.PEN: What?! That is insane.

S.STEW: Yeah, I was there at the theater by like seven, seven-fifteen, and then they had breakfast for us, which is great, and we got into, we were on the bus by, like, I think

seven-forty-five, heading over to the Beacon theater, and, you know, we went out and, but everybody was happy, everybody was exhausted because we had done two shows that Saturday night, everybody was really happy because we'd been building to this moment for a year now, and did the run through, which was awesome, came back to the theater on the bus, we had, like, ten minutes to basically eat before half hour at one-thirty, right?

B.SO: Wow

G.PEN: Oh boy

S.STEW: I just totally forgot about this, so they call a company meeting, and here comes Tommy and Andy and we're sitting in the house. It's now half hour. And I looked at Tommy's face and I said, oh, shit, and I thought something had happened at the Beacon, and he says, "Guys, we're going to take out the guns because of what happened in Orlando."

G.PEN: We were absolutely going to ask you about that

B.SO: Just going to ask you about that

S.STEW: And everybody was like, yes, great

G.PEN: Yes.

S.STEW: Good call, literally people were shouting out, good call, good man, and then Andy was like, "Come on, let's jump up on stage, let's figure this out, let's work this out," we jumped up on stage, it is now one-thirty-five

B.SO: Oh my gosh, so you took it out of the performance for that day, too?

S.STEW: Yeah, I ultimately don't know who decided it, I think it was between our creatives, Tommy, Andy, the producers, and probably CBS and the Tonys, it seems like it was a mutual thing, but it was the most beautiful thing. So we worked it out on stage, everyone was giving Tommy a hug and Andy a hug, and then we had to go do our thing, and so we did our show and the audience was absolutely insane. It's like piercing screams now. Like, it hurts when people scream, but it's awesome

G.PEN: In the best way, right?

S.STEW: In the best way. And then we finished the show, which was absolutely amazing, got back on the bus, went and did the Tonys, and they had suites for us upstairs so we were upstairs just chilling, shooting the videos with Oak and Anthony

G.PEN: Oh my god, they were so good. They just made me, even talking about it now, my cheeks are, they were SO fun to watch

S.STEW: Now every time I see Anthony, I'm like, "ZERO PROBLEMS!" Love that kid. And while we were waiting, I had such a weird and awesome Tonys experience because I was always where I shouldn't have been, but at the same time, I was where I should have been. We were all supposed to be upstairs—I definitely was not, I just get anxious,

so I went downstairs in the green room that probably wasn't for us, eating all the M&Ms, drinking coffee, and then I see Renee in her gown, and I'm totally in some running pants and an Under Armour shirt, just looking like a crazy person, here's all these people in their gowns, right?

G.PEN: You realize that you're in Hamilton, right? Like it's okay?

S.STEW: Yeah, but still! My dad always taught me to dress, you know, be whatever

G.PEN: No, I get it

S.STEW: But here comes Chris Jackson and Renee and Groff, and they're all coming down, so I'm like, I should take a video because here's Renee! And all of a sudden Groff's there and he's going off, I actually have it on my Instagram, he, Jonathan Groff is the best person in the world, um, he's just doing a little dance for me, I'm like, okay, that's cool

G.PEN: Okay

S.STEW: Then I'm trying to, then I went back upstairs, came back downstairs, I'm like, I'm still hungry, I'm going to eat some more food, and then I saw the TV, they had a TV backstage, and Renee's giving her speech, I'm like, oh my god, she won! And so I'm watching her speech, she's coming back, they're bringing her out, and I was going to go outside, and she's like, "Seth, you can't leave me!" I was like, alright, cool, I'll stay with you, no problem, right? She has her little Tony or whatever, and she's like, "You gotta stay, I think Daveed's up next," I was like, cool. Then here come the photographers

G.PEN: Oh god

S.STEW: And they're trying to take pictures, I'm like, no! Don't take my picture! I look like a crazy person!

[G.PEN and B.SO laugh raucously]

B.SO: They're like, "Who's this guy who came in off the street trying to steal Renee's Tony?"

S.STEW: Renee looks like a freaking Bob Mackie, you remember the Bob Mackie Barbie dolls?

B.SO: I had several of those Bob Mackie Barbie dolls

G.PEN: She's a goddess, with her, I love how you say, "with her little Tony", like her clutch

S.STEW: Yeah! It's just this little thing! And so they're taking pictures and I'm trying to hide and they're like, no! Stay in the picture, you're in the cast! And I'm like, UM, okay?! And then Daveed wins, and then I'm just like, man, and then he comes out, and then I'm still trying to get outside, I still have a cup of coffee, and then here comes Daveed, and then I see Daveed's suit, and I was like, yo, where'd you get that suit? Because I might have to have it back

G.PEN: Um, yeah.

S.STEW: I think it was **Carmen Guarsant**<sup>1</sup>? I think, I don't know.

G.PEN: Either way

S.STEW: It was fly. He gave a great speech, and then, and I'm still trying to leave, [laughter] I'm still trying to get out of the backstage area

B.SO: He just wants a cup of coffee

S.STEW: Twenty minutes later, my coffee's now luke-warm, and then they're like, Renee's still holding my hand, she's like, "Don't leave yet, I think Lin's category is up next", I was like, okay, I guess I'll stay

G.PEN: Which one?

S.STEW: The love is love is love

G.PEN: Okay

S.STEW: Yeah. Which will probably be the most epic speech at an awards show

B.SO: Was that best book?

S.STEW: I don't know, it was for something

B.SO: I think it was best book

S.STEW: So there's a picture of Renee looking absolutely gorgeous, Daveed looking handsome and just fly, and me, in my Under Armour shirt and running pants, all looking at the TV

G.PEN: Are you "and Peggy" in this situation?

S.STEW: I'm totally "And Peggy"!

G.PEN: Hashtag "And Seth"

S.STEW: Hashtag "And Seth"! So, so weird, but again, I was at the right place at the wrong slash right time?

G.PEN: Oh, at the right time! Totally the right time

B.SO: It's all the right time

G.PEN: If you were at the Tonys, it was the right time

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<sup>1</sup> HELP what is he sAyInG hErE I don't know fashion AT ALLLLL

S.STEW: It was the right time.

G.PEN: And then Leslie won

S.STEW: And then Leslie won, and then we did our thing. It was actually really weird doing "Yorktown" because it wasn't pumping, like our theater, our sound, what Nevin has created, is just an amazing sound, so you feel it when you're going on stage every night, and at the theater, I don't think they had

B.SO: Their sound system was probably different

S.STEW: Yeah, they didn't have the same amount of speakers, when we did it without the guns, when we did "Yorktown" without the guns, it just felt right

G.PEN: It totally worked.

S.STEW: It just felt right

G.PEN: Nothing was missing

S.STEW: Nothing was missing

B.SO: Not at all, no! And it was pumping for us, it was pumping at home

G.PEN: Yeah, don't you worry

S.STEW: So the feeling on stage was like, I don't know how this came off, but then I got to see it, I did get to see the performance, it was like, that was freaking AWESOME!

B.SO: It was great! And my favorite, I loved, you could tell, like, Lin and Daveed could not stop smiling

S.STEW: Yeah!

B.SO: When they have their interaction

G.PEN: And Daveed had just won, so for him pounding his chest, like, "We won!" I was like, YES!

S.STEW: I think Daveed was like, did that just really happen?

G.PEN: Of course!

B.SO: So surreal, you just won, now you're chanting this, "We won, we won, we won, we won!" and just beaming smiles, it was great.

S.STEW: You know what's really weird, there are two things, I wanted to see Oprah again, I wanted to give her a hug

G.PEN: Again?

S.STEW: Well, she came and saw the show

G.PEN: I know. But you get to say “again”! I want to see Oprah again...what is your life?!

S.STEW: When I met her in Lin’s dressing room, she had open arms and was just like, she didn’t even want me to say anything, she was just like, come here, just give me a hug, I was like, alright! Cool!

G.PEN: Come to Oprah!

S.STEW: Yeah, thanks Auntie Oprah! And I just wanted to give her a hug again, I just feel like, I feel like it was good energy. And strangely enough, was Whoopie there? I thought Whoopie Goldberg would’ve been there, I know that seems so random

B.SO: I didn’t see her!

S.STEW: I guess, nostalgically, is that even a word? Nostalgically?

G.PEN AND B.SO: It is now

S.STEW: It is now! Sweet! I wanted to see her just because, from Heights, she announced us for Heights back in 2008

G.PEN: Yeah, and she was in “The Color Purple”, I just feel like maybe...

S.STEW: Yeah, so I just kind of wanted to see her, totally random note, but anyway, back to the real story, so we won all the things, it was beautiful, and then we got to perform at the end

B.SO: Yeah, that was fun! That was a fun surprise, I didn’t see that coming

S.STEW: That was awesome

G.PEN: Bianca and I were live-tweeting it from @TheHamilcast, so we were in this, first of all, we were furiously watching it, if that even makes sense, we were so excited for everything, so I can’t even tell you if Whoopi was there or not, because we were so

B.SO: I don’t remember seeing her

S.STEW: All I’m saying is, Whoopi Goldberg, if you hear this, we miss you

G.PEN: Oh, she’ll hear it.

S.STEW: Okay, sweet

G.PEN: She’s a subscriber, I’m sure

S.STEW: Done!

G.PEN: Totally

S.STEW: Let's get her!

G.PEN: Yeah! But then when that happened, that last performance, I was like, I'm sorry, what is this? In the gowns and in the suits, it was just like, just flawless

B.SO: It was very joyous, I loved it

S.STEW: Everybody looked amazing. I think that was just an all around, outside of Hamilton, such a spectacular show

G.PEN: Totally

B.SO: It was, it was wonderful!

S.STEW: I mean, On Your Feet killed it

B.SO: OH my god

G.PEN: KILLED it

S.STEW: The School of Rock kids, I LOVE them

B.SO: Killed it

S.STEW: And the lead guy, do you know his name?

B.SO: Alex Brightman

S.STEW: Yes. FREAKING awesome

B.SO: Amazing!

S.STEW: James Corden, I didn't really know who he was, I don't really watch stuff, I don't own a TV, he was hilarious and awesome

B.SO: He's so funny! I'm a big fan of his, he's such a delight

S.STEW: I'm a big fan

G.PEN: He's delightful

B.SO: He's so delightful and very warm and talented and he just makes you laugh, it's great

G.PEN: And a Tony winner!

B.SO: And a Tony winner!

G.PEN: He loves it, he loves music, he loves people, he just loves all of it

S.STEW: Again, not being a theater person, I was like, who is this person? During rehearsal, and then I saw his dress rehearsal and I'm like, you are awesome. You just won me over, dude, you're cool. But, like, the School of Rock kids were KILLING it

B.SO: I know, I was like, I feel like I'm doing nothing with my life, watching these kids just slay up there

S.STEW: And Fiddler?

B.SO: That was great too!

G.PEN: Love!

S.STEW: I love—I need to do that, I have to figure out who did the choreography because the choreography was awesome, the costumes were awesome

B.SO: The guy, I don't know what the move would be called, the crawling across the floor very low down—very technical terms

G.PEN: I love that you're looking at me when we have Seth Stewart, I'm not the person to ask about choreography

S.STEW: I loved all the other shows, shout out to all the other shows that were there

B.SO: Yeah, I really enjoyed the performances this year

S.STEW: The Color Purple? Like, WHAT?!

B.SO: The Color Purple was astounding

G.PEN: Waitress

B.SO: Jessie Mueller's voice is insanity

S.STEW: All of it! Didn't know about Waitress! Had no idea. Sweet. And here's the coolest thing, backstage there was so much love backstage, everybody, there was a, where the shows were held before we would go on, as casts would come through after they were done performing, everybody was applauding everybody else, there was just so much love, I think that was the most spectacular part of the Tonys. Not so much the wins, it's not about the wins, it's about the experience

B.SO: It's the community

S.STEW: It's the community!

B.SO: It's so strong

G.PEN: And that came through, it came through in the show, we felt it for sure

S.STEW: Yeah, to me, personally, that's the stuff I live for, like yeah we can have a great show and do all these things, and yes I definitely want to win, but you're winning,

number one, with a cast that's talented and deserving and just good people, like, everybody at the show from Leslie to Lin to Chris to the ensemble, everybody is humble. And people may not see that outside, like, we don't sign autographs all the time because there's thousands of people and sometimes we just want to get home and put our feet up, you know what I mean?

G.PEN: You were at work! We love it but you were at work, you had a work day!

S.STEW: I definitely want to say that, that's a total side note, but I definitely want to say that to the fans, when they come to the stage door, I think it's very important for me and I'm speaking somewhat on behalf of the rest of the cast, if you don't see us or we walk by you, just know that we love you, but either we are on the phone or just, not, we're not unappreciative, but we're going to work and we have to mentally and spiritually and physically do whatever it is we need to do before and after the show to make sure that the next audience gets that greatness. So just know that we love you and we want you to continue coming and we appreciate your support because, I mean, it's absolutely out of this world

G.PEN: I love that you said that. I think it's important for people to know that

S.STEW: Well because you see little twelve year old girls and you see older people, there's such a mix of demographic of people, I think, I remember when people would walk by me when I was at the stage door, like, yo, you suck, like I was waiting all day for you to give me an autograph, but I didn't know that maybe they got into an argument with someone in a taxi or maybe they're dealing with their kids or maybe they're dealing with real life situations, and so I think it's important for that little twelve year old girl, that eight year old boy, or even somebody that came from freaking Kansas just to get a signature, just know that we love you and just know that we respect you but also respect our space as well, and know that we are definitely appreciative of all the support.

G.PEN: I love that.

B.SO: Of course.

G.PEN: Well, I know you have to go, you have a time crunch

S.STEW: What time is it? Oh come one, we'll keep going, we have fifteen more minutes

B.SO: But we have to talk about also

G.PEN: You're the green captain!

S.STEW: Green captain!

B.SO: Tell us what a green captain is

G.PEN: For people who don't know, tell us everything, what it is, what it means, what you do, how you got it

S.STEW: Okay!

G.PEN: Go.

S.STEW: The Broadway Green Alliance is something that was created seven or eight years ago to basically make, help make Broadway green, more environmentally sustainable and so what they've done over the years is they've gotten LG to sponsor energy efficient washers and dryers, most of the theaters now have LED lights, which is going to save on energy and pulling from the system, blah, blah, blah, all of the show, um, the lights outside

G.PEN AND B.SO: The marquee?

S.STEW: The marquee lights go down at half once the show starts. We're trying to do so many more things in terms of even plates and glasses, I mean, my company doesn't do it, I get on them, but we've been busy

G.PEN: So what is your role day to day though?

S.STEW: It's not a day to day thing for me, it's a touching up on things, like and I kind of pray that Jeffery Sellers and the producers hear this, but I want green merchandise, I would like to ask for green merchandise, right? So Wicked does, so some of their sweatshirts and t-shirts are made out of fifty percent recycled cotton and plastic thread from plastic bottles and things like that

G.PEN: I didn't know that, that's awesome

B.SO: That is awesome

S.STEW: I'm actually starting a t-shirt line based on the same idea

G.PEN: What's it called? You can plug it

S.STEW: I'll plug it now! It's going to be ready soon, it's called La Petit Elephants, which is basically, elephants, the wise elephants are always there to protect the tribe

B.SO: Nice!

S.STEW: And I believe that we as adults need to be wise like the elephants and protect the little ones and guide them along because we are all on this global warming train, so choo-choo, you better get ready

B.SO: Sure

G.PEN: Yep.

S.STEW: But not in a fearful aspect, in a matter of "get your butt in gear," right? So I really care about the earth, everything we have is because of the things that she provides, and we're really hurting her so that's why I became green captain, it was volunteer based, so I was like, yes, I'll actually do it, so they, Lin, I think, or somebody dubbed me Captain Planet [laughter] which I love, but it's basically, now I'm going to try and say, hey, can we get some green merchandise? We're selling out on merchandise, yes, it costs more money, but we can actually, if a thousand people buy this t-shirt, we're

actually going to be saving, like, eight thousand plastic bottles from, the landfill, same with t-shirts that would normally go into the landfills, right?

G.PEN: And they will

S.STEW: Yeah, they will

B.SO: Of course. How about, are Playbills printed on—

S.STEW: Yeah, so the Broadway Green Alliance, which is @BroadwayGreen on social media, you guys should follow them, they definitely need support

B.SO: Absolutely

S.STEW: They take Playbills and they'll convert them into flowers and any sort of thing that they can make into souvenirs, and they do collection drives, they'll do a textile drive and make sure that those textiles go to be reused, they'll do an e-waste drive, so I go and I say, hey, this e-waste drive is coming, all your old printers, all your old cell phones, bring them here, and they do a lot of work. They take old binders and they give binders away that would normally go into the landfills, so people who need music binders, they can go get them at Broadway Green Alliance. Broadway Green Alliance is in the Equity building, by the way. And so now my mission is to make sure that, what I have to actually start getting ready to do, is creating a basically a pamphlet so when they go on tour, that the green captain there knows, hey, make sure you can talk with the theater, how can we make the buses efficient, you know, we try to ask for no notes physically in paper, we try to ask for our notes, music notes to be emailed, things like that. Inserts, we're trying to fight to no longer have inserts, so we're going to start talking to actors and say, hey, is your name on the board up front and somewhere else in the theater good enough? Because we can literally save millions of pieces of paper

B.SO: Yeah, those tiny pieces of paper

S.STEW: Just get lost on the floor. So it's little things, and that's always the fight with the environment

B.SO: All the little things add up to big things is the important thing

S.STEW: They add up! Yeah, so there's forty Broadway theaters, plus they also do off-Broadway as well, so if you can imagine all those LED lights, saving all those inserts, we're talking about literally hundreds of thousands of trees that could be saved, let alone the ink, all these little things I care about, again, because I think about, I'm really close to Chris's family, I think about his kids, I think about Lin's kids, I think about everybody's kids, I've been feeling this way since Heights, you know? Andrea Burns, her son, Hudson, I love that kid, and I think about, what are we doing? You know? So this is my way to give back, this is my way to really really help in a very very important time in our global history.

B.SO: That's amazing. And it's a big role! It's an important role, I didn't know that, do all shows, do you think, participate in this? Have a green captain?

S.STEW: All shows have green captains, again, sometimes it's hard to do some of the things because you have eight shows a week, rehearsal, blah, blah, blah, but it's about doing as much as you can, and then, you know, I will induct, I guess, the next green captain, say, hey, this is where we're at now, these are the things I wasn't able to get to

G.PEN: You're passing the torch! That's awesome!

S.STEW: Yeah, passing the torch! And people can do it anywhere, and the thing about it now is that we have to. Like, Leonardo Dicaprio, people, is at the UN and all over the place, and so it's not just a "we'll leave it to them," it's a "leave it to us" and so I take on the responsibility to help as much as I absolutely can, and I plan on doing it even more in the future, so that's that. @BroadwayGreen, check them out, they're doing awesome stuff.

B.SO: Absolutely

G.PEN: We will, we will tweet it, and link to it and everything. It's so important and like you said, it's so needed, the time is now

S.STEW: Right now

G.PEN: So we have to do it and I think a lot of people are kind of, might cringe about it just because in the sense, like, people love Broadway so much and the nostalgia of having the Playbill or having who was in there, but if it's digital, just take the picture on your phone, that's what you're going to have, really, back up the pictures on your computer or whatever

S.STEW: And people can come to, I don't think the general public knows is that when we have these drives, I'm pretty sure they can participate, but Broadway Green Alliance also does a thing, I think it's in Shubert Alley, where they sell the souvenirs made from all the shows' Playbills, they'll sell bracelets made from the guitar players and string players, they make these bracelets out of the strings, out of the reused strings

G.PEN: That's amazing

S.STEW: And so people can actually have Broadway merchandise, things that were actually in the show

B.SO: Yeah, a piece of the show!

S.STEW: And a lot of that goes back to Broadway Cares which goes through Broadway Green Alliance and so on and so forth, and so the community and the fans should definitely come and keep their ears open and follow them because there's so many ways that they can be involved just by purchasing is helping the planet

B.SO: That's amazing

S.STEW: Shazam!

G.PEN: Yeah!

B.SO: I would love a guitar string bracelet

S.STEW: They're awesome actually

G.PEN: And people who are not in New York, they can still contribute and still be involved?

S.STEW: Yeah, I will get some follow up with you guys, I wish we had more time but I'll figure out a way or maybe I'll post it on my social media where people can go and find these things, because actually I have another meeting next week

G.PEN: Yeah, because we get emails from people all over the country and world who want to be involved in anything that our guests are talking about so if we can have a resource that we can put them to, then please let us know

S.STEW: Brian D'Arcy James was the green captain for Something Rotten

G.PEN: Nice!

S.STEW: So it's really awesome people that do as much as they can and so we want to bring the awareness to a lot more. Tony wins are awesome but this is just as awesome to me to make some changes. Yeah. Go Hamilton!

G.PEN AND B.SO: Woo! Yay!

B.SO: Absolutely! So, is there

S.STEW: We got time, we got time, let's go, like, five after

G.PEN: Okay!

B.SO: Okay!

G.PEN: Oh my god!

B.SO: Is there anything you're working on, any side projects that are exciting to you at the moment?

S.STEW: Yes! I have an album coming out, basically an EP that Chris and I have been working on since Heights, but, you know, there's been these shows and

G.PEN: You're a little busy

S.STEW: Now he's about to go do a TV show and be more famous

B.SO: Oh that's awesome, good for him

S.STEW: Maybe I wasn't supposed to say it

B.SO: That's alright

S.STEW: Sorry, Chris, I just let it be known

G.PEN: Well you didn't say the name

B.SO: You didn't say the name

S.STEW: Nope, I didn't say the name. Sweet.

[Laughter]

B.SO: You're covered! It's good.

S.STEW: But yeah it's going to be coming out in July and I'm so nervous because it's something I've been working on

B.SO: What's the style of music?

S.STEW: It's funk, funk based

B.SO: Nice!

S.STEW: Kind of, people, I guess it would resemble, like, Bruno Mars or Prince or whatever. But it's just a first, I've actually started working on my second album a long time ago, which I'm going to do more disco, because I just feel like people, I love disco, and so that will be more in the vein of Jackson Five disco or Diana Ross

G.PEN: Yeah, it's basically music you can dance to

B.SO: That's awesome

S.STEW: It's going to be for free, it'll be on my SoundCloud, you'll see it on my social media where people can get it, all my social media is @IAmSethStewart. But I'm just going to release this thing and see how people like it, see what they like and what they don't like and kind of adjust my second album to kind of cater some of the songs to the fans, but it's pop music and I like stuff that makes people feel good and some of it will offend people, which, you know, is part of my job as an artist. So that's coming out, I have an independent film, feature film that I did that's coming out in August, it's called Karma Club, so I think it's going to be hitting the film festivals first

G.PEN: Nice! What was your role in that? Were you an actor, a writer, a director?

S.STEW: Yeah, I was one of the lead actors in the movie and that was really cool, and basically just going to do this show called Hamilton for, I don't really know what's going to happen

G.PEN: We're fans of the Hamilton, here at The Hamilcast

S.STEW: I like the Hamilton

G.PEN: [Laughing] The Hamilton

S.STEW: But really, it's just about maintaining a great show, maintaining a balanced life

B.SO: Yeah, staying healthy I would imagine and being able to keep up, that is an exhausting show

S.STEW: Yeah, whether it's vocally, people go to the EMT, they're always on tea and honey and lemon and a lot of physical therapy and acupuncture. It seems like we only come in and do the show, but there's hours in the day of

B.SO: Preparation and recovery

S.STEW: Yeah, and sometimes having to be quiet because that's what your voice needs or going and getting that physical therapy or massage. But again, all worth it. So we're going to see, everybody knows now that there's going to be some changes within the show, I'm so excited for Javi, I love

B.SO: I cannot wait to see him

G.PEN: Me too, I've only seen, I don't know if you—oh yeah, I told you in our messages that a really insanely generous listener got us tickets to Hamilton

S.STEW: Oh, that's right!

G.PEN: Because I started this podcast without seeing it and Bianca had seen it at The Public and won the lottery off-Broadway

S.STEW: Oh, you saw the OG version, okay!

B.SO: OG!

G.PEN: So when we started this podcast, I, like a crazy person, had never seen it, so this very incredibly generous, lovely, wonderful person got us tickets

B.SO: Bought us tickets

S.STEW: Thanks, awesome person!

G.PEN: I know! Oh my god, you should read the emails, it's just like a love fest, gush fest

S.STEW: Shazam!

G.PEN: Yeah! But before that, I bought tickets, like in November 2015 for September of this year, which is the most I've bought anything in advance, but my husband and I are going and I'm super excited to see this new crew!

S.STEW: Javi kills it, I mean, what I love about Javi is he does it different from Lin. Lin brings a certain special quality to the role, but so does Javi. And so it's like you can't really compare the two

G.PEN: I've heard they're completely different

S.STEW: They're completely different but both awesome and it's just exciting and I love that Lin, and he always has been but it's like, they're like brothers, you know? Lin's like, hey, here's my brother and he's about to smash this and you all should see him.

B.SO: Yeah, I have tickets for September, I'm really looking forward to seeing him

G.PEN: We're really excited

S.STEW: Yeah, it's going to be amazing.

B.SO: And he just seems like the nicest, sweetest

S.STEW: Who, Javi?

G.PEN AND B.SO: Yeah!

S.STEW: Oh, he's the jam.

B.SO: Geeze, like his social media, his posts, I'm like, I just want to hug you

S.STEW: He's a great human being

G.PEN: He's so sweet, and he posted today a little video mash up of the press conference or whatever happened where Lin was announcing it and the last

S.STEW: There was a press conference?

G.PEN: Or some little

B.SO: I think there was an interview

G.PEN: Yeah, that's what he called it, he was like, "today's press conference", we retweeted it today, but the last couple seconds were him to the camera just saying

G.PEN AND B.SO: Thank you

G.PEN: Why is everyone involved with this show the nicest, just the coolest

S.STEW: Because you have to hire people that are good people, I mean, granted, we're all crazy, and yeah, we fight for what we believe in but at the end of the day everybody's a good hearted person. From what I can see, I don't really see anybody gloating, like people talk to me about it, I'm actually very shy because it's like, thanks, I don't know what you want me to say...

B.SO: But wouldn't be like, part of it's also like, I obviously am not you, but for me I'd be like, I don't know how to almost process everything that's happening or has happened or how to handle it or, so happy that it's happening and it's amazing and so fun and it's wonderful, but I don't know how you unpack all that when someone runs up to you and is like, oh my god [excited noises]!

S.STEW: To be honest, I don't think I actually really understood until after the Tonys, 'til a couple days ago to where it's like, oh, this thing just happened for the past year, year and a half including off-Broadway, and oh, it's real now

B.SO: Yeah, it's really real now

S.STEW: Oh, this is happening

G.PEN: You guys just took it to the next step

S.STEW: Yeah, here we are

G.PEN: You guys are going to move in together, now it's for real

S.STEW: You know, I basically do live at the Richard Rodgers, so does everybody else, but I mean, I'm just excited to see where this shit goes even when I'm not a part of it. I'm excited for the actors and actresses who are going to have the chance to get to do the show whether it's on tour or on Broadway or even at regional theaters. I'm just, I'm so excited for the opportunities and the chances it's going to bring to people and that's one of my best things I could hope for, wish for, be thankful for as an artist is to be a part of something that gives good medicine to the world where it's like, whether it's dark theater that changes people's mindset or whether it's something like Hamilton that is speaking on history and is showing where we are as a country right now. I just think it's great to be a part of something that gets to change the world in a positive aspect, especially with all the shit going on right now. It kind of leaves a glimmer of hope and for me and I think for everybody else out there, to see just a candle light is like, oh thank god, I can at least walk slowly through that tunnel of shit and find my way out and so I think, you know, Hamilton has turned from a flame into a fire, and so we're going to keep putting our sticks on the fire every night and just try to blow people away

G.PEN: I like the term "good medicine" by the way

B.SO: Yeah, that's a good one

S.STEW: It is! It is.

G.PEN: I totally agree about never, you know, it's one of those things where you feel it so strongly and then you hear someone say something in a very concise way, you just did that

S.STEW: Jam!

G.PEN: "Good medicine"

S.STEW: I speak well!

G.PEN: You do! How much in advance before you know you're going on?

S.STEW: Pfft, they could tell me thirty minutes before and I gotta be ready

G.PEN: Alright

B.SO: Wow

S.STEW: Yeah, that's the beauty of it and again, the beauty of live theater is if you mess up, it's like, well, you came to a live show, so

B.SO: Sure did

S.STEW: I might fumble a word or somebody might trip

G.PEN: Of course! And you're going to

B.SO: How was that decided? Did you have to specifically audition with some "Guns and Ships" rapping?

S.STEW: Andrew Chappelle, everybody knows Andrew Chappelle, he's awesome

B.SO: We love him on the Snapchat

G.PEN: He's the reason I have Snapchat, are you kidding me? He is incredible.

S.STEW: He's great. Andrew understudies a lot of the roles and I've just seen this guy grow, just even within this time and I just feel like Andrew just keeps getting better from the time I've seen it to now with all the roles, the dude works hard and he's silly as hell, but he is also one of the understudies as well and he kills it when he goes on and he's always there being ready to go on and so, again, even the people that are understudies, amazingly talented and ready to go on

G.PEN: It's such an ensemble crew, squad, if you will, as the kids say

S.STEW: Squad! Yes!

G.PEN: But you know, you guys are, you're all doing it, you're all doing your parts, certain parts on certain nights, it's just, everyone I feel is just so equal and just killing it and giving a zillion percent and being amazing

B.SO: Yeah, absolutely

S.STEW: It's so much fun

B.SO: It looks like it

S.STEW: What time are we at now?

B.SO: We are now at four o'seven

S.STEW: Beautiful.

G.PEN: Alright

B.SO: Thank you

S.STEW: You guys are awesome

G.PEN: You're awesome!

S.STEW: I can't believe this happened, I was like, I don't know where or the time or the day but it's going to happen!

G.PEN: Uh, we can't believe it happened

B.SO: We appreciate it so much

S.STEW: I'm going to physical therapy and get beat up

G.PEN AND B.SO: Aww

G.PEN: My dad is a physical therapist

S.STEW: Is he?

G.PEN: Yeah!

S.STEW: I hate physical therapy

B.SO: I used to love it because it's a release

S.STEW: It is a release but

B.SO: Sometimes it hurts a bunch, especially if you're working through some issues

G.PEN: We don't want to make you late

S.STEW: Yes, but thank you guys so much

B.SO: Thank you so much

S.STEW: To all the listeners that will hear this, I know it might be tricky to get a ticket, but there is a lottery, you will find a way, there are tours coming up and

G.PEN: And a film

S.STEW: And some other things

G.PEN: That was announced today!

S.STEW: I don't know what's going on with that, but just know that myself and the cast of Hamilton, we appreciate the love and support that you guys give us and continue to give us, so no matter whether, no matter what cast you see, just know that you're going to see an awesome show, because a great thing can't be undone, so jam to all you people out there in that world

B.SO: Preach!

G.PEN: And where can we find you and all the green Broadway stuff? Can you just give all your social media real quick?

S.STEW: Yeah! My Twitter and my Instagram are the only things I'm really on, I don't understand anything else, is @IAmSethStewart, and Broadway Green Alliance is @BroadwayGreen and I will be posting about all of the things in my life and the environment and Hamilton and I think that's good, I don't think I need to do any more than that

G.PEN: So great talking with you, thank you so much! I am G. Pen

B.SO: B. So

S.STEW: I'm S. Stewart

G.PEN: [whispers] Yes!

S.STEW: AKA Setherson

B.SO: Setherson? I love it!

G.PEN: Is that a little insider?

S.STEW: Yeah, Lin, because he's a nerd

G.PEN: Amazing. Thank you so so much

S.STEW: Yeah, thank you!

[Exit music: beginning of "Aaron Burr, Sir"]

B.SO: Hey!

G.PEN: Hey!

B.SO: Wow!

G.PEN: What?!

B.SO: Ummm okay!

G.PEN: We're still recording this time, both mics

B.SO: Hopefully, I mean, mine just might ghost again, so that's a thing. Sorry, guys, for that last week, I'm a spaz.

G.PEN: No, you're not, it's just mics don't work sometimes. Can we talk about how we just interviewed our first Hamilton cast member?

B.SO: We just interviewed our first Hamilton cast member

G.PEN: In the flesh?

B.SO: In the F-L-E-S-H

G.PEN: Jam!

B.SO: I'm going to say jam and shazam for the rest of my life now

G.PEN: Forever

B.SO: He was lovely! That was such an amazing conversation, I could've talked to him for hours, he was just the chilliest, most awesome guy.

G.PEN: That was super fun

B.SO: We're pretty pumped right now

G.PEN: What are we even like...?

B.SO: I'm about to jump up on this piano and put some more footmarks on it

G.PEN: You guys, those foot marks, so I walked in, Bianca was coming in a little bit after me and I just looked at her when she came in and I was like, I'm Instagramming those feet marks. I don't know who that person is, God bless them though

B.SO: They were not marking

G.PEN: Okay, so we only have a couple more minutes, we have things to say, though, what happened today? Lin said that they're going to be filming the performance, two performances?

B.SO: Two performances before he exits, but then, we also got the official announcement, which we all speculated, pretty much, that Javier Munoz was going to be taking on the role of Hamilton when Lin leaves, and that is now official, and that's fantastic, and I am SO pumped to see him

G.PEN: Me. Too.

B.SO: I can't wait

G.PEN: Me. Too.

B.SO: I'm really excited about that, that's all good things

G.PEN: All good things!

B.SO: Super exciting stuff

G.PEN: I'm still, like, we've had a really crazy couple weeks. Not to make this all about us but we've had Anthony Rapp

B.SO: We did!

G.PEN: We had the Tonys

B.SO: The Tonys!

G.PEN: We had freaking Seth Stewart

B.SO: Yeah

G.PEN: What? You guys, you guys, what is even happening?

B.SO: I can't even answer that

G.PEN: I don't, I can't answer that question at all, not even a little bit. This is really...remember when we first started this podcast and we were like, maybe our parents will listen?

B.SO: I was like, if I can teach my mom to figure out iTunes, maybe she'll listen?

G.PEN: Oh, we're also on Stitcher!

B.SO: We are!

G.PEN: By the way

B.SO: We are also now on Stitcher, we'll post those links for everybody, if you listen through Stitcher

G.PEN: Yeah, but if you search for The Hamilcast, we will absolutely show up on the Stitcher, on the iTunes, on thehamilcast.com. So we are going to get kicked out of here in a couple minutes, and I have to save this so that you can hear it. Thank you so much for listening, hopefully this is the first of many cast members

B.SO: The first of many cast interviews, cast and creative, because our first creative team interview was of course Scott Wasserman

G.PEN: Of course

B.SO: Who, so great early on to jump on this crazy train. I think we'll always be really grateful for that because that was amazing

G.PEN: I always say that Scott was so nice and kind, but he was so generous with his time and knowledge and information, and he was just so generous in every way

B.SO: We were super brand new at that point. But this is great. This is awesome. Super happy.

G.PEN: Yay! Me too.

B.SO: I hope everybody enjoyed that interview, Seth is a great person, he's a lot of fun

G.PEN: He walked in and I was like, look at this, who is this cool guy?

B.SO: I hope you enjoyed listening to him and hope everyone takes part in any sort of Broadway green stuff that you can whether you're in New York or not, it's very important

G.PEN: We will link to everything. We're kind of in a daze, so we're just going to wrap it up

B.SO: We're going to do our sign off and wrap it up

G.PEN: But I need to get a cast member saying

B.SO: So you can find us at thehamilcast.com, we are @thehamilcast on all the things, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

G.PEN: I am @GillianWithAG, my show is The Residuals, theresiduals.tv

B.SO: I'm @\_BiancaJean\_ on Twitter and Instagram, also drop us an email at [thehamilcast@gmail.com](mailto:thehamilcast@gmail.com). Leave us an iTunes review, just say hi, whatever

G.PEN: Whatever, we'll take it

B.SO: We'll take it. We love it. Thanks so much for listening, this was a lot of fun.

G.PEN: Bye, guys, I'm G. Pen

B.SO: B. So. Jam!

G.PEN: Shazam!

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We now include the Hamilcast Sign off from 2018 to let you know what host Gillian is currently up to.

[Music: Hamilton – The World turned upside down – Instrumentals play]

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Thank you again for listening to the Hamilcast, I will I will talk to you in five seconds on Twitter.