



*She
Loves
Me*

SHE LOVES ME
LYRIC THEATRE @ ILLINOIS

Music by Jerry Bock | Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick | Book by Joe Masteroff
Sarah Wigley, director
Thursday-Saturday, April 26-28, 2018, at 7:30pm
Sunday, April 29, 2018, at 3pm
Tryon Festival Theatre

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Tonight's performance of *She Loves Me* is co-sponsored in part by the following generous donors:

JOHN JOHNSON AND PATRICIA COYNE-JOHNSON

TRACY MCCABE AND FABIEN WECKER

CRAIG MILKINT AND MARGARET RESCE-MILKINT

WELCOME



We are delighted to welcome you to the 2017-18 Lyric Theatre @ Illinois season! We are showcasing a wide range of sung theatre this year, from classical masterpieces to children's stories to edgy off-Broadway titles to absurdist political satire.

September brought us [*title of show*], a co-production with Allerton Park, Jeff Bowen and Hunter Bell's hilarious and moving exploration of the lives of young creative minds in today's New York City. In November, *Hansel and Gretel* by the Brothers Grimm, with a breathtakingly beautiful score by Engelbert Humperdinck. Gingerbread houses, dew fairies, witches, and angels ushered in the holidays for every age.

In December, we explored Russia and the Revolution of 1917 with Tchaikovsky, Borodin, and Prokofiev scenes surrounding the workshop of *Black Square*, a new opera by a creative team that has recently been at the center of artistic and political events at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow.

February brought Mozart's *Don Giovanni* to the Tryon Festival Theatre, directed and sung by Nathan Gunn in his directorial debut!

March, two workshops of new operas, written by women for women, in cooperation with American Opera Projects and the Prototype Festival. And finally, *She Loves Me*, Harnick and Bock's charming musical about a pair of perfume shop clerks—is the tension between them secretly love?

Now in our fourth year, Lyric Theatre continues to grow rapidly. At clinics and masterclasses around North America, Europe, and Asia we are being recognized as leaders in the 21st-century development of performers, pedagogy, production, and new works. We're excited to share our community here at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts with the world.

Yours,
Julie and Nathan Gunn
DIRECTORS, LYRIC THEATRE @ ILLINOIS

PROGRAM

SHE LOVES ME

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TIME/PLACE: Budapest, 1935

ACT I

In and around Maraczek's Parfumerie.

A morning in June through an evening in early

December

Café Imperiale—later that evening

Overture

Good Morning, Good Day

Sounds While Selling

Days Gone By

No More Candy

Three Letters

Tonight at Eight

I Don't Know His Name

Perspective

Goodbye, Georg

Will He Like Me?

Ilona

I Resolve

A Romantic Atmosphere

Dear Friend

Orchestra
Georg, Arpad,
Sipos, Ilona, Kodaly
Customers, Sipos,
Kodaly, Georg
Maraczek
Amalia
Georg, Amalia
Georg
Amalia, Ilona
Sipos
Customers, Clerks
Amalia
Kodaly
Ilona
Headwaiter
Amalia

ACT II

Hospital—the next day

Amalia's apartment—later the same day

In and around Maraczek's Parfumerie—later that evening to December 24th

Entr'acte

Try Me

Where's My Shoe?

Vanilla Ice Cream

She Loves Me

A Trip to the Library

Grand Knowing You

Twelve Days to Christmas

Finale

Orchestra
Arpad
Amalia, Georg
Amalia
Georg
Ilona
Kodaly
Carolers,
Customers, Clerks
Georg, Amalia

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois is produced by the University of Illinois School of Music (Jeffrey Magee, director).

SHE LOVES ME

DIRECTOR

Sarah Wigley

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Michael Tilley

CONDUCTORS

Julie Jordan Gunn (Sunday)

Michael Tilley

CHOREOGRAPHER

Endalyn Taylor

SCENIC DESIGNER

Yue Shi

COSTUME DESIGNER

Sharné Van Ryneveld

LIGHTING DESIGNER

David Krupla

CO-SOUND DESIGNERS

Keith Norton

Nora Simonson

PROPERTIES MASTER

Megan Dietrich

HAIR/MAKEUP COORDINATOR

Samantha C. Jones

MUSICAL PREPARATION

Jaime Cohen

Cadis Ying-Jie Lee

Alex Munger

STAGE MANAGER

Colleen Accardo

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Bobby Reynolds

OPERA TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Dylan Kind

CAST

ARPAD LAZLO

Joe Agase

LADISLAV SIPOS

Stephen Condon

ILONA RITTER

Colleen Bruton

STEVEN KODALY

Bennett Kosma

GEORG NOWACK

Nole F. Jones

MR. MARACZEK

Steven Michael Patrick

AMALIA BALASH

Rachel Weinfeld

KELLER

Geoffrey Schmelzer

BUSBOY

Corey Barlow

HEAD WAITER

Scott Knier

ENSEMBLE

Anna Benoit

Caroline McKinzie

Logan Piker

Nic Koch

R.J. Schlesinger

Charlie White

In the event of an emergency, the following performers will perform as indicated: Logan Piker (Ilona Ritter), Steven Michael Patrick (Georg Nowack), Geoffrey Schmelzer (Mr. Maraczek), Anna Benoit (Amalia Balash), Nic Koch (Arpad Lazlo).

ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN

Noah Larson, concertmaster

Lindsey Sander

Michael Chen

Ryan Hajek

VIOLA

Jennifer Steele

CELLO

Matt Monk

Michael Proulx

BASS

Eric Wood

FLUTES

Madeline Horvart

Isabella Libbrecht

CLARINET

Olivia Coleman

Melissa Okrzesik

HORN

Alexandra Baumgart

TRUMPET

Andrew Magosky

PERCUSSION

Savannah Hendricks

KEYBOARDS

Jaime Cohen

Cadis Ying-Jie Lee

Alex Munger

PROGRAM NOTES

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois is filled with joy to present this production of *She Loves Me* to you tonight. This nimble, witty, and romantic musical—which premiered on Broadway in 1963 to win the Tony Award—is based on the 1936 play *Parfumerie*, written by Hungarian author Miklós László. This cast’s great-grandparents were falling in love when this story was first told.

The passage of time seems particularly poignant at a time when the University of Illinois, Krannert Center, Illinois Theatre, and Dance at Illinois are celebrating major birthdays. The Lyric Theatre program, standing on the shoulders of Illinois Opera Theater, has been reimagined to work more closely with the Department of Theatre and Department of Dance and great artists at Krannert Center and beyond. Young people have been drawn to the performing and creative opportunities that this new educational and artistic philosophy provides. In January, the School of Music announced a new degree—the Bachelor of Music in Lyric Theatre—emphasizing flexibility, wellness, and creativity in sung theatre. It is unique in its commitment to high musical standards and to presenting a spectrum of works from *Hansel and Gretel* to *Don Giovanni* to *She Loves Me*.

Tonight’s cast includes all of the students in our first Lyric Theatre class in a work that could have been written for them, so suited is it to their abilities to dance, sing, and portray vivid personalities on stage. Faculty members Sarah Wigley (director), Michael Tilley (music director), and Endalyn Taylor (choreographer) all specialize in the intersection of classical and contemporary genres, exactly as *She Loves Me* does.

Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, the creative team behind the musical (who also wrote *Fiddler on the Roof* and won the Pulitzer Prize for *Fiorello!*) are, like our students, Big Ten alumni—Bock from Wisconsin, and Harnick from Northwestern. It is our hope and dream to see our students not only light up stages all over the world singing and dancing, but also writing the great musicals and operas of the 21st century.

Please join me in congratulating this class on their vision for the future of sung theatre and their commitment to excellence in storytelling through dance, words, and music.

—Julie Jordan Gunn, co-director, Lyric Theatre @ Illinois

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



When was the last time you received a letter? Not a card purchased at Target, but an actual letter from a loved one? Do you remember the texture of the stationery or the postage stamp on the outside of the envelope? Do you remember the color of the ink and the slope of the handwriting?

Welcome to Maraczek's. Welcome to a place and time before the immediacy of text messages, Snapchat, Tinder, Instagram, and Facebook robbed us the joy of savoring anticipation in correspondence and the heightened romance that is synonymous with possibility and anonymity. The circumstances of Georg and Amalia would be impossible today, as an "advertisement" in 2018 equates to a profile that includes multiple "selfies" and either Georg or Amalia could easily swipe left before sharing their love for Anna Karenina, Chopin, Renoir, or vanilla ice cream.

I invite you to savor the simplicity of *She Loves Me*; where clerks eagerly button up work uniforms with pride, each customer is sung to upon leaving, and your greatest petty aggravations lead to your greatest love.

You may even be inspired to sit down and write a letter . . .

—Sarah Wigley, director

PROFILES



Joe Agase (Arpad) is a senior pursuing a BFA in acting in the Department of Theatre. He has appeared at Krannert Center in *Twelfth Night*, *Iago's Plot*, and *John Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath*. Highlighted credits include Hugo Peabody in *Bye Bye Birdie*, The Jester in *Once Upon a Mattress*, The Major General in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and The Cat in the Hat in *Seussical!*.

Upon a Mattress, The Major General in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and The Cat in the Hat in *Seussical!*.



Corey Barlow (Busboy/ Ensemble) appeared in many productions in high school, including the plays *Months on End* (Ben), *Peter and The Starcatcher* (Alf), and *Sabrina Fair* (David); and the musicals *Anything Goes* (Sailor), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor*

Dreamcoat (Joseph), *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Topher), *Sweeney Todd* (Company), *Evita* (Che), and *The Last Five Years* (Jamie). He was also seen as Aaron in the play *Love, Sex, Death, and Cake* at the University of Illinois.



Anna Benoit (Nurse/Shopper/ Café Imperiale Guest/Amalia Cover) is a sophomore at the University of Illinois pursuing a degree in lyric theatre under the instruction of Professor Dawn Harris. Last spring, Anna performed in the ensemble of Lyric Theatre @ Illinois'

production of *The Light in the Piazza*. Anna has also performed in several productions with the Springfield Ballet Company, the Springfield

Municipal Opera, and the Legacy Theatre in Springfield, Illinois. Highlighted roles include Sister Mary Robert in *Sister Act*, Liesl in *The Sound of Music*, Arabian Coffee in *The Nutcracker*, and Sally Brown in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Anna was a semi-finalist in the NATS Central Region Vocal Competition and participates in Women's Glee Club.



Colleen Bruton (Ilona Ritter) is a junior studying lyric theatre at the University of Illinois. She currently studies under Sarah Wigley, and previously studied under Yvonne Gonzales Redman. Highlights of her previous credits include *Joseph and the Amazing*

Technicolor Dreamcoat, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Titanic: The Musical*, *Spamalot*, and *Kiss Me, Kate*. Last spring, she was awarded second place at the Chicago NATS Musical Theatre competition. Colleen is also a member of the University of Illinois Chamber Singers.



Stephen Condon (Ladislav Sipos), a native of Barnum, Iowa, is a second-year master's student at the U of I. Performance credits from last year include Neapolitan Singer/Raimondo in *Viva Verdi!* and Giuseppe Naccarelli in *The Light in the Piazza*.

Stephen also worked with Scuola Italia's Program for Young Opera Singers, and has performed roles from *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Don Giovanni*, and *I Pagliacci*. Stephen is a student of Professor Ricardo Herrera.



Nole F. Jones (Georg Nowack) is a singing actor from Birmingham, Alabama, pursuing a Master of Music in voice performance and literature at the University of Illinois. His appearances with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois include *The Light in the Piazza*

(Fabrizio Naccarelli), *Poppea*, and *Viva Verdi!*. Nole was a festival artist with the Utah Festival Opera in their 2016 season, performing the role of Willie Conklin in *Ragtime*, as well as appearing in *ShowBoat*, *Gianni Schicchi*, and *Porgy and Bess*. He holds bachelor's degrees in both music and theatre from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where he performed numerous roles with UAB Opera and Theatre UAB, including Belcore in *The Elixir of Love*, Simone in Mozart's *La Finta Semplice*, and Brian in a 2015 production of *Avenue Q* that was featured in *Broadway World* magazine. He currently studies with Professor Ricardo Herrera.



Scott Christian Knier (Head Waiter) is a sophomore studying music composition. He has previously appeared with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois as Hunter in [title of show]. *She Loves Me* is Scott's first production at Krannert Center. Other credits include John

Hinckley Jr. in *Assassins* with PM&L Theatre, and a chorus member in Kurt Weill's *Street Scene*.



Nic Koch (Shopper/Café Imperiale Guest/Arpad Cover) is in his freshman year pursuing degrees in lyric theatre and French studies. You may have heard him play winds in the Illinois Student Musical's production of *Pippin* or seen him in the Lyric

Theatre @ Illinois production of *Don Giovanni* directed by Nathan Gunn. He has performed on reputable stages including the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Town Hall in Australia, as well as Krannert Center's Foellinger Great Hall. Nic has recently performed *Spamalot* (King Arthur), *White Christmas* (Phil Davis), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Schroeder), *Godspell* ("All Good Gifts" soloist), *Harvey* (Elwood P. Dowd), and *The Curious Savage* (Hannibal). He currently studies with Dawn Harris.



Bennett Kosma (Steven Kodaly) began his musical career in the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus, most notably playing the First Spirit in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* (the first "Live in HD," 2006). Previous roles with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois include Male

Lover in *The Light in the Piazza* (2017); Bill Calhoun in *Kiss Me, Kate* (2016); Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2016); Njegus in *The Merry Widow* (2015); and Alexander Pope in *Polly Peachum* (2015). Currently a senior at the University of Illinois, Bennett is a two-time recipient of the Voice Division Achievement Award, a Geraldine B. Cooke Scholar, and a NATS Central Region Music Theatre finalist.



Caroline McKinzie (Shopper/Café Imperiale Guest/Caroler) is a freshman lyric theatre major. This is her first production with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois. Past credits include *Pippin* (Leading Player, Catherine), *Anything Goes* (Bonnie), *The Secret Garden*

(Mary Lennox), *The Most Happy Fella* (understudy Cleo, dance captain). Caroline played Johanna in the IHSTF All-State production of *Sweeney Todd*. Caroline studies with Yvonne Redman and Sarah Wigley, and received second place in the Chicago NATS Musical Theatre regional auditions.



Steven Michael Patrick (Mr. Maraczek/Georg Cover), tenor, is in the second year of his master's degree from the University of Illinois under the instruction of Jerold Siena. He received his Bachelor of Music in voice performance at West Virginia University. Last season

with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois, he was Jonathan in the world premiere of *A Psalm of Silence* as well as Il Duca and Don Carlo in *Viva Verdi!*. In January of 2017, he returned to his home state of West Virginia to premiere the role of Ingénu in *Ma Gase tu Suffit*. Steven Michael's previous roles include Daniel Buchanan (*Street Scene*), Don Basilio and Don Curzio (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), and Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*).



Logan Piker (Shopper/Café Imperiale Guest/Ilona Cover) is a freshman from Normal, Illinois, attending the University of Illinois for classical voice. She has participated in a variety of performance activities throughout her high school

career, including choreographing/dancing with Bloomington-Normal's Orchesis InterCity Dance Company, singing in Christopher Newport University's Musical Theater and Opera Intensive and in the All-State Choir for two years, and was titled a Semi-Finalist in the 2017 National Speech and Debate Tournament. Some of her highlighted roles include Frastrada in University High School's production of *Pippin*, Marcellina in Viterbo University's Opera Scene intensive featuring *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Morticia Addams in NIPR's production of the *Addams Family*.



RJ Schlesinger (Café Imperiale Guest/Shopper) is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in music education. He has been featured in the BAM Theatre production of *West Side Story* (Action) and the Chicagoland premiere of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*

(Quasimodo). He was also frequently featured in Metea Valley High School productions, such as *Next to Normal* (Dr. Madden), *The Addams Family* (Mal Beineke), and *Aida* (Pharaoh).



Geoffrey Schmelzer (Keller/ Mr. Maraczek cover) is a freshman studying vocal performance at the University of Illinois. In high school, he participated in classical and jazz choirs, participating in the ILMEA All-State Festival in both areas. Also a rock and

jazz guitarist, he participated in jazz band in high school and has performed at music venues throughout Chicago. Here at the U of I, he is a member of the UI Oratorio Society and the Varsity Men's Glee Club. Geoffrey is a student of Jerold Siena.



Rachel Weinfeld (Amalia) is currently pursuing her master's degree in voice performance and literature at the University of Illinois, where she is studying with Yvonne Redman. Rachel received her undergraduate degree in music from Ball State University where she

performed many mainstage roles with the Ball State Opera Theatre including Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Belinda in *Dido and Aeneas*, and Adele in *Die Fledermaus*. Rachel also performed in Salzburg, Austria, as Bastienne (Mozart's *Bastien und Bastienne*) with the Franco-American Vocal Academy and as Prima Cercatrici (*Suor Angelica*) with the University of Cincinnati Conservatory's summer opera studio. Additional scene performances with Ball State's Opera Workshop include Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), Cunégonde (*Candide*), and Atalanta (*Serse*).



Charlie White (Ensemble) is a sophomore exchange student from Wiltshire, England. He studies drama at the University of Manchester and is here at the University of Illinois as a BFA acting student. He has competed in the Mid-Somerset music festival in

Bath, placing First in his solo voice category in both 2014 and 2015. In 2017, Charlie won the MIFTA for Best Supporting Actor in the University of Manchester Drama Society's annual season for his role as Spencer in *No God Down Here*. Charlie directed *Avenue Q* for the University of Manchester Musical Theatre Society which recently won Best Show at the 2018 NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) Awards for the Manchester and Northern England area. Other performance credits include Lt. Brannigan (*Guys and Dolls*), Mike (*A Chorus Line*), and numerous other student productions.

Colleen Accardo (Stage Manager) is a junior currently working towards a BFA in stage management. Her most recent credits include *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*; *Iago's Plot*; *November Dance* (2016); *Studiodance I* (2016); and *Kingdom City* at the University of Illinois, and *Working: The Musical*, *Annie*, and *Driving Miss Daisy* at Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, all as an assistant stage manager. In summer 2018, Colleen will be an assistant stage management intern at Cortland Repertory Theatre.

Julie Jordan Gunn (Co-Director, Lyric Theatre @ Illinois/Conductor) is a pianist, educator, and music director. She has performed on many of North America's most prestigious recital series, including the Aspen Festival, Boston's Celebrity Series, the Carnegie Hall Pure Voice Series, the Cincinnati Chamber Music Society, the Cliburn Foundation, the Dallas Opera, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center Great Performers, Manhattan's Café Carlyle, the Metropolitan Opera Summerstage, Notre Dame's DeBartolo Center, the Ravinia Festival, St. Paul's Schubert Club, San Francisco Performances, the Sydney Opera House, Toronto's Roy Thomson Hall, University of Chicago Presents, Washington's Vocal Arts Society, the 92nd Street Y, and the United States Supreme Court. She has been heard in recital with William Burden, Richard Croft, Elizabeth Futral, Isabel Leonard, Stefan Milenkovich, Kelli O'Hara, Mandy Patinkin, Yvonne Gonzales Redman, Michelle De Young, the Pacifica and Jupiter Quartets, and her husband and artistic partner Nathan Gunn.

This season she is giving recitals and cabarets at the Interlochen Center for the Performing Arts, the DeBartolo Center, Vanderbilt University, Thomasville, GA, Western Michigan University, the McCallum Theater for the Performing Arts, the Wallis Annenberg Center in Beverly Hills, and Bravo! Vail.

Director of Lyric Theatre Studies at the University of Illinois, she produces three mainstage operas or musical theatre works a year at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. A faculty member at the School of Music, she enjoys teaching singers, pianists, chamber musicians and songwriters, and conducting new works and musical theatre. She has given masterclasses at universities and young artists' programs all over the United States, including the Aspen Festival, the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the Houston Grand Opera

Studio, the Interlochen Center for the Arts, the Metropolitan Opera Guild, Opera Theatre St. Louis, the Ryan Young Artists' Program, the Santa Fe Opera, Ravinia's Steans Institute. She enjoyed tenures as artist-in-residence at Cincinnati Opera and the Glimmerglass Festival. She is the founder of the Illinois School of Music Academy, a program for talented pre-college chamber musicians and composers.

Dr. Gunn enjoys working at the intersection of different disciplines and collaborates with artists in the fields of theatre, dance, and design whenever possible. She has served as a coach or conductor at Chicago Opera Theater, Highlands Opera Studio, the Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Program, Opera North, Opera Theater St. Louis, Southern Methodist University, Theaterworks!, and Wolf Trap Opera. She is committed to new works and in recent seasons has been part of several world premieres, as a co-producer, a pianist, or as a conductor: *Twilight Butterfly* (Thomas), *Dooryard Bloom* (Higdon), *Polly Peachum* (Scheer/Van Horn), *Variations on a Summer's Day* (Meltzer), *Letters from Quebec to Providence in the Rain* (Gill), and *Bhutto* (Fairouz). She works with Beth Morrison Projects and American Opera Projects to produce workshops and academic premieres of new operas.

A member of ASCAP, she is the author of many arrangements of songs for chamber groups and orchestras. Her arrangements have been heard at Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, the DeBartolo Center, Ithaca College, Interlochen, the Kennedy Center, the Krannert Center, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, and in Sun Valley, Idaho.

Jaime Cohen (Coaching Staff/Accompanist) is a second-year master's student in vocal coaching and accompanying at the University of Illinois. She currently studies under Dr. Julie Gunn. She received her bachelor's degree in music and anthropology

at Kenyon College. While at the U of I, she has served as a rehearsal accompanist and pianist for *Viva Verdi!*, *The Light in the Piazza*, and *Hansel and Gretel*. In the fall of 2017, she music directed [title of show] for the Allerton Music Barn Festival.

Megan Dietrich (Properties Master) is the Krannert Center properties assistant and a new member of the Krannert Center staff. She graduated in 2016 from the University of Illinois with an MFA in properties design and management and returned to help teach and run the properties shop. Megan has also worked for the Chautauqua Theatre Company, The Kitchen Theatre, and the Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts. She received her Bachelor of Liberal Arts in 2010 from Whittier College with a dual emphasis in performance and theatre technology.

Alphonsus Kiu (Coaching Staff/Accompanist), a native of Penang, Malaysia, is a third-year DMA student in vocal accompanying and coaching at the University of Illinois. He studied with Julie Gunn, Dennis Helmrich, and is currently a student of Michael Tilley. While at the U of I, he accompanied the Oratorio Society, Opera Scenes Workshop, and Voice Studios. For the past four summers, he worked as a coach and accompanist at the Interlochen Summer High School Vocal Arts Program where he collaborated with young talents. While here at the U of I, he received the Nancy Kennedy Wustman Memorial Award in Vocal Accompanying (2017). During his master's at Bowling Green State University, he and his partners were awarded the First and Third Prize in the Conrad Art Song Competition (2015).

David Krupla (Lighting Designer) is a third-year MFA lighting design student at the University of Illinois. Previous design credits include *Hansel and Gretel*, *Iago's Plot*, *February Dance: Designed Environments*, *Dreamgirls*, and *In the Blood* at the University of Illinois; *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Twelfth Night*, and *The Crucible* at Cuyahoga Community

College; *These are the Times* workshop production at Cleveland Public Theatre; *The World Goes Round* at Porthouse Theatre; *Ragtime*, *Cloud 9*, and *4.48 Psychosis* at Kent State University; *Next Fall* at Weathervane Playhouse; and *Sweeney Todd* and *A Chorus Line* at Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute. He has worked with such companies as Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre, The Santa Fe Opera, and Great Lakes Theatre. He holds a BA from Kent State University.

Cadis Ying Jie Lee (Rehearsal Accompanist) graduated with her Bachelor of Music (classical music) with Honors at UCSI University in Kuala Lumpur under the tutelage of Morag Yong Ker Syn, where she majored in classical piano performance. An enthusiast of collaborative piano, she extensively collaborates with vocalists and instrumentalists. In 2014, Cadis took part in the Winter Journey Camp held in Hua Hin, Thailand. She had the opportunity to perform in the masterclass of world-renowned collaborative pianist Graham Johnson. Her accompaniment experience further developed when she accompanied in the Bangkok Opera Foundation's 6th ASEAN International Singing Competition in 2014. Cadis studied Master of Music (Piano Accompaniment) under the tutelage of Scott Mitchell in Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. In August 2016, Cadis was involved in the Research and Development Project on Bela Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle* organized by OperaUpClose. She had the opportunity to collaborate with Mark Austin, Laura Bowler, and Flora McIntosh. In April 2017, she participated in the Georg Solti Accademia Repetiteur's Course and had masterclasses with the late Jeffrey Tate, Richard Bonyngue, Jonathan Papp, James Vaughan, and Mark Markham. She was invited to play in Georg Solti Accademia Singers' Course in July 2017. Cadis is currently pursuing a DMA in vocal coaching and accompanying at the University of Illinois under the tutelage of Michael Tilley.

Alex Munger (Assistant Conductor) is a second-year MM student in vocal coaching and accompanying, studying with Dr. Julie Jordan Gunn. This past year he was involved in *The Light in the Piazza* and *Viva Verdi!*. He received his BM in piano performance from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Keith Norton (Co-Sound Designer) is a Central Illinois native. He is currently a senior in the sound design and technology program at the University of Illinois, as well as a full-time staff member at Krannert Center. Keith has been a freelance sound engineer for numerous events and venues across the country. Keith is also involved in music performance and has toured a portion of the United States as an upright bassist with multiple acts.

Bobby Reynolds (Technical Director) is a second-year MFA candidate in the scenic technology program. He hails from the flat lands of Ohio where he received his BA from Wittenberg University. Prior to his arrival at the University of Illinois, he worked on productions at Playhouse On the Square such as *Mary Poppins*, *Memphis*, *American Idiot*, and *Kiss Me, Kate*. Bobby recently served as a carpenter for the Heritage Festival at the University of Virginia for the summer of 2017.

Sharné van Ryneveld (Costume Designer) is in her third year of the MFA costume design program at the University of Illinois. She received her BA from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology in South Africa. Most recently, she worked at the Santa Fe Opera in New Mexico as part of the tailoring team that worked on the *Golden Cockerel* (designed by Gary McCann) and *Lucia de Lammermoor* (designed by Emily Rebholz). Her past design work includes *Poppea* and *Hansel and Gretel* for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois and *Romeo and Juliet* for Illinois Theatre.

Yue Shi (Scenic Designer/Scenic Charge Artist) is a scenic designer from China who moved to the United States to pursue her master's degree. She received her BA from the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts. She is an artist, scenic designer, painter, illustrator, and also involved in film and television. She is currently in her third and final year at University of Illinois. Her past stage design credits include *Waiting for Godot* (NACTA Theatre), *Poppea* (Illinois Theatre), and *In the Next Room* (Illinois Theatre).

Nora Simonson (Co-Sound Designer) is a junior in the sound design and technology program at the University of Illinois. Previous design credits include *The Minotaur* and *Travesties* with Illinois Theatre and *[title of show]* with Lyric Theatre.

Endalyn Taylor (Choreographer) began dancing at the age of seven at the Mayfair Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago, Illinois, studying ballet, gymnastics, and tap. She later trained at the Ruth Page School of Dance under the tutelage of Larry Long. Taylor received scholarships to study with the Joffrey Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, and Dance Theatre of Harlem School.

In 1984, she joined Dance Theatre of Harlem's company and became a principal in 1993. Taylor's roles include Myrta and Peasant Pas in *Giselle*, Corsair Pas de Deux, *Flower Festival in Genzano*, Alonzo King's *Ground and Signs and Wonders*, *Douglas*, *Serenade*, *Agon*, *Four Temperaments*, *Concerto Barocco*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Holberg Suite*, *Fete Noir*, *Etosha*, *Mirage*, *Concerto In F*, *Dialogues*, *Les Biche*, *Songs of Mahler*, and *Medea* (to name a few). She has performed for such dignitaries as Coretta Scott King, Colin Powell, President Bill Clinton, the late Princess Diana, former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela, and many others.

In 1992, she made her Broadway debut in the revival of *Carousel* and went on to perform in the original Broadway casts of *The Lion King* in 1997 and *Aida* in 1999. An original cast member of all three shows, Taylor participated in the recording of the cast albums, two of which received Grammy nominations, as well as performed for the 1993 and 1997 Tony Awards.

As a teacher at Bergen Technical Academies, High School of The Performing Arts, New York University, and Alvin Ailey she had the pleasure of sharing her knowledge with her students. She has taught masterclasses to children and adults throughout the United States and abroad and ran a performing arts institute in Cambridge Massachusetts in 1995. Taylor was the director of the Dance Theatre of Harlem School where she taught, choreographed, and staged numerous works on students in the Professional Training Program and the entire student body. In 2010, was invited to bring 10 of her students to the White House to participate in a new arts initiative of the Obamas'. In 2013, students of Taylor performed for the First Lady's luncheon at the Studio Museum in Harlem for Spouses of Chiefs of State/Heads of Government. Since 2014, she has conducted workshops and masterclasses in Washington, DC, Florida, Ohio, Hawaii, London, New York, Texas, Iowa, Illinois, Memphis, Pennsylvania, and Virginia and will teach a series of technique classes as part of a mini-residency at the University of California, Irvine.

Taylor has been commissioned to choreograph several works including numerous productions for The Dance Theatre of Harlem's Annual Spring Performances, Western Kentucky University, as co-choreographer and Concept Developer for the Tribeca Performing Arts Center in New York City, and Judas International Dance Company, NYC. Taylor made her triumphant musical theater choreographic debut in April 2017

with the production of *Kiss Me, Kate* for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois and *Dreamgirls* in conjunction with Krannert Center and Banks Bridgewater Lewis Fine Arts Academy. Most recently, Taylor has choreographed works for Collage Dance Collective, performed the co-choreographed work *Chalk Lines* at the American Dance Festival in New York, and is currently working on a collaborative work entitled *The Counterpoint Project*, which will premiere in New York City on May 31, 2018. Additionally Taylor has gained recognition as a national spokesperson for Black Ballerinas and has presented lectures at Coventry University in England, participated on a panel at the Collegium for African Diasporic Dance, National Association of Schools of Dance, Regional Dance Festival, organized a symposium about Black Ballerinas as part of the Flatlands Film Festival, and served as Keynote Speaker at the Black Women Rock, Empower Me Award Ceremony (Champaign, Illinois).

Taylor received her MFA in Dance from Hollins University in 2012 and currently holds an assistant professorship at the University of Illinois.

Michael Tilley (Music Director/Conductor) spent six years as musical director for Franc D’Ambrosio’s national tours before joining the faculty of Lyric Theatre @ Illinois. As a conductor, he has led ensembles from Central City Opera, Opera Colorado, Emerald City Opera, and Boulder Opera. He has been a featured performer with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and other regional orchestras, as well as with the Martha Graham Dance Company at the Vail International Dance Festival. His orchestrations and arrangements, from solo piano to full symphony to rock opera, have been heard across the country and abroad. He has also composed music for the stage and a feature-length soundtrack. He plays, sings, and writes for the Argentine Tango groups Extasis and Orquesta Tipica di Natural Tango.

Sarah Wigley (Director) is a clinical assistant professor of voice for the Lyric Theatre department at the University of Illinois, where she instructs Lyric Theatre Studio and Musical Theatre Repertoire while maintaining a voice studio of over 20 students and frequently stage directing both opera and musical theatre productions. Wigley holds an MM in voice performance from Colorado State University and a BM in voice from the University of Minnesota. While residing in Minneapolis, Wigley performed professionally with regional companies such as the Guthrie Theatre, the Skylark Opera, the Mystery Café, the Minnesota Centennial Showboat, and the Minnesota Opera. Wigley’s Denver credits include roles such as Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha* (Open Stage Theatre), Emma in *Jekyll and Hyde* (Inspire Creative Theatre), Dolores in *The Wild Party* (Ignite Theatre), and Miss Scarlett in *Clue—The Musical* (Candlelight Dinner Playhouse). Sarah Wigley has served as faculty for the musical theatre department at the University of Northern Colorado as well as Parlando School

for the Arts in Boulder, Colorado, and has had several students appear on Broadway and in national tours and regional theatres across the nation. As a contemporary voice specialist, Wigley frequently presents workshops concerning flexible voice technique and crossover training for both studio voice teachers and choral educators. Sessions ranging from “Crossing Over: Contemporary Voice Technique for Solo and Ensemble Singing” to “Crossing Genres: A Classical Singer’s Guide to Jazz” have energized the International Congress of Voice Teachers, the National Association for Teachers of Singing, Illinois Music Education Association, Iowa Choral Directors Association, and Minnesota Music Education Association as well as numerous high schools and colleges nationwide.

PRODUCTION STAFF

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

Michelle Tigges

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

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Kayla Uribe

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNERS

Hannah Yonan
Nicole Peckens

ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER

Yvonne Tessman

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER

Kiana Schalk

PROPERTIES MASTER

Megan Dietrich

SCENIC CHARGE

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AUDIO ENGINEER

Hayat Dominguez

SOUND MIXER

Brandon Reed

COSTUME TECHNICIAN

Michelle Pettit

DECK RUNNING CREW

Kyle Norbut
Sriram Krishman
Harshvardhan Marpani
Blas Nache

DECK CREW CHIEF

Alex Gill

FLY CREW

Devin Richard
Yuxin Hao

PROPS RUNNING CREW

Alice Cashman
Ruge Li
Ningyi Zhang
Jenna Keefer

WARDROBE CREW HEAD

Nicole Peckens

WARDROBE CREW

Tafadzwa Diener
Dane Brandon
Robert Bradley
Julia Gold

MAKEUP RUNNING CREW

Zoe Raplinger
Kara Hynes
Leojae Payton

SOUND BOARD OPERATOR

Kaetlyn Allen

A2/DECK AUDIO

Miykael Hutchins

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR

Omri Schwartz

FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS

Bennett Smith
Casey Griffin
Latrell Crawford

HAIR AND MAKEUP TECHNICIANS

Megan Cudd
Melissa Hall
Jessica Hensley
Miriam Jurgensen
Chane Knight
Caitlin Leyden
Edith Moreno
Michelle Pettit
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to Kevin Stites.