

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois presents

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Betty Comden and Adolph Green, screenplay
Arthur Freed and Nacio Herb Brown, music

Jeremy Benton, stage director and choreographer
Michael Tilley, music director

Monday-Tuesday	Thursday-Friday	Saturday
Nov. 9-10	Nov. 12-13	Nov. 14
7:30pm	7:30pm	2pm

Tryon Festival Theatre

THE ACT OF GIVING

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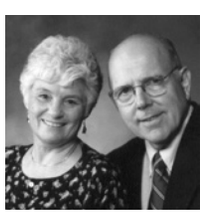
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WELCOME

Welcome to Krannert Center and to this gorgeous production of the iconic *Singin' in the Rain*. As we begin our fourteenth year leading Lyric Theatre @ Illinois, we are more grateful than ever for the support of the artistic community anchored and nourished by the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Our students are singing, dancing, acting, designing, conducting, playing, writing more broadly and deeply than ever, and it seems like when our beloved alumni graduate, they leave behind them two or three younger brothers and sisters thriving in their wake. Thank you to our Champaign-Urbana community, and to all the alumni and families that continue to generously support the growth and health of the performing arts generally, and Lyric Theatre in particular. Thank you for being here tonight! We look forward to seeing you at *Carnaval!, Cosí: the School for Lovers,* and our myriad smaller evenings of song, dance, and theatre all season long.

Yours,

Julie and Nathan Gunn
Directors of Lyric Theatre @ Illinois

PROGRAM

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois
presents

Singin' in the Rain

Screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
Songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Michael Tilley

STAGE DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER
Jeremy Benton

ASSOCIATE CHOREOGRAPHER
Chelsea Wahrendorf

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Sarah Wigley

COSTUME DESIGNER
Amelia Walz

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Resa Fuller

SCENIC DESIGNER
Mena Perkins

MEDIA DESIGNER
Ethan Borrok

STAGE MANAGER
Maxwell G. Allen

SOUND DESIGNER
Grace Aumiller

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER
Zev Steinrock

ACT I

OVERTURE	Orchestra
FIT AS A FIDDLE	Don Lockwood, Cosmo Brown
THE ROYAL RASCAL	Orchestra
ALL I DO IS DREAM OF YOU	Kathy Selden and Girls of the Coconut Grove
YOU STEPPED OUT OF A DREAM	Don Lockwood
MAKE 'EM LAUGH	Cosmo Brown
BEAUTIFUL GIRLS	Production Tenor and Female Chorus (including Kathy Selden)
YOU ARE MY LUCKY STAR	Kathy Selden
YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME	Don Lockwood & Kathy Selden
MOSES SUPPOSES	Don Lockwood, Cosmo Brown
MOSES SUPPOSES (REPRISE)	Company
GOOD MORNING	Don Lockwood, Cosmo Brown, Kathy Selden
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN	Don Lockwood

ACT II

ENTR'ACTE	Orchestra
GOOD MORNING (REPRISE)	Company
WOULD YOU?	Kathy Selden
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?	Lina Lamont
THE BROADWAY BALLET (AKA BROADWAY RHYTHM)	Cosmo Brown, Don Lockwood, and Full Company
WOULD YOU? (REPRISE)	Kathy Selden (Voicing for Lina) & Cosmo Brown
YOU ARE MY LUCKY STAR (REPRISE)	Kathy Selden and Don Lockwood
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN (FINALE)	Full Company

Based on the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film, by special arrangement with Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures, Inc.

Music published by EMI, all rights administered by Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

(Original Movie Choreography by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen)
Produced by Arrangement with Maurice Rosenfield, Lois F. Rosenfield and Cindy Pritzker, Inc.

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois is a proud part of the University of Illinois School of Music (Peter Mortensen, Director).

This production includes smog effects and strobe lighting.

CAST

In Order of Appearance

Dahlia Medvinsky	Dora Bailey/Dinsmore, Ensemble, Kathy
JoJo Arrieta	Ensemble
Margot Burm	Ensemble
Amber Cloud	Ensemble
Jake Fava	Ensemble
Ginny Gibbs	Ensemble, Zelda/Girl in Green Cover
Josh Knehans	Silent Movie Villan, Ensemble, Professor Spindrill Cover
Zhiao Liu	Production Tenor
Dylan Otto	Ensemble
Sasha Van Den Berg	Young Hopeful in Ballet, Ensemble,Dora/Dinsmore Cover
Elijah Yang	Ensemble, RF/Production Tenor Cover
Lily Borkowicz	Zelda Zanders/Girl in Green, Ensemble
Josh De La Cruz	Ensemble, Don/Cosmo Cover
Emily Vose	Lady-in-waiting, Ensemble
Faizaan Ahab	Ensemble
Julia Tejeda	Lady-in-waiting, Ensemble
Kevin Brown	Professor Spindrill, Ensemble, Roscoe Cover
Stella Catalano	Ensemble
Christian Diaz	RF Simpson
Seth Carl	Roscoe Dexter
Joseph Timberlake	Cosmo Brown
Maija Flannery	Lina Lamont
Cooper Coker	Don Lockwood
William Marck	Young Don
Robert Marck	Young Cosmo
Gianna Casanova	Kathy Seldon
Zev Steinrock	Silent Movie Henchman
Danny Yoerges	Silent Movie Henchman
Audrey Brammer	Lina Cover
Calvin Kruse	Young Don/Young Cosmo Cover, Ensemble

ORCHESTRA

Reed 1	Sandy Ivy
Reed 2	Kavi-Naidu
Reed 3	Katie Zaucha
Reed 4	Robert Brooks
Trumpet 1	Austin Dunaway
Trumpet 2	Kevin Kierspe
Trumpet 3	Jack Obrebski
Trombone 1	Matthew Dixon
Trombone 2	Jeremiah St. John
Keyboard	Zixin Zhang
	Aerim Kim
Drums	Samuel Carroll
Violin 1	Amanda Ramey
Violin 2	Heidi Pohl
Viola	Kiersten Scherer
Violoncello	Nai-Chien "Zora" Yo
Double Bass	Victor Serda
Orchestra Contractor	Barbara Hedlund
Assistant Conductor	Lily Mamminga

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There are certain movies that become more than movies. They become part of the furniture of our cultural memory. You may not have seen them in years, but play a few notes, say a line, or hear a familiar name, and suddenly you are there again.

Singin' in the Rain is one of those movies.

Don Lockwood. Cosmo Brown. Kathy Selden. Lina Lamont.

And, of course, Gene Kelly. Donald O'Connor. Debbie Reynolds. Jean Hagen… actors who became so completely synonymous with these characters that, over time, the line between the performer and the role almost disappeared. And the public connection to these characters/actors seems universal.

For me, that connection began very early. Growing up in a small town north of Nashville, I was six or seven when I convinced myself I had invented tap dancing in my grandmother's yard. She eventually sat me down in front of a Turner Classic Movies "Gene Kelly Day," and *Singin' in the Rain* was the first movie musical I ever saw. "Moses Supposes" did the rest. I told my mother, "I want those shoes." I started dance lessons soon after, cleaning the studio to help pay for my classes, and somewhere along the way dancing and singing became the two things that would take me places that little boy in that yard could never have imagined. Years later, I have had the great good fortune to play Don Lockwood nine times. So, yes, I have lived with these people for a while.

That is both the gift and the unique challenge of bringing the timeless classic *Singin' in the Rain* to the stage.

How do you play these iconic characters without simply "doing" Gene Kelly? Donald O'Connor? Debbie Reynolds?
It is surprisingly easy to fall into what I affectionately call "karaoke acting"—doing your best memory of the performance instead of discovering the character for yourself. But these roles are too good for imitation. The joy is in making them your own.

And what a gift this particular company has been in doing just that.

Because *Singin' in the Rain* is not only four stars. It is an entire world. One of the great pleasures of this show is watching a multi-talented ensemble create that world right in front of you: the studio executives, actors, dancers, singers, reporters, assistants, chorus girls, and Hollywood dreamers who make this wonderfully ridiculous universe feel alive. They make the romantic world romantic, the comedy delicious, and the extraordinary look effortless.
It is a story that has remained remarkably entertaining because underneath all the Hollywood machinery, it is about something very simple: people trying to adapt when the world changes around them.

And then there is the dancing: joyful, technical, musical, physical, soulful—and completely human. And the music, which has long since escaped the movie and become part of the American songbook. And, perhaps most importantly, musical comedy—the precision, the

silliness, the rhythm, the joy of watching extraordinarily talented people make something look completely effortless.

For some, this production will be a return to a beloved film. For others, it may be a first introduction. Either way, there is something special about watching these familiar characters come alive again through a company of actors only a few feet away.

I live in a very happy place in musical comedy, and I am incredibly proud of this cast. They have brought talent, generosity, humor, discipline, and an enormous amount of heart to this production. I am equally grateful to our extraordinary designers and creative team, whose imagination and artistry have helped make this world possible.

"I hope you have as much fun watching it as we have had making it."

And that just may be the secret of *Singin' in the Rain.*

It is one of the great landmarks of American musical cinema.

But underneath all of that, it is just plain fun.

— Jeremy Benton

PROFILES

Lyric Theatre @ Illinois acknowledges with gratitude the cooperation of the voice and accompanying faculties of the University of Illinois School of Music in supporting the talented students in its productions.



LILY BORKOWICZ
(Zelda Zanders/Girl in Green, Ensemble)

Originally from La Grange Park, IL, Borkowicz is a junior studying Lyric Theatre at the University of Illinois, where she studies under Scott MacLeod and Sarah Wigley. Her previous credits with LTI include *Anastasia* (Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch), *Make Me a Song* (Mezzo Cover), *Carnaval!* (Featured Dancer), and *Under the Stars* (Soloist). Other credits include Shot in the Dark Productions' *MET: The Musical* (Demo Vocalist), Illini Student Musicals' *9 to 5* (Violet Newstead) and *Heathers* (Ms. Fleming). You may have also seen Lily in HEINZ social media commercials or featured in the August issue of *Interlude Magazine*. Lily is incredibly grateful to be part of this talented cast and thanks everyone involved for their incredible work and continued support.



AUDREY BRAMMER
(Lina Cover)

Brammer originally from North Carolina, is a third-year BMA candidate in Lyric Theatre at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her most recent credits with the Lyric Theatre program include *Make Me a Song* (Mezzo Soloist), *Carnaval!* 2026 (Featured Performer) and *Under The Stars* (Featured Performer). Additional credits include *The Prom* (Dee Dee Allen) and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Title Role) with University of North Carolina PlayMakers Repertory Company. Brammer thanks her professors for their wisdom and encouragement, and her parents for being a constant pillar of support and love.



KEVIN BROWN
(Professor Spindrill, Ensemble, Roscoe Cover)

Brown is from Crystal Lake, IL, and is a sophomore majoring in the Music BA program here at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Kevin has enjoyed performing since childhood and has been most recently cast as Charlie in the *Finding Me Musical,* his first production here at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Some of Kevin's past roles at Crystal Lake South High School included Colonel Mustard *(Clue)*, Mr. Bennet *(Pride and Prejudice),* Geppetto *(Fairy Cakes),* Sergei *(Matilda),* and Jacob *(Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat).* In his free time, Kevin enjoys going to musicals, singing in the Men's Glee Club at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, traveling, swimming, and reading.



MARGOT BURM
(Ensemble)

Burm is a Junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign pursuing her BMA in Lyric Theatre with a minor in Dance. She is a student of Scott MacLeod and Sarah Wigley. Her previous Lyric Theatre @Illinois

credits includes *Carnival!* (Featured Dancer/Soloist) and *Under The Stars* (Featured Soloist). Margot has been performing onstage for over 10 years now, and some of her theatre credits include *Little Women* (Jo March), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Golde), and *Legally Blonde* (Elle Woods) at Edge of the Wood Theatre. She was also seen in Loyola Academy's production of *Mamma Mia!* (Donna Sheridan) and *Children of Eden* (Snake) at the McGrath Family Performing Arts Center. In the Summer of 2023, Margot was a student at the National High School Institute-The Cherubs at Northwestern University (Theatre Arts Division+ Musical Theatre Extension). She is also a part of Illini Student Musicals, her previous credit includes *9 to 5* (Missy Hart). Margot also won second place in her category at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition for musical theatre. She would like to thank her friends and family for all their love and support.



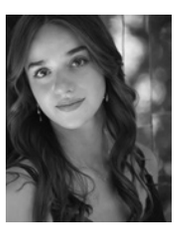
SETH CARL
(Roscoe Dexter)

Carl is a senior in the Lyric Theater program at the University of Illinois and is currently studying under Sarah Wigley. Some of his past credits include Adam in *Make Me a Song*, Count Leopold/Vlad Cover in *Anastasia*, Repunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods*, and Cord Elam in *Oklahoma*. He would like to thank to thank his friends and family for always supporting him and putting up with his terrible jokes.



GIANNA CASANOVA
(Kathy Seldon)

Casanova is a senior BMA student in Lyric Theater with a minor in Dance at the University of Illinois. She currently studies voice with Sarah Wigley and Nathan Gunn. Casanova's previous credits with Lyric Theater @ Illinois include Mark Adams's *Little Women, Anastasia, Monteverdi's L' Orfeo, Carnival, Under the Stars,* and *Black Square.* With the Voice Area at Illinois, she was seen in Don Giovanni. She has also performed in Rachel Rizzuto's Valentine's dance cabaret, *Love Sucks,* for its 8th and 9th years. Casanova currently vocalizes with the Improvisers Exchange Ensemble led by Jason Finkelman, performing locally at the Rose Bowl Tavern. Casanova was a student board member of the beloved Women's Glee Club for two years, which celebrated its 130 year anniversary recently. Last fall, Casanova won first place at the NATS central region competition in the Musical Theater category. Gianna is originally from Columbia, Maryland, and she would like to recognize and thank the people of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for maintaining the vitality of art, music, and community. She hopes you enjoy the show!



STELLA CATALANO
(Ensemble)

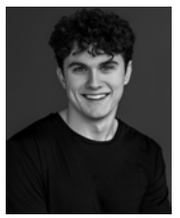
Catalano is from Castle Rock, Colorado and is a Junior majoring in Lyric Theatre and is minoring in Dance. Stella is so thrilled to be a part of this production with Lyric Theatre at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

You may recognize Stella from her role last semester as a featured singer and dancer in Lyric Theatre's *"Carnaval!"* and at UIUC she has also performed in Lyric Theatre's *"Under the Stars"* 2025 and *"Carnaval!"* 2025. She has also acted as Irena in *"I Never Saw Another Butterfly,"* Gloria in *"Bye Bye Birdie,"* Missy in *"9 to 5,"* and many other shows with the Rock Canyon High School theatre department. In her free time, Stella loves to read, hike with her dad and sisters, play guitar, and hang out with her mom. Stella would like to thank her mom, dad, and friends for all of their love and support!



AMBER CLOUD
(Ensemble)

Cloud is a senior in Lyric Theater and she was born and raised in Chicago. Before attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she has been invited to perform alongside Karol G on SNL and at Lollapalooza, has toured around the country to places like Alabama, California, Florida, Kentucky, and even other countries such as Egypt. She has been dancing and singing her entire life, and most recently has taken up acting once attending U of I. Her most recent productions include *L'Orfero, Under the Stars,* and *Anastasia!.* She is very excited to continue her journey here at U of I and to explore many new opportunities. She would like to thank her parents and her teachers for always supporting her and pushing her to be her best self.



COOPER COKER
(Don Lockwood)

Coker is a sophomore BMA Lyric Theatre student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he studies voice with Scott MacLeod, Sarah Wigley, and Nathan Gunn. His Illinois credits include *Make Me A Song, Anastasia* (Dmitry, cover), *35MM: A Musical Exhibition* (Soloist), and *Oklahoma!* (Slim/Curly cover) at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, as well as *I Hear America Singing* (Tenor Swing) at the Peoria Riverfront Museum and *While We're Together* (Boyfriend) at Illinois. Other favorite credits include *Jersey Boys* (Bob Gaudio) at Springfield Muni Opera, *Hairspray* (Sketch) at The Little Theatre on the Square, and *Bullets Over Broadway* at The Legacy Theatre. This past summer, you could have seen him in *Guys and Dolls, The Very Different Duckling, Annie, The Reluctant Pirate*, and *Route 66* at The Little Theatre on the Square.
Instagram: @coopercoker_ | www.coopercoker.com



CHRISTIAN DIAZ
(RF Simpson)

Diaz is currently a second-year undergraduate baritone He was honored to receive the Voice Achievement Award at the 2025 Lyric Theatre Illinois Awards and Showcase. Past credits with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois include Lyric Theatre's production of *Monteverdi's L'Orfeo* in the on-stage chorus and as a featured soloist. He also performed in *Under the Stars* singing as Raimondo in "Chi mi frena in tal momento" from Lucia di

Lammermoor and Eisenstein in the "Champagne Trio" from Die Fledermaus. Additionally, he performed in *Carnaval!* as a featured dancer and soloist performing "Just A Gigolo". Most recently he worked on *Make Me A Song* as a swing under the direction of Professor Sarah Wigley. Outside of Lyric Theatre, Diaz is apart of Illini Student Musicals having performed in *9 to 5* (Tinsworthy) and *Cabaret* (Max/Kit Kat Ensemble) and serving as on the DEIA committee. Additionally, Diaz sings with the Chancel Choir at Faith United Methodist Church in Champaign under the direction of Simon Tiffon and the University of Illinois Meredith Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Andrea Solya. He would like to thank his family, friends, and professors for their guidance and support!



JOSHUA DE LA CRUZ
(Ensemble, Don/Cosmo Cover)

Josh is a junior from North Riverside, Illinois, studying at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is grateful to return to the Krannert Center stage after previous performances in *Carnaval!* and *Under the Stars.* Since his collegiate debut, Josh has continued to grow as both a performer and collaborator through his work in the department and beyond. Before college, he was deeply involved in musical theatre, with favorite roles including Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls* and Doody in *Grease.* He is also a proud member of the Varsity Men's Glee Club at Illinois, where he continues to develop his vocal artistry within a passionate and supportive ensemble. Outside of school, Josh enjoys singing on his church's worship team. He is excited to keep learning, creating, and sharing meaningful stories with audiences.



JAKE FAVA
(Ensemble)

Fava is a community member and UIUC alum who has been performing in the Champaign-Urbana area since 2018 and is thrilled to be a part of his very first LTI production. With Parkland Community College, he has appeared in The Wedding Singer (Robby), Chicago: The Musical (Billy), and Memphis: The Musical (Huey). With the Station Theatre, he has appeared in Come From Away (Kevin T.), Head Over Heels (Basilius Cover/Ensemble), [title of show] (Jeff), Stupid F*cking Bird (Conrad), and The Aliens (Jasper). With Champaign-Urbana Theatre Company, he has appeared in Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (Barry) and Shrek: The Musical (Big Bad Wolf). You can also find him around town hosting open mics and performing live music solo, in duos, and with the jam band Booth Blues. Look him up on social media to find upcoming performances and releases.



MAIJA FLANNERY
(Lina Lamont)

Flannery is a Sophomore pursuing her degree in Lyric Theatre with a minor in Dance, and she is thrilled to be involved in this production at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign! She has most recently been seen in Lyric Theatre @ Illinois' *Carnaval!* (Featured Dancer), *Anastasia* (Paulina/Countess Gregory/Countess Lily Cover/Ensemble), and *Under the Stars* (Ensemble). Currently, Maija is studying voice under Professor Sarah Wigley and Dr. Scott MacLeod. Maija is grateful for the opportunity to perform alongside her peers under the direction of the incredible Lyric Theatre staff, doing what she loves most. Special thank you to her parents and sister for their endless love and support.



GINNY GIBBS
(Ensemble, Zelda/Girl in Green Cover)

Gibbs is a second year BMA Lyric Theatre student from Western Springs, Illinois. She has recently been a part of *Carnaval!* in 2026 and Southeastern Summer Theatre Institute's *Sweet Charity* as Helene in Hilton Head, SC. At the University of Illinois she is involved in the James Scholar Program and Phi Eta Sigma National Honors Society. She is a BUBBL'R Campus Ambassador and in her spare time enjoys playing tennis. She is thrilled to be performing at Krannert Center and would like to thank her family, friends, and fellow cast members for their support.



JOSH KNEHANS
(Silent Movie Villan, Ensemble, Professor Spindrill Cover)

Knehans is currently a Senior Vocal Performance major at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. He studies under Nathan Gunn. He has had the pleasure of being a part of productions like *'While We're Together' a Caleb Wayman Showcase, Oklahoma,* and *Black Square.*



ZIHAO LIU
(Production Tenor)

Liu is a third-year Doctor of Musical Arts student in Vocal Performance and Literature at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he is a Stotler Fellow and studies with Nathan Gunn. He was a 2025 Vocal Fellow at the Music Academy of the West, where he performed in *Don Giovanni,* Bolcom's Lucrezia, and appeared in selections from Huang Ruo's *The Monkey King.* His stage credits include Lord Tolloller in *Iolanthe,* the Schoolmaster in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen,* Lorenzo in William Bolcom's *Lucrezia,* and Count Ipolitov in *Anastasia.* As a concert soloist, he has performed Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Bard Conservatory Orchestra alongside Stephanie Blythe, Handel's *Messiah* with The Orchestra Now, and Bach with the Albany Symphony. He has appeared at Carnegie Hall, the Fisher Center at Bard, and Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, as well as major venues in China. He holds degrees from the Manhattan School of Music and Bard College Conservatory of Music.



DAHLIA MEDVINSKY
(Dora Bailey/Dinsmore, Ensemble, Kathy Cover)

Medvinsky (she/her) is a fourth-year BMA Lyric Theatre student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she studies under Professors Yvonne Redman and Sarah Wigley. She is thrilled to be a part of the Fall 2026 productions! Dahlia's previous credits with Lyric Theatre @ Illinois

include *While We're Together: The Caleb Wayman Collection* (Wife), *Anastasia* (Tsarina Alexandra), *L'Orfeo* (Onstage Ensemble), and *35MM: A Musical Exhibition* (Woman 2). She has also appeared with the Voice Area Opera program's productions of *Don Giovanni* and *La Bohème*. Dahlia is endlessly grateful to the Lyric Theatre and Voice Area faculty for their guidance and to her family and friends for their unwavering love and inspiration. She hopes you enjoy the performance as much as she has loved creating it!



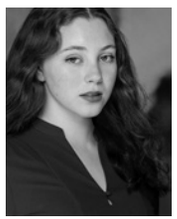
JULIA TEJEDA
(Lady in Waiting, Ensemble)

Tejeda is a junior and a Lyric Theatre major at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Before transferring to U of I in 2024, she attended Illinois Central College in East Peoria. Her roles there included Columbia in *The Rocky Horror Show* and Jessica in *Women Playing Hamlet*. At U of I she has gotten to be apart of *Under the Stars* in 2025 and *Carnaval!* as both a featured vocalist and featured dancer.



JOSEPH TIMBERLAKE
(Cosmo Brown)

Timberlake (He/Him) is a Junior Lyric Theatre and Political Science Student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he studies under Professor Sarah Wigley. He is thrilled to be a part of this production of Singin' in the Rain! Some of his previous credits in Lyric Theatre @ Illinois include *Anastasia, Under the Stars,* and *Oklahoma*. You may also have seen him in Illini Student Musicals' production of *Mean Girls*. He would like to thank his family, friends, and professors for their support throughout this entire process. He hopes you enjoy the show!



SASHA VAN DEN BERG
(Young Hopeful in Ballet, Ensemble, Dora/Dinsmore Cover)

Van Den Berg (she/her) is currently a sophomore Lyric Theatre BMA student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (U of I) studying under Dr. Lara Brooks. She is thrilled to be in this semester's production of *Singin' in the Rain!* You may have seen her previously in Lyric Theatre @ Illinois's *Little Women* (Amy), *Anastasia* (Teen Anastasia/ Anya Cover), *Under the Stars*, and *Carnaval!* 2025. She currently sings with the Meredith Chamber Singers at U of I under the direction of Dr. Andrea Solya. Recently, Van Den Berg won first place in her division at the Central Region NATS competition. She is grateful for the love and support of her peers and professors!



EMILY VOSE
(Ensemble)

Vose is a Sophomore Lyric Theatre BMA student at the University of Illinois and is originally from Orlando, Florida. She made her Krannert Center for the Performing Arts debut in Lyric Theatre's *Carnaval!* 2026 and performed in Lyric Theatre's *Under the Stars* 2026. Some of her most notable appearances in productions prior to college include Natalie/Ed in *All Shook Up*, Betty Haynes in *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, Val in *A Chorus Line*, and Cinderella in *Disenchanted!* This past summer, she was also honored to make her Carnegie Hall debut with MidAmerica Productions, as a part of the chorus singing Vivaldi's Gloria. She'd like to thank her parents and the Lyric Theatre faculty for their endless support.



ELIJAH YANG
(Ensemble, Production Tenor/RF Simpson Cover)

Elijah is a Lyric Theatre junior from Aurora, Illinois. He has studied with Dr. Scott MacLeod and is currently under the direction of Dr. Lara Brooks. His most recent LTI appearances were in Anastasia (Ensemble), Carnaval (Featured Dancer), Caleb Wayman's While Were Together (Death/Swing), and Under the Stars as a featured soloist. He was also involved in Illini Student Musicals' production of Mean Girls (Jason W.) Elijah is so excited for what's in store for him and his future. He would like to thank his family, friends, colleagues and professors for the great amount of love and support.

PROFILES: DIRECTOR



JEREMY BENTON
(Stage Director/Choreographer)

Benton is truly honored to be working with the incredibly talented cast and creative team of *SINGIN' IN THE RAIN!* Upcoming projects include the London premiere of *Cagney: The Musical*(Choreographer/Associate Director), *Heaven Can Wait* (Tokyo Premiere/Choreographer/Assoc. Director), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Director), and *Bullets Over Broadway* (Choreographer/Associate Director).

Recent credits include *White Christmas* (Choreographer/Associate Director), *No, No, Nanette* (Director/Choreographer; Carbonell Award Nominee), *My Way* (Director/Choreographer), and *My Fair Lady* (Choreographer). Other credits include *Cagney: The Musical* (Associate Director/Choreographer, Off-Broadway; Astaire Award Nominee), *Backwards in High Heels: The Ginger Rogers Musical* (Director/Choreographer, New York Premiere), and *42nd Street*(Director/Choreographer, Lyceum Theatre).

Jeremy has also choreographed *Animal Crackers* (Denver Center), *The It Girl* (Meadow Brook Theatre), *Storyville*, starring Deborah Cox (Tap Choreographer, Off-Broadway), and *Stormy Weather: The Lena Horne Story*, starring Leslie Uggams (Co-Choreographer with Randy Skinner). Additional credits include *Reel to Real: The Movies Musical* (Associate Director/Tap Choreographer, Broadway Asia) and *Shine On: Good Housekeeping 125th Anniversary Event*, featuring Meryl Streep, Aretha Franklin, and Miss Piggy (Co-Director/Choreographer, New York City Center).
Jeremy is on the faculty of Steps on Broadway and The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, and has privately coached numerous stars in the industry, including Bill Irwin, Carol Kane, and Bette Midler.
Huge thanks to Chelsea and Sarah!
Instagram: @jeremywbenton

PROFILES: COLLABORATORS

MAXWELL ALLEN
(Stage Manager)

Max is a stage and production management MFA candidate at the University of Illinois. U of I credits include: *Make Me A Song* (Lyric Theatre @ Illinois), echoes of the unbroken: the revolution will dance (Dance at Illinois), *The City and the City* and *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Illinois Theatre). Regional credits include *She Loves Me* (Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre), *Merchant of Venice* (Montana Shakespeare in the Parks), *The Lightning Thief* and *Matilda Jr.* (Gulfshore Playhouse), *Next to Normal* (The Tampa Repertory Theatre), *Christmas Contigo, The Smell of the Kill* and T*he Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical* (Stageworks Theatre), and two seasons at *Unto These Hills* (Mountainside Theatre). He has also stage managed at Busch Gardens Tampa and is a resident stage manager at Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel. Outside of the theatre Max enjoys hiking, kayaking and most anything else outdoors. Currently he is on a mission to visit every Major League Baseball stadium (15/30) and every U.S. national park (7/63). Max is a graduate of the University of South Florida where he earned degrees in Business Management and Theatre Arts.

GRACE AUMILLER
(Sound Designer)

Aumiller is a third year MFA candidate in Sound Design and Technology. Originally from Southwest Missouri she received her BFA is Design, Technology, and Stage Management from Missouri State University. Her previous Illinois sound design credits include *The City and The City* (Illinois Theatre) , Third Rail Projects' *There's a Ghost in Everything* (Illinois Theatre), and *StudioDance 2025* (Dance @ Illinois). Her Illinois sound engineering credits include *The Play that Goes Wrong* (Illinois Theatre) and *Everybody* (Illinois Theatre). Grace's experience outside of the university includes Sound and Video Supervisor at Bay Street Theater and Sound Supervisor of Williamstown Theatre Festival.

ETHAN BORROK
(Media Designer)

Borrok is a first-year MFA candidate in media design originally from Long Island, New York. He received his BFA from University at Buffalo, where he focused on digital media design and Lighting Design. Ethan's previous design credits include *The Pajama Game* (Drama Theatre @ UB Center For The Arts), *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* (Black Box @ UB Center For The Arts), Multiple Zodique Dance Concerts (Drama Theatre @ UB Center For The Arts) to name a few. He would like to thank all of his friends and family who have supported her on this journey.

RESA FULLER
(Lighting Designer)

Fuller is a third year MFA candidate in Lighting Design and Technology. She received her BMus in Vocal Performance from Eastern Illinois University with a minor in Theater before relocating to Madison, WI, and working with various theater companies in many different positions. Previous design credits include *Trevor: The Musical* (Music Theatre of Madison), *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Illinois Theatre), *StudioDance* (Dance at Illinois), *The Bridges of Madison County* (Music Theatre of Madison), *Dance Nation* (Station Theatre), and three years as the lighting designer for StageQ Inc.'s CapitalQ Theatre Festival. Other credits within Krannert Center include *Oklahoma!* (assistant lighting designer, Lyric

Theatre @ Illinois), *Plumas Negras* (Head Electrician, Illinois Theatre). Much love to Alex and Moonbeam for their support. resalainefuller.com/@resafuller.lighting

AUDREY MAUE
(Properties Manager)

Maue is a third-year graduate student in the M.F.A. Properties Design and Management program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Prior to starting graduate school, she received her B.S. in Entertainment Technology & Design at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Other Illinois credits include *Radium Girls* (Props Manager, Illinois Theatre), *A View from the Bridge* (Props Manager, Illinois Theatre), and *Plumas Negras* (Props Manager, Illinois Theatre). She has also worked as Props Supervisor for the 2026 season of Dorset Theatre Festival, Props Artisan for the 2023 and 2024 seasons of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, and Assistant Prop Shop Supervisor for *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* at Peninsula Players Theatre. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support. www.audreymaue.com

MENA PERKINS
(Scenic Designer)

Perkins is a Scenic Design MFA student in his final year at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is originally from southern Louisiana, where he worked as a charge artist and scenic designer for The Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans, Jefferson Performing Arts Society, the Baton Rouge Recreation and Environment Commission, and Southeastern Louisiana University. Last fall he designed *"A View from the Bridge"* at the Krannert Center's Studio Theatre, and this summer he designed *"How I Became a Pirate"* for Hope Repertory Summer Theatre, where he also worked as the season's charge artist.

CHELSEA WAHRENDORF
(Associate Choreographer)

Chelsea Wahrendorf is a dancer, choreographer, and educator. She received her BFA in dance from the College at Brockport and has been teaching dancers for the past fifteen years. During this time, she has also performed with several companies including Mayhem Dance, Kista Tucker Dance, and Delucia-Benson Dance; and performed with the Vision of Sound Tour, the Rochester Fringe Festival, and at Green Space and Center of Performing Research in NYC. She has had the privilege of studying under the tutelage of Bill Evans while working towards her Evans Technique certification, and working with artists such as Monica Bill Barnes and the Jose Limon Company. Currently an MFA candidate at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, Chelsea's research focuses primarily on kinesthetic empathy by examining body memory, contact improvisation, identity, false memories, and somatic inquiry.

AMELIA WALZ
(Costume Designer)

Amelia Walz is currently in her third year pursuing a MFA in Costume Design at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She holds a BA in both Theatre and Art History from Knox College. Last year at Illinois Theatre she was the costume designer for *The City and the City* and T*he Play that Goes Wrong.* Other previous design credits from Knox College include *The Thanksgiving Play, We Are Pussy Riot or Everything is PR, Antigonick,* and *Silent Sky*. Last summer she was First Hand for American Player Theatre's production of *The Matchmaker.* She would like to thank her family, friends and mentors for their endless support and encouragement.

SARAH WIGLEY
(Associate Director)

Wigley is Clinical Professor of Voice and Area Chair of Lyric Theatre at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she teaches Lyric Theatre Studio, BMA Senior Showcase, and applied voice. A versatile educator, voice specialist, and stage director, Wigley works at the intersection of vocal technique, theatrical storytelling, and contemporary performance practice.

Her stage directing encompasses both opera and musical theatre, with credits including *Oklahoma!, 35MM: A Musical Exhibition, Fugitive Songs, City of Angels, Fun Home, The Marvelous Wonderettes, Ordinary Days, Lyric Under the Stars, Crazy for You, She Loves Me, Kiss Me, Kate, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, A Psalm of Silence,* and *The Adventures of Little Sharp Ears,* and *La bohème* and *Don Giovanni* in collaboration with Nathan Gunn.

An internationally certified Estill Voice Training® Master Trainer, Wigley specializes in contemporary voice, flexible vocal technique, and crossover training. She is a frequent clinician and presenter, offering workshops for studio voice teachers, choral educators, performers, and voice professionals that bridge voice science, technical flexibility, and artistic expression. She has presented for the International Congress of Voice Teachers, Estill World Voice Symposium, Voice and Speech Trainers Association, National Association of Teachers of Singing, Illinois Music Education Association, Iowa Choral Directors Association, and Minnesota Music Education Association.

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THEATRE AND LYRIC THEATER PRACTICUM CREW ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Resident producer performances such as this provide hands-on, experiential learning opportunities for a wide range of support positions that allow UI students to practice new skills and learn about various areas of technical theater production. Students serve as deck, wardrobe, lighting, audio, and media crews for Theatre and Lyric Theater productions and work in production shops to build scenery, make props and costumes, and support the lighting and sound departments. This semester's THEA 100/200 practicum crew includes:

Hazel Alvarado-Dennison, Ruby Amthor, Hannah Baer-Shapiro, Luca Baron, Tommy Blough, Maria Boza Trillo, Quanin Brooks, Robert Brown, Wesley Bryant, Wendy Buchanan, Yeva Carson, Junjie Chen, Jordyn Claiborne, Amber Clark, Nina de Guzman, Olivia Delgado, Benjamin Diaz, Nickyla Dyson, Terry Eastvold, Abby Espinoza, Chay Fisher, Matt Flaherty, Iris Friedman, Grace Gabrenya, Sophia Gallardo, Nickolaus Glisson, Keira Goodin, Paige Greve, Sonya Guerrero, Justin Gurvitz, Jonah Guzman, Anaiya Hale, Camraneke Harden, Xavion Haynes, Nolan Housholder, Rita Hynes, Nisha Iyer (She/Her), Deondra Jackson, Sarah Jacobson, Robert Johnson, Anayah Jones, Mia Kaltenecker, Greg Kasper, Mitchell Kelly, Naomi Kidane, Seojin Kim, Jaden Kirsner, Ellie Kochendorfer, Ash Komorowski, Amanda Lagerlof-Perez, Tess Larmon, Asiah Lee, Elise Legel, Ian Maguire, Cade McHugh, Anna McLaughlin, Aria Miller, Gabby Mongwa, Collin Narens, Noir Navarrete-Aguilar, Eugenia Nikolayeva, Liliana Obert, Jonathan Ocampo, Matthew Peerless, Matthew Peters, Abby Pita, Lex Reed, Annie Renghini, Gabe Roberts, Kaiyah Rodkey, Raziel Rogers, Alliya Sahrawat, Maddie Schaeffer, Matthew Schenher, Jack Selle, Syriah Shannon, Mason Smith, Mikalah Smith, Lilyana Spyrnal, Josie Stierwalt, Ana Treanor, Aimee Trehan, AJ Turnell, Alycion Turner, Tylan Vance, Evelyn Voyles, Shiyuan Wang, Alyssa Williams, Fifi Xiao, Simeng Yu, Roy Zhang

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As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois has a particular responsibility to acknowledge the peoples of these lands, as well as the histories of dispossession that have allowed for the growth of this institution. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role that this university has played in shaping them. This acknowledgement and the centering of Native peoples is a start as we move forward.

Krannert Center affirms the commitment by the university to move beyond these statements, toward building deeper relationships and taking actions that uphold and preserve Indigenous rights and cultural equity.

As we gather to experience this performance, we have an opportunity to reflect on the ways that systems of oppression have shaped our society. We can work together to create systems that support human dignity, establish equity, strengthen cross-cultural relationships, and draw upon the creative capacity of all people that make up this community, state, nation, and world.

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Please consider gifts to the Illinois Lyric Theatre and Opera Support Fund, the Music at Illinois Fund, the Krannert Center Lyric Theatre Student Excellence Fund, and Support Krannert Center Today (Unrestricted Fund) to ensure the future of the arts at Illinois.

For more information on ways to give, visit **music.illinois.edu/give-now** or **krannertcenter.com/giving/invest-now.**

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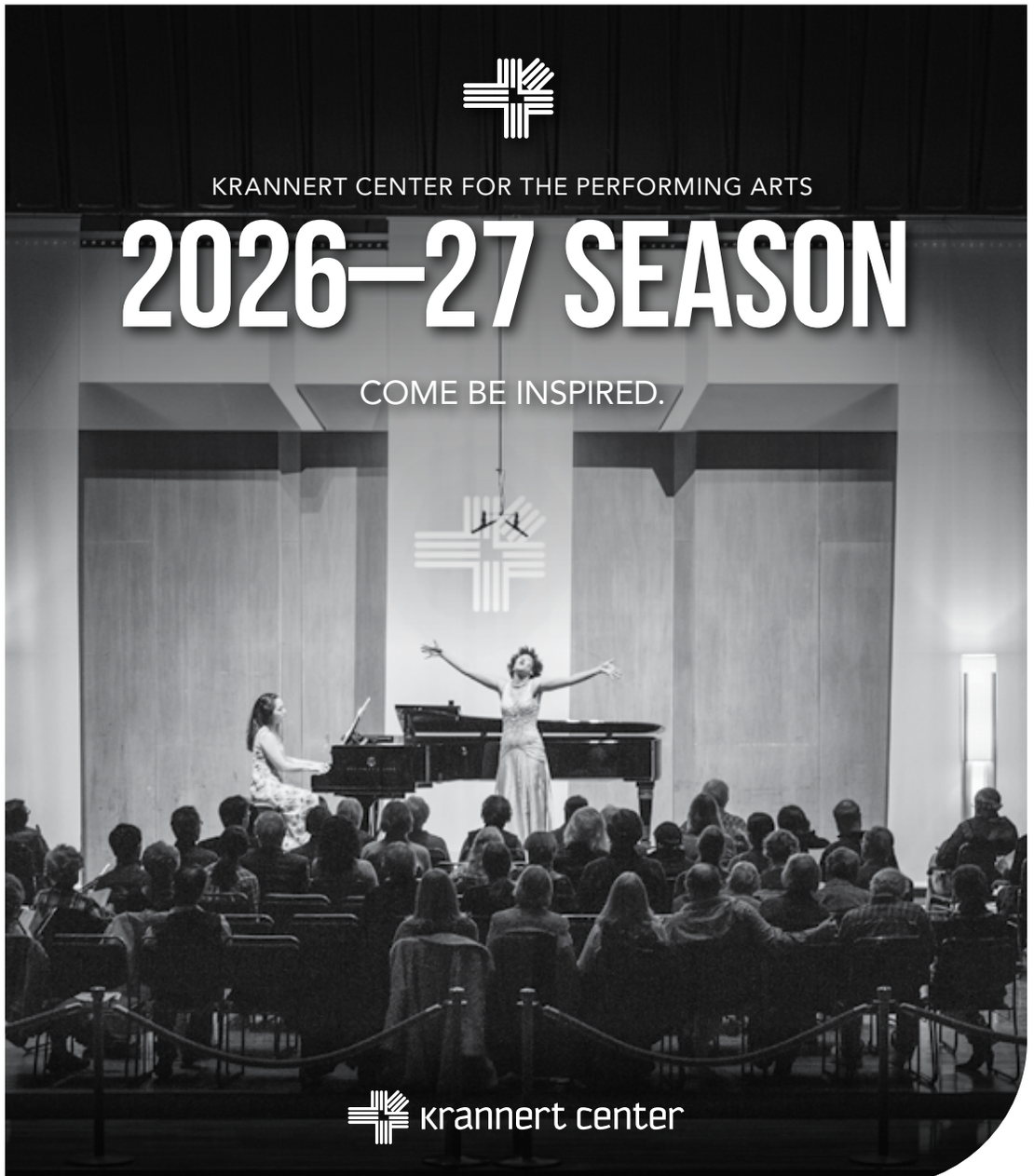
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Richard Gregg, Costume Rentals Director and Associate Costume Shop Director
Paige Stewart-Rankins, Hair and Makeup Supervisor
Julianna Steitz, First Hand
April McKinnis, EB McTigue, Cutters/Drapers
Kari Little-McKinney, Theatrical Stitcher

Lighting Department

Lisa Kidd, Lighting Director
David Krupla, Associate Lighting Director
Nicole Rataj, Assistant Lighting Director

Properties Department

Adriane Binky Donley, Properties Director
Kira Lyon, Assistant Properties Director

Scene Shop

Ryan Schultz, Technical Director
Tatsuya Ito, Associate Technical Director
Bill Kephart, Office Administrator
Bobby Reynolds, Assistant Technical Director
Rebecca Russell, Assistant Technical Director for Events
Anna Atkinson, Theatrical Scene Shop Assistant
Kayley Woolums, Theatrical Scene Shop Assistant
Joe Reichlin, Stagehand

Ticketing and Patron Services

Whitney Havice, Ticketing and Patron Services Director
Ann-Marie Dittmann, Patron Services Assistant Director
Ty Mingo, Assistant Ticket Services Director
Jon Proctor, Ticket Sales Supervisor
Noah Larson, Ticket Sales Supervisor
Adrian Rochelle, Front of House Performance Supervisor

PERFORMING ARTS BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER

Jenell Hardy, Director of Business Services
Macauley Allen, Business Services Specialist
Debbie Delaney, Accounting Staff

Productions at Krannert Center are supported by the skilled stagehands of IATSE Local 482.

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE AT THE CENTER

We work to create the best possible setting for the experiences you seek and find here.

Necessaries

Restrooms are located in the foyers of Foellinger Great Hall, Tryon Festival Theatre, and Colwell Playhouse; the east entrances on the Lobby level; and in each elevator lobby on Level 1 and Level 3. Lobby restrooms and one restroom in each elevator lobby are fully accessible and contain baby-changing stations.

Ushers will be happy to provide you cough drops courtesy of St. Joseph Apothecary, or disposable foam earplugs if the place starts rockin'.

If you or a companion needs medical assistance, contact an usher or other staff member.

Please take a moment before the performance to note the theatre exits nearest to you. If it becomes necessary to evacuate the theatre, please remain calm, follow the instructions of the house staff, and exit in an orderly fashion to the appropriate safe meeting location which will be announced to you.

Phones and Devices

The use of cell phones, cameras, and recording devices during performances is prohibited unless otherwise announced from the stage.

Late Arrivals

As a courtesy to performers and audience members, latecomers will be seated only at times selected in advance by the artist. Should you find that you've arrived late to a performance, our Patron Services staff will keep you informed about the earliest seating opportunity.

Lost Items

If you are in need of Lost and Found, please visit the Patron Services counter. We will do our best to reunite object and owner!

Ticket Returns

If you find you can't attend a performance, please contact the Ticket Office in advance, preferably by 6pm the day before the performance (kran-tix@illinois.edu or 217.333.6280). We never charge a handling fee on ticket transactions.

Accessibility

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts is committed to making experiences accessible for all patrons, and we are delighted to provide a number of services to assist you. Krannert Center is equipped with an assisted listening system, wheelchair-accessible and no-step/few-step seating, and large-print programs, Braille programs, and American Sign Language interpreters are available with three weeks' advance notice.

For assistance regarding your visit please contact patronservices@krannertcenter.illinois.edu or 217.333.9716 or visit go.KrannertCenter.com/Accessibility.

Para ayuda en relación con su visita, favor de enviar un email a:

Pour vous aider dans votre visite, prière de nous envoyer un courriel à:

欢迎！如若您对您的造访需要帮助，请发送电子邮件至：

स्वागत है! अगर आपको अपने रहने के लिए मदद चाहिए, ईमेल कीजिए:

환영합니다! 방문에 관해 도움이 필요하실 때에는... 에게 이메일로 문의하시기 바랍니다:

PATRONSERVICES@KRANNERTCENTER.ILLINOIS.EDU
217.333.9716




TUES FEB 9 AT 6:00PM
CARNAVAL!
krannert center