



WEITZENHOFFER FAMILY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
UNIVERSITY THEATRE
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

2023-2024 UNIVERSITY THEATRE SEASON



CRAZY FOR YOU

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UNIVERSITY THEATRE

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WEITZENHOFFER FAMILY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
UNIVERSITY THEATRE
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

and
SCHOOL OF MUSICAL THEATRE
present

CRAZY FOR YOU

Music & Lyrics by

GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN

Book by

KEN LUDWIG

Co-conception by

KEN LUDWIG & MIKE OCKRENT

Inspired by material by

GUY BOLTON & JOHN MCGOWAN

Originally produced on Broadway by

ROGER HORCHOW & ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

Original Broadway Choreography by

SUSAN STROMAN

Direction and Choreography by
LYN CRAMER

Musical Direction by
PAUL CHRISTMAN

Violence Design by
DR. KATE BUSSELLE

Intimacy Design by
KAREN BOYD BETHEL

Scenic Design by
JON YOUNG

Costume Design by
ROBERT FLETCHER
VINCENT SCASSELLATI

Lighting Design by
RENEE BRODE

Sound Design by
KAIT STAPP

Projection Design by
RICHARD L. SPRECKER

Associate Lighting Design by
KELLEN SAPP

Stage Manager
RIS CARROLL

Associate Stage Manager
ERICKA DODSON

8 P.M. APRIL 5, 6, 12, 13, 2024

3 P.M. APRIL 7, 14, 2024

ELSIE C. BRACKETT THEATRE, 563 ELM AVE., NORMAN, OK 73019

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Dear Friends!

Welcome to our spring main stage musical, *Crazy For You!* With this production, we celebrate the 100th Birthday of the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma. What a great way to kick-off such an important achievement. Professor Lyn Cramer deftly leads this incredible production as Director and beautifully implements Broadway legend (and recipient of the 2022 OU Honorary Doctorate) Susan Stroman's original Tony-winning choreography.

In 1992, the original production, written by Ken Ludwig, triumphed on Broadway. After a decade of "Mega-Musicals" transferring from London to New York with their barricades, helicopters, and chandeliers, Frank Rich of the NY Times shared this in his review: "When future historians try to find the exact moment at which Broadway finally rose up to grab the musical back from the British, they just may conclude that the revolution began last night. The shot was fired at the Shubert Theater, where a riotously entertaining show called *Crazy for You* uncorked the American musical's classic blend of music, laughter, dancing, sentiment and showmanship with a freshness and confidence rarely seen during the *Cats* decade."

The musical offers our OU Musical Theatre students a chance to do it all - Acting, Singing and Dancing (especially tap-dancing!) in a huge musical comedy. Add a score of Gershwin favorites, with exquisite musical direction by Professor Paul Christman, and a wonderful collaboration with our friends in the design and production areas of the Helmerich School of Drama – and you have the recipe for a huge hit (and a TASTY 100th BIRTHDAY CAKE!)



We're thrilled to present *Crazy For You* with OU University Theatre. Thank you so much for supporting live theatre. Enjoy!

Ashton Byrum
Director, Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre
University of Oklahoma

Dear Friends and Patrons,

We are delighted you have joined us for our A. Max Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre and University Theatre production of *Crazy for You*, the second in our series of Centennial Events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts!

Crazy for You is a quintessential musical requiring a cast of true triple threats, an immensely talented duo as director/choreographer (Lyn Cramer!) and music director (Paul Christman!), and a creative team in the areas of design, production, and stage management whose versatility and talent defy description. Prepare to be blown away by the sheer joy of the Gershwin score; the fun, affection and humor of the plot and the pure exhilaration of the collaborative success of the entire production. You may well find that you are tapping your toes throughout the performance and humming a favorite tune as you exit the theatre. In the meantime, hang on to your hat as you enjoy the wild ride of bar fights, cowboys, showgirls, and tap dancing on tables that are all part of *Crazy for You!*

As we celebrate our Centennial, we're very aware that audiences have been enjoying the arts at OU for ten decades! Visual Arts, Drama (sometimes referred to as Oratory and Rhetoric), and Music were the first disciplines included in the fledgling College of Fine Arts in 1924, and they were followed by Dance and Musical Theatre in the ensuing decades. Our college is the only college of fine arts in the country with five distinct schools under its wing and your devoted support and attendance have made that possible. If you would like to offer special support as part of our Centennial Celebration through our Centennial Scholarship Fund, please contact our Executive Director of Development, David Barocio: dbarocio@ou.edu



We could not be happier that you and joined us to celebrate our Centennial and to enjoy the full-fledged pleasure of *Crazy for You*. Thanks for being part of our University Theatre family!

With all best wishes,

Professor Mary Margaret Holt
Dean, Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts
University of Oklahoma

Land Acknowledgement

Long before the University of Oklahoma was established, the land on which the University now resides was the traditional home of the "Hasinai's" Caddo Nation and "Kirikiriꞑ:s" Wichita & Affiliated Tribes.

We acknowledge this territory once also served as a hunting ground, trade exchange point, and migration route for the Apache, Comanche, Kiowa, and Osage nations.

Today, 39 tribal nations dwell in the state of Oklahoma as a result of settler and colonial policies that were designed to assimilate Native people.

The University of Oklahoma recognizes the historical connection our university has with its indigenous community. We acknowledge, honor, and respect the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land. We fully recognize, support, and advocate for the sovereign rights of all of Oklahoma's 39 tribal nations. This acknowledgement is aligned with our university's core value of creating a diverse and inclusive community. It is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the people, culture, and history that make up our entire OU Community.



SPECIAL THANKS

Riverview Ranch for allowing us to use their location for our "Crazy for You" photoshoot.

OU Food Services and
West Side Wal-Mart Bakery, Norman
for baked goods.

CRAZY FOR YOU

CAST

BOBBY CHILD	Jesse Hanks
POLLY BAKER	Sydni Moon
BELA ZANGLER	David Prengler
IRENE ROTH	Sofia Macaluso
LANK HAWKINS	Merrick Theobald Jr.
EUGENE FODOR	Christian Tinajero
PATRICIA FODOR	Lydia Kelly Campbell
EVERETT BAKER	Vince Leseney
MRS. LOTTIE CHILD	Elin Bhaird

FOLLIES GIRLS

TESS	Abby Hesselroth
PATSY	Ginger Hurley
MITZI	Rosie Granito
ELAINE	Julia Ferreira
LOUISE	Ellen Pierce
SUSIE	Charlotte Krieger
MARGIE	Anastasia White
SHEILA	Hallie Hunt
VERA	Helena Laing
BETTY	Mary Grace Humphries
SWINGS	Isabel Kaegi, Liz Lamora, Myranda Sanchez

UNDERSTUDIES

Nathaniel Mahone (BOBBY CHILD); Ellen Pierce (POLLY BAKER);
Jayson Gorton (LANK HAWKIN); Julia Ferreira (TESS);
Charlotte Krieger (PATSY)

STANDBYS

IRENE, MRS. LOTTIE CHILD,
PATRICIA FODOR Halle Lipton
EVERETT BAKER, EUGENE FODOR Bryce Williams

CRAZY FOR YOU

COWBOYS

MOOSE,TRIO	Myles Sturns-Thomas
MINGO, TRIO	Manny Tijerina
SAM, TRIO	Trace Burchart
HARRY, THE BARTENDER	Brayden Worden
BILLY	Ari Barmor
WYATT	Jackson Dunlap
JUNIOR	Hunter Yocom
PETE	Duncan Smith
CUSTUS	Gage Martinez
JIMMY	Cameron Majewski
BOONE	Nathaniel Mahone
CLYDE	Jayson Gorton
FOLLIES TENOR	Gage Martinez
COWBOY TRIO SWINGS	Brayden Worden, Ari Barmor, Bryce Williams
NAUGHTY BABY QUARTET	Ari Barmor, Duncan Smith, Hunter Yocom, Jackson Dunlap
DANCE CAPTAIN, COWBOYS	Hunter Yocom
DANCE CAPTAIN, FOLLIES	Ginger Hurley
FIGHT CAPTAIN	Jayson Gorton
INTIMACY CAPTAIN	Rosie Granito
FRENCH DICTION COACH	Julia Ferreira

CRAZY FOR YOU

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

- Scene 1: Backstage at the Zangler Theatre, New York City, in the 1930s
"K-ra-zy For You"..... Bobby
- Scene 2: 42nd Street, outside the theatre
"I Can't Be Bothered Now"..... Bobby & Girls
- Scene 3: Main Street, Deadrock, Nevada
"Bidin' My Time"..... Cowboy Trio & Men
"Things Are Looking Up"..... Bobby
- Scene 4: Lank's Saloon
"Could You Use Me?"..... Bobby & Polly
- Scene 5: In the Desert
"Shall We Dance?"..... Bobby & Polly
- Scene 6: The Gaiety Theatre
- Scene 7: Main Street, Deadrock, three days later
"Someone to Watch Over Me"..... Polly
- Scene 8: The Lobby of the Gaiety Theatre, two weeks later
- Scene 9: The Stage of the Gaiety Theatre
"Slap That Bass"..... Bobby & Company
"Embraceable You" Polly & Bobby
- Scene 10: The Gaiety Theatre Dressing Rooms, opening night
"Tonight's The Night"..... Chorus
- Scene 11: Main Street, Deadrock
"I Got Rhythm"..... Polly & Company

15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

- Scene 1: Lank's Saloon, later that evening
"The Real American Folk Song"..... Cowboy Trio & Chorus
"What Causes That?"..... Bobby & Zangler
- Scene 2: Lank's Saloon, the next morning
"Naughty Baby"..... Irene, Lank, Harry, Junior, Wyatt, & Mingo
- Scene 3: The Gaiety Theatre, backstage
- Scene 4: The Auditorium of the Gaiety Theatre
"Stiff Upper Lip"..... Eugene, Patricia, Bobby, Polly & Company
"They Can't Take That Away From Me"..... Bobby
"But Not For Me"..... Polly
- Scene 5: New York, six weeks later
"Nice Work If You Can Get It"..... Bobby & Girls
- Scene 6: Main Street, Deadrock, six days later
Finale Full Company

ORCHESTRA

- VIOLINS Juan Moreno, Devin Sunday, Leonard Chow
CELLO Joshua Cuozzo
BASS Taylor Dawkins (*Nick Bedway*)
WOODWINDS Martin King, Riley Payton, Raymond Herrera,
Davon Carrington
HORN Skye Curtis
TRUMPETS Kirk Palmer, Cameron Cox
TROMBONE Sammy Waganer (*Hope Bellows*)
KEYBOARD Michael Stafford
DRUMS Brian Dailey
PERCUSSION Austin Petty
GUITAR/BANJO Justin Dupuis
CONDUCTOR Paul Christman

MEET THE CAST OF CRAZY FOR YOU



ARI BARMOR



ERIN BAIRD



TRACE BURCHART



LYDIA KELLY
CAMPBELL



JACKSON DUNLAP



JULIA FERREIRA



JAYSON GORTON



ROSIE GRANITO



JESSE HANKS



ABBY HESSELROTH



MARY GRACE
HUMPHRIES



GINGER HURLEY



ISABEL KAEGI



CHARLOTTE KRIEGER



HELENA LAING



LIZ LAMORA



VINCE LESENEY



HALLE RYAN LIPTON

MEET THE CAST OF CRAZY FOR YOU



SOFIA MACALUSO



NATHANIEL MAHONE



CAMERON MAJEWSKI



GAGE MARTINEZ



SYDNI MOON



ELLEN PIERCE



DAVID PRENGLER



MYRANDA SÁNCHEZ



DUNCAN SMITH



MYLES
STURNS-THOMAS



MERRICK THEOBALD
JR.



MANNY TIJERINA



CHRISTIAN TINAJERO



ANASTASIA WHITE



BRYCE WILLIAMS



BRAYDEN WORDEN



HUNTER YOCOM



A special thank you to our current Dean's Circle members!

- Membership as of March, 2024 -

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Sandra Carpenter, Phillip and Nancy Estes, Fred and Lynda Gipson
Charles Oppenheim, Simmons Family, A. Max Weitzenhoffer

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100% of the funds raised through the OU Dean's Circle membership
go toward providing students in the College of Fine Arts
opportunities off-campus that promote artistic and intellectual development.

Questions? Contact David Barocio, Executive Director of Development,
OU Foundation, at dbarocio@ou.edu or call (405) 325-7376.

BE A PART OF THE CIRCLE

Visit ou.edu/finearts/support to join today!

CRAZY FOR YOU

NOTES ON NUMEROUS THINGS GERSHWIN

George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* premiered February 12, 1924. That year also marked the first Broadway score with music and lyrics entirely by George and Ira Gershwin. By the time their musical *Girl Crazy* debuted in 1930, the brothers were the theatre's top songwriting team. Yet because it is a "revisa" created in the 1990s, *Crazy For You* is a show the Gershwins never imagined.

Artistically, the brother's individual talents were a perfect counterpoint. George synthesized harmonies and rhythms of Manhattan's melting pot while Ira encapsulated how its townsfolk spoke. An ordinary phrase like it's wonderful became the extraordinary lyric 's wonderful. In 1932, they shared Pulitzer Prize for Drama with librettist Morrie Ryskind for the satirical work *Of Thee I Sing*, the first musical so recognized.

Though George died in 1937, Ira lived until 1983, the year *My One and Only*, the first Gershwin revival, opened on Broadway. His book, *Lyrics On Several Occasions* was published in 1959 followed by the Verve Records release of Ella Fitzgerald *Sings the George and Ira Gershwin Song Book*. In the late 1970s, a 20-year-old Michael Feinstein began working as Ira's assistant. Since then, Mr. Feinstein has built a career performing and preserving American popular song including four albums of music and lyrics by the Gershwins.

While *Crazy For You* is based on *Girl Crazy*, the book was rewritten by playwright Ken Ludwig, the orchestrations were rearranged in the style of a MGM movie musical, and the creative vision was crafted by director Mike Ockrent and choreographer Susan Stroman. Lesser-known songs were replaced by more familiar ones from the 1936 Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers film *Shall We Dance* and the 1937 picture *Damsel in Distress*. Astaire had performed in the Gershwin shows *Funny Face* and *Lady, Be Good!* while Rogers was the lead in *Girl Crazy*. Her co-star was Ethel Merman, who achieved overnight acclaim with her delivery of "*I Got Rhythm*."

Besides being a five-time Tony award winner, Susan Stroman received an honorary doctorate from OU in May of 2022. In 2023, she directed and choreographed the West End revival of *Crazy For You*. Thanks to her and Lyn Cramer's work, the songs of George and Ira Gershwin are once again onstage inspiring a new generation. "*Who Could Ask For Anything More*" than that.

Paul Christman,
Irene and Julian J. Rothbaum Presidential
Professor of Excellence in the Arts

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

ARI BARMOR (Billy) is a musical theatre performance junior from Wichita, KS. Credits: University Theatre: Phil/Burrs Understudy, *The Wild Party*, Ensemble, *Pippin*; OUMT Downtown Series, Leon, *Assassins*; Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts: Jetsam, *The Little Mermaid*, Ensemble, *Escape to Margaritaville*, Ensemble, *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

ERIN BHAIRD (Mrs. Lottie Child) is a guest artist from Oklahoma City, OK. Credits: Pollard Theatre: Joanne, *Company*; Princess Puffer, *Drood*; Dolly Levi, *Hello Dolly!* Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Mrs. Dilber/Mrs. Fezziwig, *A Christmas Carol*; Electra, *Gypsy*; Desiree, *A Little Night Music*. Carpenter Square Theatre: Latrelle, *Sordid Lives*. Reduxion Theatre: Fräulein Schneider, *Cabaret*.

TRACE BURCHART (Sam) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Jenks, OK. Credits: OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: The Balladeer/Oswald, *Assassins*. The Barn Theatre: The Tin Man, *The Wizard of Oz*, Sailor Quartet, *Anything Goes*. Craft Productions: Robertson Ay, *Mary Poppins*.

LYDIA KELLY CAMPBELL (Patricia Fodor) is a musical theatre performance senior from Peachtree City, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Berthe, *Pippin*; Ensemble, *She Loves Me*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Jesus, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Sara Jane Moore, *Assassins*. Dedar Summerstock: Lady of the Lake, *Spamalot*; Oklahoma Shakespeare Company: Female Swing, Jane Austen's *Emma*.

JACKSON DUNLAP (Wyatt/Bela Zangler Understudy) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Roswell, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Preppy Stud/Kurt/Ram Understudies, *Heathers*; Jackie Understudy, *The Wild Party*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Nick, *The Prom*; Rolf Understudy, *The Sound of Music*.

JULIA FERREIRA (Elaine/Tess Understudies; French Diction Coach) is a musical theatre performance and communications junior from Birmingham, AL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble/Dance Captain, *The Wild Party*; Swing, *Pippin*; Ensemble/Natasha Understudy, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Porthouse Theater: Ensemble/Maria Understudy, *West Side Story*.

JAYSON GORTON (Clyde/Lank Understudy; Fight Captain) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Norman, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Kegs/Oscar and Phill Understudy, *The Wild Party*; OUMT Downtown Series: John Hinckley, Jr., *Assassins*; Lyric Theatre: Dance Captain, *Grease*; Rolf, *The Sound of Music*.

ROSIE GRANITO (Mitzi; Intimacy Captain) is a musical theatre performance senior from Denver, CO. Credits: OU University Theatre: Heather Chandler, *Heathers*; Delores/Kate Understudy, *The Wild Party*; Ensemble/Marya Understudy, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Dance Captain/Ensemble/Fastrada Understudy, *Pippin*; Dancing Waitress/Ensemble, *She Loves Me*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Dance Captain, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Lyric Theatre Oklahoma: Dance Captain/Ensemble. *The Prom*.

JESSE HANKS (Bobby Child) is a musical theatre performance senior from Buford, GA. OU University Theatre: Georg, *Spring Awakening*; Denisov/Opera Singer, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: King Herod, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Proprietor, *Assassins*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Ensemble, *The Prom*; Ensemble, *The Sound of Music*. OKC Philharmonic: Chorale/Featured Dancer, *The Christmas Show*.

ABBY HESSELROTH (Tess) is a musical theatre performance junior from Norman, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Stoner Chick, *Heathers*. Ensemble, Queenie Understudy, *The Wild Party*; Dance Captain/Swing, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Ensemble, *Pippin*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Ensemble, *Carousel*; Ensemble/Mrs. Wormwood Understudy, *Matilda*.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

MARY GRACE HUMPHRIES (Betty) is a musical theatre performance junior from Shreveport, LA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Martha, *Heathers*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Parable/Mary Magdalene, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Stage Center LA: Miss Honey, *Matilda*; Amélie, *Amélie*; Nicola, *Kinky Boots*.

HALLIE HUNT (Sheila) is a public relations sophomore from Edmond, OK. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Ensemble, *Matilda*. This is her OU University Theatre debut.

GINGER HURLEY (Patsy/Dance Captain) is a musical theatre performance senior from Santa Cruz, CA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Mrs. Fleming, *Heathers*; Queenie, *Wild Party*; Hélène, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*. Lexington Theatre Company: Go-to-Hell Kitty, *Chicago*; Adella, *The Little Mermaid*. OKC Philharmonic: Mistletoe, *The Christmas Show*.

ISABEL KAEGI (Swing) is a musical theatre performance and public relations senior from Chicago, IL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Veronica Sawyer, *Heathers*. Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Lisa, *A New Brain*; Annas, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Regional Credits: Goodman Theatre: *A Christmas Carol*. Writers Theatre: *Trevor: the Musical*. Ravinia Festival: *Winnie the Pooh*. TV: *Proven Innocent* (FOX).

CHARLOTTE KRIEGER (Susie/Patsy Understudy) is a musical theatre performance junior from Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Mae, *The Wild Party*; Opera Singer/Ensemble, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Swing, Pippin. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, *Assassins*. Oklahoma Shakespeare Company: Harriet Smith, Jane Austen's *Emma*.

HELENA LAING (Vera) is a musical theatre performance junior from Austin, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Heather Duke, *Heathers*; Ensemble/Hélène Understudy, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Ensemble/Leading Player Understudy, *Pippin*. Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Ensemble/Jesus Understudy, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Joanne Jefferson, *Rent*; Michelle/Delores Van Cartier Understudy, *Sister Act*.

LIZ LAMORA (Swing) is a musical theatre performance freshman from Sacramento, CA. Credits: Sacramento Theatre Company: Ben/Lisa, *Disaster*. Music Circus: Ensemble, *Bye Bye Birdie*; Ensemble, *Suessical*. This is her OU University Theatre debut.

VINCE LESENEY (EVERETT BAKER) Is a Rothbaum Associate Professor of Musical Theatre Voice. Recent OU productions include music directing the OUMT Downtown Series production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He is a veteran of over 50 professional productions at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma and Kansas City Starlight. He has appeared as a guest artist with the Kansas City Symphony, the Cedar Rapids Symphony and the Oklahoma City Philharmonic.

HALLE RYAN LIPTON (Irene/Patricia/Mother Understudies) is a musical theatre performance junior from Short Hills, NJ. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble/Heather Duke Understudy, *Heathers*. Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Parable/Annas, Understudy *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Asbury Park Theater Company: Whatshername, *American Idiot*.

SOFIA MACALUSO (Irene Roth) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Atlanta, GA. Credits: Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Ensemble/Judas and King Herod Understudies, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Emma Goldman, *Assassins*. The Barn Theatre: Erma, *Anything Goes*. Casa Manana: Ensemble/Meredith Understudy, *Bat Boy*. This is her OU University Theatre debut.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

NATHANIEL MAHONE (Boone/Ensemble/ Bobby Child Understudy) is a musical theatre performance junior from St. Louis, MO. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble, *Heathers*; Roving Oboe, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Oscar, *The Wild Party*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Richard/The Nice Nurse, *A New Brain*. Music Theatre Wichita: Hickory/Tinman, *The Wizard of Oz*. The Munny: Ensemble, *Camelot*; Swing, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Lexington Theatre Company: Featured Dancer, *Memphis*.

CAMERON MAJEWSKI (Jimmy) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Houston, TX. Credits: OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Ensemble/*Caiaphas*; Soloist/*Live in Color*. The class of 2026 Freshman Showcase. Professional credits include: Queen's Theatre (Moritz): Ensemble, *Spring Awakening*; *The Perservation Project*. He wants to thank his entire OU family for letting him discover himself as a performer, and his parents for always supporting him and motivating him to do better. BOOMER SOONER.

GAGE MARTINEZ (Production Tenor/Custus) is a musical theatre performance junior from Van Alstyne, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Somebody, *Everybody*; Swing/Understudy Mr. Black, *The Wild Party*; OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Charle Guiteau, *Assassins*.

SYDNI MOON (Polly Baker) is a musical theatre performance senior from Houston, TX. Credits: University Theatre: Ensemble/Sonya Understudy, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*. Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Mary Magdalene, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Music Theatre Wichita: Sillabub/Dance Captain, *Cats*; Regina, *Rock of Ages*; Belle Understudy/Ensemble, *Beauty & the Beast*. The Lex: Ensemble/ Dance Captain, *Chicago*; Arista, *The Little Mermaid*.

ELLEN PIERCE (Louise, Polly Understudy) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Raleigh, NC. Credits: OU University Theatre: Swing/Ms. Fleming Understudy, *Heathers*; Swing/Mae/Nadine Understudies, *The Wild Party*. North Carolina Theatre: Minnie, *West Side Story*; Swing, *Nine to Five*.

DAVID PRENGLER (Bela Zangler) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Parkland, FL. Credits: OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: John Wilkes Booth, *Assassins*. This is his OU University Theatre debut.

MYRANDA SÁNCHEZ (Swing) is a musical theatre performance freshman from Houston, TX. This is her OU University Theatre debut.

DUNCAN SMITH (Pete) is a musical theatre performance senior from Huntsville, AL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Jackie, *The Wild Party*; Dance Captain, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Ensemble/Lewis U/S, *Pippin*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Angel, *Kinky Boots*; Carnival Boy/Ensemble, *Carousel*. Music Theatre Wichita: Alonzo/Macavity, *Cats*; Harry Houdini/Ensemble, *Ragtime*; Dance Captain/Ensemble, *Beauty and the Beast*; Ensemble, *Rock of Ages*.

MERRICK THEOBALD, JR. (Lank Hawkins) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Ball Ground, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ram's Dad/Big Bud/Coach Ripper, *Heathers*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Parable/Pilate Understudy, *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

MANNY TIJERINA (Mingo/Cowboy Trio) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Houston, TX. Credits: Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Parable Quartet, *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Guiseppe Zangara, *Assassins*. This is his OU University Theatre debut.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

CHRISTIAN DAVID TINAJERO (Eugene Fodor) is a musical theatre performance senior from Falls Church, VA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble/J. D. Understudy, *Heathers*; Dolohkov, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; Ensemble/Pippin Understudy, *Pippin*; Ernst, *Spring Awakening*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Michael Wormwood, *Matilda*; Angel, *Kinky Boots*; Ensemble, *Carousel*. Shenandoah Music Theatre: Dan/Butler, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*; Male Cover, *Jersey Boys*; Swing, *Hello! Dolly!*

MYLES STURNS-THOMAS (Moose) is a musical theatre performance freshman from Dallas, TX. This is his OU University Theatre debut.

ANASTASIA WHITE (Margie) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Charlotte, NC. Credits: OU University Theatre: Young Republicanette/Veronica Understudy, *Heathers*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Simon Zealotes, *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

BRYCE WILLIAMS (Everett Understudy, Eugene & Moose Cover) is a musical theatre performance freshman from Kansas City, MO. This is his University Theatre debut.

BRAYDEN WORDEN (Harry, the Bartender) is a musical theatre performance senior from Maize, KS. Credits: OU University Theatre: Burrs, *The Wild Party*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Gordon, *A New Brain*; Byck, *Assassins*. OU Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre The Artists Gallery: Music Director/Performer, *The Music of Adam Guettel*.

HUNTER YOCOM (Male Dance Captain/Junior) is a musical theatre performance senior from Lincoln, CA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Kurt Kelly, *Heathers*; Sam/Eddie Understudy, *The Wild Party*; Ensemble, *Pippin*. Axelrod Performing Arts Center: Dance Captain, *The Prom*. Utah Festival Opera & Musical Theatre; Asher/Butler, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.



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PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Mary Margaret Holt
Associate Producer	Kasey Allee-Foreman
Assistant Sound Designer	Connor Lin
Assistant Projections Designer	Lucas Knapp
Production Assistant	Emily Matthews
Faculty Advisor to the Sound Designer	Richard Sprecker
Faculty Advisor to Stage Management	Christopher Sadler
Design and Production Area Coordinator	Renee Brode
Production Carpenter	E Pope
Scenic Charge Artist	Sophie Block
Scenic Undergraduate Assistants	Elizabeth Elliott, Cadence Gates, Diego Gonzales, Kay Bailey Hall, Gillian Kelley, Abby Knauber, Gage Martinez, Hollis Narkiewicz, Jenna Norton, Cara Oates, Abigail Pirtle, Erasmo Salinas, Goldie Snow, Ethan Walker
Properties Director	Margot Glaser
Run Crew Head	Emily Fowler
Run Crew	Max Daves, Hannah Haddad, Diego Salas, Kinzey Shirazi, Cooper Smith
Electrics Supervisor	Eric Stehl
Lighting Undergraduate Assistants	Micah Dooley, Lauren Foster, Madison Heckelsberg Noah Jittawait , Connor Lin, Lucas Knapp, Emily Morris, Ruby Ravsten, Kellen Sapp, Sophia Smith Kait Stapp, Trey Wilson
Production Electricians	Ruby Ravsten, Sophia Smith
Light Board Programmer	Noah Jittawait
Light Board Operator	Paige Kasulis
Follow Spot Operators	Brody Brugman, Sophia Smith
Audio Supervisor	Alan Hiserodt
Audio Undergraduate Assistants	Kait Stapp, Conner Lin
Sound A2	Arianna Eakle
Mic Wranglers	Eli Farney, Gillian Kelley
Costume Studio Supervisor	Christina Draper
Lead Stitcher	Amy Kercher
Stitcher	Stephanie Cirar
Costume Undergraduate Assistants	Jodi Cone, Emily Heskett, Jylian Humber, Paige Kasulis, Natalie Lane, Joy Omeish Emily Post, Landre Ssanders, Hunter Sheehan Brooke Stachan, Samantha Verbsky
Costume Coordinator	Christina Draper
Wig Designer	Brawna Gfeller
Wardrobe Supervisor	Christina Draper
Wardrobe Crew Head	Landre Sanders
Wardrobe Crew	Elizabeth Elliott, Emily Matthews, Sam Norris Claire Suyat, Isabella Woodson
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Production Undergraduate Assistant	McKenna Bowman

WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

KASEY ALLEE-FOREMAN has served as Associate Producer/Production Manager for over 90 productions in the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma. She is currently the VP for Conferences for USITT. A short listing of her professional theatre credits include: SphinxCON, a conference promoting Diversity in the Arts; Canterbury Choral: Bernstein's Mass; Houston Grand Opera: Renée Fleming's premiere *La Traviata* (world premiere); Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston); Houston Shakespeare Festival; Shakespeare Festival at Tulane (New Orleans); Theatre West (Los Angeles). Professional film credits include: *Mystery, Alaska, Lost and Found; Austin Powers: The Spy who Shagged Me*. She is proud to have served on the USITT Board of Directors as the VP for Conferences, the VP for Education and Training and as a Director. She has served USITT on the Conference Committee chair and member, IDEAS Committee chair and member, is the co-founder of the Gateway Program, and has been the Co-chair of the Women in Theatre Network. Kasey received her MFA in Costume Design and Technology and Lighting Design and Technology from the University of New Orleans and her BA in Theatre Arts from Furman University.

RENÉE BRODE (Lighting Designer) is an OU Helmerich School of Drama lighting design assistant professor from Campbellford, Ontario, Canada. Renée (she/her/hers) is a lighting designer for theater, musicals, opera, and dance who has worked in theaters across the US, Canada and internationally. Credits: OU University Theatre: Lighting Designer, *CDO '24; Roe v. Wade; Cabaret*. Regional Credits: Lighting Designer, *Cinderella*, Theatre Under the Stars, Houston. Norman Ballet: *Oklahoma Nutcracker*. Stratford Shakespeare Festival: *Spamalot*. Charlottetown Festival: *I'm Every Woman, Johnny and June*. 1000 Islands Playhouse: *The Music Man*. Upcoming lighting designs include: Atlantis Resort Bahamas: *Screwball Comedy*. Charlottetown Festival: *Anne of Green Gables, Jersey Boys*.

ASHTON BYRUM (Director of the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre) is a professor of performance and joined OU as the Director of OU Musical Theatre in 2018. Following a long acting career in New York and around the world, Ashton earned his MFA in Directing with an emphasis in Musical Theatre from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) in 2010. He then went on to coordinate the Musical Theatre Performance program and serve as Associate Chair and Academic Director for the nation's largest Theatre Department at Columbia College Chicago. He's had the privilege of working with students that have gone on to Broadway, National Tours, Regional and stock theatres throughout the country.

His directing work includes *Hello, Dolly!*, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* at The Little Theatre on the Square; [title of show] and *The Marvelous Wonderettes* at Open Door Theatre in Chicago; *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Annie Get Your Gun* for the Wilmette Starlight Theatre; *Anything Goes*, *Orpheus Descending*, *Urinetown* and *Godspell* at CCM; *Rent*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Oklahoma!*, *Once On This Island*, and *Sweet Charity* at Columbia College Chicago; *Legally Blonde The Musical*, *Songs for a New World* and the Oklahoma premiere of *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* at the University of Oklahoma.

Director Byrum's acting credits include three seasons on Broadway in Susan Stroman's annual *A Christmas Carol*, starring Tim Curry, F. Murray Abraham and Jim Dale; and he was featured in the national touring companies of *The Producers* (US and Tokyo); *Fiddler on the Roof* with Theodore Bikel; the *Tommy Tune* revival of *Grease!* with Adrian Zmed, Sutton Foster and Marissa Jaret Winokur; *Will Rogers Follies*; *I Love New York*; and *My Fair Lady* (Europe). He has also played roles in many regional productions including: *The Prom* and *Titanic* (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma); *The Music Man* (Little Theatre on the Square); *The Spitfire Grill* (Idaho Shakespeare Festival and Arkansas Rep.); *Forever Plaid* (Flat Rock Playhouse, NC); *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Cats* (Ogunquit Playhouse, ME); *West Side Story* (Westchester Broadway Theatre, NY); *Kingdom* (World Premiere with the Denver Center Theatre Company), and he earned his Equity card in *The Secret Garden* at the Paper Mill Playhouse.

WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

RIS CARROLL (Stage Manager) is a theatre major with an emphasis in stage management senior from Frisco, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Associate Stage Manager, YCS '21; Associate Stage Manager, OFB '21; Co-Stage Manager, YCS '23; Associate Stage Manager, *Pippin*; Stage Manager, *Radium Girls*; Stage Manager, *Susannah*; Stage Manager, *The Nutcracker*; Co-Stage Manager, YCS '24.

PAUL CHRISTMAN (Music Director/Conductor/Additional Vocal & Instrumental Arrangements) Paul guest teaches annually for Høyskolen Kristiania (Oslo, Norway). Additional residencies have included Balletakademien (Göteborg, Sweden), the Danish Academy of Musical Theatre (Fredericia), the Joop van den Ende Academy (Hamburg), and the Stage School (Hamburg). He has lectured at the Music in Gotham American Musical Theater Conference (NYC), Song, Stage and Screen Conferences (Winchester and London), Musical Theatre Educators Alliance Conferences (Orlando and NYC) and Putting It Together: Teaching Musical Theatre in U.K. Higher Education (Bath). A graduate of Arizona State University (Tempe) and Wright State University (Dayton), he has also completed acting studies with the Michael Chekhov Association. His articles on composer Hugh Martin and the musical *Pal Joey* were published in the journal *Studies in Musical Theatre*. He is co-editor of *The Songs of Hugh Martin: From Broadway to Hollywood and The West End* (Hal Leonard). Paul has worked on shows across the United States from California to Maine, toured in Germany with Hair, and music directed the Toronto premiere of *A Class Act*. He music directed 24 productions for Music Theatre of Wichita from 1994-2004 and has served on the faculty at the University of Oklahoma since 1999.

CHRISTINA DRAPER (Costume Coordinator) Christina received her BFA with an emphasis in Costume Technology from The University of Oklahoma in 2013. She has worked as a freelance costume technician for both film and theatre in the OKC metro and spent the past few years as the Costume Shop and Rentals Coordinator for Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma.

LYN CRAMER (Director and Choreographer) is a Rothbaum and Weitzenhoffer Professor of Musical Theatre Dance. She has been a teacher, director, and choreographer for over 36 years. Recent OU productions include *The Wild Party*, *Pippin*, *Cabaret*, *Dogfight* and *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, among the 20 main stage productions Lyn has directed and choreographed for University Theatre. She directed and choreographed the Oklahoma City Philharmonic's annual Christmas spectacular, *The Christmas Show*, for 17 seasons. Chances are you saw her famous tap dancing Santas! Cramer has directed and choreographed for three decades at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. Additional directing and choreographic credits include *Casa Mañana*, Music Theatre of Wichita, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre and eight seasons with the Broadway Rose in Portland, Oregon. Favorite professional stage roles include Narrator in *The Rocky Horror Show* for Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma; Allison Bechdel in *Fun Home*, Sarah Jane Moore in *Assassins*, Mrs. Wilkinson in *Billy Elliot*, Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown*, RF Simpson in *Singin' in the Rain*, and Bertha in *Boeing, Boeing*. Cramer's professional acting career began in 1982 and she is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. Lyn received the Irene and Julian J. Rothbaum Presidential Professor of Excellence in the Arts award from the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts and the Artistic Achievement Award from Chicago National Association of Dance Masters. She is featured on dozens of instructional tap and jazz videos for Cathy Roe Productions. Cramer is a master teacher throughout the United States, publishing curriculums in jazz and tap pedagogy. She has served as an adjudicator and master teacher in musical theatre dance at the Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts. She is the author of *Creating Musical Theatre: Conversations with Broadway Directors and Choreographers*.

WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

ERICKA DODSON (Associate Stage Manager) is theater major with an emphasis in stage management freshman from Pryor, OK. This is her OU University Theatre debut.

MARY MARGARET HOLT (Producer) began her early ballet training in Austin, Texas at Austin Civic Ballet, receiving a Ford Foundation scholarship for study with the San Francisco Ballet at the age of 15. Subsequently, she received a Ford Foundation scholarship for study at the School of American Ballet, also appearing with the New York City Ballet. Holt accepted a soloist contract with Houston Ballet upon completing her BFA in Ballet Performance. While a member of Houston Ballet, she danced a wide variety of solo and principal roles in the classical and contemporary repertoire by choreographers including Stevenson, Van Manen, Van Danzig, Petipa, Balanchine, Taras, Dolin, Boris, Clouser, Franklin, Ivanov, de Mille, and O'Donnell. She also performed principal roles in Terekhov's *The Firebird*, *The Snow Maiden*, and *Don Quixote*. She has performed as a guest artist, teacher, and choreographer with ballet and opera companies across the United States.

Holt joined the dance faculty of the University of Oklahoma School of Dance as an assistant professor, following Miguel Terekhov as chair in 1991, and an appointment as director in 1998. As director of Oklahoma Festival Ballet, Holt has choreographed over forty ballets and operas and led Oklahoma Festival Ballet on tours to France (six), the Internationale Haydnstage in Austria (2), Mexico (3), Taiwan, China, and Ecuador. Holt choreography includes the music of Franck, Haydn, The Beatles, Porter, Weill, Mozart, Ginastera, Ikard, Holley, Satie, Bartok, Orff, and Debussy and her ballets have been seen across the U.S. as well as in South America, the United Kingdom, and Europe. Under Holt's leadership, Oklahoma Festival Ballet performed works from the national repertoire by Joffrey and Balanchine as well as de Mille's, *Rodeo*. Her students have performed with Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Orlando Ballet, Oklahoma City Ballet, and Tulsa Ballet, and as finalists and semifinalists in the International Ballet Competition. At the University of Oklahoma, Holt taught every course in the ballet curriculum and her continuing studies in ballet pedagogy include studying Bournonville Technique with Tage Wendt; and Vaganov Technique at the Bolshoi Academy at Vail; and in St. Petersburg and Minsk, Russia.

Holt was an honoree at the second national RDA Festival in Pittsburgh in 2007, and she received the CORPS de Ballet International Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. She has served on the Dance Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts and been a panelist on Women in the Academy at Oxford. She is the recipient of the Governor's Arts Award, the Presidential Professorship, and the Regents' Professorship at OU where she also holds the John and Mary Nichols' Chair in Dance.

CONNER LIN (Assistant Sound Designer) is a lighting and sound design freshman from Allen, Texas. Credits: OU University Theatre: Programmer, *The Nutcracker*; Lighting Designer, *Sensory Memories* - YCS 2024. Sooner Theatre: Associate Lighting Designer, *Fiddler on the Roof*.

EMILY MORRIS (Production Assistant) is a lighting design freshman from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Assistant Lighting Designer, *Heathers*; Lighting Designer, YCS '23; Assistant Lighting Designer, *The Merry Widow*.

KELLEN SAPP (Assistant Lighting Designer) is dramaturgy junior from Columbia, MO. Credits: OU University Theatre: Youth Company Associate Stage Manager, *The Nutcracker*; Lighting Designer, *Orfeo ed Eurides*; Lighting Designer, *Everybody*, *Serenade*, *Antique Epigraphs*, and *Orphée* OFB '23, *Apothesis* of OCD; Lighting Designer, *REM*, *Body Language*, and *It's All in the Rhythm* YCS '23; Assistant Lighting Designer, *The Wild Party*. OU Helmerich School of Drama Lab Theatre: Lighting Designer, *Another Revolution*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, and *Marisol*.

WHO'S WHO BEHIND THE SCENES

KAIT STAPP (Sound Designer) is a sound and lighting design senior from Bartlesville, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Lighting Designer, *The Merry Widow*, Lighting Designer, *Heathers: The Musical*; Lighting Designer, *Deux Amours*; *Train of Thought*, (OFB '23); Lighting Designer, *At Once Returned*; *Divine*; *Divergence*; *Funny How Time Slips Away* (YCS '23); Lighting Designer, *Radium Girls*; Lighting Designer, *This Old House is All We Have*; *The Way You Hide* (CDO '22); Lighting Designer, *The Sleeping Beauty, Act II* (OFB '22); Sound Designer, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Lighting Designer, *Forgive Me*; 5, 7, 5 (YCS '22); Lighting Designer, *Vitesse*; *Still* (YCS '21). OU Helmerich School of Drama Lab Theatre: Sound Designer, *Fefu and Her Friends*; Lighting Designer, *Great Expectations*; Sound Designer, *Still*.

RICHARD L. SPRECKER (Projections Designer) holds an MFA from University of Missouri-Kansas City. He is Associate Professor of Sound Design for the OU Helmerich School of Drama. Lighting Design credits for OU University Theatre include: *Così fan tutte*; YCS '20; *The Nutcracker* (OFB '19); *The Golden Cockerel*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Nice Work If You Can Get It*; *Hansel and Gretel*; *The Nutcracker* (OFB '15); *Ragtime*; and *Carmen in Concert*. Composer and Sound Designer for *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. Sound Design credits: *Pippin*; *She Loves Me*; *Spring Awakening*; *Twelfth Night*; *Noises Off*; *Curtains*; *Little Women*; *Suite From There Is A Time* (CDO '14); *The Cherry Orchard*; *Coram Boy*; and *L'Elisir d'Amore*. Projection Design credits: CDO '14. Other design credits include: *Les Dialogues des Carmelites* (UMKC Conservatory); *Carmina Burana* (UMKC Dance); *Comedy of Asses*; *Oh What A Lovely War*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UMKC Theatre); *Spooky Dog* (Coterie Theatre/ UMKC Theatre); *Dead On Her Feet* (North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford, UK).

JON YOUNG (Scenic Designer) Jon Young has designed over 35 productions at the University of Oklahoma for Dance, Drama, Opera and Musical Theatre where he is the James Garner Chair in Drama. As a Freelance Scenic Designer Jon Young has designed *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *King Lear*, *Cymbeline*, *As You Like It*, *Julius Caesar* at Houston Shakespeare Festival, *The Sound of Music* at A.D. Players, *Don Giovanni* and *Street Scene* at Rice University, *Ring of Fire*, *Who's Holiday*, *The Ultimate Christmas Show* (abridged), *I and You*, *Luna Gale*, *Stupid F##king Bird*, *Dream: The Music of The Everly Bros* at Stages Repertory Theatre. His design for *Stupid F##king Bird* at Stages Repertory Theatre was published in the Summer 2016 issue TD & T and was a 2015 Houston Press Award winner for Best Production of a Play. Designs for *Sunday in the Park* with George and *The Odyssey* were also published in the Summer 2012 issue TD & T. His scenic design for *After Juliet* was invited to be a part of the World Stage Design 2009 exhibit in Seoul Korea. You can follow his work on his work on the following social media sites: <https://www.youngscenicstudio.com> and [@youngscenicstudio](https://www.instagram.com/youngscenicstudio)

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2023-2024

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