

## Missouri Baptist University Theatre presents

# SONGS FOR A **NEW WORLD**

October 8-11, 2020

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Audience members are asked to wear a face covering at all times and maintain a minimum six-foot distance from any patrons not in their group. After the performance, please avoid gathering in the theatre or lobby. Please silence electronic devices that may distract your fellow audience members during the performance. No food, drink or smoking is allowed in the Pillsbury Chapel. The restrooms are located in the Mabee Great Hall just outside the auditorium. Please see one of our ushers if you have any questions or special needs. Enjoy the performance—we are glad you're here!

#### A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Before I delve too deep into this show and what it has meant to me, I want to warn you that we have decided to portray some heavy truths. 2020 has been filled with heartache and tragedy, and we chosen to mirror the happenings of our world on the stage today. There are potential triggers that will be depicted.

I have to say, I have been blessed this year. Unlike many, many people in the United States and around the world, my year has been filled with blessings. I was financially stable. My husband stayed faithfully by my side. My mental health was stable and strong. I didn't have to face any unexpected pregnancies. No one I love was wrongfully incarcerated. My family, if effected by COVID-19, recovered with ease. Plus, none of them were murdered while sleeping in their beds.

If these statements feels calloused or insensitive, I promise, that's not my heart. I have told the cast and crew from the very beginning of this process, "If we're going to say something, we may as well just say it." So say it we will, because I truly believe if Jesus walked the earth today, He would have done the same.

Over and over in Scripture He calls us to stand for those who cannot stand for themselves. While there are many verses that fit here, I have been dwelling on 1 Peter 2:20-21.

"For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps."

The world is weary. You can feel it, hear it, see it everywhere you go. This show, at times, may amplify that weariness, but I hope you push though. My heart for this show it that you leave reminded of your blessings and empowered to make a change in the world around you.

Thank you for supporting live theatre during this time. We are more thankful for you than you could possibly know.

Cling to your family, your friends, and your Savior.

I know its hard, but don't give up yet.

Andrea

Thanks,

\*\*Please be advised that this production includes the use of a gunshot sound effect\*\*

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Dr. Keith Ross, Dr. Andy Chambers, Dr. Benjamin Lion, Dr. Larry Smith, Steve O'Neal, MBU Communications Department, University Communications

A very special thanks to St. Louis County Department of Public Health for helping us develop a plan to provide safe and healthy entertainment!

### **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

ACT ONE	ACT TWO
The New WorldCompany	The World Was DancingNathanael
On the Deck of a Spanish Sailing Ship, 1492	with Lindsey and Jenny
Cameron with Lindsey, Jenny, Nathanael	Surabaya SantaLindsey
Just One StepJenny	Christmas LullabyJenny
I'm Not AfraidLindsey	King of the WorldCameron
The River Won't Flow	I'd Give It All For YouNathanael and Maddie
Nathanael, Cameron, Kaylin, Maddie	TransitionCameron
TransitionKaylin	The Flagmaker, 1775Kaylin
Stars and the MoonMaddie	Flying HomeCameron and Company
She CriesNathanael	
	Final TransitionKaylin and Maddie
The Steam TrainCameron and Company	Hear My SongCompany

# **FEATURING**

Maddie Cook Jenny Duncan Kaylin Penninger Lindsey Peters Nathanael Pezzo Cameron Tyler

# PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW

Producer	
KASEY COX	

Choreographer LINDSEY PETERS

Costume Designer MORGAN CANE

Props Manager ALICIA NEALE

Production Manager SARAH DICKEY

Shop Manager
ISABELLE SCHEIBE

Director ANDREA ROBB

Assistant Director RACHEL YARBROUGH

Stage Manager VICTORIA ZILKE

Assistant Stage Managers GREG CARR II EVAN CLAWSON

Fine Arts Events Manager OLIVIA LEEK

Box Office Assistants KAROLINE ORTIZ & JAMONI RICHARDSON Music Director
MICHAEL FRAZIER

Lighting Designer
HEATHER VAUGHN

Sound Designer
JON ZIELKE

Sound Apprentices ASHLEY HARRIS & BEKAH WILLIAMS

Spotlight Operators
SUSANNA ENNENBACH &
HANNAH MISSELHORN

### **MUSICIANS**

Bass ANDY HAINZ

Drums ADAM KOPFF

Piano MICHAEL FRAZIER

# Music & Theatre Scholarship Auditions

Saturday, November 14, 2020, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, February 6, 2021, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, February 15, 2021, 3-6 p.m.

Auditions are for freshman and transfer students who want to pursue any of the following majors:

Theatre
Musical Theatre
Speech/Theatre Secondary Education
Music
Music Education
Commercial Voice
Vocal Performance
Piano Performance
Music with elective studies in Business
Worship Leadership

Please contact the Fine Arts office at 314-744-5364 to receive more information or to schedule an audition.

#### THE MBU THEATRE MISSION

MBU Theatre is a Christ-centered program that challenges our students to view their work through a Biblical vantage point. We believe that all truth is God's truth, and therefore all great and truthful works of theatre carry within them glimmers of God's redemptive plan.

Because of this foundation, we believe that storytelling through theatre is a calling worthy of intensive training. Graduates from our theatre program will have knowledge of theatre history; acting methods of Stanislavsky, Chekhov, Meisner, Strasburg, and many others; directing technique; and a variety of design areas. We purposefully want education to be broad, but deep - giving students the opportunity to thrive in a transient job market that requires theatre students to work in a variety of positions.

Additionally, we give students ample opportunity to practice these skills. We produce six shows every year, allowing our students to choose design, tech, or performance in each production, allowing them to tailor their education to their needs.

#### CAST AND CREW BIOS

Morgan Cane (Costume Designer) is a freshman Theater major. Some of her favorite roles include Agnes Tate (*Murder Inn*) and Ensemble (*Chicago*). She would also like to thank Andrea Robb for leading her in the direction of this amazing department.

Greg Carr II (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theatre major. He last appeared as Black Stache in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and is looking forward to doing more productions in the future. Some of his favorite roles include Mysterious Man (*Into the Woods*), Kinesias/The Herald (*The Birds*) and Featured Dancer (*The Music Man*). He would like to give a special thanks to this wonderful production team and talented cast. Enjoy the show!

Evan Clawson (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at MBU, majoring in Theatre. This is his third MBU Theatre production. He thanks the cast and crew for making this a fantastic production.

Maddie Cook (Performer) is a freshman, majoring in Musical Theatre. This is her first time onstage at MBU. She served as a lighting apprentice for *Peter and the Starcatcher*. She is thankful to her classmates, friends and family for their love and support.

Kasey Cox (Producer) is the Director of Theatre & Dance at MBU. She is a 2010 graduate of MBU with a degree in musical theatre and a 2014 graduate of Fontbonne University with a master of arts in theatre. Kasey's directing credits include *Peter Pan* (MBU), *Romeo and* Juliet (Acting Out!), *The Odd Couple: Female* Version (Act Two Theatre Company) and *Steel Magnolias* (Kirkwood Theatre Guild). Some of her favorite roles include Sally (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*), Rosie (*Bye Bye Birdie*) and Jo (*Little Women: The Musical*). She would like to thank her husband Jordan and kids, Noah, Jobi and Katy, for keeping her house full of joy.

Sarah Dickey (Production Manager) has worked with MBU Theatre in many capacities for the past 20 years: as director, assistant director, stage manager, charge artist, lighting designer, costume designer and set designer. Favorite MBU shows include *The 39 Steps, The Diary of Anne Frank, The Importance of Being Earnest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Sarah has worked on shows throughout Missouri and Illinois, including *Chicago* (Spotlight Productions), *The Wiz* (St. Louis Summer Players), *Into the Woods* (Acting Out!) and *Singin' in the Rain* (Broadway on the Driveway). A big thanks to this wonderful cast, production team and crew who has worked so hard to bring this show to MBU.

Jenny Duncan (Performer) is a freshman Theatre major and Dance minor. Songs for a New World is her MBU debut but some of her previous roles include Sophie (*Mamma Mia*), Emma (*Emma*), and Rizzo (*Grease*). Jenny would like to thank Andrea for this life-changing opportunity and her fellow classmates for accepting her into the family with open arms and loving hearts. She would also like to thank her parents and Kasey Cox for being a guiding light in her life and for making all her dreams come true.

Susanna Ennenbach (Spotlight Operator) is a freshman Theatre major. Previous shows include *Peter Pan, Mary Poppins, Beauty and the Beast, Seussical* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Dayspring and *Red Herring* with SHARE Productions. She thanks the cast and crew for a great experience with this production.

Michael Frazier (Music Director) has been working as a musician in the St. Louis area for the past 25 years. As pianist, conductor, and music director he has worked on over 50 musicals including *Les Miserables, The Drowsy Chaperone, The Spitfire Grill* (AFL winner for Best Music Direction), *Bye Bye Birdie* and many more. Michael also accompanies for the St. Louis Children's Choirs, Lindenwood University, and the Ladue School District.

Ashley Harris (Sound Apprentice) is a freshman majoring in Speech and Theatre Education. She is so excited to be part of the MBU Theatre family. One of her favorite roles she has ever played was Mrs. Hubbard in *Murder On The Orient Express* during her senior year of high school. She would like to thank her mother for being her rock and always telling her to push for her dreams no matter how big they may be.

Hannah Misselhorn (Spotlight Operator) is a freshman Speech/Theatre Education major. This is her second production here at MBU and she is so happy to be part of this family. Hannah would like to think Andrea Robb and Kasey Cox for their leadership and the audience for coming to see the show!

Alicia Neale (Props Master) is excited to be a part of this show! Alicia is currently a junior majoring in Musical Theatre and minoring in Dance. Her favorite roles include Smee in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Kaitlyn Parker in *The Future is in Your Tiny Hands* (MBU), Maud Dunlop in *The Music Man* (MBU), and Cinderella's Stepmother in *Into the Woods* (MBU). Alicia would like to thank the cast and crew for their dedication to this amazing production. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their love, patience, and support. Rev. 21:4

Kaylin Penninger (Performer) is transfer student at MBU, majoring in Music Theatre with a minor in Dance. Some of her favorite roles include Jo March in *Little Women*, Heather Chandler in *Heathers*, Ariel in *The Little Mermaid* and Purity in *Anything Goes*. Kaylin is very excited to be in her first production at MBU and can't wait to see what the future holds in this "New World."

Lindsey Peters (Performer) is honored to be a part of this production. She is a senior Theatre major at MBU. Some of her favorite roles have been Marian Paroo in *The Music Man* (MBU), Wendy Jo in *Footloose the Musical* (Paul Bunyan Playhouse), and Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (MBU). Lindsey would like to thank the cast and crew for creating such beautiful art. Lindsey would like to first thank God for the many opportunities and talents He has given her. She would also like to thank her friends and family for her constant love and support through her career.

Nathanael Pezzo (Performer) is a senior Musical Theatre major at MBU. His favorite roles include Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, Gangster #1 in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Riff in *West Side Story*, the title character in *Sweeney Todd*, and Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He's incredibly thankful to God for blessing him with the ability to do what he loves in a way that praises and glorifies Jesus, and to MBU for giving him this opportunity.

Andrea Robb (Director) is an alumna of Missouri Baptist University with a B.A. in Psychology and a B.A. in Theatre, and of Fontbonne University where she graduated with her M.A. in Theatre. Melding her two educational backgrounds, Robb specializes in Performance Psychology and is currently pursuing her PhD in this subject at Grand Canyon University. Typically, Andrea works behind the scenes a costumer at MBU and as a freelance artist in the Greater St. Louis Area. With extensive background in costume construction and design, she has earned high praise from local outlets like Ladue News, STL Today, and the Riverfront Times. She is so thankful to be working on such a powerful piece of theatre amidst a heavy year. A high thank you to the cast and crew for bring this show to life with more beauty and meaning than she thought possible.

Isabelle Scheibe (Shop Manager) is a graduate of Stephens College with a B.F.A. in Technical Theatre with an emphasis in Stage Management. Her first Theatre experience was "Honk!". She was five years old and has continued to love Theater ever since. After being a performer, Isabelle later found a new love for backstage work, which led her to Stephens College. There she was given many opportunities to stage manage, light design, sound design, & even direct. She also was given the opportunity to work over the summer with Stephens College Summer Stock Theatre in Okoboji Iowa, where the company puts on nine shows in ten weeks, with four of those shows being musicals. During Isabelle's last year at Stephens College she served on the executive board as the Production Stage Manager for the student run Warehouse Theatre. Isabelle is excited to make an impact on the world of theatre and to start this journey at Missouri Baptist University.

Cameron Tyler (Performer) is very excited to be part of this production! He is in his senior year at MBU, majoring in Musical Theatre with a minor in Dance. Favorite past productions include *Billy Elliot* (Muny in St. Louis), *Shrek* (Larry D Clark Summer Repertory Theatre), and *Into the Woods* (Missouri Baptist University). He would like to thank his friends, family, and teachers for helping him achieve his dreams.

Heather Vaughn (Lighting Designer) is currently pursuing an M.A. in Teaching in Speech/Theater Education after earning a B.A. in Communication in 2001. Her MBU production credits include *Smoke on the Mountain* (1998), *West Side Story* (1999), *Godspell* (2000), *Myriad: A One-Act Festival* (2019), *The 39 Steps* (2019) and *Into the Woods* (2020). Heather is grateful for the unfailing love and support of her husband and four children and their sacrifices that allow her to follow her passions.

Bekah Williams (Sound Apprentice) is a senior at MBU. Most recently she was the Costume Apprentice for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Costume Designer for MBU's *The 39 Steps* and Granny/Snow White in *Into the Woods*. She has previously worked with Shatterglass Productions where she participated in over 20 shows in multiple roles including assistant director, choreographer and actress. She is excited to be on this new leg of her journey with such incredible people. She wants to thank her husband, Alex, for his unending support, her family and friends for their encouragement, and her God for His unfailing love. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

Rachel Yarbrough (Assistant Director) is a senior Theater and Psychology major. She has stage managed many shows at MBU, including *The Music Man* and *Anything Goes*. Some of her favorite roles include Grusha (*The Caucasian Chalk Circle*), Ronnette (*Little Shop of Horrors*), and America (*The Amish Project*). Rachel would like to thank her directors and teachers for giving her many opportunities to grow in her art.

Jon Zielke (Sound Designer) is a graduate of Washington University, and originally from the Twin Cities, Minnesota. He has designed sound for a variety of productions around St. Louis, and he is thrilled to return to Missouri Baptist to work on this great show!

Victoria Zilke (Stage Manager) is a junior Behavioral Science major and Theatre minor. Some of her favorite roles have been the Prophet (*The Birds*), Captain Scott (*Peter and the Starcatcher*) and Bard (*The Hobbit*). She has also worked crew for many productions, including *Anything Goes* and *Into the Woods*. Victoria would like to thank Andrea Robb, Rachel Yarbrough and Kasey Cox for this great opportunity and all the ways she has encouraged growth and learning. She would also like to thank the rest of the cast and crew for being a wonderful and loving family.



