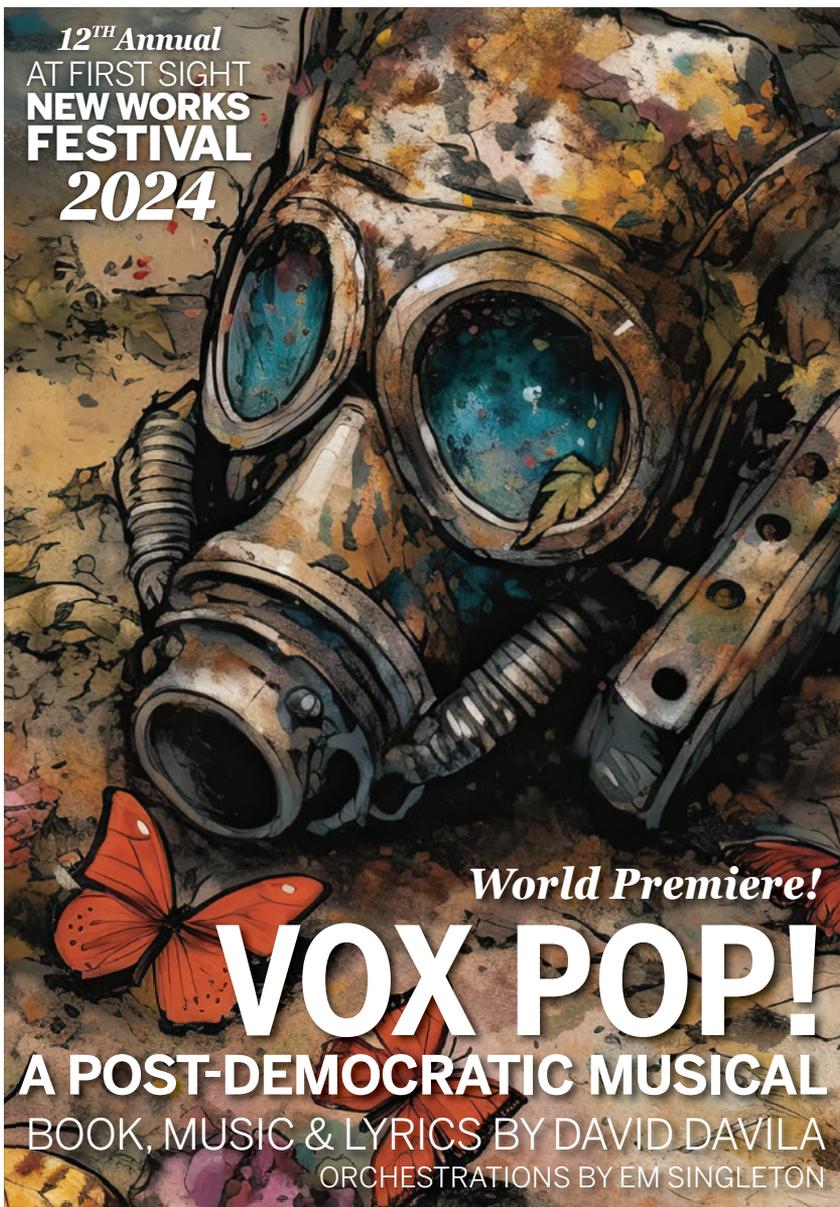




THEATRE & DANCE

theatre.indiana.edu

12TH Annual
AT FIRST SIGHT
NEW WORKS
FESTIVAL
2024



World Premiere!

VOX POP!

A POST-DEMOCRATIC MUSICAL

BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY DAVID DAVILA

ORCHESTRATIONS BY EM SINGLETON

DIRECTED BY LAUREN DIESCH
MUSIC DIRECTION BY ERIK WAKAR
CHOREOGRAPHED BY AERIN WEBBER

RUTH N. HALLS THEATRE

IU Theatre + Dance acknowledges and honors the Indigenous communities native to this region, and recognizes that Indiana University Bloomington is built on Indigenous homelands and resources. We recognize the myaamiki, Lënape, Bodwéwadmik, and saawanwa people as past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

LIVE PERFORMANCE

The mission of the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance is to advance the art, scholarship, and appreciation of theatre and dance and its place in society. We pursue this mission collectively and as individuals through theatrical productions, scholarship and publication, presentation of our work in national and international venues, formal instruction, and individual mentoring.

The Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and is a member of the University/Resident Theatre Association and United States Institute for Theatre Technology.

LIVING IMPACT



Message from the chair



Greetings and welcome to the IU Theatre & Dance 2023-2024 production season!

We are thrilled with the productions we have for our students and audiences this year.

Live performance is a place for communities to gather for engaged storytelling. Our stories this year continue with our tradition of bringing the most exciting, meaningful, and entertaining work to our audiences. We continue to use live performance as an opportunity to express the zeitgeist of our world. We hope that you will consider joining us for many additional lectures, discussions, and collaborations throughout the season.

This year we welcome a new generation of graduate and undergraduate students that will directly contribute to the artistry and craft. We'd like to take a moment to welcome many guest artists to our season – from choreography and music direction to directing and designing. We'd also like to welcome Dr. Sarah Johnson, who joins our faculty as the Head of Dramaturgy, and David Tracy, our new Public Relations and Audience Development Specialist.

We'd also like to take a moment to bid a fond farewell to Laura Judson and Madison Colquette, two fantastic staff members in our department community who are moving on to wonderful new chapters. We thank them for their service to our department and especially to our students.

Thank you to our patrons, donors, Theatre Circle members, and of course YOU, the audience experiencing our students' work at this performance! Please visit our website or pick up a brochure to learn more about how you can become a member of the Theatre Circle, and to find out more about our upcoming productions, student independent projects, guest artists, student organizations, and class offerings. We look forward to having you join us for all our live performances this year and wish you our very best for the 2023-2024 academic year!

With Gratitude,
Linda Pisano
Chair & Professor,
Dept. of Theatre & Dance



THEATRE & DANCE

PRESENTS

AT FIRST SIGHT A FESTIVAL OF NEW WORKS

Now in its twelfth year, the *At First Sight New Works Festival* will feature an exciting new musical by third year M.F.A. candidate David Davila, the always popular *At First Shorts* evening of new short plays, a series of panels hosted by M.F.A. Dramaturgy students featuring theatre makers from the Indiana community, and playwriting workshops with special guests. Students are joined by Festival Guest Artist, Kent Nicholson, and industry professionals who provide their insight and expertise throughout the weekend.

12TH Annual
AT FIRST SIGHT
NEW WORKS
FESTIVAL
2024

*Bold! New! Inspiring!
Thought-Provoking!*

Experience it all during the
2024 *At First Sight Festival of New Works*

For a complete list of *At First Sight Festival* events,
scan the QR code here.



theatre.indiana.edu/on-stage/productions/2023-2024/spring3.html

At First Sight Festival team

Festival Curators

Ana Candida Carneiro
Sarah Johnson

Producers

David Davila
Spencer Wilkes Fields
Megan Gray Lederman
Sheridan Schreyer

AT FIRST SIGHT FESTIVAL GUEST ARTIST



Kent Nicholson

With a hand in nearly three decades of new works development on both coasts, Kent Nicholson is currently Senior Vice President for Acquisitions and Artistic Services for Broadway Licensing. He has overseen the early development and production of the TONY winning musicals *MEMPHIS*, and *A STRANGE LOOP* (which also won the Pulitzer Prize). Recent positions include Associate Producer of Musical Theatre at Playwrights Horizons. He served as the New Works Director for Theatreworks, Silicon Valley creating the New Works Initiative and their New Works Festival, an annual festival now in its 20th year. He co-created The Uncharted Writers Group at Ars Nova, and has served on the boards of The Playwrights Foundation, The National Alliance for Musical Theatre, and Musical Theatre Factory. His directing work has been seen around the country at South Coast Repertory, Berkeley Repertory, Seattle Repertory and The Old Globe, among many other companies both in NYC and regionally.

PRESENTS

VOX POP!

A Post-Democratic Musical

Book, Music, and Lyrics by David Davila*

DIRECTOR	Lauren Diesch
MUSIC DIRECTOR/ PIANO-VOCAL ARRANGER	Erik Wakar
CHOREOGRAPHER	Aerin Webber
ORCHESTRATIONS	Em Singleton
SCENIC & PROJECTIONS DESIGNER	Maggie Jackson
COSTUME DESIGNER	Katie Cowan Sickmeier
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Nicholas Gwin
SOUND DESIGNER	Andrew Hopson**
STAGE MANAGER	Maddy Tagua-Horne
DRAMATURG	Sarah Johnson
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Elliot Carnell



*M.F.A. Playwriting Thesis—Advisor: Ana Candida Carneiro, PhD

**Member of United Scenic Artists Local 829, IATSE.

CONTENT DISCLOSURE: This play depicts simulated violence, death, and acts of war on stage. Prop weapons are used on stage with simulated gunfire, loud explosions, and flashing lights.

The video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited. Do not use cell phones, pagers, or other devices that may emit sound or light.

Cast

CHILD	Erica Angilletta
TROUBADOR #1	Catherine O'Connor
TROUBADOR #2	Ryan Andrews*
TROUBADOR #3	Isabel Rodriguez
TROUBADOR #4	Leah Corcoran
TROUBADOR #5	Gracie Garza Harrison
TROUBADOR #6	Nicole Stawski
TROUBADOR #7	Chandler Deppert
TROUBADOR #8	Emma Shapiro
EXECUTIONER	
TROUBADOR #9	Seth Jacobsen
TROUBADOR #10/ CREST BEARER 2	Annie Libs
TROUBADOR #11/ CREST BEARER 3	Claire Summers
TROUBADOR #12	Isabel Barredo
TROUBADOR #13	Renee Carter
TROUBADOR #14	Nate Koss
TROUBADOR #15	Ben Chalex
CREST BEARER #1, U/S TROUBADOR #1	Sierra Shelton

SWING Aubrey Rose Mitchell

SWING Jillian Hurley

SWING Peter Valentino



*Member of Actors' Equity Association

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production.

Writer's Note



David Davila
Book, Music, & Lyrics

Free speech comes at a cost, it is never truly free. Aside from the innocent lives lost in wars, there is the wager that one makes when one speaks out - even in a democratic capitalist society. Sure, we're all legally allowed to speak our opinions without fear of imprisonment, but can the things we say cost us in other ways? Can they cost us our jobs, our social status, our personal and

professional relationships, our future career opportunities? Perhaps a more accurate term for the phrase we've come to associate with the first amendment of the US Constitution would be "Decriminalized Speech." I bring this up, because if a Democracy is supposed to mean everyone's voice is heard, then everyone's voice must be heard in order for Democracies to thrive.

Years ago... at the height of the Obama era, in the center of Bohemia, for a fleeting beautiful moment there was an artsy little Brooklyn cafe and bookshop called Vox Pop where poets, comedians, and musicians took turns expressing their views on life, love, and politics on a revolving open mic for a crowd of eclectic hipsters, academics, and neighborhood regulars. In that magical time I sat in the corner drinking Brooklyn Lagers and reveling in the wonder that was New York City; post-9/11, post-housing crash. I was inspired by everything and everyone back then and I got it in my head that one day I'd write about that little cafe, which closed in 2010 due mostly to the recession. Vox Pop sounded like the perfect name for a musical, but what would it be about? As much as I loved that spot, I didn't think a piece about a struggling cafe was worthy of such a grand title. Instead, I decided this musical should be about the very thing the cafe was trying to celebrate in the first place; democracy. Afterall, Vox Populi translates to "the voice of the people," and something about that idea sounded epically musical to me. Over the next few years I started several different versions of the show with various plots, each of which stunk more than the previous. I even shared a version of an act one at Musical Theatre Factory where it was completely eviscerated by my peers and colleagues. I was stuck - and defeated - and decided to put the project on hold indefinitely as I wrote other shows and developed my craft.

Flash forward to 2020, when memes and articles about democracy were circulating the internet. I stumbled upon Tytler's Theory of the Cycles of Democracy and my mind was blown. Could this be true? Is there an easy-to-see cycle that we could somehow prevent from happening to our own country? I set out to research Alexander Tytler only to quickly find that there isn't really anything written about him or his theory of the cycles of democracy. The entire thing sounds more like an urban legend; a myth, a religious belief that if we knew how to stop democracies from failing, the world could finally live in peace. Ureka! I had a new plot for Vox Pop: a group of zealots believe so strongly in the Tytler cycle that they risk their lives to pass on this knowledge. But was I risking my own life in passing on this knowledge?

You probably haven't heard, but there's been a bit of controversy on campus surrounding the plot of this musical, with some folk calling it "Un-American" due its tagline "Post-Democratic." If any of the events in this show seem to echo reality that is only because history tends to repeat itself. In fact, this show seems to exist as a Rorschach test; allowing people to draw their own references to each scenario therein. To be clear, my intention in writing this piece has never been a call to end democracy, but rather a call to celebrate it and ensure its protection for generations to come. For whatever fault anyone finds in the accuracy of the Tytler cycle many things about it ring true. When corruption gets hold of a government, which the cycle claims is inevitable, it gets harder and harder to speak freely. One must wager the worth of their opinion with what they stand to lose if they speak their mind. It has become apparent to me in this process that in writing about controversial issues, as I often do, I stand to lose career opportunities, friends and family, and even be blacklisted. And yet, perhaps I believe naively in the hope that the Tytler cycle offers to democracies; a hope that if we educate each other and speak out against corruption, the world can one day truly live in peace.

As this is my M.F.A. thesis production I'd like to take this space to thank: my parents for their support, my advisor Ana Candida Carneiro, my cohort: Annalise Cain & Jayne Deely, dramaturgs Sarah Johnson, Lexi Silva, & Chris Mills, my thesis committee - Jenny Lale, Lauren Haughton-Gillis, & Diana Grisanti, & my collaborators Maggie Jackson, Katie Cowan Sickmeier, Nicholas Gwin, Andrew Hopson, Erik Wakar, Em Singleton, Aerin Webber, and everyone involved in making this show happen. Lastly, thank you Lauren Diesch for your vision, leadership, and friendship these last three years! <3

UP NEXT AT IU THEATRE & DANCE:

A mother's hopes for her son clash with an educational system rigged against him. With profound compassion and lyricism, Pipeline brings an urgent conversation powerfully to the fore.



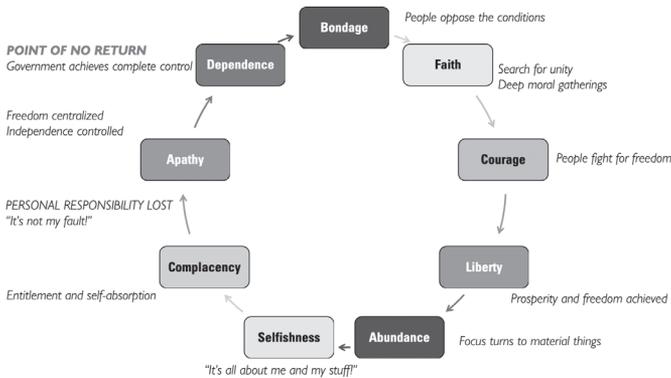
Dramaturg's note



Dr. Sarah Johnson
Dramaturg

The Tytler Cycle

This pop-political theory circulates the internet each election cycle, with different components highlighted depending on the dominant political ideology. The quotation, misattributed to 18th-century Scottish historian Alexander Fraser Tytler, theorizes the inevitable downfall of every democracy.



By J4lambert - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=93456649>

"A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship.

The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; From spiritual faith to great courage; From courage to liberty; From liberty to abundance; From abundance to selfishness; From selfishness to complacency; From complacency to apathy; From apathy to dependence; From dependence back into bondage."

The quote first appeared in a 1943 speech by Henning W. Prentiss, Jr., former president of the National Association of Manufacturers, delivered at a 1943 convocation of the General Alumni Society of the University of Pennsylvania. The "Tytler Cycle" was popularized in an opinion piece circulating the internet after the 2000 US presidential election. Each election pundits claim the collapse of democracy is imminent and either slipping into either "apathy" or "dependence".

Cast



RYAN ANDREWS
(*Troubador #2*)

is a first-year M.F.A. Acting candidate from Portland, OR, making his IU debut! Past credits include *The Radium Girls: A Jaw-Dropping Musical* (Rufus), *The Rocky Horror*

Show (ensemble), and *Band Geeks: The Musical* (Elliot). He wants to thank his family and friends for their unyielding support. @rtayrews



ERICA ANGILLETTA
(*Child*)

(she/her) is a Sophomore B.A. Theatre & Drama major with a minor in Public Relations. Erica is from New Canaan, CT. She is so excited to be making her IU Main

stage debut. Some of her past credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), *9 to 5* (Doralee Rhodes), *The Little Mermaid* (Aquata), and *Icarus's Mother* (Jill). Erica is eternally grateful to be a part of this production and would like to thank her family, friends, and everyone involved in making this possible.



ISABEL BARREDO
(*Troubador #12*)

(she/her) is a Junior from Greenville, SC pursuing a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre with a minor in Arts Management. She is incredibly grateful to have gotten the chance

to learn from and play with each and every one of these wonderful people, telling this tale together. Recent credits include: *Orlando* (Queen Elizabeth I), *Fun Home* (Young Alison), *Why Liliya Why?* (Theo), *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (Ensemble, u/s Mary). Above all: thank you for being here.



RENEE CARTER
(*Troubador #13*)

(she/her) is delighted to be a part of her third production through IU Theatre & Drama department, *Vox Pop! A post-democratic musical*. Renee is a third year

Theatre student with a concentration in acting at Indiana University. Recently she has worked on IU Theatre & Drama's mainstage production of *Orlando*. She would like to thank her parents for their unconditional support and the cast and crew of *Vox Pop* for making this an exciting and inspiring experience.



LEAH CORCORAN
(*Troubador #4*)

(she/her) is a Sophomore at IU pursuing a major in Journalism through the Media School and a minor in Theatre. She is incredibly grateful to be making her IU Mainstage

debut in *Vox Pop!* this semester. Her recent credits include *The Addams Family* (Morticia), *High School Musical* (Ms. Darbus), *13* (Lucy), *Rumors* (Cassie Cooper), and *She Kills Monsters* (Kaliopé Darkwalker). She would like to thank the entire cast and creative team for giving her the opportunity to do what she loves along with her family and friends for their continuous support in all of her theatrical endeavors. Leah is from Syosset, New York.



BENJAMIN CHALEX
(*Troubador #15*)

(he/him) is a Senior studying Social Studies Education with a minor in Theatre and Acting from Carmel, IN. He is incredibly excited to be making his IU main

stage debut in *Vox Pop!* He has played many roles in student films and is a part of an improv comedy

troupe, Full Frontal Comedy. Ben would like to thank the wonderful cast and crew for helping him learn and perform in his first major production at Indiana University.



CHANDLER DEPERT
(*Troubador #7*)

is a Sophomore Theatre B.A. in acting. He is extremely excited to be in the new production of *Vox Pop!* His former acting credits have been *Be More Chill* (Rich) with

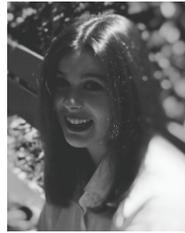
University Players, *Something Rotten!* (Ensemble) on the IU mainstage, *She Kills Monsters* (Chuck), *The Lightning Thief* (Grover), *Carousel* (Enoch Snow), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Lefou). While he's been in many published plays and musicals, this is his first time being a part of a stage production that has never been seen before. It is extremely special to him that the world gets to see a character that he has the opportunity to originate. He wants to thank his director Lauren Dietsch for challenging him to new heights, the playwright David Davila by making this whole process happen, and the entire stage management and design team for this show. He hopes that everyone that has the opportunity to see this new musical is able to be transformed into the world we have all built together!



GRACIE GARZA HARRISON
(*Troubador #5*)

(she/her) hails from Houston, TX and is so excited to be a part of this production. Previous credits include: *Lizzie* (Lizzie), *Sweeney Todd*

(Mrs. Lovett), *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Narrator), *Company* (Kathy), *Matilda* (Swing). She wants to thank her friends and family for their support of her throughout her college career. This is her last mainstage at IU and she could not be happier to be sharing the stage with these wonderful people for her last performance.



JILLIAN HURLEY
(*Swing*)

(she/her) is a Senior from Fishers, IN, double majoring in English and Theatre with a Spanish minor. For IU Theatre: *Sueño* (Clarín), *Everybody* (Love),

Orlando (Euphrosyne/Amorous Person/Chorus Member). She is so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful department and to have the privilege of getting to know all of these lovely people. She gives all of her love to her family, friends, and everyone who made the show possible.



SETH JACOBSEN
(*Troubador #9*)

(he/him) is thrilled to be in his first official production at IU. Seth is a Freshman studying Musical Theatre from Carmel, IN. He's had a love of theatre since

before he can remember with notable shows like: *You're a Good Man Charlie a Brown* (Charlie Brown), *The Three Musketeers* (Athos), *Our Town* (George Gibbs), and *Suessical* (Horton). Seth would like to thank the incredible cast and crew and he hopes you enjoy this exciting new musical!



NATE KOSS
(*Troubador #14*)

(he/him) is a Sophomore at Indiana University from Carmel, IN, studying Arts Management with a minor in Business and Music. Stage credits include *Be More*

Chill (Michael), *Seussical* (Horton), *Mamma Mia* (Horton), *Newsies* (Jack), The Grammy nominated show choir ensemble The Singing Hoosiers.



ANNIE LIBS
(*Troubador #10, Crest Bearer 2, Dance Captain*)

(she/they) is a Sophomore Theatre & Drama B.A. and Dance Minor from Noblesville, IN. At

IU, she has been involved in an IP production of *Firebringer* (Emberly). For University Players; *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Ensemble/Birdseller, u/s Tobias), and *Be More Chill* (Ensemble/Scary Stockboy/Dance Captain). They are a member of Indiana University's show choir, The Singing Hoosiers, and thrilled to be making their IU Mainstage debut this semester.



CATHERINE O'CONNOR
(*Troubador #1*)

(she/her) is a Senior at Indiana University majoring in Theatre & Drama Arts and minoring in Contemporary Dance. She was most recently in Constellation Stage &

Screen's production of *Matilda* as Mrs. Phelps. Some of her other recent credits include: *Be More Chill* (Christine), *Fun Home* (Alison), *Lolita Play* (Nicole), *Sweeney Todd* (The Beadle), and *Firebringer* (Zazzalil). In her free time, you can find her singing with her favorite Bloomington band, Honey Iced Tea, or performing with Indiana University's Grammy nominated show choir group, the Singing Hoosiers. She's also incredibly grateful to have spent this past summer training in London with the performing arts abroad program, WestEndOnDemand. After college, she plans to move back to her hometown, Chicago, to continue auditioning and working towards her goal of writing her own album one day.



AUBREY ROSE MITCHELL
(Swing)

(she/her) is a Freshman from De Pere, WI, majoring in Theatre and Media, along with minoring in Creative Writing. She is excited

to be in her first IU Theatre production. Some of Aubrey's past shows include *Mean Girls* (Cady Heron) *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* (Annabeth), and *Puffs* (Xavia Jones and Moaning Myrtle) for West De Pere Theatre. *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Anne Frank) for Evergreen Studios. Aubrey wants to thank the creative team, crew, and her fellow cast mates.



ISABEL RODRIGUEZ
(*Troubador #3*)

(she/her) is a Freshman in the B.F.A of Musical Theatre program. Favorite credits include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), *Back to the 80's* (Cindy), *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*

(Milly), *Grease* (Marty), *Footloose* (Ariel), *The Princess Who Had No Name* (The Princess), *Elf: The Musical* (Ensemble), *Assisted Living: The Musical* (Ensemble), and more. This is her first IU mainstage, and she is so happy to be performing and learning at Indiana University. She is from North Vernon, IN.



EMMA SHAPIRO
(*Troubador #8*)

(she/her) is a Junior working towards a B.A. in Theatre & Drama. *Vox Pop!* is her third Mainstage production for IU Theatre. Her recent credits include

IU Department of Theatre & Dance's *Orlando* (Grimsditch/Russian Sea Man) and *Everybody* (Somebody), Palos Verdes High School's *Chicago* (Matron "Mama" Morton), *Urinetown* (Little Becky Two Shoes), *Footloose* (Betty Blast), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Peter Quince), *Crazy for You* (Patricia Fodor/Follies Girl), and for Palos Verdes Performing Arts, *We Will Rock You* (Khashoggi). Emma is from Palos Verdes, CA.



SIERRA SHELTON
(*Crest Bearer #1, U/S: Troubadour #1, Fight Choreographer*)

(she/her) is a Senior from Danville, IN pursuing a B.A. in Theatre & Drama. Acting credits: *Heathers* (JD), *A Chorus Line*

(Judy), *Sweeney Todd* (Anthony, u/s: Sweeney), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Olive), *Footloose* (Vi), *Murder Ballad* (Sara). Fight & Intimacy Choreography credits: *Heathers*, *Spring Awakening*, *The Boys in The Band*, *Cabaret* (Asst. Choreographer), *Be More Chill* (Fight Choreo only), *Sweeney Todd* (Asst. Choreo).



NICOLE "NIKKI" STAWSKI

(Troubador #6)

(she/her) is a Junior from Granger, IN pursuing a double major in Theatre and Media Advertising. Nikki's recent credits at IU include *Into the Woods* (Florinda & Baker's Wife u/s) for IUST, *Be More Chill* (Brooke) for University Players, and *Heathers: The Musical* (Veronica Sawyer) for IU Independent Projects. Nikki also works as a social media and website coordinator for University Players, an undergraduate run theatre group. She wants to thank her family, friends, cast, and creative team for all their support!



PETER VALENTINO

(Swing)

(he/him) is a Senior studying Theatre from Bloomington, IN. He is very excited to swing for this show! Some of his past productions include *Orlando* (Ensemble), *Lolita Play* (Gabriel), *A Chorus Line* (Ensemble), and *Heathers: The Musical* (Swing). Huge thanks to the cast and crew for all their hard work! Enjoy the show!



CLAIRE SUMMERS

(Troubador #11, Crest Bearer 3)

(she/her) This is her first main stage production at Indiana University! She is so excited to be working with such an incredible cast and crew and be apart of such an amazing show and experience! Claire is a Freshman MT Major and is from Texas! Shoutout to her family and friends for their love and support!

MOTHER BEAR'S PIZZA

*Enjoy the show...
later, enjoy the pizza!*

EAST: 1428 E. Third Street • 812 332-4495
WEST: 2980 Whitehall Crossing • 812 287-7366

Production team

Assistant Director

Luna DeCastro

Assistant Stage Managers

Sadie Maw
Riley Paulin

Production Manager

Trish Hausmann †

Production Assistant

Molly Lenig

Production Technical Director

K'Nyia Bumpers

Props Manager

Ash Cossey

Scenic Charge

Abby Bilson

Assistant Scenic Charge

Maggie Jackson

Department Technical Director

Jeff Baldwin

Assistant Costume Designer

Ava Francisco

Cutter/Draper

Lil Campos

Dresser

Laura Rong

Wardrobe Supervisor

Madelyn DeBrine

Costume Studio Supervisor

Cee-Cee Swalling

Visiting Assistant Professor of Costume Design

Katie Cowan Sickmeier

Assistant Professor of Costume Technology

Heather Milam

Director of Dance Costumes & Department Assistant Designer

Eriko Terao

Lighting Supervisor

Betsy Smith

Assistant Lighting Designer

Lauren Perry

Head Electrician

Lily Howder

Assistant Head Electrician

Mads West

Lighting Programmer

Mads West

Lighting Studio Employees

Ashley Christensen

Nic Gwin

Jaden Holtschlag

Sarah Mansfield

Mads West

Light Board Operator

Isa James

Spot Light Operators

Alyssa Asquini

Stella Hubert

Sound Studio Supervisor

Andrew Hopson

Sound Crew

Morgan Connell

Antonia Daleke

Erin Vaughan

Rebekah Winkler

Sound Mixer

Bri Stoneburner

Sound Studio Employees

Matthew Acosta-Hatch

Luc Charlier

Matthew Kohl

Bri Stoneburner

Department Props & Scenic Artist Supervisor

Dan Tracy

Scenic Studio Supervisor

Sean Dumm

Associate Professor of Scenic Design

Reuben Lucas

Visiting Assistant Scenic Design Professor

Emma Brutman

Scenic Studio Employees

K'Nyia Bumpers

Francesca Martinez

Morgan Hemgrove

Elliott Carnell

Rachel Shearon

Maggie Jackson

Chyna Mayer

Nick Boisvert

Abby Bilson

Ash Cossey

Sophie Frank

Dominic Jones

Sean Holloway

Cat Richardson

Victor Beeler

River Epperson

Maci Luchene

Scenic Run Crew

Jeremy Clark

Marco Moidrem



† The Production Manager is a member of the Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Administrative staff

Chair/Producer

Linda Pisano

Business Director/

Financial Operations Manager/

Fiscal Officer

Cindi Severance

Public Relations & Audience Development Specialist

David Tracy

Audience Development Staff

Carolynn Stouder

House Manager

Scott Hogsed

Faculty and staff

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 Jeff Baldwin
 Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
 Robert Burden
 Beatrice Capote
 Dr. Ana Candida Carneiro
 Selene B. Carter
 Christian Claessens
 Lucy Dodd
 Sean Dumm
 Ray Fellman
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 Lauren Houghton Gillis
 Trish Hausmann
 Scott Hogsted
 Dr. Andrew Hopson
 Dr. Sarah Johnson
 Dr. Jennifer Lane
 Nancy Lipschultz
 Reuben Lucas

Kristin Mann
 Dr. Eric Mayer-García
 Jenny McKnight
 Jonathan R. Michaelsen
 Heather Milam
 Dr. Eleanor Owicki
 Linda Pisano
 Ilene Reid
 Catherine Richards
 Richard Roland
 Cindi Severance
 Elizabeth Shea
 Katie Cowan Sickmeier
 Elizabeth G. Smith
 Cee-Cee Swalling
 Eriko Terao
 Dan Tracy
 David Tracy
 Ansley Valentine

Emerita / Emeritus

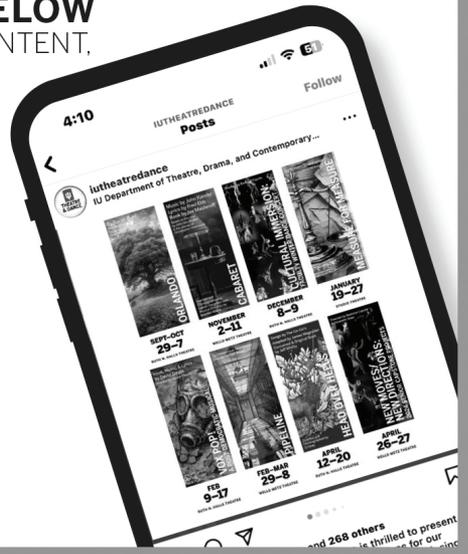
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 Terry LaBolt
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Artistic team



K'NYIA BUMPERS
(Technical Director)

(she/her) is a first year M.F.A. Theatre Technology candidate from Mableton, GA. Graduated with a B.F.A. from Valdosta State University. Recent credits include Assistant Technical Director

for *Peach State Summer Theatre* 2023 season.



LIL CAMPOS
(Cutter/Draper)

is a second-year Costume Technician from Costa Rica. Lil received a B.F.A. and a Licenciatura in Art and Visual communication with an emphasis on textiles from Universidad

Nacional, Costa Rica. Credits for IU Theatre & Dance include: *Everybody* (first-hand), *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (first-hand), and *The Winter's Tale* (wardrobe supervisor).



ELLIOT CARNELL
(Production Manager)

(he/him) is a third year scenic technology graduate student from League City, TX. He graduated from Baylor University with a B.F.A. in Theatre Design and

Technology. Recent credits include ATD for The Ohio Light Opera, technical director for *The Winter's Tale* (Indiana University), and technical director for *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* (Indiana University).



ASH COSSEY
(Props Manager)

is a first year Scenic M.F.A. candidate coming from Denver, CO. They're excited to be working in the shop and to work with everyone over the next three years.



DAVID DAVILA
(Book, Music and Lyrics)

is a third year M.F.A. playwrighting candidate and multi-hyphenate theatre-maker from South Texas whose work questions systems of power and centers the

experiences of Queer and Latinx people through plays, musicals, poetry, sketch, and stand-up comedy. Winner of the National New Play Network Smith Prize for Political Theatre and the New American Voices National Playwriting Award he is a Playwrights Horizons Artist Grant Recipient, a Roundabout Theatre Company SpaceJam Resident, a Primary Stages Rockwell Scholar, an Askins Playwright Fellow, a Disney TV Fellowship Semi-Finalist, and the son of a preacher man. His produced theatrical works include *Aztec Pirates, a Latinx Fantasia* on National Themes (Lone Star Theatre NY 2023), *The Mesquite Tree, an American Tragedy* (Teatro Audaz 2022), *Animal Husbandry* (NYC Fringe 2019), *Manuel Vs the Statue of Liberty* (Dramatic Question Theatre 2015, Princeton Univ. 2017, Gallery Players 2018), *Tales from Hwy 281* (Intar 2014), and *#52songs* (The Beachman 2013). At IU his play *The Piñata* premiered in the Studio Theatre directed by Lauren Diesch, and *1970's College Sex Comedy* premiered on the mainstage directed by Daniel Sappington. His unproduced works include *Hotel Puerto Vallarta: a legitimate work of dramatic theatre*, *The Invisible Hand of God Touched Me in a Bad Place*, *Scissors Under the House*, *Promesa: a Mariachi Musical*, *The Rattle of the Snake and Other Nightmares*, *Roman-a-Clef*, *Everything Is Not Going to be Okay*, and more. In 2022 his streaming series *Most Likely To* premiered at the HBO Warner Bros Latinx Film Festival and won a Silver Telly award for excellence in film. In 2021 his song "Like a River" written with Jaime Lozano was recorded by Tejano superstar Bobby Pulido and released on Broadway Records. UP NEXT: On March 3rd, his award-winning musical *Manuel vs the Statue of Liberty* will be presented by Constellation Stage and Screen at the Firebay Theatre. *Vox Pop! a Post-Democratic Musical* is his Thesis Production. www.daviddavila.net

**LUNA DECASTRO***(Assistant Director)*

(she/her) Luna is a Senior pursuing a degree in Theatre & Drama at Indiana University. She is from Bloomington, IN. Luna is excited to be making her IU Mainstage

debut as Assistant Director for *Vox Pop!*. Recently she has directed the play *La Mujer Que Cayó Del Cielo* for IU Teatro Vida. Her other credits include: *You've Been Served* (Pam), *Saltimbancos* (a Gata), *Auto da Compadecida* (Cangaceiro).

**LAUREN DIESCH***(Director)*

(she/her) is originally from Pittsburgh, but lived in Minneapolis for 11 years. There she worked for the award-winning CLIMB theatre as the Director of Education/Associate

Artistic Director. Additionally, directed, performed, and taught for numerous Twin Cities companies including: The Children's Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Theatre Coup d'Etat, Open Window, Gadfly, Chameleon Theatre Circle, Umbrella Collective, and Theatre Unbound. Lauren received her B.A. in Theatre Arts from the University of Pittsburgh and is currently pursuing her M.F.A. in Directing.

**AVA FRANCISCO***(Assistant Costume Designer)*

is a first-year graduate candidate focusing on Costume Design. Ava has been the Costume Intern for Alley Theatre and the Costume Administration

Intern for Santa Fe Opera. She has designed *Fish's Belly* and *The Wolves* for the University of Houston and *Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* for Playhouse 1960. She was the design assistant for *Learned Ladies*, *Something Rotten!*, and *Shakespeare in Hollywood*. When not involved in theatre you can find Ava teaching saxophone or swing dancing.

**NICHOLAS GWIN***(Lighting Designer)*

(he/him) is a second year M.F.A. candidate from Atlanta, GA. In his time at IU he has designed and assisted for various productions and is excited to be a part of bringing

the world of this production to life. He is grateful for the support of his advisers, professors, friends, and parents. He hopes you enjoy the show.

**ANDREW HOPSON***(Sound Designer)*

As a theatre composer and sound designer, Andrew has designed or written the scores for shows at such theatres as the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Utah

Shakespearean Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Repertory Theatre, American Players Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse, Pioneer Playhouse, Cleveland Playhouse, Victory Gardens, Harvard University, and the Indiana Repertory Theatre, where he was resident sound designer for five years. In 2004, his New York debut *Trying*, was rated one of the best Off-Broadway shows of the year. In film, he has scored the documentaries, *Birth of Legends*, *The Battle of Comm Avenue*, *Hockey's Greatest Era 1942-1967*, *The Frozen Four* and *Utah's Olympic Legacy*. He has produced, engineered or performed on over 40 CDs, ranging from stories for children to collections of modern American piano works. He is a member of United Scenic Artists, local 829 and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology.

**MAGGIE JACKSON***(Scenic & Projections Designer)*

(she/her) is from Carlisle, PA. She is a third-year M.F.A. candidate in Scenic Design at Indiana University. Her previous design credits include

Orlando, *Into the Woods*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*, and *Bowling for Beginners*. Maggie obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Technical Theatre Design & Musical Theatre Performance from East Stroudsburg University (East Stroudsburg, PA). She has received award

recognition for her designs of *Orlando* (2023 USITT Midwestern Digital Design Competition Winner), *Tuck Everlasting* (BroadwayWorld Indianapolis winner of Best Theatre for Young Audiences Production), and *Bowling for Beginners* (Awarded Excellence in Design from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre). Her work has been seen regionally with Summer Stock Stage, The Hangar Theatre Company, and Indiana University Summer Theatre. To see her upcoming works and previous designs visit www.maggiejacksonsdesigns.com for more information.



SARAH JOHNSON
(Dramaturg)

(she/her) is a dramaturg and scholar. Her research focuses on intercultural theatre, new play development, and dramaturgical methodologies. She is

Assistant Professor of Dramaturgy and Head of the M.F.A. Dramaturgy program at Indiana University Bloomington.



MOLLY LENIG
(Production Assistant)

(she/her) is a Junior from La Porte, IN. She is pursuing a degree in Theatre & Drama with an emphasis in stage management and a minor in fitness instruction. Last semester, Molly was

an assistant stage manager in *Orlando* and is super excited to be a part of *Vox Pop!* She is also a part of IU's all female a cappella group, Ladies First. Molly is super excited to continue exploring stage management at IU. She would like to thank Maddy Tagua-Horne for her endless support and would like to wish her the best of luck in law school next year!



TONY MASTROBERTI
(Bassist)

is an audio engineer, musician, and producer based in Bloomington, IN. His passions include recording, mixing, performing, and songwriting/composition.

His primary instruments are steel pan and guitar. Tony is currently a Junior at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, pursuing a B.S. in Audio Engineering and Sound Production and a Minor in Electronic Music.



SADIE MAW
(Assistant Stage Manager)

(they/she) is a second-year student pursuing a B.A. in Theatre & Drama. They are excited to be making their IU debut as Assistant Stage Manager for *Vox-Pop!*. For University

Players: *Be More Chill* (Stage Manager), *Sweeney Todd* (Stage Manager), *Camp [Redacted]* (Stage Manager), *Lolita Play* (Scenic Design), and *Clue* (Sound and Props Design). Notable acting credits include: *Little Women* (Laurie), *A Chorus Line* (Bebe) and *Into the Woods* (Narrator). They are from Plymouth, MA.



RILEY PAULIN
(Assistant Stage Manager)

(he/him) is a Sophomore majoring in Theatre & Drama. This is his first time stage managing. Before coming to IU, Riley has worked with IU Theatre before in *Cat on a Hot Tin*

Roof (Sonny), and worked with IU Festival Theatre in *The Music Man* (Townsperson). He has also been in productions with other companies, including Sounds of South, Cardinal Stage Company, and Bloomington Playwrights Project. Riley is from Bloomington, IN.



LAUREN PERRY
(Assistant Lighting Designer)

(she/her) is a Sophomore at IU studying Theatre & Drama with a minor in Dance. This is her second time working with IU MainStage, and she is

thrilled to be returning. Recent credits include: *Love of a Pig* (lighting designer) and *Be More Chill* (ensemble/Brooke u/s) with University Players, Cabaret (light board operator) with IU MainStage, *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes) with IU, and *Assassins* (iconography and graphic design) with Fly North Theatricals.



**KATIE COWAN
SICKMEIER**
(Costume Designer)

is a born Cincinnati and naturalized Hoosier. She earned her BFA in Theatre Design at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. After USC,

Katie spent three years at the Indiana Repertory Theatre until she departed for her graduate studies in Costume Design at Indiana University. Katie held various costume design, technology, management, and wardrobe roles at companies including American Players Theatre, Indiana Festival Theatre, Santa Fe Opera, PCPA Theaterfest, and Center Theatre Group. She was the assistant costume designer for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's *Yuletide Celebration* for eight years and the resident costume designer for Park Tudor School in Indianapolis for five years. Katie lives up the road in Bargersville with her husband, Jeff, and their two sons. Design credits for the Indiana University: *Head Over Heels* (upcoming), *Little Women*, *Three Sisters*, *Persuasion*, *M. Butterfly*, *The Matchmaker*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Richard III*, *Cabaret*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *How I Learned to Drive*. Other design credits: *Grease: High School Version*, *The Play that Goes Wrong*, *Moana, Jr.*, *Chicago: High School Version*, *She Kills Monsters: Young Adventurers Edition*, *Urinetown, Failure: A Love Story*, *Into the Woods, Jr.*, *Legally Blonde*, *Beauty & the Beast, Jr.* (Park Tudor School); *The Big Bang*, *Sweeney Todd* remounted with the Carmel Symphony Orchestra, *A Comedy of Tenors*, *It Shoulda Been You*, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, *The Fantasticks*, *My Fair Lady* (Actors Theatre of Indiana); and *Bridge & Tunnel* (IRT).



EM SINGLETON
(Orchestrator)

(they/them) is in their third year of studies in linguistics, music composition, and viola. They've had their work presented at IU's Grunwald Gallery,

University of Georgia, Penn State, University of Florida, Princeton University, Petaluma Arts Center, and Shapeshifter Lab in Brooklyn. Last season, they played in the pit for IU's production of *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* and are excited to be working with IU Theatre again this season!



MADDY TAGUA-HORNE
(Stage Manager)

(she/her/ella) is a Senior at Indiana University studying Arts Management with minors in Law and Public Policy, Theatre, and Spanish. Madeline is thrilled to

serve as the Stage Manager on *Vox Pop!* along with her team. Madeline is from Fishers, IN, and is a member of the professional tap company Circle City Tap Company in Indianapolis. Madeline is an aspiring law student, who will be attending law school this fall to pursue Entertainment & Arts Law to represent minorities in the industry. She would like to thank her parents for their continued support. Her past stage management credits include *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (ASM), *Sweeney Todd* (Interim SM), *Into the Woods* (ASM), and *Orlando* (ASM).



ERIK WAKAR
(Music Director / Piano-Vocal Arranger)

(she/her) is a third-year student at IU studying Piano Performance, plus minors in Mathematics, French, and Spanish. For IU Theatre: *Joseph and*

the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Keyboard 2), and *Carrie: The Musical* (Keyboard 2). For University Players: *Ordinary Days* (Piano), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Keyboard 1), *Lizzie the Musical* (Keyboard 1). Other: *The Light in the Piazza* (Music Director, Piano), *The Last Five Years* (Piano), *Merrily We Roll Along* (Piano/Conductor). Erik is from Canton, MI.



AERIN WEBBER
(Choreographer)

(he/him) is a Senior Dance B.F.A. from West Lafayette, IN. While at IU, Aerin has danced in: *Cultural Immersions* (2023), *AADC Spring Concert* (2023), *The Winter's Tale* (2023),

Journeys of Joy (2022), *New Moves* (2023, 2022 & 2021), *Earthward* (2021), *From the Ground Up* (2021), and *Framing Figures* (2020). Additionally, Aerin has choreographed for productions: *SLIP* (2021 & 2022), *Boundless* (2022), and *Advanced Choreographic Investigation* (2023) as well as a site-specific dance film at Griffy Lake, *Lingering Moments* (2023).

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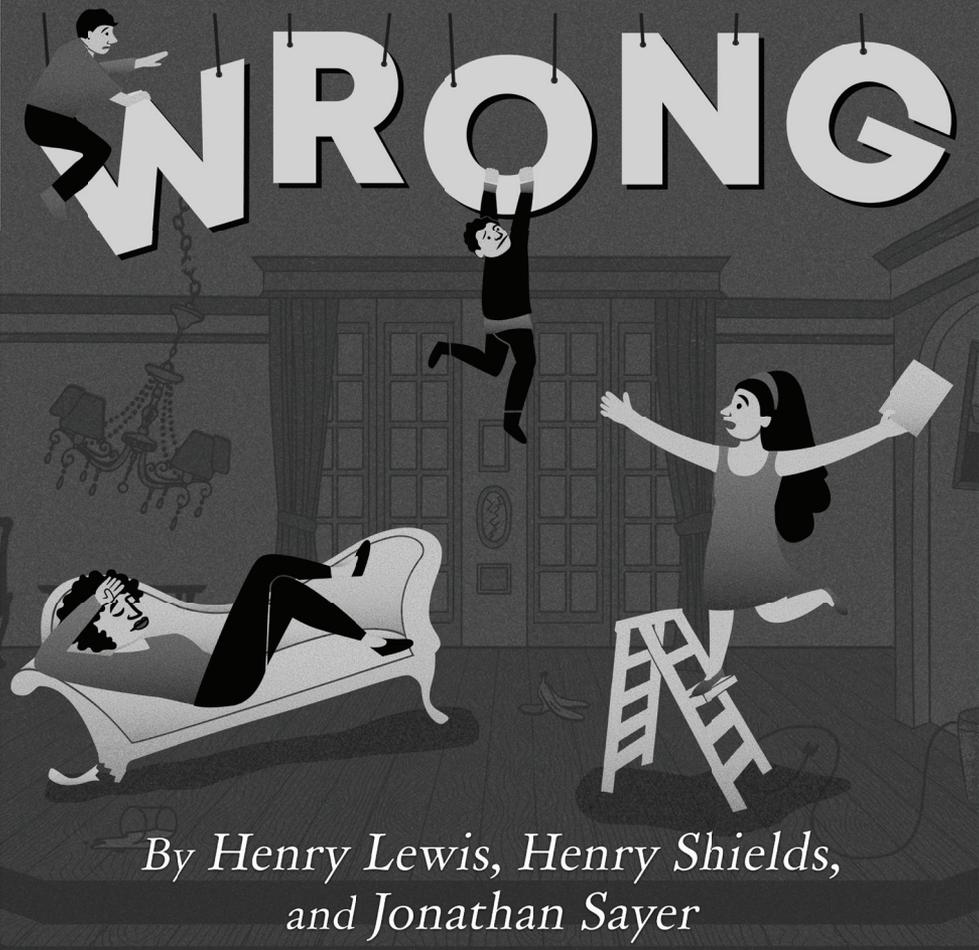
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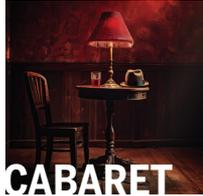
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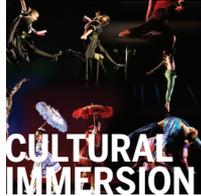
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