

RENT

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S DESK



Welcome to today's performance of *Rent*!

The early 90s New York City downtown bohemian culture Jonathan Larson wrote about in *Rent* covers very familiar ground for me, since I was also an emerging artist in that period, and I often found myself working in the tiny storefronts or makeshift loft theatres in the Lower East Side. Although technically Brooklyn was my home in those days, entering Alphabet City always felt exciting, fertile, alive, and just a little dangerous for my generation of artists coming of age in a time of the AIDS crisis, activism, and yes – rising rents. It gives me pause to consider what new works for the musical stage Jonathan Larson would have shared with us had he been able to live a long and productive artistic life.

Since we are in a season of giving thanks, I want to thank everyone in our community who continues to support both Centre Stage and our students directly through their giving. The community volunteers on our Centre Stage Advisory Council are first on my list to thank, as they continue to help us more deeply engage with our community, and help generate support for both our productions and our students in the form of scholarships.

On November 29, Penn State will take part in GivingTuesday—a global event dedicated to celebrating generosity. I'm looking forward to showing my support for multiple causes here at Penn State, and I hope you'll join me! I know that our students' lives can be deeply helped through philanthropy. With so many of our students working to pursue their dreams of a life impacting our world through theatre, design and performance, while often holding down multiple jobs to make ends meet, I get to see first-hand how scholarships and program support can change lives. Last year we raised \$13,000 through our two funds:

The Penn State Centre Stage Fund allows us to support the development of students in our design, production and performance programs by supporting the type of work you are seeing today.

Our Support School of Theatre Students Fund 2022 helps create the funds the School of Theatre can access to support students who are in need of financial assistance.

You can make a gift on November 29 by visiting givingtuesday.psu.edu. GivingTuesday has become one of the biggest fundraising events at Penn State and a powerful way to show your Penn State pride.

Thanks for considering a role in making this year's event a success for Penn Staters.

If you enjoy the show tonight – please share the good news on the following social media channels: Facebook: [pennstatecentrestage](https://www.facebook.com/pennstatecentrestage) & [pennstatesot](https://www.facebook.com/pennstatesot); Twitter: [psutheatre](https://twitter.com/psutheatre); Instagram: [psutheatre](https://www.instagram.com/psutheatre).

Thanks for joining us today, and enjoy the show!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Rick Lombardo.

Rick Lombardo
Producing Artistic Director
Director, School of Theatre

DRAMATURG'S NOTE

When asked to give a one-sentence description of his rock musical, playwright Jonathan Larson said, "*Rent* is about a community celebrating life, in the face of death and AIDS, at the turn of the century." Larson had no idea how much *Rent* would impact the art form to which he devoted his life. Twenty-five years after its debut, *Rent* serves as a record of the attitudes and experiences of artists in 1989-1990 amidst the HIV/AIDS crisis.

Throughout the musical, the grassroots organization ACT UP is referenced. Known for their high-profile protests and activism through artwork, ACT UP fought for AIDS awareness, research, and treatment in the face of governmental negligence. Larson's own experience and philosophies living as a young, poor artist in New York City throughout AIDS crisis lent itself to his art. Art, driven by love, is a powerful tool for societal transformation.

Rent is set within the rich cultural landscape of Alphabet City, a neighborhood of Manhattan's East Village stretching from the intersections of Avenue A and 14th Street to Avenue D and East Houston. The name emerged in the 1980s due to the lettered avenues unique to the neighborhood. Though the area faced higher levels of drug-related violence and crime in the 80s, its vibrant nightlife and community of artists attracted young people looking to carve out a home for themselves in the city.

Within Alphabet City is Life Cafe (the setting for "La Vie Bohème" and where it's said Jonathan Larson wrote much of the play) and Tompkins Square Park, home to one of the largest "tent cities" in New York City in the 1980s. In the park, hundreds of squatters and unhoused people set up temporary shelters similar to the tent city in *Rent* just next to Mark and Roger's apartment. On August 6, 1988, the notorious Tompkins Square Park riot broke out as police forced out the tent city occupants, citing a new city-wide curfew of 1 AM. The riot united communities young and old in Alphabet City through their outrage. Just like ACT UP's protests, people banded together as a collective for the sake of their community, pushing for societal change in a time of cynicism and fear.

Twenty-five years later, a new generation of artists are looking for their place in the world. The world looks very different now than it did in 1989, but that doesn't diminish *Rent*'s value at all. People find joy within heartbreak, love amidst fear, and strength through vulnerability. Shortly after Larson's death, his family found this quote in his files, which captures his dreams for *Rent*'s message. "In these dangerous times, where it seems the world is ripping apart at the seams, we can all learn how to survive from those who stare death squarely in the face every day... and reach out to each other and bond as a community, rather than hide from the terrors of life at the end of the millennium."

Sylvie Vanstory
Dramaturg, BA Theatre Studies, 2025

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act One

"Tune Up #1"	Mark, Roger
"Voice Mail #1"	Mark's Mother
"Tune Up #2"	Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny
"Rent"	Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny, Joanne, and Company
"You Okay Honey?"	Christmas Caroler, Angel, Collins
"Tune Up #3"	Mark, Roger
"One Song Glory"	Roger
"Light My Candle"	Mimi, Roger
"Voice Mail #2"	Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson
"Today 4 U"	Collins, Roger, Mark, Angel
"You'll See"	Benny, Mark, Roger, Collins, Angel
"Tango: Maureen"	Joanne, Mark
"Life Support"	Paul, Gordon, Steve, Ali, Pam, Sue, Angel, Collins, Mark, Roger
"Out Tonight"	Mimi
"Another Day"	Mimi, Roger, Ensemble
"Will I?"	Steve and Company
"On the Street"	Christmas Carolers, Squeegee Man, Mark, Collins, Angel, Homeless Woman, Cops
"Santa Fe"	Collins, Angel, Mark, Ensemble
"I'll Cover You"	Angel, Collins
"We're Okay"	Joanne
"Christmas Bells"	Christmas Carolers, Saleswoman, Collins, Angel, Mark, Roger, Cops, The Man, Mimi, Benny, Company
"Over the Moon"	Maureen
"La Vie Bohème A"	Waiter, Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny, Mimi, Angel, Maureen, Joanne, Mr. Grey, and Company
"I Should Tell You"	Mimi, Roger
"La Vie Bohème B"	Joanne, Maureen, Mark, Angel, Collins, and Company

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

Act Two

"Seasons of Love"	Company
"Happy New Year A"	Mimi, Roger, Mark, Maureen, Joanne, Collins, Angel
"Voice Mail #3"	Mark's Mother, Alexi Darling
"Happy New Year B"	Maureen, Mark, Joanne, Roger, Mimi, Collins, Angel, Benny, The Man
"Take Me or Leave Me"	Maureen, Joanne
"Seasons of Love B"	Company
"Without You"	Roger, Mimi
"Voice Mail #4"	Alexi Darling
"Contact"	Company
"I'll Cover You (Reprise)"	Collins and Company
"Halloween"	Mark
"Goodbye Love"	Mimi, Roger, Benny, Maureen, Joanne, Mark, Collins
"What You Own"	Mark, Roger
"Voice Mail #5"	Roger's Mother, Mimi's Mother, Mr. Jefferson, Mark's Mother
"Finale A"	Homeless People, Mark, Roger, Collins, Maureen, Joanne, Mimi
"Your Eyes"	Roger
"Finale B"	Roger, Mimi, Company

Penn State School of Theatre
PENN STATE CENTRE STAGE

presents



Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

Musical Arrangements by Steve Skinner

Original Concept/Additional Lyrics by Billy Aronson

Music Supervision and Additional Arrangements by Tim Weil

Dramaturgy by Lynn Thomson

RENT was originally produced in New York by New York Theatre Workshop and on Broadway by Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon and New York Theatre Workshop

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER
Christine O'Grady^f

MUSIC DIRECTOR
David Wolfson^f

ASSOC. DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER
Christopher Campbell^s

ASSOCIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR
Harry Collins^s

SCENIC DESIGNER
Emily Simpson^s

COSTUME DESIGNER
Jeremy Eiben^s

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Kyle Shearer^s

SOUND DESIGNER
Mac Miller^s

VOICE COACH
Kris Danford^f

INTIMACY/FIGHT DIRECTOR
Erik Raymond Johnson^f

PROJECTIONS DESIGNER
Andrew M. Haag Jr.^f

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
Maria Papadopoulos^s

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Ray Reehill^f

November 15–18, 29–December 1–3, 2022
Pavilion Theatre

^gGuest Artist
^fFaculty/Staff
^sStudent



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CAST

ROGEROwen Smith
MARKMinju Michelle Lee
COLLINSJordan Frank
BENNYRyaan Farhadi
JOANNEKeke Nesbitt
ANGELKris Carrasco
MIMIMarlene Fernandez
MAUREENSara Al-Bazali
COLÓN, MIMI'S MOTHER.....Malena Ramirez

FEATURED ENSEMBLE.....Hannah Bank, Madeline Glave, Lance Joos, Noi Nuria Maeshige,
Andrew Palmieri, Lav Raman, Malena Ramirez, Jonah Schwartz
DANCE CAPTAIN..... Madeline Glave

UNDERSTUDY (JOANNE)..... Lav Raman
UNDERSTUDY (MAUREEN) Maddy Glave

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for players unless a specific announcement for
the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

BAND

Keyboard 1/Conductor
David Wolfson

Guitar 1
Tom Cody

Bass
Justin Dorsey

Drums
Kyle Haust

*Keyboard Programming/
Rehearsal Piano*
Joseph Ivan

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

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to Shannon Huss at Alley Cat Music of State College.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that the Pennsylvania State University—including the School of Theatre, the locations where we rehearse and produce theatre, and where our classrooms are located—is built upon the traditional lands of the Susquehannock (suh-sk-wuh-ha-naak) and Haudenosaunee (hoe-dee-no-show-nee) peoples. The Haudenosaunee Confederacy—meaning “People of the long house”—unites the nations of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas in harmony to create peaceful decision making. The Confederacy was founded by Peacemaker, a prophet, with the aid of leader Hiawatha, also known as Aionwatha. The Susquehannock people lived on this land for generations. On this land, the late 17th century brought epidemics that reduced populations significantly, in addition to large-scale massacres at the hands of white people during the mid-18th century. Today, in the 21st century, the Susquehannock people number 400 people. We recognize the everlasting sovereignty of the indigenous people who have inhabited and cared for this land, and we pay respect to the Susquehannock and Haudenosaunee peoples of the past, present, and future.

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ACTING COMPANY

OWEN SMITH (Roger) is a third-year Musical Theatre



student, and excited to tackle this role and show. He is a singer/songwriter often with a guitar by his side. It's been a blast exploring the depths to which an artist will go to achieve contentment with their creation. Endless love to the innumerable people afflicted by the AIDS epidemic; thank you for sharing a piece of yourselves in this theatre tonight. Our directing team has been so wonderful in contextualizing this distinct time period and bringing this exceptional show to life. Special thanks to Nick Brogan for his continued support.

MINJU MICHELLE LEE (Mark) (They/Them) is a third-



year Musical Theatre major from Boulder, Colorado. At Penn State, Minju has been seen in *The Wild Party* (Ensemble), *Nostalgia Night* (Reby), and they are absolutely thrilled to be playing the role of Mark. Minju would like to thank their PSUMT family for always creating a safe space to explore their art!! @minjumichellelee

JORDAN FRANK (Collins) is a second-year Musical



Theatre student from Dallas, Texas. His most recent credits include Sandy Dean in *Brigadoon*, and Raoul in *Phantom of the Opera*! Jordan would like to thank his family for the endless support they have always given him. A fun fact about Jordan is that he loves Hot and Spicy cheez-itz! You can find Jordan on all social platforms @tsjordanfrank!

RYAAN FARHADI (Benny) is honored to be a part of



RENT, one of his favorite musicals. Credits include the *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Brigadoon* (Archie), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. He would like to thank his family, Christine, John and his Clowns. @ryaanfarhadi

KEKE NESBITT (Joanne) is thrilled to have joined the



cast of *Rent* as Joanne. Some of her previous credits include Kate (*The Wild Party*), Dayna (*These Girls Have Demons*), and Mistress Lundie (*Brigadoon*). She would like to give a big thanks to her parents, friends, and mentors for all of their support. She is honored for this show to be her final performance as an undergrad at Penn State and extends congratulations to her fellow class of 2023 members, She loves you! Check her out on instagram @keiona.nesbitt

KRIS CARRASCO (Angel) is blessed to play a dream



role as a PSUMT fourth-year! Select Regional: *Chasing Rainbows* (world premiere), *Gypsy*, *Nostalgia Night* (Mickey St Clair), *The Music Man* (directed by Chase Brock), *Tuck Everlasting* (Jesse; directed by Joe Barros) *The Lucky Boy* (Galileo), *A Chorus Line* (Paul).

ACTING COMPANY

Upcoming: *Sueños: Our American Musical*, EP cast recording streaming everywhere. For Rudy @krisdcarrasco

MARLENE FERNANDEZ (Mimi) (She/Her) was born in Washington Heights, New York. She is currently a fourth-year Musical Theatre major at Penn State. Credits: *RENT* (Mimi), *Fun Home* (Joan), *A Chorus Line* (Diana), and *Spamalot* (Lady of the Lake/US). Original Works: *Nostalgia Night* (Ruthie). Regional: *In*



The Heights (Carla). Marlene is so excited to share this beautiful piece of art alongside such gifted individuals before you all! Instagram: @shmakeupbyshmarlene // Personal: @shmarlene_

SARA AL-BAZALI (Maureen) is a fourth-year Musical Theatre major from Denver, Colorado. Previous Centre Stage credits include *The Wild Party* (Swing) and *Brigadoon* (Ensemble). She was also lucky enough to participate in several new works and readings while at Penn State, including *These Girls Have Demons* (Kayla), and *Results Will Vary 2022*, where she collaborated as both a writer and company member. Special thanks to her mom and family for the endless love and support! @sara.albazali



HANNAH BANK (Featured Ensemble) is a second-year B.F.A. Musical Theatre student from Columbus, Ohio, and a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy. She was previously in Centre Stage's production of *Brigadoon* (Ensemble, Fiona U/S). Hannah would like to thank Christine O'Grady for this amazing experience, and her mom for her continued love and support. WE ARE! @hannah.bank



MADELINE GLAVE (Featured Ensemble, Dance Captain) is a second-year Musical Theatre major, from Los Angeles. This is her second production at Penn State, as she was seen in *Nostalgia Night* last semester as a Swing. She is so thrilled to be a part of *RENT*! She has loved this entire experience and can't wait for more to come! She would like to thank her friends, family, cast, and crew, for all of their love and support. @maddyylglavee



LANCE JOOS (Featured Ensemble) (He/Him) is thrilled to be a part of his first musical experience in *RENT* at Penn State! His recent Penn State credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Nick Bottom) and the student film, *A Deer in the Woods* (Josh). In his free time, Lance loves to make music and play the guitar. His most recent project, *Isolation – Electric Fieldss*, is on streaming services everywhere. He sends love to his family, friends, and weiner dog Mickey for their undying support! Ig: @Lance.joos



NOI NURIA MAESHIGE (Featured Ensemble) is a third-year Musical Theatre major at Penn State. Penn state credits include *Nostalgia Night* (Jade Nakasone) and assistant directing *These Girls Have Demons* in collaboration with PCLO. She can't wait for everyone to enjoy the show. Special thanks to her friends and family. @helloi.noi



ANDREW PALMIERI (Featured Ensemble) is a second-year B.F.A. Musical Theatre student from Chatham, New Jersey. Previous roles include (Frank/ Jeff Douglas U/S) in *Brigadoon*, Prince Topher in *Cinderella*, Hans in *Frozen*, Rev. John Hale in *The Crucible*, Charlie Lee in *Radium Girls*, and Jehan in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. He has also performed in Paper Mill Playhouse's New Voices Concerts from 2015-2019 as part of their summer musical theater conservatory.



LAV RAMAN (Featured Ensemble) is a second-year B.F.A. Musical Theatre student from Pittsburgh. Previous credits include *Cinderella* (Cinderella), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), and Shivani in Billy Porter's feature film, *What if?* She is extremely excited to share this beautiful and important story, and would like to thank the cast, crew, and creative team for all their love and hard work! @lavvraman



MALENA RAMIREZ (Colón, Featured Ensemble, Mimi's Mother) Actress/Comedian/Clown from Puerto Rico. Faculty at the School of Theatre at Penn State. Member of the Spanish Repertory Theatre Company in New York City where she performed in plays like *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *Discreet but in Love*, among others. Her most recent show: *Miss Margarida's Way* (a one-woman show she produced) She was also part of the cast of "Song of Home" which toured in Poland and Moldova in February 2020. When she is not "acting" she is rollerskating and making comics and illustrations. More info : malenaramirez.net Instagram: @malena.ramirez @malenacomics



JONAH SCHWARTZ (Featured Ensemble) is a performer and writer from the D.C. Metro Area! You may have seen him in Penn State's *Brigadoon* as Charlie Dalrymple, or in *The Wild Party* as Max. Other credits include Huckleberry Finn in Adventure Theatre's production of *Big River* (Helen Hayes Nomination), and most recently, *The Last Grove*, an off-Broadway musical workshop conceived by the Atlantic Theatre Company, in which Jonah helped write and perform in! As always, he thanks his amazing Jewish mother for all her love and support.



ARTISTIC TEAM

CHRISTINE O'GRADY (Director/Choreographer) is enjoying her new role on the directing faculty at Penn State. Centre Stage: *Legally Blonde*. Broadway/Tours: *Hair* (resident assoc. director/choreographer), *Legally Blonde* (SDC observer), *Pete the Cat's Big Hollywood Adventure*. Off-Broadway: *The Hello Girls*, *The Underclassman*, and *Iron Curtain*, as well as revivals of *Tick, Tick...BOOM!*, and *John and Jen*. Regional: Mark Taper Forum, Barrington Stage Company, Theaterworks Hartford, and the Totem Pole, Weathervane, and New London Barn Playhouses, as well as in award-winning revivals at The Astoria Performing Arts Center and The Gallery Players. AWARDS: The SDC's Charles Abbott Directing Fellowship (with Joseph Haj, *The Guthrie*); The Moss Hart Award (*The Outcast of Sherwood Forest*, RIYT); and a NYIT Award for Outstanding Choreography for *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Gallery Players). Christine holds a B.S. in Communications from Boston University and an M.F.A. in Theatre from Arizona State University. She is a member of SDC and MTEA, and is a trained Intimacy Director (IDC and TIE) and completed Nicole Brewer's Conscientious Theatre Training. www.christineogrady.com

DAVID WOLFSON (Music Director) has worked as music director, composer, orchestrator, arranger, pianist, copyist, or synthesizer programmer for performances in venues ranging from Broadway theatres to elementary school cafeteriums. He has served as music director and/or arranger for numerous regional and Off-Broadway productions, including Al Tapper and Tony Sportiello's *All Aboard!* and *National Pastime*. He has played in the pits of over twenty-five Broadway shows, including all three productions of *Les Misérables*. He holds a Ph.D. in music composition from Rutgers University and has taught at Rutgers, Hunter College, and Montclair State University. To hear David's original music, please visit www.davidwolfsonmusic.net.

CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL (Associate Director/Choreographer) is a first-year M.F.A. candidate in Directing for Musical Theatre. Select credits: *Michael Jackson: The Musical* (Broadway), *Hamilton* (Australia/National Tour), *The Rev*, TUTS, PCLO. B.F.A.: University of Michigan. www.chriskdc.com

HARRY COLLINS (Associate Music Director) is a third-year M.F.A. Music Direction candidate. Harry gained his undergraduate degree in music specializing in classical voice from the University of New South Wales, and then completed a Masters of Music in Orchestra Conducting. Harry has worked across the gamut of the musical theatre repertoire, and was most recently the associate music director for the Australian national tour of *An American in Paris* (GWB/Australian Ballet). For Penn State Centre Stage, Harry was the music director for *The Wild Party* and *Songs for a New World*. Later this season, Harry will music direct *Into The Woods*.



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ARTISTIC TEAM

KRIS DANFORD (Voice Coach) is an associate professor of voice and speech in the School of Theatre. She has previously held appointments at the University of Michigan, Southern Oregon University, University of Iowa, and the University of West Florida. Kris' professional work as a voice, text, and dialect coach includes coaching at theatres such as the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, American Stage, and Urbanite Theatre. As a professional actor, she has appeared at regional theatres around the country, including Asolo Repertory Theatre, Riverside Theatre, and Ashland New Plays Festival. In the realm of research, she is currently leading a multidisciplinary research study that utilizes theatre-based voice training as a potential tool for women in childbirth. Kris holds a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from SUNY Fredonia, an M.F.A. in Acting from the FSU Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training, and is a certified Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework.®

EMILY SIMPSON (Scenic Designer) is a third-year undergraduate student studying Scenic Design and Technical Direction. At Penn State, she has worked as the assistant props manager for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, props manager for *Nostalgia Night*, lead carpenter for *Brigadoon*, and props artisan and general carpenter on several other productions. She is thrilled to be the scenic designer of *RENT*, which is her first fully produced design. Next semester, she looks forward to being an assistant technical director for *Into the Woods* and the technical director for *Emilia*. Professionally, she has worked as the props intern with the REV Theatre Company in Auburn, New York.

JEREMY EIBEN (Costume Designer) is a third-year M.F.A. candidate in Costume Design from Pittsburgh. He received his B.F.A. in Technical Theatre from Point Park University in 2019. He has worked as a costume designer, and craftsmen with clients such as The Utah Shakespeare Festival, Point Park University's dance company, Stage 62, Pittsburgh Musical Theatre, The REP, Playhouse Jr., Resonance Works Opera, and the Pittsburgh Playhouse Main Stage. Past costume designs include Andrew Lipa's *The Wild Party* (2021, Centre Stage), and *Vinegar Tom* (2019, Point Park University). Upcoming projects include costume designs for *Into the Woods* (2023, Centre Stage) and his monograph design presentation of *Kiss Me Kate*. Jeremy would like to put a big thanks out to his mom for encouraging him with support and love through this process, and a big thanks to all the students and mentors who have helped get this show on its feet. www.jeremyetaylorlอร์ดesign.com

KYLE SHEARER (Lighting Designer) is a fourth-year Design and Technology (Lighting) student and Schreyer Honors Scholar from Cleveland, Ohio. He's a stagehand at the Bryce Jordan Center and previously served as a production coordinator for *Movin' On* music festival. Select design credits include: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Penn State Centre Stage), A Greater Penn State Closing Ceremony (Bryce Jordan Center), Penn State Women's Ice Hockey (Pegula Ice Arena), *Always Patsy Cline* (Totem Pole Playhouse), and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Weathervane Playhouse). Next up, Kyle is traveling to Naples, Florida to design *Southern Comforts* at the Naples Players. kyleshearerld.com

MAC MILLER (Sound Designer) is thrilled to present *RENT* as his final mainstage design at Penn State. Previous credits include *Lonely Together* (PSU '21) and *Mountain Language* (PSU '22), as well as working at the New London Barn Playhouse this past summer as their resident sound designer. He can often be found working on other creative pursuits, recently earning a grant through Penn State to develop and record his own new musical, *Green House*. He would like to thank his family, friends and teachers, and the theatre community in his hometown of Pittsburgh for developing and cultivating his love for theatre.

ANDREW M. HAAG JR (Projections Designer) is a faculty member at Penn State, where he received his M.F.A. from the School of Theatre in 2015. He leads the video and projections area for the School of Theatre. He is very excited to collaborate with this talented team of designers, actors, and technicians. Andrew's work has been seen locally in FUSE production's of *Sunday In The Park With George* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and most recently at Juniper Village for *Mary Poppins Senior*. His other professional credits have occurred in the Baltimore/ Washington, D.C. area.

MARIA PAPADOPOULOS (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to have *RENT* (which is her favorite musical) as her last production at Penn State. Previous credits include production stage manager of *Indecent*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Bone Play*; prop manager of *Metaphorphoses*, *A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*; and assistant stage manager on *Merrily We Roll Along* and *She Kills Monsters*.

RAY REEHILL (Technical Director) is a second-year M.F.A. Technical Direction candidate in the School of Theatre and is very happy to be a part of the production of *Rent*. Originally from New Jersey, Ray now splits his time between State College and the Poconos. A graduate from Fordham University at Lincoln Center, having studied acting and technical theater, Ray chased his dream from New York to Seattle to Los Angeles to Chicago and various other parts of the country. Not all that glitters is gold. Not all who wander are lost.

PRODUCTION STAFF

<i>Assistant Director</i> Olivia Hungate	<i>Scenic Charge Artist</i> Stephanie Lynn Nimick	<i>Stitchers</i> Lauren Bretl	<i>Assistant Sound Designer</i> Maggie Schlachter
<i>Assistant Stage Managers</i> Katie Hasenecz Liz Nugent	<i>Assistant Charge Artist</i> Victor Hernandez	Lauren Greenfield Kit Griffith	<i>Productions Operator</i> Katelyn Diuguid
<i>Dramaturg</i> Sylvie Vanstory	<i>Scenic Artists</i> Alivia Cross Victor Hernandez	Madelyn Harnish Audrey Lewis	<i>Keyboard Programming</i> Joseph Ivan
<i>Dramaturgy Team</i> Braxton DeLauro	Mia Irwin Valentine Regla Pesola	Owain Miliken Mackenzie Ozhekim	<i>Production Audio Engineer</i> Adrian Castro
Arushi Grover	<i>Assistant Charge Artist</i> Anna Lustig	Skyler Sandner Beatrice Stickney	A1 Breanna Fais
Yunke Jiang	<i>Costume Technical Supervisor</i> Laura Kay Robinson	Maddie Simpson Stacey Wiener	A2 Zack Rebarchak
Jacob Malizio	<i>Work Room Supervisor</i> Amanda Ferg	<i>Wardrobe Supervisor</i> Owain Miliken	<i>Deck Crew</i> Makenzie Arone
Nicole McFadden-Derer	<i>Costume Shop Manager</i> Diane Toyos	<i>Dressers</i> Maddie Harnish	Drake Daboul
Flynn Nolen	<i>Drapers</i> Erin Stanek	Subin Kim Kayla Louison	Laura Ledbetter
Zoriana Witmer	Erin Stumm	Felix A. Urrutia	<i>Properties Shop Supervisor/Manager</i> Jay Lasnik
<i>Assistant Technical Director</i> Lauren Petrocelli	<i>First Hands</i> Michael Ciaramitaro	<i>Assistant Lighting Designer</i> Valentine Pesola	<i>Properties Artisans</i> Jack Briggs
<i>Head Carpenter</i> John Geisz	Hilary Hayes	<i>Production Electrician</i> Matthew Thompson	André Brandão de Castro
<i>Staff Scenic Carpenter</i> Chris Shuey	<i>Crafts Head</i> Zandra Siple	<i>Assistant Production Electrician</i> Vinny Pilone	Samantha Forrest
<i>Lead Carpenter</i> Hailey Sanchez	<i>Crafts</i> Jeremy Eiben	<i>Light Board Operator</i> Finnegan Gavelli	Maria Papadopoulos
<i>Scenic Carpenters</i> Nicolas Baror	Charlene Gross	<i>Spots</i> Erika Kessler	LP Paterson
Daniel Dembek		Yue Shui	Lorena Sandoval Pinto
Chris Howell			Emily Simpson
Rolando Simon Gomez			<i>Social Media Coordinator</i> Curtis Trowbridge
Lauren Petrocelli			
Emily Simpson			

PRODUCTION CREW

The following students will support the costume, scenic, and electric crews this semester.

Riley Allsop	Gavin Ditz	Erika Kessler	Kaydee Oliver	Madeline Simpson
Makenzie Arone	Katelynn Diuguid	Nadia Khorshid	Rachel Olson	Zandra Siple
Brandon Badrick	Zachary Doran	Subin Kim	Mackenzie Ozhekim	Kayla Sliger
Katherine Bagley	Jeremy Eiben	Nolan Kocsi	Madison Palmer	Aria Smith
Nicolas Baror	Breanna Fais	Ririka Kuroki	Maria Papadopoulos	Emily Whitman Smith
Tristan Bonniol	Anna Farris	Andre Lajevardi	LP Patterson	Lucy Ann Snyder
Mackenzie Borine	Jonathan Fenton	Laura Ledbetter	Valentine Pesola	Katherine Sorensen
André Brandão de Castro	Samantha Forrest	Gailyn Lee	Lauren Petrocelli	Erin Stanek
Jack Brenner	Finnegan Gavelli	Lindsey Leonard	Jace Petrovich	Beatrice Stickney
Lauren Bretl	James Gibney Jr.	Kade Leous	Claire Phillips	Thomas Strong
Jack Briggs	Logan Glazie	Audrey Lewis	Vinny Pilone	Erin Stumm
Cassidy Brown	Nora Goudie	Mason LoPiccolo	Emily Rose Presley	Matthew Andrew Thompson
Elena Caputo	Taylor Greene	Kayla Louison	Samuel Rahm	Felix Urrutia III
Zayne Carpenter	Lauren Greenfield	Anna Lustig	Christopher Rains	Charles Usner
John Carpino	Kathleen Griffith	Noi Maeshige	Zachary Rebarchak	Anna Kimberley Wagner
Carlo Castoro Jr.	Sarah Hanks	Quinn McDonald	Demanie Redhead	Alina Watson
Adrian Castro	Madelyn Harnish	Gianluca Micciari	Michael Reed	Connor Westhoff
Carter Celgin	Kathryn Hasenecz	Mackenzie Miller	Raymond Reehill	Natalie Wiley
Lauren N Chi	Hilary Hayes	Owain Matthew Miliken	Hailey Sanchez	Samantha Wilson
Michael Ciaramitaro	David Heguy	Oshika Mishra	Skyler Sandner	Zoriana Witmer
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Drake Daboul	Brianna Hoffacker	Tsugumi Nakata	Kyle Shearer	
Zayna Darres	Alex Iozzio	Elizabeth Grace Nugent	Evan Shieh	
Braxton DeLauro	Mia Montero		Yue Shui	
Daniel Dembek	Yunke Jiang		Emily Simpson	

SCHOOL OF THEATRE GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate students fill a number of key positions in the School of Theatre. Common roles include assistant director, paint supervisor, charge artist, property master, first hand, draper, and musical director, to name a few.

Costume Design

Jeremy Eiben
Zandra Siple
Michael Ciaramitaro
Hilary Hayes

Costume Production

Taylor Greene
Erin Stanek
Erin Stumm

Musical Theatre Directing

Christopher Campbell
Zachary Steele

Music Directing

Harrison Collins
Emily Orr
Joseph Ivan
Anne Van Steenwinkel

Scenic Design

André Brandão de Castro
Mia Irwin
Lorena Sandoval
Alivia Cross

Technical Direction

Raymond Reehill

SCHOOL OF THEATRE FACULTY AND STAFF

Directing

Steve Broadnax III*
Rick Lombardo*
Christine O'Grady Roberts*
John Simpkins**

Acting

Steve Broadnax III*
A. Kikora Franklin
Erik Raymond Johnson*
David Kersnar
Rick Lombardo*
Sam Osheoff*
Malena Ramirez
Steve Snyder*

Musical Theatre Acting

John Simpkins**
Nagle Family Endowed
Chair in Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre Singing

Raymond Sage*
Gabriella Sam
Gwen Walker

Music Direction

Emily Orr
David Wolfson*

Dance/Choreography

Michele Dunleavy*
A. Kikora Franklin
Elisha Halpin
Linda Hildebrand
Rebecca Maciejczyk
Chaz Wolcott*

Dramaturgy/History/Literature

Elizabeth Bonjean, Ph.D.
William Doan, Ph.D.▲
Jeanmarie Higgins, Ph.D.
Susan Russell, Ph.D.*
Robert W. Schneider*
Sebastian Trainor
Malcolm Wolmack, Ph.D.

Voice/Speech

Kris Danford
Allegra Ritchie

Movement

Steve Broadnax III*
Elisha Clark Halpin
Erik Raymond Johnson*
Jenny Lamb

Projections

Curtis Craig
Andrew Haag

Scenic Design

Milagros Ponce de León*
Dan Robinson*
Laurencio Ruiz*

Costume Design

Charlene Gross*
Richard St.Clair*

Costume Production

Laura Robinson

Lighting Design

Ken Friedhoff*
William Kenyon*

Sound Design

Curtis Craig
Andrew Haag
Kyle Jensen

Stage Management

Jenny Lang*

Technical Direction

Chris Russo

Scene Shop

John E. Geisz*
Chris Shuey

Properties Shop

Jay Lasnik** – Supervisor

Paint Shop

Stephanie Nimick –
Supervisor

Costume Shop

Diane Toyos – Supervisor
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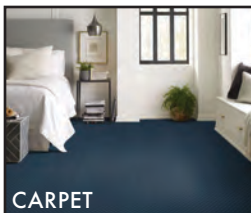
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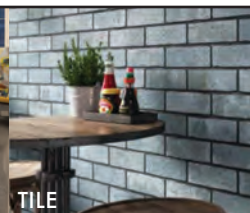
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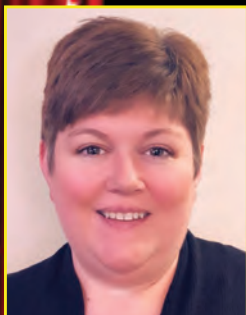
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