The Mystery of Edwin Drood

NOVEMBER 11-20, 2016
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Producers ......................................................... Barbara Richardson and Matt Storm
Director ............................................................................ Livia Genise
Music Director ................................................................. Rebecca Chelson
Choreographer ................................................................. Juliet Prosser
Fight Choreographer .................................................. Paul Cosca
Dance Captain ............................................................ Megan Ruth Smith
Stage Manager .............................................................. Katie Richardson
Assistant Stage Manager .................................................... Jayce Fortin
Costume Designer ........................................................ Alyssa Rands
Set Designer ........................................................................ Demitri Pavlatos
Lighting Designer .............................................................. Ian Anderson-Priddy
Sound Designer ................................................................ Marcus Storey
Props Designers ............................................................... Katie Richardson, Erika Caudle
Dialect Coach ................................................................. Kylie Rose
Dramaturg ........................................................................... Mark B. Ropers
Costume Stitchers .......................................................... Alyssa Rands, Heather Nunn, Amberly Orr,
                                                          Courtland Sherriet, Ron, Zoe Oloquitlen, Diana Kirpatrick,
                                                          Alyssa, Caroline Smith, and Patricia Rohrbach
Wardrobe Manager ........................................................ Breanna Kurth
Backstage Crew ......................................................... Joanna Willman, Jayce Fortin, Barbara Richardson
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FROM THE DIRECTOR

LIVIA GENISE
Director

What a pleasure to be asked to direct MPA's production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood!* My home base is Ashland, home of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, which just closed a wonderful adaptation of *Great Expectations*. Dickens was definitely in my consciousness when Executive Director Barbara Richardson approached me about the show. In addition, I had spent two years performing in an English Music Hall production in Los Angeles when I was (much!) younger and loved the genre. But what amazed me during auditions was the wealth of talent in Vancouver and those willing to commute out to Vancouver during the rehearsal period. These are artists who take their craft very seriously. They are professionals in every sense of the word.

It has been a privilege working not only with them but with my production team (Juliet, Becky and Katie) and the designers.

I truly believe that theatre makes a difference in the world. In this particular show, Rupert Holmes has recognized that the best theatre is one that acknowledges not only the artists' contributions but that of the audience to the production. We are truly all in this together! So, I invite you to sit back, relax, boo and cheer as we, all together, solve *The Mystery of Edwin Drood***!!

NOTES FROM THE DRAMATURG

It has been a scant 20 years since the death of arguably the greatest authors of our time, and the world is still recoiling. Like many of our contemporaries, we at the Music Hall Royale have presented our tribute performance of some of his stories, but it did not seem to do Mr. Dickens justice. How can you stand out when the other theatres are doing their own renditions of *Oliver Twist, David Copperfield,* and *A Christmas Carol*?

That was when we decided to think outside of the crate, and spare no expense (well, as much expense as we had to spare, anyway). We found singer-song writer Rupert Holmes, who is perhaps best known in the United States for a popular song about getting caught in the rain and something called a Pina Colada. Our budget was such that we could give this first timer a chance at writing his first full length play.

As was his custom, Mr. Dickens' pieces were released in monthly installments. His untimely death left many people wondering about the finale of the story. Many authors have tried to resolve Mr. Dickens' final piece, including his own son. Mr. Holmes presented an interesting interpretation of the story by letting you, the audience, vote on the final result. While it is unusual to present a show that combines spoken word, song, and dance into an integrated whole, we feel that there is potential in this method of presentation. We are calling it “musical theatre”, and feel there is great potential.

Many have suggested that it was Mr. Dickens' last tour of the United States contributed to his ill-health and ultimately his death. However, we feel that one should not blame a country for one's death, and we are proud to hereby present you with our humble show.
Cast of Characters

Mr. William Cartwright, Chairman (Mayor Thomas Sapsea) ................................................................. James Montgomery
Mr. James Throttle, Stage Manager ........................................................................................................ Kyle Ulrich
Mr. Clive Paget (John Jasper) .................................................................................................................... Matthew Storm
Miss Alice Nutting (Edwin Drood) ............................................................................................................. Kelly Jean Hammond
Miss Deirdre Peregrine (Rosa Bud) ........................................................................................................... Nicole Rayner
Miss Angela Prysock (Princess Puffer) ......................................................................................................... Rachelle Rhiel
Miss Janet Conover (Helena Landless) ......................................................................................................... Kate Cummings
Mr. Victor Grinstead (Neville Landless) ................................................................................................. Paul Cosca
Mr. Cedric Moncrieffe (Reverend Crisparkle) ............................................................................................ Kevin Newland Scott
Mr. Phillip Bax (Bazzard) .......................................................................................................................... Kyle Urban
Mr. Nick Cricker (Durdles) .......................................................................................................................... Andrew Hallas
Miss Nicole Cricker (Deputy) .................................................................................................................... Gloria Galland, Olivia Ashdown
Flo ............................................................................................................................................................. Breanna Kurth
Miss Yearsly (Wendy) ................................................................................................................................ Rachael Babilon
Miss Gill (Beatrice) ........................................................................................................................................ Megan Smith
Company Members ..................................................................................................................................... Breanna Kurth, Deone Jennings, Erin Oleson, Greg Shilling, Keren Garcia, Megan Smith, Patrisha Dwyer, Rachael Babilon

Orchestra
Drummer ....................................................................................................................................................... Logan Gardner
Trumpet .......................................................................................................................................................... Quinn Walker
Trombone ..................................................................................................................................................... Sam Stewart
Piano .............................................................................................................................................................. Rebecca Chelson
Flute .............................................................................................................................................................. Kathleen Jung

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**Act 1 — “The Situation”**

**SCENE 1**  The home of John Jasper at Minor Canon Corner in the cathedral city of Cloisterham, (England). A morning in late December.

**SCENE 2**  The conservatory at the Nun’s House, a seminary for young women in Cloisterham High Street. Later that morning.

**SCENE 3**  Cloisterham High Street, outside the residence of Mayor Thomas Sapsea. The following afternoon.

**SCENE 4**  The opium den of Princess Puffer in the East End of London. Dawn, the next day.

**SCENE 5**  Cloisterham High Street. That afternoon.

**SCENE 6**  The crypts of Cloisterham Cathedral. Late that night.

**SCENE 7**  The ruins of Cloisterham. Christmas Eve.

**SCENE 8**  The home of John Jasper. A short time later.

**SCENE 9**  Minor Canon Corner. Christmas day and night.

**Act 2 — “The Sleuths”**

**SCENE 1**  Cloisterham Station. Six months later.

**SCENE 2**  Cloisterham High Street.

**SCENE 3**  The Voting; the Solution.

**Free your own creativity**
Act 1

“There You Are” ................................................................. Chairman, Company
“A Man Could Go Quite Mad” ................................................. Jasper
“Two Kinsmen” ................................................................... Drood, Jasper
“Moonfall” ........................................................................... Rosa Bud
“Moonfall” (reprise) ............................................................... Rosa Bud, Helena, Wendy, Beatrice
“The Wages of Sin” ............................................................... Princess Puffer
“Jasper’s Vision” ................................................................ Jasper and the Succubae
“A British Subject” .............................................................. Neville, Helena, Rosa, Chrisparkle, Drood and Company Members
“Both Sides of the Coin” .................................................... Jasper, Saspea and Company Members
“Perfect Strangers” ............................................................... Drood, Rosa Bud
“No Good Can Come from Bad” ........................................ Neville, Rosa Bud, Helena, Chrisparkle, Drood, Jasper, Waiter
“Never the Luck” ................................................................. Bazzard and Company Members
“Off to the Races” ................................................................. Full Company

Act 2

“England Reigns” ................................................................. Chairman, Company Members
“A Private Investigation” ..................................................... Princess Puffer, Datchery, Company Members
“The Name of Love/Moonfall (reprise)” .................................... Rosa Bud, Jasper, Company Members
“Don’t Quit While You’re Ahead” ........................................ Full Company
“A British Subject (reprise) / Don’t Quit While You’re Ahead” (reprise) ........................................ Full Company
“The Garden Path to Hell/ Puffers Revelation” ........................ Princess Puffer, Rosa Bud
“Out of a Limerick” ............................................................... Datchery
“Jaspers Confession” ........................................................... Jasper
“Murderer’s Confession” ...................................................... The Murderer
“Perfect Strangers (reprise)” ................................................ The Lovers
“The Writing on the Wall” ..................................................... Full Company

Special thanks for all you do!

Erika Caudle, Jayce Fortin, Rachelle Riehl, Kathleen Jung, David Ridder, Mardee Willman, Tobias Andersen, Mike Jung, Chris Kramer, Natasha Hauskins, Melissa Galland, Kimberly Stromberg, Carol Babilon, Don Richardson, Roxanne DaCorte, Jessie Converse, Tim Wells, Melissa Matteo and Maria Matteo
Meet the Cast

OLIVIA ASHDOWN
(Deputy, Company Member)
Is 13 years old and honored to be in her first MCTP show as the role of “Deputy.” Olivia is a student of Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy. You can see her next as Deb in Elf the Musical Jr with Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy. She wants to thank you for coming to The Mystery of Edwin Drood!

RACHAEL BABILON
(Isabelle Yearsly, Wendy)
Rachael is a 16 year old Junior at Union High School in Camas, WA. Previous MCTP credits include Beth in Little Women the Musical. Rachael currently studies theatre at Union High and Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy. She sings in her Church choir and takes vocal lessons. Previous MPAA credits are Mrs. Potts in Beauty and the Beast, Kim McAfee in Bye Bye Birdie, Jemima in Cats, Millie Dillmount in Thoroughly Modern Millie and A Chorus Member in Shrek Jr and Little Mermaid Jr. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

PAUL COSCA
(Victor Grinstead, Neville)
Paul is very proud to be in his first show with MCTP. He is a professional actor and voice actor, and has appeared in dozens of plays, musicals, and operas on stages around the country. He also teaches acting and voice. He would like to thank his endlessly supportive wife, Brie.

KATE CUMMINGS
(Janet Conover, Helena Landless)
Kate moved from Helena, Montana last year in order to pursue her acting and film-making career. She is an actor, singer, writer, and director based in Southeast Portland. Kate has made several short films and is currently writing a TV show. She recently performed in Jesus Christ Superstar at the Post5 Theatre in Sellwood and is currently in rehearsals for The Sensational Sixties, which will be performing in Neuberg in January. You can also see her in performances for the Murder Mystery Company. She is an avid Lord of the Rings fan, loves dogs, and wishes that she could've been on the reality show Quest before it got cancelled (or if it ever gets a reboot on Netflix).

PATRISHA DWYER
(Company Member)
Originally from Colorado, Patrisha has performed with various ballet companies across the country, primarily in Colorado, California, and New York. Musical theatre credits include Sister Leo in Nunsense, Kristin in A Chorus Line, and Dorcas in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. Other credits include Annie Get Your Gun, Brigadoon, Carousel, My Fair Lady, Pajama Game, Show Boat, 42nd Street, Fame, West Side Story, CATs, Paint Your Wagon, Finian’s Rainbow and White Christmas. Patrisha holds a B.A. in dance and a M.Ed., in education.

BREANNA KURTH
(Flo)
Breanna has been in theatre for 10 years with multiple companies around town. She was last seen in Little Shop of Horrors with Magenta Theatre. When she is not doing theatre, she works at a bakery and as a freelance costumer.

GLORIA GALLAND
(Deputy, Company Member)
Gloria is very excited to be in her first Metropolitan Community Theatre Project show! Gloria is 12 years old and is in the Musical Theatre Program at Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy. Her most fun MPAA credit was playing the role of Lily Saint Regis in Annie Jr. In her free time, Gloria likes to draw and hang out with friends.

KEREN GARCIA
(Company Member)
This is Keren’s second show with MCTP. She was last seen in their production of RENT last summer in the ensemble and as Joanne Jefferson. She’s really excited that you are here and hopes that you enjoy the show!

DEONE JENNINGS
(Company Member)
Deone brings theatrical experience and training gained from across the country to her first appearance with MCTP. A few of her previous roles include Patty Simcox in Grease and Polly Perkins in There Goes the Bride, both at Okoboji Theatre in Iowa. In addition, she has played locally with Hart Theatre and Twilight Theatre. Deone earned her Bachelor in Fine Arts at Stephens College and has also trained with The Royal Shakespeare Company.
Kevin Newland Scott (Cedric Moncrieff, Rev. Crisparkle)  
Kevin was most recently seen as POTUS Charlie Smith in a reading of David Mamet’s November (Scuttlemagoon Players). He also played The Duchess in Middleton’s The Revenger’s Tragedy (Elizabethan Revenge Society), Mr. Crabtree in Scuttlemagoon’s School For Scandal, and Tupolski in The Pillowman (Epiphany Theatre Company). He played Judge Appleton in the Gershwin’s ‘Oh, Kay!’ (Shedd Theatricals in Eugene). He was seen in Harvey and Kiss Me Kate at Clackamas Rep, and has become a recurring character on NBC’s Grimm.

Andrew Hallas (Nick Cricker, Durdles)  
Andrew is excited to be performing with MCTP once again. He has previously appeared on stage in MCTP’s productions of Chicago and Meet me in St. Louis, both as chorus members, and worked as a stagehand for MCTP’s production of RENT. He’d like to thank his parents and the fantastic cast of Drood.

Kelly Jean Hammond (Alice Nutting, Edwin Drood)  
Kelly is excited to be joining the MPA family! She was last seen as Mary Sunshine in Chicago. Some favorite past shows include It’s A Wonderful Life (Mary), Jekyll and Hyde (Lucy), The Last 5 Years (Cathy), Suor Angelica (Suor Angelica), The Scarlet Pimpernel (Marguerite), Dialogues Of The Carmelites (Blanche), Company (April) and The Producers (Ulla). Kelly Jean has performed regionally with Pocket Opera SF and internationally with The Opera Academy of Rome, Operafest di Roma, and The Siena Summer Music Festival. Thanks to Joe and all her family and friends.

James Montgomery (William Cartwright, Chairman & Mayor Sapse)  
James makes his third appearance for MCTP having been seen as Mr. Laurence in Little Women The Musical and Fogarty in Chicago. The veteran performer has appeared on many stages across the country, touring in Once Upon A Mattress, Mr. Roberts, The Music Man, The Unsinkable Molly Brown and several others. In Portland, he portrayed the brutal Frank Maurrant in Kurt Weill’s Street Scene and has sung in Portland Opera’s Turandot, Der Fliegende Hollander and Don Carlo. He has appeared in over seventy area productions at such venues as Lakewood Theater, Broadway Rose, Clackamas Rep, Firehouse Theater, Mt. Hood Rep, Mock’s Crest and Musical Theatre Company, among others. He recently played Tom Sawyer in The Boys in Autumn for American Reader’s Theatre, Dub Dubberly in Christmas Belles and Judge Roan/Old Soldier in the acclaimed Staged! production of Parade.

Rachelle (Shelle) Riehl (Angela Prysock, Princess Puffer)  
Rachelle is excited to be back with MCTP in a show she has been waiting 25 years to perform. Though she received her Masters in Vocal Performance and Opera Performance at New England Conservatory of Music (NEC), she is much more comfortable performing musical theatre. She was most recently on stage in Lakewood’s production of Nine as Saraghina. Her favorite roles include Mdme. Thenardier/Les Misérables, The Witch/Into the Woods, Rebecca Hershkowitz/Rags, Eulalie Shin/The Music Man, Marme/ Little Women, The Musical, Beggar Woman/Sweeney Todd, and understudying Sallie Strother’s Miss Hannigan/Annie. Many thanks to my hubby for holding down the fort while I play!!

Nicole Rayner (Triangolo, Angela, Olivia)  
Nicole is thrilled to be back with MCTP! She had previously been seen as Adult Amy/Clarissa in Little Women The Musical, Cinderella in Into the Woods and as a member of the ensemble in Meet Me in St Louis. Favorite past credits include Vi Moore in Footloose (New Century Players), Lee Radziwill in Ari-Maria (Triangle Productions), Nun Ensemble in The Sound of Music (Broadway Rose Theatre Company), Cinderella in Into the Woods (MCTP), Rapunzel in Into the Woods (University of Portland) and Tatiana in OTMA (University of Portland). She would like to thank her wonderful family and husband Jake for all their love and support!

Erin Oleson (Company Member)  
Erin is so excited to be back working with MCTP! She had previously been seen as Adult Amy/Clarissa in Little Women The Musical, Cinderella in Into the Woods and as a member of the ensemble in Meet Me in St Louis. Favorite past credits include Vi Moore in Footloose (New Century Players), Lee Radziwill in Ari-Maria (Triangle Productions), Nun Ensemble in The Sound of Music (Broadway Rose Theatre Company), Cinderella in Into the Woods (MCTP), Rapunzel in Into the Woods (University of Portland) and Tatiana in OTMA (University of Portland). She would like to thank her wonderful family and husband Jake for all their love and support!

Greg Shilling (Company Member)  
Greg is thrilled to be making his first appearance with MCTP. He performs regularly at Curious Comedy Theater and has appeared in numerous productions at the Funhouse Lounge, most recently as Ralph in their production of Reefer Madness. A show he created, Weird: Uncanny Tales of Terror and Romance, had it’s world premier at the Funhouse Lounge in September of 2016.
MEGAN RUTH SMITH
(Florence Gill, Beatrice)
Megan is excited about her debut performance with the MCTP! Megan graduated from Central Washington University with a BFA in Musical Theatre Cum Laude. Upon graduation, she was hired as the resident choreographer and dance instructor at CWU. She has performed and choreographed around the Pacific Northwest including Leavenworth Summer Theatre and Tacoma Musical Playhouse.

KYLE URBAN
(Bazzard, Philip Bax, Waiter)
Kyle is thrilled to be making his MCTP debut! You might have seen him recently at Artists Rep Theatre in Line Storm Playwright’s Portland in Play. Kyle is a recent transplant from Colorado who has spent the past 18 years on the stage. His favorite roles include: Polpoch in Marat/Sade (Star Bar Players), Dim in A Clockwork Orange (Theatre d’art), and Jed Ellis in the western premier of Rattle Snakes (S.E.T.) He would like to thank to his wife and daughter for the support.

MATT STORM
(Clive Paget, John Jasper)
Finally playing the part of a villain (or is he?) Matt is acting in his fourth show with MCTP, most recently playing the roles of Fred Casely in Chicago, Roger Davis in RENT, and Marius Pontmercy in Les Misérables. Storm studied acting at Willamette University where he was part of shows such as Cupid & Psyche, Crave, and Marisol. He can be seen on the big screen in the Lionsgate/TriCoast Worldwide movie, 10 Days in a Madhouse. You can also find him on the silver screen on several episodes of NBC’s supernatural drama, Grimm. While not on stage, he owns his own business, Perruquier, and works at Oregon Health & Science University at the Center for Hematologic Malignancies in the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant Clinic and frequently volunteers at Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy.

KYLE ULRICH
(James Throttle, Stage Manager)
This is Kyle’s first production with Metropolitan Community Theatre Project. Theatre and music were always part of his life, through grade school and beyond. He was accepted into the undergraduate conservatory department of Theatre & Dance at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2005. After graduation in 2011, he moved around the country, most notably Los Angeles, California and Chicago, Illinois. Determined to keep the arts alive, he spent the last year and a half working on plans to build and operate a performing arts organization. It is his pleasure to work with Metropolitan here in the Pacific Northwest and he’s excited to spread the word and joy of the performing arts to communities near and far.

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More about our Production Team...

**LIVIA GENISE — Director**
has been a professional actress and member of Actors Equity Association since 1969. She is also a member of AFTRA, AGVA and SAG. Ms. Genise holds a B.F.A. in Voice from Southern Oregon University and has taught and directed for over 20 years. She began her stage career at the St. Louis Municipal Opera in 1969 and has performed throughout the country from Broadway (Rizzo in Grease) to Hollywood, guest starring on everything from Three’s Company to Hill St. Blues. Bay Area audiences have seen her in over 30 productions, from roles such as Mrs. Shubert in Sheer Madness at the Mason Street Theatre to Beatrice in Much Ado About Nothing for the VITA Shakespeare Festival to Hesione in Triumph of Love at TheatreWorks. Ms. Genise has received Awards for Best Actress in a Musical from Dean Goodman, Drama-Logue and the Bay Area Critics Circle. Before moving to Ashland to her current position with CTC, she spent two years as Education Director at The Marin Theatre Company. Ms. Genise was the founder to her current position with CTC, she spent two years as Education Director at The Marin Theatre Company. Ms. Genise was the founder and Artistic Director of the Camelot Theatre Company from 2002 until March of 2016. While there, her directing and acting credits included over 50 shows. ay, Julie London, Sarah Vaughan and Loretta Lynn, to name a few.

**JULIET PROSSER — Choreographer**
is an actress, director and choreographer living in the Portland area. She is thrilled to be a part of the artistic team as the Choreographer. Recent projects include: Film: All Too Human (Carol), The Long Walk Home (Chief Cronjager), Deep Dark (Gallery Assistant), Theatre: Off Broadway: Menopause the Musical (Soap Star), Regional: Seamarks (Timothea), Marilyn Misfits (Marilyn), MacBeth (Lady MacBeth), The Kiss (Lady). Juliet teaches Yoga, dance and trains clients in weight lifting, group fitness and Pilates as an Instructor at Portland Community College. Juliet is a proud member of Actors Equity Association.

**KATIE RICHARDSON — Stage Manager**
is thrilled to work with MCTP for the first time. She is having a blast returning to theatre after living and running a nonprofit for four years on the small island of LaGonave in Haiti. Thank you Livia, Juliet and Becky—it has been a privilege working on this production with you. Enjoy the show!

**ALYSSA RANDS — Costume Designer**
graduated with a BA in Theatre Design/Tech from George Fox University where she is now employed as the costume shop manager for the theatre department. Alyssa also works as a freelance apparel designer and costume designer in the Portland metro area. Her most recent costume designs include The Balkan Women (2016) and These Shining Lives (2015) with GFU Theatre and Dogfight (2015) with Staged! Musical Theatre Company.

**IAN ANDERSON-PRIDDY**
*Lighting Designer*
first designed lights for MPA with Thoroughly Modern Millie in 2016 and went on to design both Chicago and Shrek Jr in the Brunish Theatre. In 2016 Ian also designed lights for OCT’s Geronimo Stilton: Mouse in Space. He worked in Cannon Beach Oregon as the Resident Lighting Designer at the Coaster Theatre on 15 productions between 2010-2013. He was a Lighting Supervisor and Designer for PICA’s TBA festival in 2014 and 2015. He designed lights at Coho for Sean McGrath’s Sketch Comedy Bath Night in 2015 and most recently he was the Video Designer for Triangle Production’s American Idiot in June 2016. Other clients include Westside Dance Academy, BDC Dance, Central Catholic High School, The Portland Drammy Awards, and Oregon Ballet Theatre.

**MARK B. ROPERS — Dramaturg**
The Music Hall Royale welcomes Mr. Ropers as dramaturg to our production. Mr. Ropers has been an actor since the age of 10, performing in everything from Shakespeare to Italian Commedia dell’Arte, as well as modern theatrical performances. He has been working with Ms. Genise as dramaturg for the past five years. The rest is history.

**MARCUS STOREY — Sound Designer**
has worked in sound design for the past 5 years. Most recently for 1 Man 2 Guvnors. Last year he received a PAMTA for his co-design on Man of La Mancha. Other Lakewood Credits include 39 Steps, 1776, Nine, Spamalot, Young Frankenstein, and many more. He is currently a company member at Clackamas Repertory Theater, as sound designer/ operator, and lighting operator including Harvey, Cabaret, Kiss Me Kate, 39 Steps, and The Philadelphia Story.

**KYLIE ROSE — Dialect Coach**
is a Portland-based actress, singer, and dialect coach originally from southern Washington. Kylie received her training studying classical theatre and regional dialects in England for a year courtesy of the Dr. Betty Evans Shakespeare Scholarship and she graduated with her BFA in Theater Performance from Central Washington University. You may recognize her dialect coaching work from defunkt theater’s production of Blasted. She looks forward to her future artistic adventures in the Portland area!
< ad for “The Hobbit” >

(Kimberly still working on)

Directed by Paul Angelo
Performances June 2-10