

On behalf of the students and faculty of the department, I want to welcome you to **Songs for a New World** written and composed by Jason Robert Brown, directed by Catherine Doherty, musical direction by Katya Stanislavskaya, stage managed by Kiara Vedovino, and produced with the support and participation of countless students and faculty working in every area of performance, production, and management you can imagine. It is wonderful to see your faces...and even more wonderful to see those of our cast!

This year provides an opportunity to welcome you back to the theatre and I are thrilled that you have joined us in Mckenna Theatre which stands on the unceded land of the Munsee, Esopus and Lenape peoples. There are wonderful sources and I hope you take time to learn about our region's indigenous people. It is important to acknowledge and understand our history.

Producing theatre is complex, and even more so lately. Since the onset of the pandemic, we have followed the Campus COVID guidelines and practices. We have been able to rehearse, and now perform, this text by as we continue to prioritize the health and safety of our students, faculty, local and campus communities. We appreciate your patience and support as we have navigated the last two years.

The Department of Theatre Arts at SUNY New Paltz provides an educational space for students to explore, discover, and nurture their scholarly/artistic and personal voices—it serves as an incubator for the American Theatre. And like the profession should, wrestles with the everchanging context of the world. Engaging with and listening to the concerns and experiences of students, the Department of Theatre Arts has made significant changes to the curriculum, and department—this evolution is reflected in structural changes and the commitment to continued conversation and action. Both our curriculum and our production season provide educational opportunities for students and must provide space for stories that provoke timely conversations and resonate with our community. The titles we produce prioritize the inclusion of underrepresented voices and work from traditionally marginalized populations. The season is full of exciting titles, and I hope that you will join us for each of the productions.

Lastly, we hope to make our work accessible to our community. In that spirit, we have cut this season's ticket price in half compared to the 2018-2019 academic year; however, once again, I feel compelled to say that the cost of these productions is not half of what was. If you find yourself in a position to support our work, please consider a donation to the Department or become a Friend of the Theatre.

And of course, thank you to everyone that has and continues to support the work of our students, and through them shape the return and the future of the American Theatre.

Enjoy the performance, and I look forward to seeing you again later in the season.

Ken Goldstein he/him/his

Chair/Professor of Design

Department of Theatre Arts

From Paige Rosko, dramaturg:

This production includes sensitive material including death, imprisonment, discrimination, gambling addiction, and heavy religious language.

"It's about one moment. It's about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back." says writer and composer Jason Robert Brown about his 1995 song cycle Songs For A New World. This production, helmed by Catherine Doherty, wants to celebrate the new world that we, as a society, are moving into. The celebratory aspects of the production makes us aware of the fact that the new world is not always something bad. This show is a celebration of survival and a promise to remember our strength in the new world, whatever that means to each of us individually. Our new world could mean the post-COVID world, the post-graduation world, or just whatever else is awaiting us in the next few weeks, months, or even years.

The concept of a song cycle is one that all of the songs in the musical have little in common except for their overarching themes. It is important to note that the actors in this production are not playing the same character in every song. For example, one actor might be playing a gambling addict during one song and then a prisoner during the next. The set, lighting, and sound designers have all worked together to give you a sense of the environment for each song. Along with the designers' work, almost all of the songs do not have a definitive time or place; for most of them, the directing team chose when and where they think the song would fit best.

In the show, we constantly change locations and time periods— we visit the modern day, 1775, 1492, and multiple more times in between. Don't fret about the time jumps, there is nothing in particular you need to know about these eras to understand their stories and characters. Jason Robert Brown's lyrics allow audience members to understand the situation of the song without knowing anything else about the time period or location. Brown constantly changes the location of the musical to show that no matter who we are or where we are from, we all have the same inner struggles. A wife who feels abandoned by her husband and wants to get his attention also has to go through the same decision-making process as two people trying to decide if their relationship deserves a second chance.

This is the first fully-staged musical at SUNY New Paltz since the 2018 production of Into the Woods, also directed by Catherine Doherty. Everyone involved is extremely grateful that we once again have the opportunity to create a musical for a live audience. We all recognize what it took to get to this point and no one is going to take it for granted. It is no coincidence that the first musical we are doing in years is about trying to figure out what to do when being faced with a new world. For many of our cast and crew members, a post-graduation world awaits in a couple of months. While all of us are trying to come to terms with what our world is now, they are also leaving behind what they've known for the last four years on top of that.

Personally, as the dramaturg for this production, I've had a very special opportunity to get to see this piece grow. It truly is incredible what the theatrical innovators at this school can do and I, along with many other members of this department, have been lucky to have the opportunity to witness them work. It is my hope that everyone who gets to watch this show is able to see how much love went into the production, from every corner of the process. From the dramaturg to the actors, we all want to find our place in this new world, no matter how much it might scare us, and we all hope that this show allows you a little bit of peace about the future.

Director Music Director	•	
Production Stage Manager Production Manager		
Set Designer Costume Designer Lighting Designer Sound Designer Dramaturg	Cassie Smith Martin Benesh Sunny Kil	
Cast:		
Lucas Anderson Madison Gattullo Jillian Landsman Gina Lardi Josh Lococco	Lindsay Ork Caitlyn Schmidt Zack Tashoff Chris Tomer Irving Zuniga	
Onstage Swings: Ashley Hoffmann, Sumire Muratsu Understudies: Simon Woods, Lorelei Velez		
Conductor/ Keyboard 1 Keyboard 2 Bass Drums	Nathan Perry Sean Tarleton	

Assistant Dramturg Assistant Set Designer	
Assistant Technical Director Assistant Stage Manager	Sylviane SherwinMack BairdMax Rosenfeld, Gabriel DranowKiana Duggan-Haas, Marianna Oropallo
Assistant Sound Designers	James KoganEmerson WachnikLeann EpsteinEmerson WachnikEmerson WachnikAndrew PaolilloAshlie Morrison, Joni HoneywellAbby RoseMason CrowleyMack Baird, Maya Battistella, Khalil Coates, Jessica McGowen, Marianna Oropallo
Make-up and Hair Wardrobe Supervisor Head Carpenter Lean Carpenter Carpenters	Sky Rolnick, Colin Gallagher Olivia Riddle, Skylar Caruso Marianna Oropallo Shannon Dodson Katherine de Onis Nathan Benitez, Mason Crowley Birana Acosta, Sam Duer, Colin Gallagher, Kiera Lynch Andrew Paolillo, Khiara Richards, Alex Vaynerchuk Rebecca Warkenthien, Barbara Watterson

Costume Design MentorTimika Edwards,	Kaitlyn Kociela Taylor
=	Natasha D'Amico Tamika Edwards, Max Rosenfeld, Jenna Sargent Summer Glodstein, Parker Howland, Isabela Leon Ferrer Caroline Meyers, Nico Torrez, Molly Walsh

UP NEXT:

Pages from a Love Manifesto

Devised by Nico Torrez
April 29, 30 at 8:00 and May 1 at 2:00

VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Donald P. Christian, President
Barbara G. Lyman, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Jeni Mokren, Dean of Fine & Performing Arts
Mike Malloy, Director of Environmental Health & Safety
Scott Schulte, Director of Emergency Management
Russ Thompson, Box Office Manager
The Students and Faculty of The Department of Theatre Arts

2021-2022 Production Season:

For more information https://www.newpaltz.edu/fpa/theatre/productions/mainstage/

Play On Shakespeare's **Macbeth**By William Shakespeare Translated by Migdalia Cruz
September 11th at 8:00 and September 12th at 2:00

The Wolves

By Sarah DeLappe Presented with permission of Concord Theatricals September 30, September 1, 2, 14, 15, 16 at 8:00 and September 3 and 17 at 2:00.

La fuerza de Antígona

By Tlaloc Rivas

November 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 at 8:00 and November 14, 21 at 2:00

Stop Kiss

By Diana Son Presented with permission from Dramatists Play Service, Inc. December 3, 4 at 8 and December 5 at 2:00

Unnatural Acts

Harvard's Secret Court of 1920 Conceived by Tony Speciale Collaboratively written by Members of Plastic Theatre February 24, 25, 26 and March 3, 4, 5 at 8:00 and February 27 and March 6 at 2:00

Songs for a New World

Written and Composed by Jason Robert Brown Presented with permission of Music Theatre International March 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 at 8:00 and April 3 and 10 at 2

Pages from a Love Manifesto

Devised by Nico Torrez April 29, 30 at 8:00 and May 1 at 2:00 DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

2021-2022 MAINSTAGE SEASON

INFO+ TICKETS:

WWW.NEWPALTZ.EDU/THEATRE



