Theatre UAB 2017-2018 Season

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
by William Shakespeare
Directed by Dennis McLemon
October 18-21 at 7:30pm
October 22 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

WORKING
Book by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso, music by Schwartz, Craig Carnelia, Micki Grant, Mary Rodgers, and James Taylor, and lyrics by Schwartz, Carnelia, Grant, Taylor, and Susan Birkenhead.
Directed by Valerie Accetta
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
Movement Direction by Roy Lightner
November 8-11, 15-17 at 7:30pm
November 18 at 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

SILENT SKY
by Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Karla Koskinen
February 21-24 at 7:30pm
February 25 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

STANDING ON CEREMONY: THE GAY MARRIAGE PLAYS
by Mo Gaffney, Jordan Harrison, Moises Kaufman, Wendy MacLeod, José Rivera, Paul Rudnick, and Doug Wright, conceived by Brian Shnipper
Directed by Brandon Bruce, Jack Cannon, Mel Christian, Cheryl Hall, Karla Koskinen, Dennis McLemon
Feb 27-28, March 1-3 at 7:30pm
March 4 at 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

HAIRSPRAY
Directed by Valerie Accetta & Roy Lightner
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
Choreography by Roy Lightner
April 11-14 at 7:30pm
April 15 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS.
Show information at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions
OVATION THEATRE UAB

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that's not all. OVATION’s mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from $40 - $1500+ help off-set the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, coffee and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. We’d love to see you at our next OVATION!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

Founding Members
Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

2017-2018 Members
Susan Atwood, Peter and Miriam Bellis, Anne Marie Brown, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Frank & Joan Dawson, Chuck & Mary Dunham, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Mary Jane & Ray Faircloth, John R. & Linda Frawley, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Randy & LaDonna Gibbs, Dai’Sean Garrett, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Lanny & Darlene Gray, Virginia & Boyce Guthrie, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Frank & Rona Harper, Stephanie Harris, Mary & Kyle Hutchler, Michael and Catherine Hutchler, Bill & Hettie Johnson, Bill & Judy Lewis, Allen & CeCe Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, Carol Odess, James & Angela Owen, Steve & Laura Parker, Bill Paracca, W. B. Philips, Jr., Beverly & David Radford, Miriam Kirklin Reed, James & Dawn Ribe, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Dorinda & John A. Smith, Kenya Stewart, Phil & Beverly Stine, Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt, Joyce Whitten

THE KENNEDY CENTER

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), part of the American College Theater Festival (ACT), is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.

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The play will be performed without an intermission.

Opening Night: Wednesday, November 8, 2017, 7:30pm.

Theatrical haze and smoke will be used in this production. **Working** contains mature language and adult themes.

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**Notes on this production...**

The barista who pours you a cup of coffee. The custodian who keeps your workplace clean. The retail worker who helped you find that item the other day. The telemarketer who calls monthly. The garbage collector who removes your trash weekly. The steelworker who builds the infrastructure. The caretaker who nurtures the weak. The teacher who instructs the young. All these people, who affect and aid our lives daily, often work unseen, unnoticed.

In **Working**, Stephen Schwartz’s and Nina Faso’s stage adaptation of Studs Terkel’s collection of interviews, published in 1974 under the title *Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do*, unsung, “everyday” heroes are given a chance to find their personal voice. In listening to their stories and confessions, we recognize our voices in this world too. This show is about you, it’s about me, and, most importantly, it’s about us.

**Working** is based on the words of real people, who Studs Terkel interviewed in the Midwest during the early 1970s. Stephen Schwartz was inspired to write a musical on Continued on next page...
Notes continued...

Terkel's book after reading the interview with Heather, a telemarketer. In his biography, *Defying Gravity: the Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz, from Godspell to Wicked*, Schwartz says: “I was somebody who tended to be abusive to operators. They were just some disenchanted voice. I would have been more like the guy in the show who cursed the phone company, and I would complain about it being a monopoly. Suddenly, I realized that there was a person sitting in some location that I’d never pictured in my mind, he or she had a whole life and dreams of disappointments and expectations and weariness that I had never thought about, and that I was connected to this person through this transaction.”

Hailed by Schwartz and the original publicity team as “the everyman’s A Chorus Line,” _Working_ is a post-modern musical lacking a narrative structure, owning the right to be self-reflexive, and aware of its theatricality. The original production at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago premiered December 1977, which introduced the stories of over forty-two people, spanned over three hours, but today’s popularized and licensable _Working_ is a one-act featuring twenty-five professionals played by a cast of six.

_Working_, much like its more popular, non-narrative predecessor _A Chorus Line_, was a devised musical, meaning that Schwartz and Faso fostered the production concept, but it would be the collective work of actors and singer-songwriters that would complete and materialize the production. The original musical features songs by Craig Carnelia, Micki Grant, Mary Rodgers, Susan Birkenhead, Stephen Schwartz, and James Taylor, and the final one-act also includes two songs by Lin Manuel Miranda, the talented creator of the Broadway hit _Hamilton_. Working, as a contemporary artwork, places itself among other notable and even revolutionary short musicals, such as _Fun Home_ and _Come From Away_.

Tonight, as you take part in this celebration of the American “everyman,” we ask that you reconsider how we define “working” in the U.S., what drives us to take particular jobs, and why we assume that some occupations are to remain unnoticed. We also ask you to think about the issues raised by Studs Terkel in the introduction to his collection of interviews: “This book, being about work, is, by its very nature, about violence—to the spirit as well as to the body. It is about 1stres as well as accidents, about shouting matches as well as fistfights, about nervous breakdowns as well as kicking the dog around. It is, above all (or beneath all), about daily humiliations. To survive the day is triumphant enough for the walking wounded among the great many of us.” _Working_ will inspire us to prevent these invisible “violences” and help others not just survive the day but succeed in finding “something to point to!”

- Ben Lundy, Dramaturg
Working Production Biographies

Valerie Accetta (Director)
Home Town: Columbus, OH
Education: MFA - Virginia Commonwealth University
Recent Production Work: Directing: A Little Night Music, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q, Urinetown: The Musical (UAB.) Choreography/Musical Direction: Twelfth Night (UAB.) Directing/Associate Directing: Gypsy (Campion School, Greece,) South Pacific, Oklahoma (Weathervane Playhouse, OH,) Phantom (Riverside Theatre, VA,) Godspell (Edinburgh Fringe Festival.) Associate Choreography: The Producers (Virginia Repertory Theatre,) Annie (Pioneer Theatre, UT.)

Lilly Batch (Woman 1)
Home Town: Jacksonville, FL
Education: The Bolles School
Recent Production Work: Acting: 2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music (UAB.), Grease, George Washington Slept Here (The Bolles School), The Wizard of Oz (FSCJ), Fiddler on the Roof (Providence School of Jacksonville.)

Alicia Batterson (Woman 3)
Home Town: Columbus, OH
Education: Worthington Christian High School/ Fort Hayes Performing Arts Center
Recent Production Work: Acting: 2017-18 Bookends Touring Company, A Little Night Music, 2013-16 & 2016-17 Cabaret Touring Company, Vinegar Tom, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q, Women of War (UAB,) Into the Woods (Carriage Place Players,) Cinderella (WCHS) and Steel Magnolias (Fort Hayes Performing Arts Center.)

Eboni Booker (Woman 2)
Home Town: Toney, AL
Education: Sparkman High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening (UAB,) Aladdin Jr. (Huntsville Community Chorus Association,) Roger's & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Sparkman High School,) Scenic Painter: Buried Child (UAB.) Dresser: Stupid F***ing Bird (UAB.)

Addie Counts (Stage Manager)
Home Town: Chattanooga, TN
Education: Center for Creative Arts
Recent Production Work: Acting: 2017-18 Shakespeare Touring Company, The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening, 2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company (UAB.) Hello, Dolly!, Shrek, All Shook Up (CCA,) 9 to 5, Xanadu (Chattanooga Theatre Centre,) Stage Management: 14th Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB,) Alvin Vogel Escapes (Vulcan Parks,) Assistant Stage Management: Vinegar Tom (UAB.) Light Board Operator: You Can't Take It With You (UAB.)

Clara Vetta Holmes (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Grand Blanc, MI
Education: Grand Blanc High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom (UAB,) Thoroughly Modern Millie, Almost, Maine, Hairspray (Grand Blanc HS.)

Marlene Johnson (Voice & Text Coach)
Home Town: Allentown, PA
Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Zachary Lampe (Man 1)
Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL
Education: Gibbs Senior High School/Pinellas County Center for the Arts (PCCA)
Recent Production Work: Acting: Evita, All the Way, In the Heights (PCCA.)

Roy Lightner (Choreographer)
Home Town: Leawood, KS
Education: MFA - Goddard College; BM - Oklahoma City University.
Recent Production Work: Director/Choreographer: Lucky to Be Me (NYC Opera, asst. to Peggy Hickey,) Hairspray, Miss Saigon (Sondheim Center,) Bring It On (Music Theatre of Kansas City,) Hound of the Baskervilles (Cape Playhouse,) Little Shop of Horrors, Thoroughly Modern Millie (MTKC,) Best of Broadway Under the Stars, Wine Country Speakeasy, This Magic Moment, Oh, What A Night! (Transcendence Theatre Company,) Dogfight, A Chorus Line, H2$, Legally Blonde (Ithaca College,) Concert Dance Choreography: Oklahoma City Dance Project, NYC's Community Dance Project, NYC Jazz Enterprise, plus 2 full length original ballets: In Your Eyes and Under the Covers.

Justine Nelson (Female Swing)
Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL
Education: Gibbs Senior High School/Pinellas County Center for the Arts (PCCA)
Recent Production Work: Acting: EVITA, One Man Two Guvnors (PCCA,) Thoroughly Modern Millie (Eight O Clock Theatre.)
Kayli Porter (Assistant Director)
Home Town: Bessemer, AL
Education: McAdory High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: 2016-17 & 2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom, 2015-16 Alice In Wonderland Touring Company, Avenue Q (UAB,) Once On This Island, Play it Again, Sam, Wait Until Dark (McAdory HS.) Assistant Director: Spring Awakening (UAB.)

J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)
Home Town: Lexington, SC
Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009. BA Newberry College 2005

Jeremy X. Richardson (Allen Epstein/Male Swing/Dance Captain)
Home Town: Mobile, AL
Education: Murphy High School / Coastal Alabama Community College
Recent Production Work: Acting: 1017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music, Amahl and the Night Visitors (UAB,) The Importance of Being Ernest, Santa's Christmas Tree (CACC,) Broadway Live I: Little Shop of Horrors, Grease, Broadway Live II: Jersey Boys, Newjies, Chicago, West Side Story (Murphy HS.) Stage Management: Sweetest Swing in Baseball (CACC.)

Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)
Home Town: Gambier, OH
Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University
Recent Production Work: Costume Design: A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom, Buried Child, Dancing at Lughnasa, In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,) Clybourne Park, Urimetown: The Musical, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle With Love, Caucasian Chalk Circle (UAB.) Beauty and the Beast, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Birmingham Children's Theatre.)

Carolyn Violi (Musical Director/Piano)
Home Town: Indiana, PA
Education: BS in Music Education, Indiana University of PA
Recent Production Work: Conductor/Musical Director: Disney's Beauty and the Beast National Tour US and Canada (NETworks Presentations./Disney Theatricals.) Conductor: Goodbye Girl, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Mainstage Productions.) Musical Director: A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q (UAB,) Peter and the Starcatcher (City Equity Theatre,) Fiddler on the Roof (Birmingham-Southern College.) West Side Story, Menken's Christmas Carol (Alabama Shakespeare Festival.) Gypsy (Red Mountain Theatre Company.) Producer: Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz, Hello Dolly! with Bette Midler.

Working Production Biographies, continued

Royzell Walker (Man 2)
Home Town: Cincinnati, OH
Education: Colerain High School

Spencer Webb (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Madison, AL
Education: Bob Jones High School
Recent Production Work: Directing/Stage Management: 14th Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB,) Assistant Stage Management: A Chorus Line (Virginia Samford Theatre.) Scenic Construction: Willy Wonka, Jr., A Christmas Story, Spamalot (VST,) Spring Awakening (UAB.)

Lew Williams (Lighting Design)
Home Town: Scottsboro, AL
Education: Scottsboro High School, Northeast Alabama Community College
Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: You Can't Take It With You (UAB,) Forbidden Broadway, Big Fish, The Foreigner (NACC.) Acting: Les Misérables, Blithe Spirit (NACC.)

Brian Wittenberg (Man 3)
Home Town: Johns Creek, GA
Education: Chattahoochee High School

Special Thanks:
Bill Allen, Brad Cozby, Glenda Crumpton, Thomas Mathis, Bart Maddox, Mary Woods, US Pipe.

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