

MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Songs for a New World

Music & Lyrics By
Jason Robert Brown



JUNE 20 - 28, 2014

McManus Studio Theatre at
THE GRAND THEATRE

25
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MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

presents

Songs for a New World

Music and Lyrics by: JASON ROBERT BROWN

Originally produced by the WPA Theatre, New York City, 1995
(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Tel: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

Artistic Team

Producer

LAURA WOOD

Directors

ANGELA SOUTHERN
NICOLE NEWELL

Musical Director

ANGELA SOUTHERN

Stage Manager

ANNE CUTHBERT

Set Design

TOM SMYTH

Costume Design

BECKY LENKO
LESLEIGH TURNER

Lighting Design

STEPHEN MITCHELL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, and welcome to the final production of Musical Theatre Productions' 25th Anniversary Season. MTP has experienced quite a journey over the past 25 years and this season has been no exception. We have seen long-time members return to the MTP stage while newcomers are welcomed into the fold. And we have seen active members of the MTP community step forward to support the organization in touchingly unexpected ways.

By supporting our productions, these talented, inspiring and passionate individuals have been welcomed into the MTP family – a place with a sense of belonging and without fear, and where you can let your creativity shine in a way like no other. This family has watched kids grow into adulthood, marriages blossom from budding relationships and has even seen children born from those marriages follow in their parents' footsteps to make their own MTP debut.

MTP is now entering an exciting new phase in its journey – a time of transition as we explore different options for our future and what we as proud members and supporters can do to ensure that this family continues to grow and develop for another 25 years. We invite you to join us at a Public Town Hall Meeting on July 8th at 7:00pm at the University Community Centre (Room 315). Make your voice count and help shape our future.

Five years ago, MTP welcomed a nervous, young stage manager fresh out of theatre school, and with the support of the MTP family, he is now writing this message to you all as President of the Board of Directors. As our faithful audience members, we now welcome you to the family as well. Enjoy the show and see you next year.

~Joe Recchia



DIRECTORS' NOTE

This show has so many earworms. Phrases, melodies or songs that come back to you long after the show is over. It may take a while, but expect it. Like us, you will be hooked on the genius that is Jason Robert Brown. His music and lyrics stand on their own.

Our vision for Songs for a New World was always simple, plain even. The plan: stage a show that tells the stories of anybody and everybody. The songs have connections, but no story or theme that's shoved in the audience's face. You need to find the connections and themes for yourself, like we did. Or maybe you don't. Maybe you just listen, watch and enjoy for the sake of being entertained. That's fine too.

The artistic process for this show has been wonderful, largely due to the talent, experience and diversity of our cast. EVERYONE brought something vital to the production and we drew on that pool of creativity and energy for each piece. It was a true collaboration.

Angela and I have known each other for over 30 years! Like an old married couple, much of the time we know each other's thoughts and finish each other's sentences. But we didn't fight incessantly! Add our wonderful Producer, Laura, who is also a 30+ year friend and what you have is a show built on friendship and trust.

We hope you enjoy the show as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you!

~ Nicole Newell and Angela Southern

SUPPORT MTP & OUR SHOWS

MTP has created an individual giving program to ensure we are able to continue producing the high quality and large scale musicals you love! We rely on the generous donations of our patrons to support the ongoing operations and show productions we stage during our season.

Our shows offer an outstanding opportunity for all theatre lovers to be involved, whether on the stage or off. Please consider a contribution to MTP when planning your donations.

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CAST SPONSOR

Kristina Baron-Woods
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- Online: www.mtplondon.ca
- During a show: Cheque/Cash payment at our 50-50 table
- Email: money transfer to sponsor@mtplondon.ca [use password: mtpdonor]

Gifts may be made in any amount and are greatly appreciated.



SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD is a show-stopping collection of transformational stories by Tony award winning composer Jason Robert Brown (*The Last Five Years & 13*). Brown says, "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."

This abstract musical weaves all too real life decisions and moments into a collection of characters and stories. The characters are not necessarily connected to one another. They are, however, linked through common themes and threads – anger at a loved one's betrayal, fear of commitment and regret for roads not taken, to name a few.

The show transports its audience from the deck of a 1492 Spanish sailing ship to a ledge 57 stories above Fifth Avenue and continues to introduce us to a startling array of characters ranging from a young man who has determined that basketball is his ticket out of the ghetto to a woman whose dream of marrying rich nabs her the man of her dreams and a soulless marriage. The characters in each song are forced to confront a change in their circumstances and enter a 'new world', a defining moment where one either chooses to step forward or to retreat – but nothing can ever be the same again, for better or for worse.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Musical Director/Piano | Angela Southern |
| Djembe | Elle Hounse |
| Percussion | Joshua Clemenger, Ceris Thomas |
| Clarinet | Kristina Baron Woods |
| Violin | Becky Lenko |
| Trumpet | Joel Dell, Chris Wood |
| Melodica | Chris Wood |

Original Kids Theatre Company's 2014 Annual Project following *Avenue Q* (October 2011), *Outstanding Musical 2013*, *Spring Awakening* (2014), *Just Musical 2012*, *Assassins & Spelling Bee*

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Brendon
Ainscow



Nicole
Alcaininho



Ian
Badger



Kristina
Baron-Woods



Joshua
Clemenger



Joel
Dell



Kate
Deman



Andrea
Ferrett



Jordan
Henry



Elle
Hounse



Becky
Lenko



Laura
Nielson



Kayla
Rock



Braeden
Soltys



Kyle
Stewart



Ceris
Thomas



Elizabeth
Van Doorne



Julia
Webb



Chris
Wood



Adam
Zess



Anne Cuthbert
(Stage Manager)



Nicole Newell
(Director)



Angela Southern
(Director)



Laura Wood
(Producer)

SONGS OF A NEW WORLD

| | |
|---|--|
| Opening Sequence: The New World | Nicole Alcaidinho & Company |
| On the Deck of a Spanish Sailing Ship, 1492 | Jordan Henry & Company |
| Just One Step | Ceris Thomas |
| I'm Not Afraid of Anything | Andrea Ferrett |
| The River Won't Flow | Kayla Rock, Laura Nielson & Company |
| Transition I | Elizabeth Van Doorne |
| Stars and the Moon | Elle Hounse |
| She Cries | Chris Wood |
| The Steam Train | Brendon Ainscow & Company |
| The World Was Dancing | Joshua Clemenger, Sarah Abbott, Chris Wood, Nicole Alcaidinho & Company |
| Surabaya-Santa | Julia Webb |
| Christmas Lullaby | Kate Deman |
| King of the World | Kyle Stewart |
| I'd Give it All for You | Joshua Clemenger, Sarah Abbott, Chris Wood, Andrea Ferrett & Elle Hounse |
| Transition II | Braeden Soltys |
| The Flagmaker, 1775 | Kristina Baron-Woods |
| Flying Home | Adam Zess & Company |
| Final Transition: The New World | Brendon Ainscow, Kyle Stewart, Joel Dell, Ian Badger, Kate Deman, Laura Neilson, Kayla Rock & Andrea Ferrett |
| Hear My Song | Nicole Alcaidinho & Company |

This show will be presented without intermission



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all cell phones, beepers and watches.

PRODUCTION TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Producer | Laura Wood |
| Director | Angela Southern Nicole Newell |
| Musical Director | Angela Southern |
| Stage Manager | Anne Cuthbert |
| Lighting Design | Stephen Mitchell |
| Set Design | Tom Smyth |
| Costume Design | Becky Lenko Lesleigh Turner |
| House Technician | Stephen Mitchell |
| Show Photography | Ross Davidson |
| Kickstarter Campaign | Braeden Soltys |
| Social Media & Marketing | Kenny Khoo, Kyle Stewart, Nicole Newell, Laura Wood |
| Program Design | Chris Costello |

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Bob Gerow, Fred Hasler, Richard Skidmore, Joe Owens, Jim Brown Chris Wood, Henry Truong, Joe Recchia, Kenny Khoo, Chris Costello, Andrea Surich, Kathy Navackas and London Fringe Festival, Gary Brown and OSCO, John Iglesias, Elle Hounse, Bill Hill, Donald D'Haene, Sam Shoebottom, Andrew Rethazi, Jenn Floris, Original Kids Theatre Company, The Grand Theatre, OE Canada



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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Sarah Elisabeth Abbott-Carter

For MTP: Gypsy Rose Lee in *Gypsy*; Other credits: Velma Kelly in *Chicago* (Pacheco Theatre), Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* (Fuse Theatre Productions); Director for various productions for OKTC

Brendon Ainscow

For MTP: Wickerson Brother in *Seussical the Musical* & Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie*; Other credits: *Full Monty* (Fuse Theatre Productions)

Nicole Alcacidinho

For MTP: Ensemble in *Bat Boy The Musical*; Other credits: Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* (Pacheco Theatre); Teacher for Needham School of Dance and Director for Youth Performing Arts in Strathroy

Ian Badger

For MTP: Ensemble in *Seussical the Musical* and *Bat Boy The Musical*; Other credits: *Rocky Horror Show*, *Legally Blonde* (Simply Theatre) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Aerie Theatre); TV Credits: The Block, London.

Kristina Baron Woods

For MTP: Sally in *Follies*, Producer for *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Oklahoma!*; Other credits: Co-producer for *The Fantasticks*, Laurey in *Oklahoma!*, Carrie in *Carousel*, Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*, Polly in *The Boy Friend*, Eliza in *My Fair Lady*, and Christine in the National Concert Tour of *Phantom of the Opera* (Vancouver and Toronto).

Josh Clemenger

For MTP: Curly in *Oklahoma!*; Other Credits: Lt Cable in *South Pacific*, Camile in *Merry Widow*, and Romeo in *City Workers* (UWO Opera), and Nanki Poo in *The Mikado* (Stratford Symphony Orchestra)

Joel Dell

For MTP: Cigar in *Gypsy*, Ben Stone in *Follies* and Ensemble in *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Oklahoma!*; Other Credits: *Sullivan & Gilbert* (LCP), *Young Company* (Grand Theatre), Bill Sherry Big Band as a trumpeter and vocalist, and member of The Dell Family Singers.

Becky Lenko

For MTP: Ensemble in *Oklahoma!*, Costume Design for *Gypsy*, *Oklahoma!* *The Drowsy*

Chaperone, *Follies*, *Anything Goes*, and *Annie Get Your Gun*; Other credits: *Sweeney Todd* (Pacheco Theatre), *Treasure Island* (LCP).

Kate Deman

For MTP: Shelley in *Bat Boy The Musical* and Ensemble in *Seussical the Musical* and *White Christmas*; Other credits: Shelly in *Evil Dead* and Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Iglesia Productions), Maureen in *Rent* (Vauxpunk Opera), Amber in *Hairspray* (Beal Musical Theatre) and Ensemble in *9 to 5* (Drayton Entertainment)

Andrea Ferrett

For MTP: *South Pacific*; Other credits: Annie (Beal Players), *Let Us Go Out* (London Fringe), *A Chorus Line* (Purple Patches), *Evita* (Jane Mallet Theatre), *Man of La Mancha* and *Scooby Doo* (Theatre Sheridan), and backup vocalist for Elvis impersonator, Tim E. Hendry

Jordan Henry

For MTP: Various characters in *Gypsy* and Underling in *Drowsy Chaperone*; Other credits: Amos in *Chicago* (Pacheco Theatre), Heinrich in *The Clockmaker*, Harold in *Black Comedy*, and Tobias in *Sweeney Todd* (Pacheco Theatre)

Elle Hounse

For MTP: Rose in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Claudia in *Nine* and Ensemble in *Nunsense The Mega Musical*; Other credits: Annie in *Evil Dead* and *God of Carnage* (Iglesia Productions)

Laura Nielson

For MTP: Mrs. Taylor in *Bat Boy The Musical*; Other credits: Cinderella in *Bedtime Stories* (Voices Collective, 2013 Fringe Festival), Van's Sister in *Dog Sees God* (Simply Theatre) and Loretta in an *Original Musical* (Theatre Kent)

Kayla Rock

For MTP: Debut; Other credits: Paulette Bonafonte in *Legally Blonde*, Magenta in *Rocky Horror Show* and Anna Labia in *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens* (Simply Theatre), Bluebeard's wife in *Bedtime Stories* (Voices Collective, 2013 Fringe Festival) and Lick Me in *The Producers* (Pacheco Theatre)

Braeden Soltys

For MTP: Yonkers in *Gypsy* and Ensemble in *Oklahoma!*; Other credits: Mark in *Rent*, Moritz in *Spring Awakening*, Finch in *How to Succeed in*

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Business Without Really Trying (Toronto Youth Theatre), Doody in *Grease* and Evan in *13 The Musical* (Bravo Academy), Willard in *Footloose* and Marius in *Les Miserables* (Cardinal Academy for the Arts)

Kyle Stewart

For MTP: Ensemble in *Bat Boy The Musical*; Other Credits: Brad in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Hourglass Productions), Amos Hart in *Chicago*, Bill in *Perfect Wedding* (Theatre Kent), Benny in *Rent* (Vauxopera), Charlie in *Brigadoon* and Shrek in *Shrek The Musical* (Ridge Players), and David in the Toronto web series *Out With Dad*

Ceris Thomas

For MTP: Ensemble in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Bonnie LaTour in *Anything Goes*, The Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Director/Choreographer for *The Gondoliers*, *Follies* and *Oklahoma!*; Other credits: *The Three Musketeers* and *Treasure Island* (LCP), Impresario Winning Fringe shows of *[They Fight!]* and *The Fantasticks* (Shrew'd Business).

Elizabeth Van Doorne

For MTP: Director for *Guys and Dolls*, Stage Manager for *Anything Goes*, Set Designer for *Anything Goes* and *H.M.S. Pinafore*; Other credits: Director for *Anne of Green Gables* and *Oklahoma!* (St. Mary's Players), Director for numerous G&S Society Productions (U.W.O) including *Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Ruddigore*, Ensemble in *6 Women With Brain Death* (Diva Prods).

Julia Webb

For MTP: Nikki in *Sweet Charity*, Joanne in *Company*, Vera in *Pal Joey* and ensemble in *Anything Goes*; Other credits: *All Grown Up* and *Personals* (Port Stanley Festival Theatre), *Lion in Winter* and *A Delicate Balance*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* and *Press Cuttings*; Julia also performs with Jake Levesque in *JJ Fiasco*

Chris Wood

For MTP: Most recently, *Feldzig* in *Drowsy Chaperone* and Harry MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*; Other credits: Jerry in *Full Monty* (Fuse Theatre Productions), Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd* and Ensemble in *Chicago* (Pacheco Theatre)

and Eddie in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Simply Theatre, London Fringe Festival)

Adam Zess

For MTP: Bat Boy in *Bat Boy The Musical*; Other credits: Van in *Dog Sees God* and Don John in *Much Ado About Nothing*

ARTISTIC TEAM

Angela Southern (Director)

For MTP: Mama Rose in *Gypsy*, Trix in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Reno *Sweeney in Anything Goes* Director/Musical Director for *Nunsense*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*; Musical Director and Jeanette in *The Full Monty*, Musical Director for *Cabaret* (Fuse Theatre Productions), Musical Director for *Company* (Fountainhead Theatre).

Nicole Newell (Director)

For MTP: Mazeppa in *Gypsy*, Meredith Parker in *Bat Boy The Musical*, also appearing in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Follies*, *Nine*, *Nunsense* and *Little Shop of Horrors*; Other Credits: Pam in *The Full Monty* (Fuse Theatre Productions), The Witch in *Bedtime Stories* (The Voices Collective, 2013 Fringe Festival) and Mary Sunshine in *Chicago* (Pacheco Theatre).

Anne Cuthbert (Stage Manager)

For MTP: Ensemble in *Pajama Game*, Director and Stage Manager for *Bye Bye Birdie*, Stage Manager for *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Nunsense*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*; Other credits: Stage Manager for LCP productions and Fountainhead Theatre.

Laura Wood (Producer)

For MTP: Ensemble in *42nd Street*, *Pajama Game*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sweet Charity*, *Meet Me in St. Louis* and *Anything Goes*, Producer and Choreographer for *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Nunsense*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Gypsy*, and Choreographer for *The Drowsy Chaperone*; Other credits: Choreographer for OKTC, London and area dance teacher and Apprentice with Ontario Ballet Theatre (1990-1991).