



PASSING STRANGE

Jun 9 -
Jul 30, 2023

Book and Lyrics by Stew
Music by Stew and Heidi Rodewald
Created in Collaboration with Annie Dorsen

Directed by Tim Rhoze
Music Directed by Dr. Michael McBride
Choreographed by Terri K Woodall

theo™



Theo is committed to creating a culture of **belonging** for every person in our community. A culture of belonging is established through the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. **In order to succeed in a culture of belonging we must recognize and honor those who came before us, as well as provide welcoming and brave spaces for those who are with us today:**

- Theo sits on the traditional homelands of the Council of Three Fires, the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa as well as the Menominee, Miami and Ho-Chunk Nations.
- Theo also acknowledges that the field of theatre has traditionally excluded members of the global majority, including Black, Indigenous, and people of color, and commits to working to dismantle the legacy of colonization and racism in this country.
- We acknowledge that the United States was built at the often-fatal expense of forcefully enslaved Black people. We commit to working towards the continued liberation of Black people through our work both on and offstage.
- We believe every person is born with dignity and humanity, including, but not limited to, race, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, country of origin, ability, body size, sexual orientation, and gender.

We thank you for honoring these commitments to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility for all our patrons. All underrepresented voices—past, present, and future—have a home here at Theo.

AUDIENCE AGREEMENT

All are welcome here. As such, Theo has a zero-tolerance policy towards harassment and hate-speech. Those violating this policy will be asked to leave. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

To read these acknowledgements in their entirety, please visit theo-u.com/mission-values

ABOUT OUR RESTROOMS

Theo commits to providing accessible and all-gender restrooms as an important way to show full access and inclusion. We believe that everyone benefits from accessible (ADA compliant) and all-gender restrooms including, but not limited to, transgender and gender diverse individuals, people with a disability, parents/caregivers whose children are a different gender from them, and people with caregivers who are a different gender from them.



A WELCOME FROM DIRECTOR, TIM RHOZE

Sometimes you just have to experience something to fully appreciate the force of its existence. What I love about live theatre is that it gives everyone in the space the opportunity to experience the many vibrations and textures, the heart and soul of the writing, the performances, the design elements, and the total atmosphere that is grounded in our (artist's) imaginations. When



I think of exceptional theatrical experiences, *Passing Strange* is among them. So many preconceived going to the show barriers are torn down, countless waves of creative nuances give birth to more creative nuances, and what you thought live theatre was supposed to be is completely challenged. Different types of voices and imagery are emerging before your eyes and in your ears. The stimulating vibrations, the delicious textures, and the beautiful essence of the heart and soul of *Passing Strange* are ever-present. The writers, cast, musicians, designers, and technicians have created a world unlike any other. And there it is.

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PASSING STRANGE

BOOK AND LYRICS BY STEW
MUSIC BY STEW AND HEIDI RODEWALD
CREATED IN COLLABORATION WITH ANNIE DORSEN

PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR	Tim Rhoze (<i>he/him</i>)
MUSIC DIRECTOR/ DIGITAL MUSIC DESIGNER	Dr. Michael McBride (<i>he/him</i>)
CHOREOGRAPHER	Terri K Woodall (<i>she/her</i>)
STAGE MANAGER	Payton Shearn (<i>she/they</i>)
SCENIC DESIGNER	Sydney Lynne (<i>she/her</i>)
LIGHTING DESIGNER	David Goodman-Edberg (<i>he/him</i>)
COSTUME DESIGNER	Austin Winter (<i>they/them</i>)
PROPERTIES DESIGNER	Lonnae Hickman (<i>she/her</i>)
SOUND DESIGNER	Stefanie Senior (<i>she/her</i>)
DIALECT COACH	Bria Walker-Rhoze (<i>she/her</i>)
ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR	Abigail Harper Caruso (<i>she/they</i>)
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Hunter Cole (<i>they/them</i>)
AUDIO ENGINEER	Isaac Mandel (<i>he/him</i>)
SCENIC PAINTER	Livian Kennedy (<i>she/her</i>)
PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN	Josiah Croegaert (<i>he/him</i>)
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Matthew R. Chase (<i>he/him</i>)
CASTING DIRECTOR	Christopher Pazdernik (<i>any</i>)
CASTING ASSISTANT	Caeli Wu (<i>she/her</i>)

All cast and staff are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
At Theo, masks are strongly encouraged.

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or
visual recordings of this production is strictly prohibited.

CAST

NARRATOR Jordan DeBose (*they/them*)

LOS ANGELES

MOTHER Jenece Upton (*she/her*)

YOUTH..... Michael Jones (*he/him*)

TERRY, A BAD KID AT CHURCH..... Elliot Sagay (*he/him*)

SHERRY, ANOTHER BAD KID AT CHURCH..... Chamaya Moody (*she/her*)

FRANKLIN, CHURCH PIANIST,
YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR Michael Mejia (*they/them*)

EDWINA, A TEENAGE GODDESS..... Caitlin Dobbins (*she/her*)

AMSTERDAM

RENATA, AN ABSTRACT ARTIST
AND CAFÉ WAITRESS..... Chamaya Moody (*she/her*)

CHRISTOPHE, AN ACADEMIC WHO MOONLIGHTS Elliot Sagay (*he/him*)

JOOP, A BODY LIBERATIONIST..... Michael Mejia (*they/them*)

MARIANNA, A NEO-HIPPIE..... Caitlin Dobbins (*she/her*)

BERLIN

HUGO, A MILITANT ESSAYIST..... Elliot Sagay (*he/him*)

SUDABEY, AN AVANT-GARDE
FILMMAKER AND WRITER Caitlin Dobbins (*she/her*)

DESI, A DEN MOTHER AND SOCIAL ENGINEER Chamaya Moody (*she/her*)

MR. VENUS, A PERFORMANCE ARTIST..... Michael Mejia (*they/them*)

PIT SINGER (U/S NARRATOR & ENSEMBLE 2) Marquise DeJahn (*he/she/they*)

PIT SINGER (U/S YOUTH & ENSEMBLE 1) Makenzy Jenkins (*he/she/they*)

PIT SINGER (U/S MOTHER & ENSEMBLE 3 & 4) Cynthia Hindmon (*she/her*)

BAND

CONDUCTOR/KEYBOARD Dr. Michael McBride (*he/him*)

GUITAR Harper Abigail Caruso (*she/they*)

BASS Willow Bloom (*she/they*)

DRUMS Ben Heppner (*he/him*)

MUSICAL NUMBERS

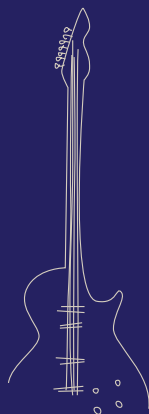
ACT ONE

PROLOGUE: WE MIGHT PLAY ALL NIGHT Narrator and the Band
 BAPTIST FASHION SHOW Narrator and Ensemble
 BLUES REVELATION/FREIGHT TRAIN Narrator and Ensemble
 ARLINGTON HILL Narrator
 SOLE BROTHER Youth, Terry and Sherry
 MUST'VE BEEN HIGH Narrator
 MOM SONG Narrator, Mother and Ensemble
 MERCI BEAUCOUP, M. GODARD Narrator and Stewardesses
 AMSTERDAM Ensemble
 KEYS Marianna, Youth and Narrator
 WE JUST HAD SEX Youth, Marianna and Renata
 STONED Youth and Narrator

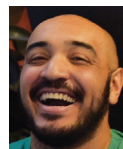
15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

MAY DAY Narrator and Ensemble
 SURFACE Mr. Venus
 DAMAGE Narrator, Desi and Youth
 IDENTITY Youth
 THE BLACK ONE Narrator and Ensemble
 COME DOWN NOW Desi and Heidi
 WORK THE WOUND Youth and Narrator
 PASSING PHASE Youth and Narrator
 LOVE LIKE THAT Narrator



BIOGRAPHIES



JORDAN DEBOSE (they/them; Narrator)

THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: *In The Heights* & *Billy Elliot* (Porchlight); *Avenue Q* (Metropolis); *Tarzan* (Night Blue); *The Fantasticks* (Quest). Jordan attended the University of Central Oklahoma and moved to Chicago in 2016. They're a business owner, hip hop artist, drag performer, and aspiring beatmaker. Currently seeking representation. IG: @big_bi_bose



MICHAEL JONES (he/him; Youth)

THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: *The HOA*; *Last Night in Karaoke Town*; *Oh Shit It's Haunted!* (Factory Theater). REGIONAL: *Sweeney Todd* (Encore Musical Theatre Co.). Michael is a proud Ensemble Member of The Factory Theater where he is an actor, part time box office manager, and all around moral support. He'd like to thank his fiancé for always supporting the dream. To Fred and Goober for being great cats. And to Theo for letting him live the dream. GAME TIME!



JENECE UPTON (she/her; Mother)

THEO: Debut. CHICAGO/ REGIONAL: *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* (Temple Theatre); *Botticelli in the Fire* (First Floor); *Too Heavy For Your Pocket* (Harper Ensemble); *Children of Eden* (Devonshire Playhouse) and more. In addition to her work onstage, Jenece has also appeared on "Chicago Fire" (NBC). She is grateful to her family and friends for their unending support and looks forward to continuing to tell compelling and diverse stories. Represented by Gray Talent. IG: @jenecejaneice



CAITLIN DOBBINS (she/her; Ensemble 3)

THEO: Debut. CHICAGO/ REGIONAL: *All Shook Up* (Temple Theatre); *Children of Eden in Concert* (Cadillac Palace); *Rent & Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Porchlight); *Notes and Letters* (Underscore); *Laced at* (About Face);

Fireflies (Northlight); *Doll's House* (Raven); *Big Fish at* (Boho); and *Head Over Heels* (Kokandy). Caitlin graduated from Columbia College Chicago in Musical Theatre and Voice-Over and is represented by Gray Talent.



MICHAEL MEJIA (they/them; Ensemble 2)

THEO: *The Threepenny Opera*. CHICAGO: *The White Plague*; *Love and Information*; *The Killer*; *The Old Woman Broods*; *Monsieur D'Eon is a Woman* (Trap Door Theatre) *Stateville Voices* (Goodman Theatre) *The Apple Tree* (Porchlight Revisits) *Passage* (Remy Bumpo) *Kingdom* (Broken Nose Theatre) *Little Shop of Horrors* (Stoughton Village Players). Michael studied acting and music performance at Indiana University. Represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent Inc. mejiah.com



CHAMAYA MOODY (she/her; Ensemble 4)

THEO: *The Threepenny Opera*; *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*; *Godspell & 8-Track* (Jeff Award—Best Ensemble). CHICAGO: *Sweeney Todd* (Kokandy); *Into the Woods* (Big Noise); *The SpongeBob Musical* (Surging Films and Theatrics); *The Black Monologues* (Victory Gardens); & *All Shook Up* (Williams Street Rep). Chamaya graduated with a Theatre degree and Music Theatre Certificate from Northwestern University. She has also performed live for the Obamas. Other than performing, she likes making TikToks and speaking about disability rights. Represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent Inc. IG: @chamayamoody



ELLIOT SAGAY (he/him; Ensemble 1)

THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: *The Kelly Girls* (Factory); *Botticelli in the Fire* (First Floor); *The Hungry Ghost Festival* (Lifeline); *The Magnolia Ballet* (About Face); *Call Me Madam* (Porchlight Revisits). REGIONAL: *A Christmas Carol* (Indiana Rep). TV/FILM: "Chicago Med"; "McKenzie McCoy." Elliot graduated from Northwestern University, earning a theater degree with a specialization in playwriting and a certificate in musical theater. Beyond the arts, he enjoys cooking and soccer. Represented by Stewart Talent.



MARQUISE DEJAHN
(he/she/they; *Pit Singer & u/s Narrator/Ensemble 2*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: *One in Two* (Pride Arts).
REGIONAL: *Othello* (South

Dakota Shakespeare Festival); *Lion in Winter*; *She Kills Monsters*; *Zanna Don't!*; *Julius Caesar & Hunchback of Notre Dame* (University of South Dakota). Other than performing, they enjoy working with Leztogather to create sober sapphic spaces in Chicago.



CYNTHIA HINDMON
(she/her; *Pit Singer & u/s Mother/Ensemble 3/ Ensemble 4*)
THEO: *Working* (understudy).
CHICAGO: *Conference Of*

The Birds & High Fidelity (Columbia College Chicago); *Flight* (Beverly Arts Center); *Oh Hi, Johnny!: The Room-sical Parody* (Chicago Musical Theatre Festival); *Camelot* (Janis Concert Series) and *Ragtime* (Music Theatre Works). From Merrillville, Indiana, Cynthia moved to Chicago to attend Columbia College and graduated with a theater degree in 2021. She is very excited to be working with Theo again!



MAKENZY JENKINS
(he/she/they; *Pit Singer & u/s Youth/Ensemble 1*)
THEO: Debut. REGIONAL: *Shrek & Frozen* (New Stage Theatre in Jackson, MS).

Currently a rising junior at the Chicago College of Performing Arts where they have performed in *Spunk!* & *Overtly Queer*. They enjoy their free time by listening to the occasional Beyonce or SZA, writing poetry and music, and also part-time world tours in her bedroom alone. "Shoutout to my family (biological and chosen), and to GOD for putting me in these spaces where I can work authentically and in my own path." IG: @makenzy

HARPER CARUSO (she/they; *Guitar*) is a musical director, musician, and performer based in Chicago. Most recently she understudied two roles and had upwards of 18 performances (Eamon/Emcee) in *Once* at Writers Theatre. She is a professional clown, and often is performing at Newport Theater in Wrigleyville. You

can catch her this fall at TheatreSquared performing as Telephone Gal in the first ever regional production of *The Band's Visit*. IG: @harperabbyheart

WILLOW BLOOM (she/her; *Bass*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: *Tick, Tick... Boom!* (*Boho—Jeff Recommended*). An actress, musician & artist based out of North Chicago, she graduated from Kent State University in 2020 with a degree in theatre performance & sound design. She lives in West Ridge with her partner and too many cats.

BEN HEPPNER (he/him; *Drums*)
THEO: *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*. REGIONAL: *Grease* (Drury Lane, Sub). *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *Ain't Misbehavin'*; *Legally Blonde*; *Pippin*; *Man of La Mancha*; *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; *The Robber Bridegroom* (guitar); *Escape To Margaritaville*; *Annie* (Timber Lake Playhouse). A percussionist, teacher and composer with a percussion performance degree from NIU, Ben's experience ranges from symphony orchestras to musical theater to rock bands and classical contemporary music. With his award-winning compositions, he has performed as a guest artist at College of Dupage and local high schools. benheppner.org

TIM RHOZE (*Director/Playwright/ Set Designer*) has been the Producing Artistic Director of Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre (FJT) since 2010. His directing credits include: *American Son*; *Twilight*; *Los Angeles 1992*; *The Meeting*; *Fires In The Mirror*; *Nutcracker(ish)*; *Crowns*; *Having Our Say*; *Home*; *From the Mississippi Delta*; *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuf*; *Woza Albert!*; *Going to St. Ives*; *Single Black Female*; *A Song For Coretta*; *Yellowman*; *Sweet*; *Lady Day At Emerson Bar & Grill*; *Bear Country*; *Nobody*; *Fences*; *Piano Lesson*; *Ain't Misbehavin'*; *K2*; *The Glass Menagerie*; et.al. Tim is also the writer/director of *Why Not Me? A Sammy Davis Jr. Story*; *Maya's Last Poem*, both produced at FJT. He was co-writer and director of *A Home On The Lake*, and *Black Ballerina* co-produced with the Piven Theatre Workshop.

DR. MICHAEL MCBRIDE (he/him, *Music Director/Digital Music Designer*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO/REGIONAL: *Drury Lane Theatre*; *Porchlight Music Theatre*;

Music Theater Works; *BoHo Theatre*; *Engeman Theater* (NYC); *The Latiné Music Theatre Lab*; *Timber Lake Playhouse*; *Loyola University*; *California State University*; *Pride Films and Plays*; *Wallace Bowl*; *Drake Hotel*; and *The Cabaret Project*. A Chicago-based, Jeff Award-winning music director, internationally-performed composer, performer, and educator, he has served on faculty of Northwestern University, Loyola University Chicago, and North Park University, where he is a Visiting Assistant Professor. IG: @TheRealMcBride
TikTok: @pagetostagemusic

TERRI "BERRI" K WOODALL
(she/her; *Choreographer*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO/REGIONAL: Assistant Choreographer, *Cinderella* (Paramount); Choreographer, *Passing Strange* & Featured Dancer; *Sophisticated Ladies* (Porchlight); and Ensemble/Dance Captain, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (5 Star Theatricals). A Chicago native, and performer, teaching artist, choreographer, and business owner, she is a graduate of AMDA NY/LA and represented by Go2Talent. Currently, she dances for Chicago's Praise Productions Rize Pro-Elite Company and teaches their youth company as well as teaches and serves as Theatre Department Assistant at ChiArts. Terri Berri is filled with gratitude to be working with this incredible cast at Theo.

DAVID GOODMAN-EDBERG
(he/him; *Lighting Designer*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO: Designs with such companies as Adventure Stage; Akvavit; Cerqua Rivera; Cabinet of Curiosity; Chicago Fringe Opera; Chicago Repertory Ballet; First Floor; Fleetwood-Jourdain; The Gift; Grand Park Music Festival; Organic; Red Tape; Rough House; Third Eye; Thodos Dance; Trap Door; and Visceral Dance. REGIONAL: Eisenhower Dance Detroit; Opera Mississippi; Sitka Fine Arts Camp; Water Street Dance Milwaukee; touring with Manual Cinema & Eisenhower Dance Detroit. Assistant/associate design on various rides and shows at theme parks such as Chimelong Ocean Kingdom; Disney Shanghai; and Universal Studios Japan/Beijing/Hollywood. Dglxdesign.com

LONNAE (LUH-NAE) HICKMAN
(she/her; *Properties Designer*)
THEO: *Godspell* and 2022/23 Season Designer; including *Refuge*; *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Lonnae graduated from DePaul's Theatre School with a double major in Theatre and History. She has worked as a props designer with American Players, Steep, Definition, Teatro Vista, among others, and is honored to be Theo's season props designer. She's also passionate about finding stories that not only need to be told but have slipped through the cracks of the theater world.

SYDNEY LYNNE (she/her; *Scenic Designer*)
THEO: Debut. CHICAGO/REGIONAL: Longwharf Theater; Milwaukee Rep; Shattered Globe; Congo Square; Lookingglass; Timeline; Victory Gardens; Pyramid; Black Ensemble; Malz Jupiter & Geva Theater Center. A Chicago-based designer and artist, specializing in scenic design and visual arts/installations, she was nominated for a 2020 Jeff Award and won both a 2020 3Arts Award in Theatre and a 2022 Black Theater Alliance Award for Best Scenic Design. She is a graduate of Northwestern University in Theatrical Design/Production. "To those who got me here, thank you." sydneylynnedesign.com

STEFANIE SENIOR
(she/her; *Sound Designer*)
THEO: *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*; *Refuge*; *8-Track*; *Godspell*. CHICAGO: *FEN* (Assistant Designer, Court Theatre); *be mean to me* (Northwestern); *Somewhere Over The Border*; *Enough to Let the Light In* (Teatro Vista); *The Locusts* (The Gift). REGIONAL: *The Inferior Sex* (Trinity Rep); *Ada and the Engine*; *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* (Constellation Stage & Screen). She also works on the podcast *I've Been Meaning to Listen to That*.

AUSTIN WINTER
(they/them; *Costume Designer*)
CHICAGO: *Stew*; *London Road* (Shattered Globe) REGIONAL: *Stew*; *Underneath The Lintel*; *How to Catch Creation*; *Home* (Milwaukee Chamber) *Dragon Pack Snack Attack* (Hope Summer Rep) *The Amazing Lemonade Girl*; *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* (First Stage) www.austinwinter.com @austwintermint

BRIA WALKER-RHOZE
(she/her; Dialect Coach)

THEO: Debut. Bria is a multi-disciplinary artist based in Pittsburgh, PA. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Acting at Carnegie Mellon University and resident dramaturg and vocal/dialect coach with Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre (FJT). Selected dialect coaching credits include: *The 39 Steps* (University of Pittsburgh); *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* (FJT); *Fires in the Mirror* (co-production Pittsburgh Public Theatre & FJT). briawalker-rhoze.com

PAYTON SHEARN
(she/they, Stage Manager)

THEO: Debut! CHICAGO: *Dory Fantasmagory* (Young People's Theater); *When The Sun Melts Away* (Token Theatre); *Me...Jane* (Wirtz Center); *Men on Boats* (Wirtz Center); *Merrily We Roll Along* (The Dolphin Show). Payton is a recent graduate of Northwestern University, where they spent four years studying Theater Management and Gender & Sexuality Studies. She loves making theater for young audiences, theater that explores the intersection of art and activism, and theater that combines the two. As always, all the love and thanks to my parents, brother, and chosen family.

FRED ANZEVINO *(he/him; Director)*

THEO: Co-Founder & Artistic Director, Fred is honored to be celebrating this 25th Anniversary Season. Through the years he has directed/produced several critically acclaimed productions with Theo, as well as receiving 5 Jeff Awards (Non-Equity) for Best Direction of a Musical. He is thrilled to welcome Tim Rhoze and the entire *Passing Strange* team to Theo. "A very special thank you to our patrons, donors, Theo's Board of Directors, City of Evanston and our hard working staff. Always moving forward with love, compassion, forgiveness and concern, through the eyes of everyone! Enjoy!"

CHRISTOPHER PAZDERNIK
(any, Producing Director)

THEO: *Godspell* (Director); *Man of La Mancha* (Stage Manager) & *Time After Time* (Creative Consultant). CHICAGO & REGIONAL/DIRECTING: *Avenue Q* (Music Theatre Works); *Who's Holiday* (Theatre Wit); *Colors of My Life* (CCPA/Roosevelt University); *Big River* (Round Barn); *Carrie* (Ohio Northern University); *High Fidelity* (Jeff Awards, Best Director & Best Production); *The Spitfire Grill*; *The Last Session & Hands on a Hardbody* (Refuge Theatre Project); *The Story of A Story* (Underscore); eight productions for Porchlight Revisits; and three years of the Non-Equity Jeff Awards. CHICAGO/CASTING: *Sex Tips for Straight Women from a Gay Man* (Chicago Premiere); *Miracle* (World Premiere); *The Nutcracker* (The House); Porchlight Music Theatre & CPA Theatricals. An openly HIV+ artist; Christopher thanks you for supporting live theater. IG: @see.paz

MATTHEW R. CHASE
(he/him; Director of Production)

THEO: *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Associate Sound Design). CHICAGO/REGIONAL: *Avenue Q* (Music Theatre Works) CHICAGO/PRODUCTION MANAGER: *Spring Awakening* & *Broadway in Your Backyard*(Porchlight) and *Mary's Seacole* & *Heisenberg* (Griffin). CHICAGO/SOUND DESIGN: *Ernest Shackleton Loves Me*; *Cabaret*; *The Apple Tree*; *Rent*; *Clear*; *Spring Awakening*; *Passing Strange* & *Nunsense*(Porchlight); *Who's Holiday* (Theater Wit); *Anyone Can Whistle*; *Cooking With Bubbie* & *Veronica's Room* (Skokie Theatre); *9 to 5* & *Mamma Mia!* (Golden Ticket Productions). Matthew is Director of Production here at Theo, and the resident Production Manager at Theater Wit, where his credits include *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*; *Who's Holiday*; *Hurricane Diane* & *The Whistleblower*.

Evanston ASPA
Dedicated to promoting the visibility and representation of the local Asian, South Asian, Pacific Islander American community

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Celebrating 44 years!

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A STEPHEN SONDHEIM TRIBUTE

SATURDAY. SEPTEMBER 23. 2023

Featuring food, open bar, performances and more!
Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS THE WORLD.

In addition to attending our shows, additional financial support helps us maintain our high standards of producing quality productions and the costs of managing the phenomenal growth we've experienced in recent years.

It's always the perfect time to donate, because no matter when you make your gift, you'll always enjoy our donor benefits for an entire year!

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*All invitations at all levels are good for 2 people.

** Production element sponsorship opportunity.

Theo Cabaret Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit theatre company incorporated in the State of Illinois. Donations are tax deductible.

For more information, or to make a donation, visit theo-u.com/donate or mail your tax-deductible donation to

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DONORS

We are thrilled by the support of our generous patrons and benefactors. The following represents gifts made between May 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023. If you feel you have been inadvertently left off of the list, please contact Christopher Pazdernik at producingdirector@theo-u.org.

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Myra Epping & Jim Redlich
Michael Erickson & Lisa Stegink
Brian Fallon & Fred Mahaffey

Jay & Elissa Fisher
Andrea Friedman
Manuel Galvan
Carol Glassroth
Ethel & Bill Gofen
Lorinda Grogg
Barry & Merle Gross
Don & Joanna Gwinn
Dan Harrington
Dorothy G. Harza
Martha Hudak
James A. Huttenhower
Arnie & Debby Johnston
Lori & Gary Kash
Judy Kotzin
Jerome Loew
Shai & Karen Lothan
Joseph Mach
Diane Meiborg
Maureen Meyer & Pat Smoody
Vicki & Paul Morton
Joe & Joan O'Connor
Rod & Dorothy Patterson
Kevin Pazdernik
Jo Peer-Haas
David & Carole Perlman
Grace Petersen
Les Pollock & Linda Schiffman
Michael Quoss
Thomas Ray
Barbara Rothschild
Mark Saltzman
Linda Scussel
James Shaeffer & Margaret Hughitt
Karen Shankman & Jim Fruehling
Melissa Silverman
Robin Simon
Hugh & Charmaine Spencer
Caryl Steinberg
Ruth Stevig
Linda Surlak
Susan & Nicklin
Bethany Thomas
Brian Troy
Jan Tynan
Kathy Wall
Scott Wechsler
Haskel Weiss
Georgene Wilson
Tina Yarovsky

ABOUT THEO

Theo was founded by Artistic Director Fred Anzevino in 1997 as a non-equity itinerant storefront theatre, influenced by his father's involvement in the nightclub business and his heritage as an Italian American. In 2004, Theo was incorporated as Theo Cabaret Theatre at the No Exit Cafe, focusing on musicals and revues, and reigniting the cabaret theatre trend in Chicago and launching a 14-year track record of critically-acclaimed and award-winning music theatre productions. Overall, Theo has produced nearly 100 shows and received over 60 Jeff Awards.

In 2018, Theo was selected by the city of Evanston to be the resident company at a new performance space on Howard Street, which is where you are tonight! And this year, in honor of the company's 25th Anniversary, Theo celebrated with a brand refresh featuring a new logo and website. We are grateful to our long-term supporters that make it all possible, unendingly appreciative of our talented artists, and we look forward to growing our family of supporters into the future. Thank you for joining us!

For more information, visit theo-u.com

SPECIAL THANKS



This project is partially supported by a grant from the Evanston Arts Council, a city agency supported by the City of Evanston, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.



Theo was awarded a weekend retreat through the League of Chicago Theatres at the Bright Angel Retreat in Union Pier, Michigan. For more information on arranging a retreat for your company at Bright Angel, please visit www.brightangelretreat.com.



THEO STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE/ARTISTIC

Fred Anzevino (Artistic Director)

Christopher Pazdernik
(Producing Director)

Matthew Chase
(Director of Production)

AUDIENCE SERVICES

John Weagly (Box Office Manager)

Chloe Beth, Eileen Tull
(House Managers)

MARKETING, GRAPHIC DESIGN AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Arts ink, Inc.

Inquires can be directed to
Whitney Rhodes, whitney@artsink.org

ACCOUNTING

Solomon Hursey (Brilliant
Squirrel Bookkeeping)

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Niki Green (Bar Manager)

BUILDING STAFF

Charles Cannon, Angel China
(Co-Facilities Managers)

USHERS

Volunteers provided by The Saints
www.saintschicago.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Megan Elk - Interim President

Dick Moran - Treasurer

Mina Slater - Secretary

Niccole Alexander

Fred Anzevino*

Aimee Kleiman

Christopher Pazdernik*

*Ex-Officio, non-voting member

Contact the Producing Director
at producingdirector@theo-u.org
with questions and for more
information regarding
board involvement.

DO YOU LOVE THEO?

Consider joining our Board of Directors! We are always looking for passionate audience members to join us in supporting the work of the theatre. Board Members help fundraise, plan events, introduce their networks to Theo and more! For more information, reach out to Producing Director Christopher Pazdernik at producingdirector@theo-u.org

THEATRE INFORMATION

Box Office
(773) 939-4101
boxoffice@theo-u.org

Mailing Address
Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre
1751D West Howard Street, #294
Chicago, IL 60626

Online
theo-u.com



Member, League of Chicago Theatres



Member, Evanston Performing
Theatre Arts Collective



Member, Theatre Advocacy Project

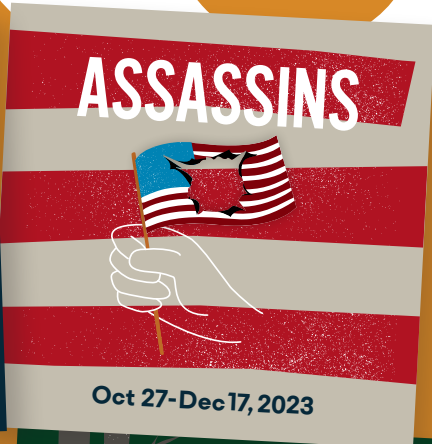
theo™



Baked!
THE MUSICAL

Sep 7-Oct 8, 2023

The poster features a dark blue background with a stylized illustration of a hand holding a golden-brown baked good, possibly a pie or loaf, with steam rising from it. The background has vertical blue stripes.



ASSASSINS

Oct 27-Dec 17, 2023

The poster has a red and white striped background. It features a hand holding a small American flag with a red heart cutout in the center.



Andersen
SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE

Mar 8-Apr 28, 2024

The poster is black with a white illustration of piano keys and a hand playing them. The title 'Andersen' is in a large, white, cursive font.



A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC

May 24-Jul 14, 2024

The poster has a dark green background with a blue crescent moon and a hand holding a stringed instrument, possibly a violin or cello. The title is in a white, stylized font.

Reserve your seats to Theo's 23-24 season by subscribing today! Packages start at just \$99 — including a brand new Flex Pass!
theo-u.com • 773.939.4101

