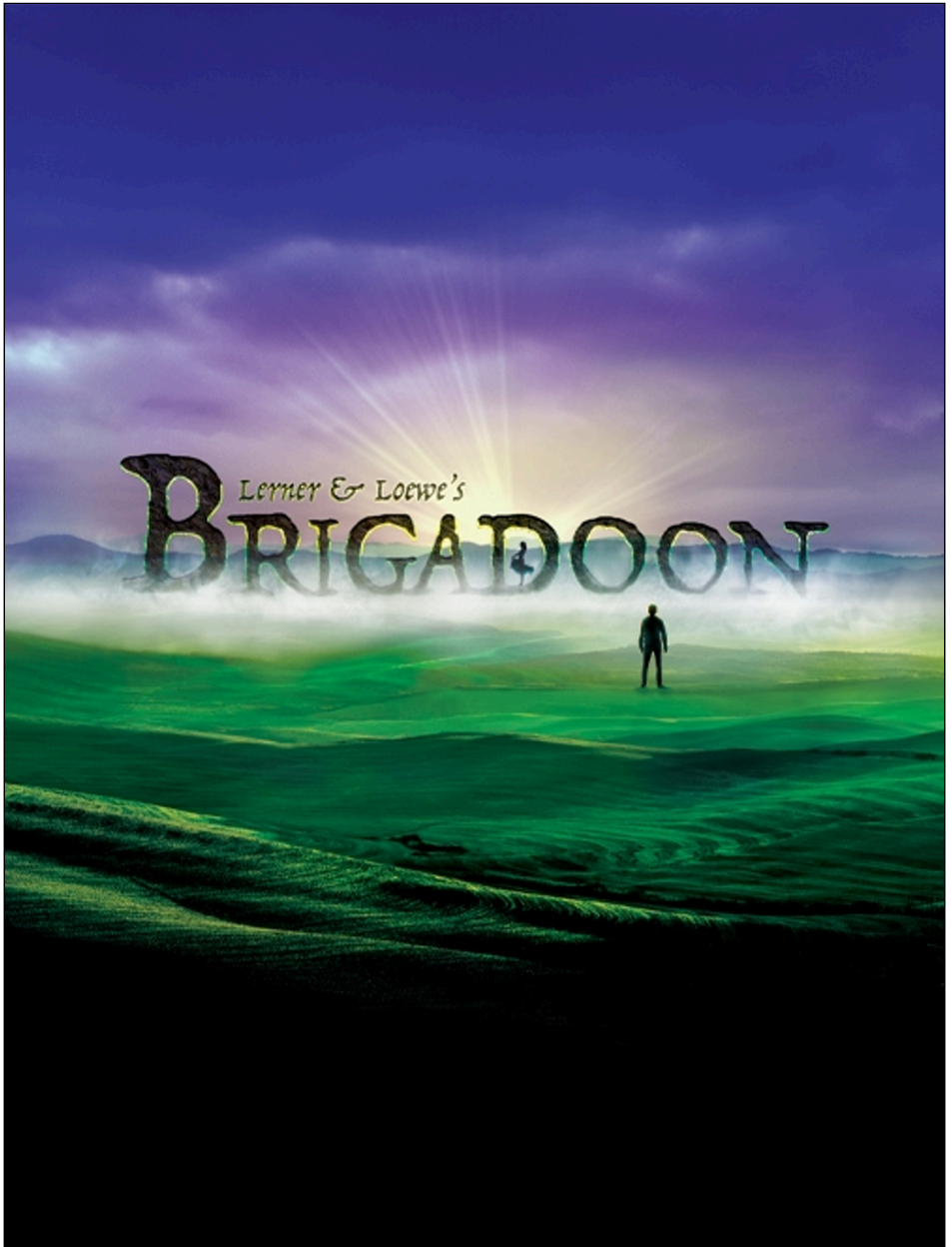


PLAYBILL®

Arizona Musical Theatre Orchestra
Central United Methodist Church
April 20th, 2024, 7:00 PM



The Arizona Musical Theatre Orchestra

PRESENTS

LERNER & LOEWE'S BRIGADOON

Music by
Frederick Loewe

Book and Lyrics by
Alan Jay Lerner

Conducted by
Mandi Broderick

Chorus Direction by
Patti Graetz

Original dances created by Agnes DeMille
Dances for AZMTO Production created by Kathleen Brazie

***Brigadoon* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.co.uk • www.mtishows.com • www.mtishows.com.au**

The unauthorized recording of this production, in whole or in part,
is strictly prohibited. AZMTO thanks you for your cooperation.



SONGS

ACT I

Overture	Orchestra
Prologue	Ensemble
Brigadoon	Ensemble
Down on MacConnachy Square	Vendors, Sandy, Meg, MacGregor, Stuart Dalrymple, Townsfolk
Waitin' for My Dearie	Fiona, Girls, Ensemble
I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean	Charlie, Ensemble, Maggie
The Heather On the Hill	Tommy, Fiona
The Love of My Life	Meg
Jeannie's Packin' Up	Girls, Ensemble
Come to Me, Bend to Me	Charlie
Almost Like Being in Love	Fiona, Tommy
End of Lundie Scene	Ensemble
Sword Dance and Reel	Ensemble, Narrator

ACT II

Entr'acte	Orchestra
The Chase	MacGregor, Stuart, Tommy, Ensemble
There But for You Go I	Tommy
My Mother's Weddin' Day	Meg, Ensemble
Funeral Dance	Maggie
From This Day On	Tommy, Fiona
Come to Me, Bend to Me (Reprise)	Fiona
The Heather on the Hill (Reprise)	Fiona, Distant Voices
From This Day On (Reprise)	Tommy, Fiona
Down on MacConnachy Square (Reprise)	Ensemble
Finale	Ensemble

ABOUT...

BRIGADOON

Brigadoon (1947) was conceived by Alan Jay Lerner (book) and Frederick Loewe (score) as a reponse to recent successful collaborations of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein: *Oklahoma!* (1943) and *Carousel* (1945). Lerner and Loewe were familiar with these musicals (at the time, who wasn't?), and set out to replicate that level of success for themselves.

They seemed to find inspiration in a German short story called *Germelshausen*, although that was never fully admitted by the composers! The short story was written by Wilhelm Gerstaecker in 1862, and it talks of a mysterious town that disappears in a dense fog, a woman waiting for her sweetheart who will never arrive, people who may be much older than they seem, and a somber funeral procession. The work had just entered the public domain, making it ripe for setting to music.

Although Lerner claimed in interviews that he had created the story himself (after failing to acquire rights to J.M. Barrie's "The Little Minister"), there is no doubt that *Brigadoon* could be viewed as a love letter to Rodgers & Hammerstein's blockbusters. In fact, *Oklahoma!* could be thought of as a theatrical model for *Brigadoon*; both shows are known for their *what-if* ballads ("People Will Say We're In Love" and "It's Almost Like Being In Love"). They both feature comic relief couples (Will Parker/Ado Annie & Jeff/Meg Brockie) and characters who threaten the happiness of the leads (Jud Fry & Harry Beaton).

In the classic "which came first: the lyrics or the music?" debate, the answer for Lerner & Loewe was always the book. In true collaboration, songs were interspersed after the dialogue had a rough sketch; Loewe would set the mood to music, then return with his progress, inspiring Lerner to sketch more lyrics to bring back the next day. Keyboard playing would be ad-libbed until an "Aha!" breakthrough would solidify a song's most iconic moments. For *Brigadoon*, much of the music was inspired by the writing of classical Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg, whose heritage traced back to Scotland (you may hear lots of "open fifths", or "power chords" as they are referred to in modern rock).

Why name the village Brigadoon? There are several theories, but one that rings most true is from a Scottish landmark called "Brig o' Doon" that is the setting for the Robert Burns poem, *Tam O'Shanter*. Burns is widely regarded as Scotland's National Poet, and he grew up less than a mile from the bridge. The "Doon" in this theory refers to a river in southwest Scotland, and "brig" in the Scots dialect means "bridge". *Brigadoon* translates literally as "Bridge over the river Doon" (pictured).



ABOUT...

The Arizona Musical Theatre Orchestra

The Arizona Musical Theatre Orchestra (AZMTO) welcomes you to its second season!

If you have never seen an AZMTO production before, your eyes and ears are in for a real treat. You'll notice within the first few minutes that AZMTO's casts are much larger than most traditional theatre ensembles, which is intentional: we want you to hear the *music* of these shows soaring bigger and grander than you've ever heard.

Hearing a full complement of musicians playing a Broadway show is a luxury these days, but folks who don't attend theatrical performances *may never realize why that is...*and that's because, surprisingly, *they might not notice a problem exists*. Many shows mount productions where musicians are unseen; even in New York, musicians can be in 3-4 separate rooms, even across the street from their performance venues! And did you know that many cast recordings employ larger-than-standard orchestras in order to add dimension to a show's audio legacy? Besides live performance with live, *present* musicians, how are we ever to know what's

So where could you go if you wanted a full symphonic musical theatre experience *today*? Sadly, with Broadway pit sizes and orchestrations transforming (read: shrinking) in the name of regional authenticity (*i.e. Come From Away*), technical advancement (*Hamilton*), or even karaoke-style storytelling (*Here Lies Love*), the only feasible remaining answers is at the symphony...but even *they* won't play full shows in concert style. That's where we come in!

We believe that music's joys are found in the circumstance of its storytelling. When you come to an AZMTO performance, you actively empower musicians to refine their craft in a unique environment. In turn, we thank you by providing a truly unique sensory experience.

Music heightens our natural emotions while revealing new subtext about plot and character. Thus, attending a Showcase reminds us that music doesn't only tell us what to feel...it *shows us how*. AZMTO participants & audience members grow from these experiences because they feel a different depth of significance and validation here -- not just from combining their talents or learning about something new, but from sharing their humanity.

Performance is a symbiotic relationship. What is created together in this room is equally as spellbinding for our performers as it can be for audience members. So tonight, when you feel moved, take a good look around. You might catch a glimpse of our performers feeling something special...something they can't quite define or explain. This experience is known as "theatre magic": it's the way stories weave together inexplicably to remove us from our own situation. The performers feel it because of how they see a show unfold right before their eyes. And however you find that "magic" -- whether through the power of the dialogue, the beauty of the music, or just by allowing yourself to experience something new in a unique way -- we are grateful that you're here, sharing in these moments with us.

CAST

Cast Members

Tommy Albright	Zack Wells
Fiona MacLaren	Robyn Pitman
Jeff Douglas	Timothy Beagley
Meg Brockie	Amanda Roca
Charlie Dalrymple	Chad Millar
Jean MacLaren	Bella Klein
Archie Beaton	Todd Corbeil
Harry Beaton	Benjamin Ellis
Ms. Lundie	Tara Furcini
Maggie Anderson	Kathleen Brazie
Andrew MacLaren	David Weck
MacGregor	Stephen Schermitzler
Angus MacGuffie	Jesse Berger
Stuart Dalrymple	Mark Knoblauch
Sandy Dean	Harrison Whitfill
Frank	Todd Corbeil
Jane Ashton	Elizabeth Bridgewater
Narrator	Nicole Magney
Girls	Rachel Balko Natalie Ellis Christina Epp (Kate) Jennifer Michelle Mandy Ressler Kate Smithyman Kacie Stansfield Jenna Sweet

Production / Creative

Conductor	Mandi Broderick
Chorus Director	Patti Graetz
Rehearsal Pianist	Joni Van Rossum
Audio Technician	Andrea Gudeyon

CAST

Orchestra

Violin I	Melisa Karic*, Carl Reiter, Nancy Reiter, Angela Storey
Violin II	Jamie Ahler, Rachel Kulhanek, Marj Sherman, Michael Wilde
Viola	Jason Hsung, Dwight Lear, Whitney Smith
Cello	Krista Black, Abbey Hunt, Samuel Turner
Bass	Byron Edgar, Joe Ellis
Reeds	Flute/Piccolo: Nancy Sowers Clarinet: David McConaughey Clarinet: Suzanne Johnsen Oboe: Marcie Kneisley Bassoon: John Shepherd
Brass	Trumpet: Mike Downey Trumpet: Brandon Kollmorgen Trumpet: Brian Stoneberger Trombone: Erik Ketcherside French Horn: Brian Alan
Percussion	Piano/Celeste: Sara Taylor Percussion: Sonja Branch
Bagpipes	Stephen Holter

ENSEMBLE

<p>Soprano 1 Jane Brambilla Christina Epp Faith Forbis Denise Hickey Mary LaValley Bella Klein Robyn Pitman Mandy Ressler Jessica Torla Joanna Torla</p>	<p>Alto 1 Maddie Angst Natalie Booth Lou Ann Brennan Jane Chavers Natalie Ellis Tara Furcini Jennifer Michele Sarai Phillips-Dunlap Valarie Vousden</p>	<p>Tenor Cris Mory Barron Dave Chavers Mark Knoblauch Chad Millar Craig Spaulding David Weck Zack Wells</p>
<p>Soprano 2 Rachel Balko Elizabeth Bridgewater Kerri Christie Jacquelyn Fuchs Stacy Holyfield Jenifer Kasten Alli Lambert Nicole Magney Margaret Miller Kacie Stansfield</p>	<p>Alto 2 Nancy Browne Rachel Cohen Susan Kujawski Marijane Milton Amanda Roca Janis Schmidt Kathryn Smithyman Thylma Stamaria Jenna Sweet</p>	<p>Bass Todd Corbeil Benjamin Ellis James Hamilton Stephen Schermitzler Rodney Smith Weisi Song Harrison Whitfill</p>

CREW

Special Thanks

AZMTO Volunteers	Joelle Boatwright Edie Chudnow Mary Kelly Gillian Lunn Susan Woods
Central United Methodist Church Staff	Brandon Gilmore Girma Tilahun Sammi Burkhart
Audio Technician	Andrea Gudeyon
Percussion Equipment	Sonja Branch Michael Coy Liz Guzman

SPECIAL THANKS

Central United Methodist Church Staff -- Brandon, Girma, & Sammi -- for graciously facilitating venue arrangements, storage needs, piano tuning, sheet music supervision, etc, with full hearts and open minds. Thank you for being such generous hosts and being a part of our origin story.

AZMTO Volunteers -- for all you do, big and small, behind the scenes to keep AZMTO operations running smoothly. You are the backbone of this organization and we simply could not do what we do without your support. Special thanks to Edie Chudnow and Susan Woods for additional volunteer coordination, concessions, and so much more!

Andrea Gudeyon -- for offering guidance to steadily improve the sound quality of every Showcase, for providing equipment in times of need, and for staying levelheaded as we grow. You are dearly appreciated!

Liz Guzman and Sonja Branch - for generously donating the use of your own percussion equipment for tonight's performance, and for your support of future musical generations. Thank you!

Mandi Broderick, Patti Graetz, and Joni Van Rossum -- for your care shown in your devotion to artistry, camaraderie, and community artistic growth, and for the hours of preparation that go vastly underappreciated. You made this happen, and I'm so grateful to you!

Generous AZMTO Donors for ongoing financial support and in-kind donations of flights, equipment, snacks, etc. that keep us running strong! Your support helps us become leaders of artistic education & appreciation in our community. Thank you!

Music Theatre International -- for providing the licensing for *Brigadoon* and many other AZMTO productions.

Satellite Collective - for being the nonprofit fiscal sponsor that makes all AZMTO events possible (and all donations tax-deductible!).

AZMTO Participants -- for literally buying in to this concept, using every ounce of passion you have to create Art for Art's Sake.

Audience -- for your support and celebration of 100% LIVE theatre! The Arizona Arts community is strong because of people like you. Thank you!

WHO'S WHO



Zack Wells

as Tommy Albright

Zack is thrilled to be back at AZMTO for his fifth production, with past performances in *Titanic*, *Crazy for You*, *Mamma Mia!*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Zack serves as the Executive Director and tenor section leader of ProMusica Arizona Chorale and Orchestra. When not immersed in music or theater, Zack applies his creativity in the tech world as a Software Engineer.



Robyn Pitman

as Fiona MacLaren

Robyn is thrilled to be back with AZMTO! Regional Tour: Brigadoon (Fiona), Music Man (Mrs. Squires, Marian U/S), Legally Blonde (Elle's Mom, Judge). Regional Theater: The Music Man (Marian), Hello Dolly (Irene), I Love You... (Woman 1/2), Lucky Stiff (Annabel), Cinderella (Portia), The Full Monty (Georgie), 1776 (Martha), Into the Woods (Rapunzel), Titanic (Alice), and more!



Timothy Beagley

as Jeff Douglas

A recent transplant from the Bay Area, Tim is pleased to join AZMTO for this production. He was most recently seen in American Psycho: The Musical as Detective Kimball. Recent: Albert Einstein in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*; Freddie in *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*; Elyot in *Private Lives*; File in *The Rainmaker*. Tim is also an accomplished director. *Slàinte mhath!*



Amanda Roca

as Meg Brockie

Amanda Roca is a biologist, toddler mom, and musical theater nerd. She's thrilled to be back on stage after many years! Previous AZMTO productions include *Guys and Dolls* and extensive practice in the Underscore program.

WHO'S WHO



Chad Millar

as Charlie Dalrymple

Chad Millar, tenor, began his opera career at the age of 9 singing in Menotti's Amahl and the Night Visitors. He is a Metropolitan Opera Arizona District winner. He was a member of the tenured San Francisco Opera chorus for a number of years and performed numerous roles during his tenure. He recently performed Archibald Craven in *The Secret Garden* with Inspire Theatre.



Bella Klein

as Jean MacLaren

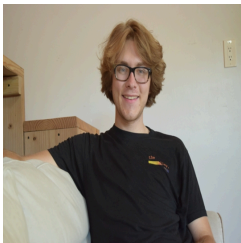
Bio: This is Bella's first time being in an AZMTO production and she could not be more excited to be playing Jean MacLaren and singing soprano for the ensemble. Bella is 18 years old and a freshman musical theatre performance major at ASU. Previous roles include Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* and Mrs. Macafee in *Bye Bye Birdie*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Todd Corbeil

as Archie Beaton

Todd Corbeil is excited to do another show with AZMTO (*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *A Little Night Music*). Regional: 42nd Street (Mac/Julian Marsh understudy) *Rock of Ages* (Hertz Klinemann), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Mesa Community College). Todd is a graduate of ASU and was the singer for local rock band Hung Dynasty.



Benjamin Ellis

as Harry Beaton

Ben is returning to performing after a prolonged hiatus from the stage. Playing Kenickie in *Grease* and Nicely Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls* are some of his fondest memories. Ben is extremely excited to be getting back into the performing arts. Offstage, Ben enjoys spending time with his family and his cats. Thank you to his family and friends for all the support!



Tara Furcini

as Ms. Lundie

Tara has been acting in the valley since Southwest Shakespeare Conservatory for Actors in 2000. A musician first, Tara plays piano, clarinet and ukulele in addition to singing, and is so pleased to be part of the unique endeavor that is AZMTO! A million congrats to my recent grad, could not be prouder!

WHO'S WHO



Kathleen Brazie

as Maggie Anderson

Dance/movement studies (NYC/AZ) and professional modern dancer. Award-winning choreographer, certified yoga instructor, Registered Somatic Movement Educator (ISMETA), published writer, and speaker. A cancer survivor, she founded Purple Boots Creative with the goal of supporting wellness. 100+ credits include *Urinetown*, *Into the Woods*, *Once on This Island*, and many more.



David Weck

as Andrew MacLaren

David E Weck is an educator of the arts (choir, theatre, and strings) in the Phoenix area, and has been a part of several AZMTO performances. Recent musical direction include *Legally Blonde* and *Descendants*. Enjoy the show!



Stephen Schermitzler

as MacGregor

Stephen is the Founder & Artistic Director of the Arizona Musical Theatre Orchestra (est. 2022). An accomplished pianist and baritone, Stephen has served as Music Director for Detour Company Theatre (2006-2020) and the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre (2014-2016), among others.

He has performed classically with countless local arts organizations. All love to Ray and the Pod.



Jesse Berger

as Angus MacGuffle

Jesse is thrilled to perform in his 6th production with AZMTO, having previously performed in *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney), *Man of La Mancha* (Don Quixote), *Parade* (D.A. Dorsey), *Benny Southstreet* (*Guys & Dolls*), and *Count Carl-Magnus* (*A Little Night Music*). When not being run ragged by his two boys, Jesse is a legal assistant & sings in *December '63*, a tribute to the 4 Seasons.

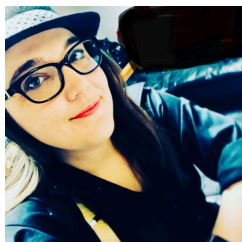


Mark Knoblauch

as Stuart Dalrymple

Previous credits: The Equity National Tour of *Sesame Street Live*, and as Lord Farquaad in *Shrek The Musical*. Mark has performed in several AZMTO productions, and is thrilled to return for *Brigadoon*. Thanks to husband Josh and three children Andrew, Dylan, and Olivia who support his crazy pursuits.

WHO'S WHO



Mandi Broderick

Conductor

Mandi Broderick has served as an Arizona music educator, conductor, and musician dedicated to serving public schools for almost 20 years. She received her Bachelors of Music Education from Northern Arizona University, followed by a Masters of Music Education from Kent State University. Mandi has served as the Director of Bands and Orchestras at public schools in Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Surprise, a fine arts administrator in Phoenix, as well as a private lesson studio for trumpet and piano in both Chandler and Peoria. She leads comprehensive music programs in public high schools encompassing Marching Band, Concert Bands, Jazz Band, Musical Pit Orchestra, Theory, History, Dual Enrollment, Piano, Guitar, and IB music. In addition to her work in the school setting, Mandi is an active performer, conductor, clinician, and adjudicator in the local music community.

She is grateful for this opportunity to perform with the Arizona Musical Theater Orchestra.



Patti Graetz

Chorus Director

Patti Graetz has been conducting choirs and orchestras since she was 19 and a student at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. She went on to have a prolific career teaching and performing in choral music, opera, and musical theater (since 1989 in AZ). She serves as Artistic Director for ProMusica Arizona Chorale & Orchestra, a community organization based in North Phoenix.



Joni Van Rossum

Rehearsal Pianist

Joni Van Rossum, an accomplished musical director and composer, has been leaving a harmonious trail in the world of theatre for over 15 years.

Since April 2016, Joni has been living in Phoenix. He was the musical director for the Scottsdale Musical Theater Company, and he now proudly holds the position of Director of Media & Production at church in Tempe.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Join Us in 2024!

SHOWCASE

January 27

April 20

June 15

July 27

September 21

November 16

UNDERScore

February 24

March 16

May 18

August 24

October 19

December 28

All shows TBA

INFO: www.azmto.org

NEXT SHOWCASE:

THE PAJAMA GAME

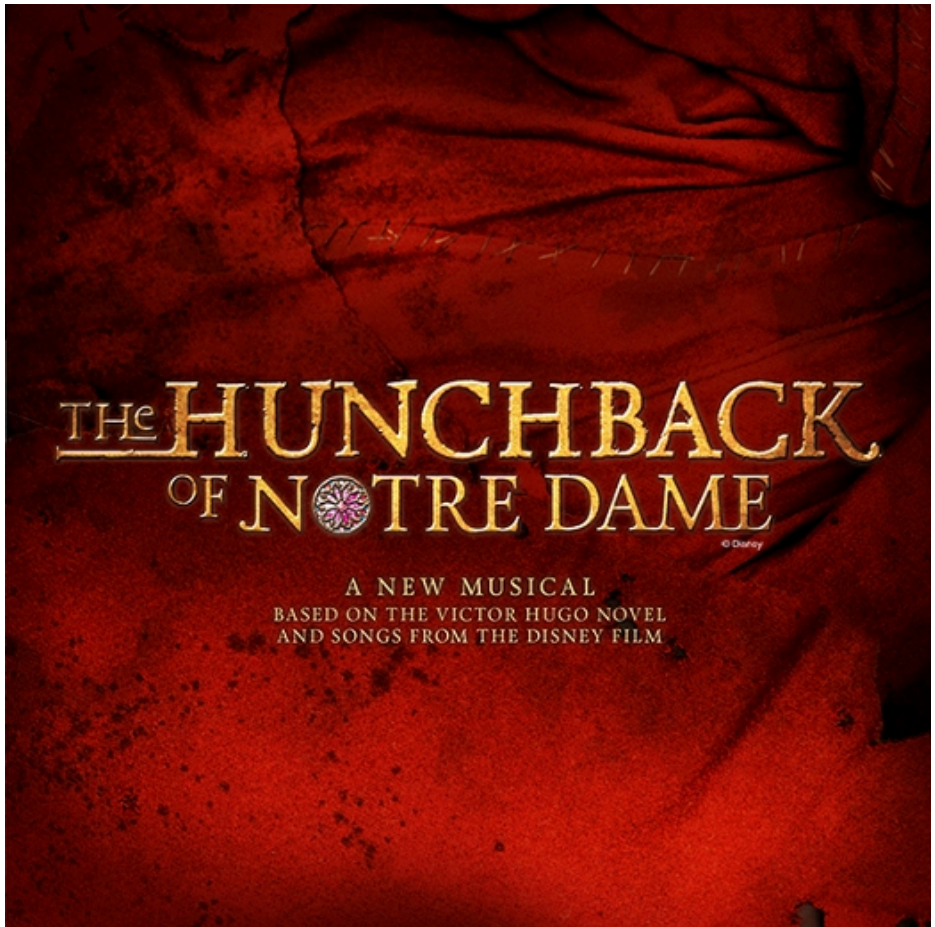
June 15, 2024, 7:00 PM

More details coming soon!



WHAT'S NEXT?

Join us for a special film screening!



We're throwing a celebratory viewing party for our September 23rd Showcase! This epic show featured over 140 performers from all across the state. If you missed it then, this is your only chance to see it! Enjoy the movie, socialize with the performers, and become a closer part of this great community.

Sunday, April 21st

5:30 PM (film starts @ 6:00)

Central United Methodist Church - Kendall Hall

FREE - *donations gratefully accepted*