

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical From the play by Marcelle Maurette as adapted by Guy Bolton

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com



JULY 25-27 @ 7 PM JULY 28 @ 2 PM

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The story of the Romanovs, and Anastasia specifically, has fascinated and horrified people throughout history. The truth behind the tale is a grim one. So many letters, journals, and photos from the Romanovs were preserved showing the dysfunction, complexity, and disconnect of a family ruling an empire. When the 1997 animated film *Anastasia* was released, it was marketed as a fairy tale set against the backdrop of real Russian events and a generation of children fell in love with Anastasia. The story presented on this stage falls somewhere between fairy tale and history. It is a story of home, love, family, and the journey to find them. Anastasia seeks to reconcile the past with her present realities and finds something beautiful and unexpected. An abandonded theater can become a home and friends can become family. We hope our story will challenge you to make your own journey and to open your eyes and arms to those around you and in our world desperately in need of home, love, and family.

With each production our company performs, we partner with an organization doing the work of reconciliation, restoration and healing. The Minnesota Council of Churches' Refugee Services assists refugees, asylees, and other individuals with humanitarian protection immigration status with their resettlement in Minnesota. Since 1984, MCC Refugee Services has welcomed more than 10,000 individuals to Minnesota, providing them a wide range of support, from securing their initial housing and basic needs resources, to helping them find a job, learn English, enroll their kids in school, and eventually achieve permanent residency and U.S. citizenship. If you would like to learn more about this incredible organization or partner with them in their work, you can visit their website {mnchurches.org}

Please take a moment to turn off your phones, sit back, and enjoy the show.

With Gratitude,

**Katie Fischer**Executive & Artistic Director



# <u>act one</u>

Young Anastasia

# St. Petersburg - 1906 Prologue: Once Upon a December......The Dowager Empress

St. Petersburg - 1917

St. Petersburg - 1917	Tourig Arrastasia		
The Last Dance of the Romanovs	Ensemble		
St. Petersburg - 1927			
A Rumor in St. Petersburg			
In My Dreams			
The Rumors Never End	Gleb & Ensemble		
Learn to Do It	Anya, Vlad & Dmitry		
The Neva Flows	Gleb & Anya		
My Petersburg	•		
Once Upon a December	Anya & Ensemble		
A Secret She Kept	Anya		
Stay, I Pray YouCount Ipolitov			
We'll Go From There			
Traveling Sequence/StillGleb			
Journey to the Past	Anya		
ACT TWO			
Paris, France - 1927			
Paris Holds the Key	Vlad, Dmitry, Anya & Ensemble		
Close the Door	The Dowager Empress		
Land of Yesterday	Lily & Ensemble		
The Countess and the Common Man.	Vlad & Lily		
Land of Yesterday (Reprise)	Gleb		
A Nightmare	Romanov Family		
In a Crowd of Thousands	Dmitry & Anya		
Arriving at the Ballet/Meant to Be	Vlad		

Quartet at the Ballet......Anya, Dmitry, The Dowager Empress & Gleb Everything to Win.......Dmitry
Once Upon a December (Reprise).....The Dowager Empress & Anya
The Press Conference.....Vlad, Lily & Ensemble
Everything to Win (Reprise)......Anya & Gleb
Still/The Neva Flows (Reprise).....Gleb, Anya & Ensemble
Finale.....The Dowager Empress, Gleb & Ensemble

## **CAST**

ΜΔΥΔ VΔGI F

ΔΝΥΔ

ANYA	MAYA VAGLE		
DMITRY	CASPER LAVEAUX		
VLAD POPOV			
GLEB	PAUL WILLIS JR.		
COUNTESS LILY			
THE DOWAGER EMPRESS			
MARIA ROMANOV/ODETTE/ANYA US			
MARFA/COUNTESS LILY US			
TSARINA ALEXANDRA/DOWAGER EMPRESS US			
COUNT LEOPOLD/PRINCE SIGFIED/DMITRY US	SANDESH SUKHRAM		
TSAR NICOLAS II/COUNT IPOLITOV/VLAD US			
GORLINSKY/SERGEI	TRISTAN WILKES		
TATIANA ROMANOV/DUNYA			
VON ROTHBART/GLEB US	THADDEUS WILLIAMSON		
PAULINA			
OLGA ROMANOV	KATHERINE MCCORD MORALES		
COUNT GREGORY			
COUNTESS GREGORY			
YOUNG ANASTASIA/ALEXEI	RILEY TISOR		
ORCHESTRA			
REED I	DEBBIE CLAPP		
REED II	PEREGRINE HARTMARK		
REED III	EDDIE DIBLASI		

HORN......ANNE DEURING
TRUMPET I......PATRICK GEFRE
TROMBONE....JASON WILEY

DROM2/ BERGO22ION	AIDAN 2CHMITT
PERCUSSION	JOHN LITCH
KEYBOARD I	MELISSA WARHOL
KEYBOARD II	KATIE DAUGHERTY
VIOLIN I	MARIYA WIENS
VIOLIN II/VIOLA	AMY LETSON
CELLO	LENA CICHA
BASS	TRAVIS BRUNS

AIDAN COUNTT

LATIC CICOLIED

DDUMO /DEDOUGCION

DIDECTOR /OLIODECOR ADUED

# **CREATIVE TEAM**

DIKECTUK/CHUKEUGKAPHEK	
MUSIC DIRECTOR	
ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR	TIMOTHY RADERMACHER
ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY BY	BARB BRAUCH
LIGHTING DESIGNER	LAINA GRENDLE
SOUND DESIGNER	
STAGE MANAGER	
STAGE CREW	ANNA BECKER
	ELIZABETH REXINE
COSTUME DESIGN	
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PUBLIC RELATIONS	
BUSINESS MANAGER	
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	RAE WIELGUS
	MIKE & CYNDEE BUCK

## **Special Thanks To**

Vision of Glory Lutheran Church, Elision Playhouse, Audioquip, Norcostco Theatrical Costumes, Blue Water Theatre Company, and all our friends and family who encourage us in our art.



Laurent Baumann

Laurent, a junior in highschool, is very excited to be working in his first professional show with the extremely talented cast of Anastasia. This is his fourth production, following his previous role as Jean Valjean (US) in Les Miserables. Along with his experiences in his highschool shows. He truly hopes you enjoy the show.



### Olivia Beauchamp

is so excited to be working with the Art of Reconciliation again after being Chiffon in Little Shop of Horrors last summer. Some of her previous favorite roles have included: Ilona in She Loves Me. Richard Roma in Glengarry Glen Ross, Doralee Rhodes in 9 to 5 at Saint Mary's University and Dogberry in Much Ado About Nothing with The Past is Future project. Olivia is currently in her second year of her counseling psychology doctoral program and enjoys any chance she gets to add theater to her busy schedule.



### Anna Becker

is stumbling back into a theater after nearly half a decade away, and is quite pleased about the homecoming. Past costume and design credits include: Beauty and the Beast (SPIN Theatre Co.), Camp Rock! (SPIN Theatre Co.), and the Brave and the Bold (Blue Water Theater). Past directing work: The Wolves (Blue Water Theater). The Private Lives of the Master Race (SPIN Theatre Co.), Appropriate (ast. Luther College), A Midsummer Night's Dream (ast. Luther College), Community of Care (Luther College), and After Dark: a Musical Theatre Cabaret (SPIN Theater Co.). She currently works at Mary's Pence and serves on the board of directors at Philadelphia Community Farm.



## Elyssa Bickford

is excited to be back with Art of Reconciliation for this production. She has previously been seen in the area with 4Community Theatre, Minneapolis Musical Theatre, and Ashland Productions. When not onstage, Elyssa can likely be found reading, thinking about a nap, or spending far too much money.



### **Barb Brauch**

retired as a teacher from Wayzata West Middle School after 35 years of being in the same building. After she finally "graduated," she was one of the original directors of Blue Water Theatre Company. At the same time she became a member of "The Satin Dolls"-a senior tap dance performance group, where she is now the director and choreographer. When the cold weather hits Minnesota she get her kicks in Florida as a writer/director/ choreographer for the "Off Broadway Dancers/Players." She also freelances for other dance performance groups. As always, she thanks her husband, Larry, for understanding that she's "Gotta Dance."



**Travis Bruns** 



### Lena Cicha

Lena is a graduate of St. Olaf College where she studied under David Carter. She has played in numerous ensembles in the Twin Cities area and is a long time member of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra. In her spare time she enjoys writing, reading, and k-pop! This is Lena's third production with The Art of Reconciliation.



## **Debbie Clapp**

A pit orchestra veteran of over 100 musical theater productions, including opera and operetta, Debbie actively plays every member of the woodwind family. Whether performing with a big band, or in an orchestral setting, she is equally at home. But Debbie says musical theater is her chief love.



**Katie Daugherty** is an lowa girl, currently living

in Texas, and will soon move to Indonesia to serve in Ethnoarts and Scripture Engagement (community development through the arts). Katie is beyond grateful to be playing her third show with The Art of Reconciliation, and prays for the Lord's blessing over the displaced around the world.



### Anne Deuring

Anne enjoys the excitement and immediacy of musical theater, and having retired last year from her day job, she finally has more time to spend in pit orchestras. When not making music, she spends time at ecological restoration and native gardening. She lives in Minnetonka with her spouse



### Laini Devin

is a Twin Cities-based actor and teaching artist, she has appeared at: Park Square Theatre, Lyric Arts, Children's Theatre Company, BARd Shakes, Actors Theater of MN, MN Opera, The Zephyr Theatre, Black Hills Playhouse, and most recently as Erik the Viking in Snow White and the Seven Vikings at the Old Log Theatre. Follow along @laini\_beth and lainidevin com



### **Eddie DiBlasi**

is playing low reeds in this production of Anastasia. A long-time clarinetist, this is his debut performance on bassoon. He also plays bass clarinet with Minnesota Symphonic Winds.



### **Katie Fischer**

earned her BS in
Theatre/Dance from Luther
College and is a certified
Somatic Movement Therapist
and Educator. Katie has
worked as a choreographer
and director in the Twin Cities
for over 20 years and
founded The Art of
Reconciliation Performing
Arts Company in 2022. She
spends most of her time with
her husband and their 4
daughters.



**Patrick Gefre** 

has been playing musicals for years with many groups around the Twin Cities. He's excited to be playing in his second show with The Art of Reconciliation Performing Arts Company.



### Laina Grendle

Laina has over 20 years of experience in theatre and film and holds a BFA in Technical Theatre specializing in Lighting Design from the College of Santa Fe. When she is not in theatre mode she enjoys spending time with her endlessly supportive husband, two amazing sons, and utterly adorable critters.



### **Amanda Hansen**

is thrilled to be performing in her first show with Art of Reconciliation. She loves this cast and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!



### **Peregrine Hartmark**

likes playing the clarinet so much they got two degrees in it. Along the way they've learned to enjoy playing as many different wind instruments as possible. When not playing Peregrine can be found repairing all kinds of woodwinds from school district student instruments to professional models.



## **Kirsten Hoiseth Thayer** earned her BA in vocal

performance from Southeastern Louisiana University, and her Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from Rice University. From there, she was a Resident Artist with the Opera Institute at Boston University, and continued on to Virginia Opera for a year as Resident Artist. She has performed with many opera companies in the United States, most notably Chautaugua Opera, Opera in the Heights (Houston, TX), Virginia Opera, and Minnesota Opera. She resides in Plymouth, MN where she maintains a large private voice studio.



### Casper LaVeaux

I am beyond grateful for my first time at the Art of Reconciliation Theater. Portraying Dmitry is one honor but working with a team of loving, caring and enthusiastic people like those in the Art of Reconciliation is a step above what I could have imagined. Somedays I feel like a fool as there is nothing in my life that I could've done to deserve my time with this incredible cast and crew. I'll do my best not to disappoint, and I hope everyone enjoys the show.



## Amy Letson received a degree in viola

performance from Indiana University eons ago, after which she played for several years as principal violist in the Bloomington Symphony. and section violist in the Anderson Symphony, Muncie Symphony, and Marion Philharmonic, before moving to Montana. There, she was a member of the Billings Symphony for 25 years, serving as Principal Viola since 2002, and performed frequently with the Yellowstone Chamber Players, Rimrock Opera, and

the String Orchestra of the Rockies. Since moving to the Twin Cities in 2022, Amy has enjoyed playing for several musicals including Cinderella, loseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Little Women, Addams Family, and She Loves Me. She also performed Utopia, Limited with the Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company. She joined the Mississippi Valley Orchestra, playing for their regular season and with the MVO Crewtet at breweries in the summers. When not playing gigs, she indulges in Old-Time fiddle jams, calls contradances, enjoys Morris dancing, and knits.



John Litch

has been playing shows for almost 40 years – and too many shows to count. He plays timpani with the Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis, percussion with the Saint Paul Civic Symphony, and cello with the Northeast Orchestra. And he fills in with a bunch of other orchestras whenever they need an extra. John is retired from Honeywell and shares a home with golden retriever Haven.



**lacob Malin** 

has worked on numerous shows as Sound Designer at Blue Water Theatre Company, and has done a few shows with Wayzata High School as well. Other than theatre, Jacob enjoys studying computer science and playing video games. He is going to school at the University of Minnesota for Computer Science.



### **Katherine McCord Morales**

is excited to be in her first production with Art of Reconciliation! Spending the last few years in the Classical Music world, this her first foray back into musical theater since 2021. Currently, she resides in Minneapolis, MN with her husband Yohan and her cat, Pickles. When not in rehearsals or snuggling her cat, she enjoys attending Buddhist meetings, dressing up in Japanese street fashion, and watching Doctor Who.



Heidi Mintz

is super excited to be making her debut at the Arts of Reconciliation! She is pursuing her B.F.A. in theater with an acting emphasis at the University of Minnesota Duluth and a minor in SPED. Most recently she appeared as Suit in UMD's production of Dragons Love Tacos as well as South Saint Paul Community Theater's production of Fiddler on The Roof as Tzitel. She is also thrilled to be a 2024 GreenRoom Fellow at the Ordway. She would like to thank everyone who has helped her in her theatrical journey and she hopes you enjoy the show.



**Lily Myers** 

has been active in school and community theatre since kindergarten. Back in Austin, Texas, her roles included Dragon (Shrek), Ms. Honey (Matilda), Chiffon (Little Shop of Horrors), and Sharpay Evans (High School Musical 2), among many others. More recently, she appeared as Granny (No Sympathy for the Wolf) and as Javert-US with two performances (Les Miserables) at Blue Water

Theatre Company. A rising junior at Wayzata High School, she is thrilled to be playing Tsarina Alexandra in her first performance with The Art of Reconciliation.



### **Rachel Perry**

is so excited to take this journey with this talented group of artists in a show that was on her bucket list before it was even on stage. She developed her love of theatre in her hometown at the University of North Dakota. She along with her Husband moved to the Twin Cities a few years ago and have met so many wonderful theatrical artists across the metro area. Rachel dedicates this performance to her entire family who gave her the strength and courage to step up for what is right even if it is not easy.



Timothy Rademacher earned his BA in Music Education from Luther College in 2018 and went on to become a band director, working with beginners, middle schoolers, and high schoolers. He currently works as an educational

representative for Schmitt
Music and spends much of
his free time pursuing
theatrical endeavors as an
actor, writer, director, and
musician. Timothy is a
recovering board game
addict and is always looking
for opportunities to relapse.



### **Elizabeth Rexine**

is excited to be a part of the crew. She is entering her senior year at The Catholic University of America where she studies both music composition and philosophy. She has composed a song cycle, a short silent film score, liturgical choral pieces, a fishing skit with percussion ensemble, and more! Her last theatre appearance was as Milky White in Blue Water Theatre's Into the Woods back in 2021.



### C.C. Rode

is so excited to work with this talented company yet again. During the day, she is a TV Producer with Minnesota Live and Twin Cities Live on KSTP. Big thank you C.C.'s family and to Katie, Kirsten, and Barb for their longtime mentorship, turned friendship.



### **Aidan Schmitt**

is delighted to be a part of The Art of Reconciliation's Anastasia, Starting piano lessons at 3 years old, he began learning drums at age 10, and has been playing both ever since. He especially enjoys the fun and chaos that is playing percussion for musical theatre. Past performances with The Art of Reconciliation include A Little Shop of Horrors and Jane Eyre. When not making music. Aidan writes software (his "real" job), flies airplanes, sails, SCUBA dives, wakeboards, hikes, and skis.



### Jack Stetler

is thrilled to be performing in another show with The Art of Reconciliation! Jack has recently been in other performances with the company, such as Daddy Long Legs (Jervis) and Little Shop of Horrors! (Mr. Mushnik). In his spare time, Jack enjoys nerdy things like Dungeons and Dragons, board games, hanging with his chinchilla, and ignoring the eldritch monstrosities lurking at the corners of his vision that haunt him nightly. Enjoy the show and as they say in Russia, "ya ne govoryu po-russki"!



### Sandesh Sukhram

is excited to be putting on this incredible production of Anastasia as their debut with The Art of Reconciliation. Their Favorite past performances include Newsies (Davev), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Puck), Buried Child (Vince), The Marriage of Figaro (Cherubin), Something Rotten! (Ensemble) and the Onionhead's Revenge haunt experience (Onionhead, Dr. Thibodeaux, Slider). In the fall you can see Sandesh backstage doing Run Crew for Log Kya Kahenge (What Will People Sav) at Lyric Arts and during the day they work as a technical consultant at SPS Commerce.



### **Addie Thrower**

is new to the Minneapolis area and is excited to be in her first production here. Originally from North Texas, she graduated from Drake University in Des Moines in 2023 where some of her roles included The Baker's Wife in Into the Woods, Judy in 9 to 5, and Caroline in The Theory of Relativity. Addie would like to thank her fiancé for his support throughout a busy summer!



### **Iorden Tisor**

is grateful to be performing with this talented cast! She's especially excited to be sharing the stage again with her daughter, Riley. She wants to say thank you to her husband and kids for letting her spend her summer nights in rehearsal. This show is a wonderful reminder to never lose hope and to not be afraid of where love can take you. Now, enjoy, and get lost in the beauty of Anastasia!



### **Riley Tisor**

is thrilled to take the stage with this brilliant cast! Riley is 9 years old, heading into 4th grade, and likes to share that she has been performing since age 3. She most recently played Matilda and is already looking ahead to what's next. When Riley is not on stage, she's listening to Broadway recordings and watching performances and clips on YouTube. She is grateful for this opportunity to bring live theater to her community with this delightful group. She hopes you enjoy the incredible music and the inspiring story of Anastasia!



### Mava Vagle

(She/Her) is so excited to be back on stage in Anastasia! She has had an absolute blast playing with this team. She would like to thank you all for coming to see the show and hopes you enjoy yourselves!



### **Trevor Wagner**

is proud to be performing in his second show with The Art of Reconciliation, Trevor previously performed as Seymour in their production of Little Shop of Horrors. He received his B. A. in History with a minor in Theatre at Saint Mary's University, where he acted in Romeo & Iuliet (Benvolio) and The Knight of the Burning Pestle (Jasper). Other shows that Trevor has performed in include Les Miserables (Enjolras), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Caractacus Potts), and Into the Woods (The Mysterious Man) through Blue Water Theatre Company. Since graduating, he has worked as a therapist at Associated Clinic of Psychology. Trevor has also been pursuing his M. A. in Counseling and Psychological Services at Saint Mary's University. He would like to thanks his friends, family, the

cast, the crew, and his partner for all of their love and support in his theatre and education endeavors.



Melissa Warhol has been performing and directing professionally in the Twin Cities for close to 30 vears with a variety of theater companies and groups.



**Mariya Wiens** is a violinist based in the Twin Cities with over 16 years of experience. She enjoys teaching, performing in chamber groups, and playing at shows and concerts. Currently studying violin performance. Mariva aims to continue her career and pursue a master's degree.



Jason Wiley

lason graduated from Morehead State University. Morehead, KY, in 2002 with a Bachelor of Music in Trombone Performance. studying under Dr. Andrew Glendenning and Dr. Jeanie Lee, After graduation, in 2003 he relocated to Minnesota to pursue employment and educational opportunities. Jason also holds a secondary degree, an Associate of Applied Science in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. During his time in Minnesota he has been both a performer and educator. While not currently teaching, he has taught low brass at the Music Studios of Jan Erickson in Eden Prairie, the Minnesota Vallev Conservatory of Music in Burnsville, and Modern Day Music in West St. Paul. lason currently performs as a full time member with The Dakota Valley Symphony in Burnsville, the 1st John Phillip Sousa Memorial Band in Edina, the Minnesota State Band, Brio Brass, and regulary subs with the St. Cloud Symphony, the Golden Valley Symphony, the Medalist Band, and the Lake Woebegon Brass Band. He is also a regular performer with the Minneapolis Trombone Choir, Stan Bann's Big Bone Band, 2BY2BAS tuba guartet, and the Chimera Consort brass quartet.



Tristan Wilkes

is excited to be a part of his first show with The Art of Reconciliation Performing Arts Company! Tristan has been performing onstage for over a decade playing characters such as Lefou in Beauty and the Beast, Officer Barrel in Urinetown, and Axel Hammond in The Nerd When he's not acting, you can find him backstage as an electrician, sound designer, or stagehand. He's worked at venues such as Theater Latte Da. The Guthrie Theater, and the Pablo Center at the Confluence. Fun fact about Tristan, he works as a Game Show Host, which is something he never thought he would say. Another fun fact, he enjoys collecting movies, books, and vinyl records.





#### **Thaddeus Williamson**

is thrilled to be performing his first show with The Art of Reconciliation. Tad is a rising senior Musical Theatre BFA student at Belmont University. Although he has done theatre for as long as he can remember, he is excited to appear in his first production of Anastasia. Tad enjoys rock climbing, playing piano, reading books, and hanging out with friends. He wants to say thank you for coming to see the show!



### Paul Willis, Jr.

is thrilled to join the Art of Reconciliation for the first time. He has been seen around the Twin Cities the past three years. Before that, he has also directed plays and films, co-founded an improv variety show in Chicago, and started a theater company in Connecticut. He has been seen professionally on stage at the Hartford Stage, Capital Classics, and others in Hartford, New Haven, Chicago, and Minneapolis. Gleb has been a challenge, but an absolute pleasure to bring to life.



# THANK YOU DONORS!

The Art of Reconciliation Performing Arts Company is made up of creators who bring awareness and education through art and use the resulting momentum to support organizations and individuals doing the work of reconciliation, restoration, and healing.

This work is made possible by the generosity of our community and we are infinitely grateful for your support and encouragement.

Dave & Allyne Anderson

Barb Brauch

Steve Buchholz

Mike Buck

Pam Dagoberg

Nicole Dimich

Mary Fadden

Cindy Farrell

Ron Follmer

Christine Fournier

Patrick Gefre

Dana Hagermann

Diana Hanson

Jim Hanson

Dave & Barb Henderson

Julie Hoiseth

Jeni Huff

Greg Jaeger

Lisa Jamieson

Jameson Gloeb Johnson

Pamela Kildahl

Maria Killos

Mary Kramer

Erika Larson

Pat & Carmel Maloney

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Neal Schumacher

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Christine Stetler

Richard Thayer

Holly Thompson

Melissa Warhol

This list represents donations given between July 2023 and July 2024.

If you would like to donate to the work of The Art of Reconciliation Performing Arts Company, you can safely do so through our website: www.theartofreconciliation.com The Art of Reconciliation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

# **UPCOMING SEASON**







## ART INSPIRING ACTION

The Art of Reconciliation Performing Arts Company is made up of creators who bring awareness and education through art and use the resulting momentum to support organizations and individuals doing the work of reconciliation, restoration, and healing.

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