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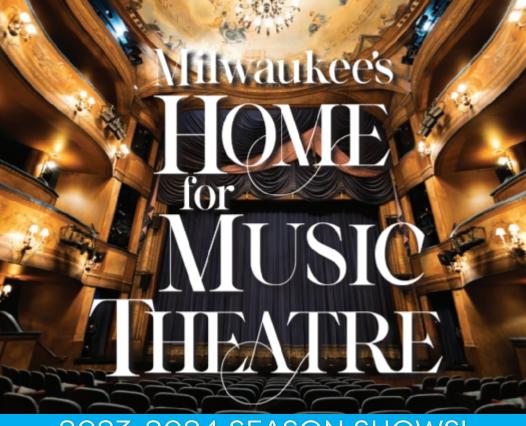
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Michael Unger Artistic Director

Susan Varela

Executive Director



and Jan Serr and John Shannon



Music by **Leonard Bernstein**Book Adapted from Voltaire by **Hugh Wheeler**In a New Version by **John Caird**Lyrics by **Richard Wilbur**Additional Lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim, John Latouche, Lillian Hellman, Dorothy Parker,** and **Leonard Bernstein**

October 13 - 29, 2023 | Cabot Theatre | Broadway Theatre Center

Director, Scenic Designer, Puppet Designer James Ortiz
Choreographer Ryan Cappleman
Music Director Jeffrey Saver
Costume Designer Shima Orans
Lighting Designer Maaz Ahmed
Sound Designer Chad Parsley
Projection Designer Taylor Verrett

Production Stage Manager Abi Rowe* CANDIDE (National Theatre Version)

Is presented through a special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

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www.mtishows.com

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A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to Skylight Music Theatre's 64th season, and our 30th year in the beautiful Cabot Theatre. Music is, literally, our middle name, and I can think of no better musical offering as a 2023-2024 season opener than *Candide*. This magnificent operetta, written by legend Leonard Bernstein (and a host of other legendary writers), reaches back to Skylight's roots, having been presented in 1982 and 1992. It also reaches towards the future in this production by visionary, multi-hyphenate director-designer-deviser-actor-puppeteer James Ortiz, who in 2017 directed *Zémire et Azor* (the opera of

Beauty and the Beast) at Skylight. Candide was originally scheduled for the spring of 2020, but as in what Professor Pangloss purports to be "the best of all possible worlds," pandemics sometimes happen and the show was shut down just prior to first rehearsal.

The operetta *Candide* is built upon Voltaire's 1759 satirical and picaresque novella: *Candide*, ou *l'Optimisme* (*Candide*, or *Optimism*). It was banned upon its publication for its suggestions of blasphemy, sedition, and hostility; yet it still became a clandestine best-seller.

We are thrilled to fulfill the promise of *Candide*, made to you long ago; a show whose provenance is fraught with nearly as many trials and tribulations as its titular character. In spite of all the remarkable authors that have contributed to the myriad revisions of book and lyrics—Richard Wilbur, John Latouche, Dorothy Parker, James Agee, Lillian Hellman, John Mauceri, John Wells, Bernstein himself, and even Stephen Sondheim—the show was not originally received as "the best of all possible" musicals. It opened on Broadway in 1956, directed by the father of Regional Theatre, Tyrone Guthrie; but it was a box office disaster. Harold Prince took over as director to create a 105-minute version that opened at the Chelsea Theatre before moving to Broadway in 1974, which started its long history of countless versions as well as huge success.

Candide is a hopeful yet cautionary tale about a society that optimistically overlooks its ills and allows ignorance to rule, and its inhabitants to rue, the day. Voltaire's work, based on real events, reads as satire, but upon closer inspection, it is all too realistic.

In the end (spoiler alert), happiness can be found in the simplest of settings, surrounded by family and friends. In being "cured" of his optimism, *Candide* is finally allowed to see the world as it truly is, warts and all. And since it is the only world we have, it follows that it must, indeed, be the best of all possible worlds. We must therefore take care of it and each other.

Michael Unger

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

CANDIDE: PINOCCHIO GOES ON A RUMSPRINGA.



When you list all the themes from Voltaire's original novella *Candide*, it doesn't take long before you realize that this story is kind of about EVERYTHING. All the good you can possibly imagine—and most of the bad your mind can conjure as well. Bernstein's legendary score oscillates between those extremes in tear-inducing and jaw-dropping ways.

No spoilers! — but if I had to sum up the plot in a mere sentence: A rule-following, optimistically-innocent

young lad gets repeatedly beaten down by life only to learn that the only way to live in the world is to make your own rules—and to surround yourself with the people you love.

So, Pinocchio goes on a Rumspringa.

But how to depict that? The task as I understood it (as both the director and scenic designer) was to find a setting that could contain all these oppositional ideas. Most major productions of *Candide* focus on the zany, globetrotting travelogues of Candide and his friends—but as that was well-worn territory, I wanted this version of the show to be a more modern and immediate story about what it means to be a good person—and the massive amounts of mental effort it takes to be good at that. It's about the absolute necessity to remain optimistic and also how deeply absurd that pursuit can be.

That's a tall order. How do you stage the deeply internal?

I was reminded of the surrealist art movement of the 1950s (the decade in which Bernstein's operetta was written) which are all internal meditations on complicated themes depicted in visually explosive and colorful ways. The art of Dali, Magritte, and Rousseau became touchstones that would keep us firmly seated in Candide's dreamlike and childish mind. Also, my third title on this show is 'puppet designer' and incorporating large-scale puppetry into this melting pot makes the surrealist qualities richer. But, also setting the optimistic top of the show in a syrupy 1950s 'Leave it to Beaver' suburbia would also allow us to really show Candide's misguided optimism. Removing the dust of Voltaire's French enlightenment and placing it somewhere vaguely American is ultimately used here so there can be no distance between these characters and you, the audience. But all of these choices have been made for your enjoyment. I have loved every second of telling this story (we laughed every day!), so I hope some of that translates as you experience this absurdist, heartful, fast-paced journey through what it means to be a person.

Optimistically yours,

- James Ortiz

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CANDIDE CAST



Candide	Sam Simahk*
Cunegonde	Susie Robinson
Old Woman (and others)	Sara Stern
Pangloss (and others)	Andrew Varela*
Maximillian (and others)	Doug Clemons
Paquette (and others)	Samantha Sostarich
Cacambo (and others)	Shawn Holmes
Martin (and others)	Ben George
Vanderdender (and others)	Nathan Marinan
Everyone Else	Lydia Rose Eiche, Molly Wiley
Dance Captain	Samantha Sostarich

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific notification is made at the time of the performance.

Candide	Josh Pope
Cunegonde	Molly Wiley
Pangloss	
Old Woman	Lydia Rose Eiche

*Appearing through an agreement between Skylight Music Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ORCHESTRA

	1 60 0
Music Director	Jeffrey Saver
Associate Music Director/Piano	Janna Ernst
Keyboard	Jayne Latva
Flute, Piccolo	
Clarinet	Jon Lovas
Trumpet and Fluegelhorn	Greg Garcia
Trombone	
Violin	Pamela Simmons
Bass	Michael Ritter
Percussion	Michael (Dina) Lorenz

PRODUCTION SUPPORT

Director of Production and Facilities	Matthew Curtis
Assistant Director of Production and Facili	tiesJordan Ilyssa Angelo
Technical Director	
Costume Director	•
Interim Lighting Supervisor	
Lighting Operator	Austin Bomkamp
Follow Spots	
Interim Audio Supervisor	
FOH Audio Engineer	
Properties Supervisor	
Wardrobe Supervisor	Carly Coldren
Scene Shop Supervisor/Fleet Manager	
Scenic Carpenters	Dovie Hughes, Islay Reed
Scenic and Properties Painter	Annabelle Leibering
Stitchers	Carly Coldren, Jamie Mercado
Costume Crafts	Lisa Quinn, Lauren Stoner
ElectriciansCole Castine, Kat	y Lane, Zoe Lucas, Rollie Layman
Wig Designer	Dana Rochester
Wardrobe Crew	Carly Coldren and Lisa Quinn
Light Board Operator	Nathaniel Unger
Resident Assistant Stage Manager	Jordan Ilyssa Angelo
Deck Crew	Simone Tegge, Dovie Hughes
Keyboard Programmer	
Intimacy Consultant	Marcee Doherty-Elst
Swing Technician	Dovie Hughes
Graphic Design Support	Robert "Bebo" Nelson
Communications Consultant	Susan Heymann
Photographer	

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Overture	Orchestra
Voltaire Chorale	Ensemble
Life Is Happiness Indeed	Candide
Life Is Absolute Perfection Maximi	llian, Cunegonde, Candide, Paquette
The Best Of All Possible WorldsPang	lloss, Cunegonde, Paquette, Candide,
	Maximillian
Universal GoodCunego	nde, Paquette, Candide, Maximillian
Oh, Happy We	Candide and Cunegonde
It Must Be So	Candide
Candide's Lament	Candide
Paris Waltz	Orchestra
Glitter And Be Gay	
Dear Boy	
Auto-Da-Fé	Full Company
You Were Dead, You Know	Candide and Cunegonde
I Am Easily Assimilated	Old Woman, Señores, Ensembles
Quartet Finale Candide, Cunegon	de, Old Woman, Cacambo, Ensemble

ACT 2

Entr'acte	Orchestra
We Are Women	Old Woman and Cunegonde
My Love	The Governor and Cunegonde
The Ballad of Eldorado	Cacambo, Candide, King and Queen, Ensemble
Bon Voyage	Vanderdender, Ensemble
It Must Be Me	Candide
Words, Words, Words	Martin
Money, Money, Money	Female Ensemble
The Venice Gavotte	Old Woman, Candide, Cunegonde, Pangloss
Nothing More Than This	Candide
	Cacambo,
Paquette, Old	Woman, Maximillian, Pangloss, Martin, Ensemble
	The Kings' Ensemble
Universal Good	Candide and Ensemble
Make Our Garden Grow	Full Company

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST





Susie Robinson



Sara Stern



Andrew Varela



Doug Clemons



Samantha Sostarich



Shawn Holmes



Ben George



Nathan Marinan



Lydia Rose Eiche Molly Wiley



BIOS

Clemons (Maximillian Doug and Others) Ecstatic to return to Skylight, Doug's been a sassy n' brassy Performer/ Director/Choreographer at Northern Sky Theater, First Stage, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Chamber Theatre, Fireside Theater, Forward Theater, Children's Theatre of Madison, Third Avenue PlayWorks and Purse String Productions. Regional/ concert credits: NY Musical Theater Festival, NYC's Cherry Lane Theater, Chicago Musical Theater Festival, Utah Light Opera, Florentine Opera, Racine Symphony Orchestra, Norwegian Cruise Line and backup for Michael Bublé. Love and thanks to Matt. DougClemons.com

Lydia Rose Eiche (Ensemble/Old Woman Understudy) Equally comfortable in opera, musical theatre, and on the concert stage, Lydia Rose Eiche has been praised for her "great warmth, intelligence and power." She's sung roles as diverse as Pamina in Zie Magic Flute and Yitzhak in Hedwig and the Angry Inch. She's performed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, First Stage Children's Theatre, Sunset Playhouse, Waukesha Civic Theatre, and Capital City Theatre. Lydia studies with Marlee Sabo. www.lydiaroseeiche.com

Ben George (Martin and Others) Ben George is returning for his fourth production at the Skylight Music Theatre. Past roles include Harry in Mamma Mia, Sascha in A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine and Ensemble in The Producers. He has also performed in Belgium as Pharaoh in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Brussels Light Opera Company and locally as Bobby in Company at Off the Wall Theatre and Guiteau in Assassins at Windfall Theatre.

Shawn Holmes (Cacambo and Others) Shawn is ready to be back on stage at his "theatre home" for SMT's production of Candide. Being an actor/singer based in Milwaukee, Shawn has been performing with theatres all throughout Wisconsin. Some theatres include Florentine

Opera, First Stage, Middleton Players Theatre, Black Arts MKE, and Four Seasons Theatre. Some of his favorite past performances were Coalhouse Walker Jr. in Ragtime (winner of Best Actor in a Musical – Broadway World), Sebastian the Crab in The Little Mermaid, and Jacob in La Cage aux Folles (winner of Best Supporting Actor in a Musical – Footlights). Outside of performing on stage, Shawn works in an emergency department as a registered nurse. @Gynepe

Nathan Marinan (Vanderdender and Others/Pangloss Understudy) Nathan's Milwaukee area work includes Dave Bukatinsky in The Full Monty, Lady Augusta Bracknell in Being Earnest, Ensemble/Quasimodo Understudy in Dennis DeYoung's The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Billy Boy Bill in Urinetown, Bamatabois/Joly in Les Misérables, and Princeton/Rod Understudy in Avenue Q with Skylight Music Theatre. Nathan has also appeared with In Tandem Theatre (The Fabulous Lipitones, Carnival, Scrooge In Rouge, and Earnest In Love), Boulevard Theatre (Mothers and Sons), Theatrical Tendencies, and Sunset Playhouse. For Joel and the boys. www.NathanMarinan.com

Susie Robinson (Cunegonde) Susie is so grateful Candide finally found its way back to the Cabot Theatre after being postponed by the pandemic. She has previously been seen at Skylight Music Theatre as Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, Cosette in Les Misérables, Rose Maybud in Ruddigore, and Antonia/Dapertutto in The Tales of Hoffmann. Susie holds music degrees from St. Olaf College and UW-Milwaukee respectively. Much love to her husband and son!

Sam Simahk* (Candide) is based in New York City, where Broadway audiences have seen him perform in *Into the Woods* and *Carousel*. Other credits: Freddy Eynsford-Hill in the first national tour of *My Fair Lady*; Lun Tha in *The King and I* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago; Curly in

Oklahoma! at Theatre Under the Stars in Houston, TX; Anthony Hope in Sweeney Todd at the Lyric Stage Company of Boston. Proud graduate of Emerson College and member of AEA.

Samantha Sostarich (Paquette and Others/Dance Captain) is thrilled to be back at Skylight Music Theatre where she has performed in 16 different productions! National Tour: Emojil and the Musical. Regional: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Rona Lisa Peretti), Hairspray (Velma Von Tussle), Annie (Lily St. Regis), Boeing Boeing (Gretchen), Spamalot (Lady of the Lake), Matilda (Mrs. Wormwood), Fortuna the Timebender vs. The School Girls of Doom (Fortuna), The Taming (Katherine), and Who's Holiday! (Cindy Lou). samanthasostarich.

com

Sara Stern (Old Woman and Others)
Sara Stern is excited to make her debut with Skylight. Based in Chicago, she performs frequently with Music Theater Works including recent roles as Houdini's Mother/Brigit in Ragtime, Cinderella's Mother/Granny in Into the Woods, and Praskovia in The Merry Widow. Other recent performances include Lady Jane in Patience and Queen Elizabeth in Merrie England with The Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company, and Old Lady in Sunday in the Park with George with Porchlight Music Theater.

Andrew Varela* (Pangloss and Others)
Broadway/National Tours - Les Miserables (Jean Valjean, Javert) Phantom of the Opera (The Phantom), Little Women (Prof Bhaer), Roundabout's Sunday in the Park with George (Jules); South Pacific in concert at Carnegie Hall. Skylight credits include Evita (Peron), Sweeney Todd (Sweeney), Les Miserables (Javert), Wizard of Oz (Lion), The Pirates of Penzance (Pirate King), Annie (Warbucks) and Kiss Me Kate (Fred). Other Milwaukee theatre includes MKE Rep, First Stage, Florentine Opera, In Tandem, Optimist Theatre.

Film/TV- NBC's Chicago Justice, Chicago Fire, Showtime's The Chi, and numerous commercials. AndrewVarela.com IG/X: @ AndrewVarela525. For Susan.

Mollv (Ensemble/Cunegonde Wiley Understudy) is an Atlanta native with Midwestern roots. She is thrilled to be making her Skylight debut! Regional Credits Include: Heather McNamara in Heathers at OnStage Atlanta, Alice Russell in Lizzie at Actor's Express, Joy in The Yellow Boat at Riverside Theatre Vero Beach, Lindsay in Godspell at The Legacy Theatre. Tours: Chicago's Artists Lounge Live, A Bing Crosby Christmas, Buicentennial's She's a Rebel. She'd like to dedicate this performance to Paddy & the McCarthy's. @mollyywileyy

CREATIVE TEAM

James Ortiz (Director, Scenic Designer, Puppet Designer) Based in New York City, Ortiz is a cross-disciplinary designer, performer, writer, and director best known for his Off-Broadway creation, The Woodsman, which earned him a 2016 Obie Award for puppet design. He returns to Skylight after serving as Director/Scenic and Puppet Designer for Beauty and the Beast (Zemire et Azor) in 2017. Most recently, Ortiz created the puppet design for the 2022 Broadway revival of Into the Woods, where his interpretation of Milky White became a viral sensation. He earned the 2022 Drama Desk Award for his enormous dinosaur puppets from Lincoln Center's Tony-nominated production of The Skin of Our Teeth. His gigantic puppet designs graced Central Park's Delacorte Theater in the Disney/ Public Works production of Hercules, Previous credits include The Public Theatre. Yale Rep, Carnegie Melon University, Dallas Theatre Center, Theatre for a New Audience, Shakespeare Theatre of DC, Opera Saratoga, Soho Rep, and Naked Angels, among others. James is a 2017 Eugene O'Neill residency recipient, 2015 and 2019 Jim Henson Foundation Grant awardee, and Co-Founder of the devised

theatre group, Strangemen & Co.

Jeffrey Saver (Music Director) composed the musicals Dodsworth and Time After Time, and music for the documentary film In My Hands (directed by Ann Reinking). Broadway (partial): Allegiance, End Of The Rainbow, Sister Act, Chicago, Kiss Of The Spider Woman, The Secret Garden, Into The Woods, Sunday in the Park with George, The Rink, and A Chorus Line. Off-Broadway (partial): The Fantasticks, Lucky Stiff. Numerous tours & regional productions. Founding member of NewArts in Newtown, CT. Taught at CCM in Cincinnati (his alma mater) & Point Park University. Skylight Music Theatre debut!

Ryan Cappleman (Choreographer) is a performer, choreographer, musician, and teaching artist. Skylight credits include Pooh-Bah (The Hot Mikado), Woof (Hair), Scarecrow (Oz), many ensemble roles; choreography: Pirates of Penzance, Sweeney Todd, Urinetown, and Hairspray; Music Director: Annie, Kidswrites, and many cabarets, and two years on staff in the education department. He's on faculty at UW-Parkside, and will be music directing Guys On Ice at the Milwaukee Rep this winter. Love to Dolly!

Kim Scharnberg (Orchestrations) Broadway: Jekyll & Hyde, Scarlet Pimpernel, Civil War, Little Women (Drama Desk Award nomination), Wonderland, Jekyll & Hyde revival. International: No Longer Human, Carmen, Rudolf, Monte Cristo, Phantom (Yeston/Kopit), Ragtime (MTI nine - piece orchestration), Ragtime (symphonic concert version), Film: A River Runs Through It, Quiz Show, Fly Away Home, The Net. Television: Dallas, Knot's Landing. Other: Handel's Messiah Rocks, Linda Eder, Boston Pops, Atlanta Symphony, Vienna Symphony. From Broadway with Love (Sandy Hook, Orlando, Parkland), Associate Artist at Ford's Theatre (Washington, DC), Composer/ Arranger for the Pageant of the Masters (Laguna Beach, CA) Much more at www. KimScharnberg.com

Maaz Ahmed (Lighting Designer) is a

Milwaukee-based lighting designer and design assistant. They are also a member of the 2022 Cody Renard Richard Scholarship Cohort, created in community with the Broadway Advocacy Coalition to support emerging BIPOC designers. They most recently served as the Assistant Lighting Designer on RUN BAMBI RUN at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and as the Lighting Designer on LAUGHS IN SPANISH with Milwaukee Chamber Theatre. They hope you enjoy the show! www.magzahmedLX.com.

Shima Orans (Costume Designer) is delighted to be working with James Ortiz again to finish the work we began in 2019. This is her 20th year costuming at Skylight. Other Wisconsin credits include Northern Sky, Florentine Opera, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Winterdances, and the M&I Bank Holiday display. She has also designed for Opera Saratoga, Syracuse Opera, Sterling Renaissance Festival, Oswego Opera, Pittsburgh Playhouse, Apple Hill Playhouse, Acadia Repertory Theatre, and Albuquerque Civic Light Opera.

Chad Parsley (Sound Designer) is a Chicago based Sound Designer who is delighted to return to Skylight after designing sound for Hunchback of Notre Dame, Evita, and SuperYou. Chad has spent the last 25 years working in the sound departments of Hamilton: An American Musical. The Book of Mormon, SIX, Beautiful the Carole King Story, Jersey Boys, Tootsie, Rock of Ages, Spamalot, and Avenue Q. Design credits include; The Book of Mormon (Networks Entertaiment), Jersey Boys (Norwegian Cruise Lines), Hunchback of Notre Dame (Skylight Music Theater), Emma (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Joesph and ... (Dallas Theater Center), *The Wiz* (Dallas Theater Center)

Taylor Verrett (Projection Designer) is a multimedia artist from Lafayette, Louisiana. She obtained her MFA in Projection Design from the University of Maryland in 2022. Other credits include Associate Designer for Liz Lerman's Wicked Bodies, Assistant Designer for Melissa Etheridge: A

Journey Through Life Off-Broadway, and Assistant Designer for Between the Lines. Janna Ernst (Associate Music Director) has worked continuously as a vocal coach, life coach and music director for over 25 years. With her help and guidance, her clients excel both on and off the stage. She has performed with such houses as New Orleans Opera, Virginia Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Milwaukee Opera Theater and Skylight Music Theatre. A dedicated educator, she has held teaching and coaching positions at Southern Methodist University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. Janna has a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from San Diego State University. a Master of Music in Collaborative Piano from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Vocal Specialist degree from the University of Michigan where she studied with renowned collaborative pianist and teacher, Martin Katz, She recently earned her Certification as a Life Coach in Positive Psychology.

Abi Rowe* (Production Stage Manager) is excited to be at Skylight making this best of all possible shows! Off Broadway: Islander, Jersey Boys, Sleep No More, Is There Still Sex in the City, Wolf Play (MCC Theatre). A Bright New Boise, My Broken Language (Signature Theatre). As You Like It (The Public). Cyrano (The New Group). Regional: Cinderella (Geva Theatre). A View From the Bridge, Yasmina's Necklace (Goodman Theater). International: West Side Story (IHI Stage Around Tokyo).

Leonard Bernstein (Composer) was appointed to his first permanent conducting post in 1943, as Assistant Conductor of the New York Philharmonic. In 1945 he was appointed Music Director of the New York City Symphony Orchestra, a post he held until 1947. Bernstein became Music Director of the New York Philharmonic in 1958. From then until 1969 he led more concerts with the orchestra than any previous conductor. He subsequently held the lifetime title of Laureate Conductor, making frequent quest appear-

ances with the orchestra. More than half of Bernstein's 400-plus recordings were made with the New York Philharmonic. In 1953, Bernstein was the first American to conduct an opera at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan. Inspired by his Jewish heritage, Bernstein completed his first large-scale work: Symphony No. 1: "Jeremiah." (1943). Koussevitzky premiered Bernstein's Symphony No. 2: "The Age of Anxiety" with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Bernstein as piano soloist. His Symphony No. 3: "Kaddish," composed in 1963, was premiered by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. "Kaddish" is dedicated "To the Beloved Memory of John F. Kennedy."

Bernstein also wrote a one-act opera, Trouble in Tahiti, in 1952, and its sequel, the three-act opera, A Quiet Place in 1983. He composed the score for the award-winning movie On the Waterfront (1954). Bernstein contributed substantially to the Broadway musical stage. He collaborated with Betty Comden and Adolph Green on *On The Town* (1944) and Wonderful Town (1953). In 1957 he collaborated with Jerome Robbins, Stephen Sondheim, and Arthur Laurents, on the landmark musical West Side Story, also made into the Academy Award-winning film. He won eleven Emmy Awards in his career. He was elected in 1981 to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which gave him a Gold Medal. The National Fellowship Award in 1985 applauded his life-long support of humanitarian causes. He received the MacDowell Colony's Gold Medal; medals from the Beethoven Society and the Mahler Gesellschaft; the Handel Medallion, New York City's highest honor for the arts; a Tony award (1969) for Distinguished Achievement in the Theater; and dozens of honorary degrees and awards from colleges and universities.

World peace was a particular concern of Bernstein. Speaking at Johns Hopkins University in 1980 and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York in 1983, he described his vision of global harmony.

Bernstein supported Amnesty International from its inception. To benefit the effort in 1987, he established the Felicia Montealeare Fund in memory of his wife who died in 1978.

In 1990, Bernstein received the Praemium Imperiale, an international prize created in 1988 by the Japan Arts Association and awarded for lifetime achievement in the arts. Bernstein used the \$100,000 prize to establish The Bernstein Education Through the Arts (BETA) Fund, Inc. before his death on October 14, 1990. Bernstein was the father of three children -- Jamie, Alexander, and Nina -- and the arandfather of four: Francisca, Evan. Anya and Anna.

John Caird (Adaptation) John is an author and director working in theatre, opera and musical theatre in London, New York, Tokyo and all around the world. Published works with MTI include Les Miserables (Schools Edition), Children of Eden (with music by Stephen Schwartz) Jane Eyre (with music by Paul Gordon) and his own new version of Leonard Bernstein's Candide (originally performed at the National Theatre in London). Recent Productions include: Tosca (Houston Grand Opera), Daddy Long Legs (Off-Broadway), Love's Labour's Lost (Stratford Festival), McQueen (Haymarket Theatre, West End) Twelfth Night (Nissay Theatre, Tokyo) Tosca and Parsifal (Lyric Opera, Chicago), La Bohéme (San Francisco Opera), Gertrud (Royal Dramatic Theatre, Stockholm). Notable Engagements for the RSC include: over twenty productions including A Midsummer Night's Dream, (RST) Romeo and Juliet (TOP) The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby (Aldwych Theatre and Broadway) Les Misérables (Barbican, Palace Theatre, Broadway and worldwide). Notable engagements for the National Theatre include: Hamlet, Humbleboy, Stanley, The Seagull and many others. Elsewhere: Dance of Death, Merry Wives of Windsor, The Tempest, and Romeo and Juliet (Royal Dramatic Theatre, Stockholm) Brief Encounter (Houston Grand Opera). He has won numerous awards

including Olivier Awards for Nicholas Nickleby and Candide, and Tony Awards for Les Misérables and Nicholas Nicklebv. Caird's book about directing - THEATRE CRAFT - is published by Faber & Faber in London and New York. Go to johncaird. com for more information about his ca-

Richard Wilbur (Lyricist) (born March 1, 1921, in New York City) is a United States poet. He graduated from Amherst College in 1942, then fought in Europe during World War II. After a teaching stint at Harvard, he moved to Wesleyan University as Professor of English, a position he occupied there for the rest of his career. He has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize and in 1987 was the second poet. after Robert Penn Warren to be named U.S. Poet Laureate. From the start. Wilbur's poetry was characterized by a formal and refined beauty that was often imitated but never equaled. So formidable are his verse-making skills and his native wit that even the longest and most philosophical of his poems (see "The Mind-Reader" or "Walking to Sleep") carry the reader effortlessly along. Continuing and refining the tradition of Robert Frost and W. H. Auden, Wilbur's poetry finds illumination in everyday experiences and expresses it in beautiful, carefully-wrought language. Lesser-known was Wilbur's foray into lyric writing. He provided many of the finer lyrical touches in Leonard Bernstein's 1956 musical. Candide. He is also noted as a translator, particularly of 17th century French dramas, whose original verse forms give Wilbur an opportunity to flex his muscles in both translation and verse. His translations of Molière and Jean Racine are well respected and many are still in print.

Music Theatre International - MTI (Licensing) is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing mu-

sical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form. MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide. MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior® shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students.

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Michael Unger (Artistic Director) For Skylight, Michael has directed Dennis DeYoung's The Hunchback of Notre Dame (nine BroadwayWorld Awards including Best Musical and Best Director), Noises Off, A Jolly Holiday: Celebrating Disney's Broadway Hits, Little Shop of Horrors, and Me, Myself and I for Skylight's Education program. Amongst many virtual offerings, he directed the Broadway World Award-winning Being Earnest, now avail-

able worldwide online. He was previously Associate Artistic Director of Off-Broadway's York Theatre, where his credits include You're A Good Man Charlie Brown and Big. For nine years, he was the Producing Artistic Director of NewArts, started with a local father in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy; directing 17 productions working with over 650 area-children. Other selected directing credits include A Christmas Carol (McCarter Theatre for 18 years), Ernest Shackleton Loves Me (Porchlight Theatre), Two Point Oh (NY Times Critics' Pick), Time Stands Still (Cape Cod Chronicle Best 2015), My Sister in This House (Deaf West, Ovation Recommended), and new versions of The Happy Time and The Rink. World premieres include The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Caligula, and A ROCKIN' Midsummer Night's Dream (featured in the award-winning documentary film "Midsummer in Newtown"). He has directed 14 operas plus benefit concerts honoring Susan Stroman, André DeShields, Maltby and Shire, and Leslie Uggams; as well as for the communities of Sandy Hook, CT and Parkland, FL.

Susan Varela (Executive Director) Originally from Milwaukee and a graduate of UW-Stevens Point, her professional career as a performer has taken her from the Broadway stage (Les Misérables) to the Skylight stage (Les Misérables, Into the Woods, Wizard of Oz, Sweeney Todd). She has performed at the Denver Center Theatre (Tony Award-winning season) and the Yale Repertory Theatre, among others. She has produced, directed, performed and written for the stage and television alongside her husband, actor Andrew Varela. Susan was previously the Director of Artistic Operations for Skylight.

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