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# Otterbein University

Department of Theatre & Dance presents



Conceived and Choreographed by STELLA HIATT KANE

Scenic Design by Lighting Design by ROB JOHNSON T.J. GERCKENS

Costume Design by Sound Design by REBECCA WHITE DOC DAVIS

Stage Managed by KATE BINDUS

November 19-22, 2015 Fritsche Theatre at Cowan Hall 30 S. Grove St., Westerville

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# COMPANY

Connor Allston Tommy Betz Monica Brown David Buergler Connor Cook Jenna Clark Olivia Crago Olivia Crawford

Dana Cullinane Georgia Curtis Ben Folts Caroline Kane Lauren Kent Madison McAllister Rebecca Miklos Bobby Moody

Natasha Natraj Trev Plutnicki André Spethelf-Sanders Luke Stewart **Jacob Sundlie** Erin Ulman Blaire Warner

Iordan Wood

#### **Diner Icons**

James Dean	Ben Folts	
Elvis Presley		
Humphrey Bogart	Connor Allston	
Marilyn Monroe	Dana Cullinane	
Dancing Icons		
James Dean	Tommy Betz	
Elvis Presley	Connor Cook	
Humphrey Bogart	Connor Cook	
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# HONORARY CAST LIST

Otterbein University Department of Theatre & Dance honors those who have given so generously during the 2015-16Academic Year. Thank you for contributing to the education of our students!

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# PRODUCTION STAFF

	·
Chair, Department of Theatre & Dance	
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Resident Technical Director	
Production Manager	Kristen Cooperkline
Costume Shop Supervisor	Julia Ferreri
Light & Sound Supervisor	Doc Davis
Administrative Assistant	Matt Wolfe
Movement Coach	Melinda Murphy
Assistants to the Choreographer	Tammy Plaxico, Nicole Krupp
Voiceover Artist	
Charge Artist	Jen Brinker
Technical Director	Ian Stillman
Assistant Directors	Steven Meeker, Jr., Maggie Veach
Assistant Stage Managers	Julianne Graffeo, Sarah Simon
Production Assistant	Sarah Smith
Paint Assistant	Alli Dembicki
Properties Master	Ashley Sattler
Properties Assistant	Karen Crenshaw
Wardrobe Master	Melissa Schlecht
Wardrobe Assistant	Hannah Pohlman
Assistant Lighting Designer	Rebecca Schafer
Master Electrician	Corey Farr
Assistant Master Electrician	
Light Board Operator	Nick Hahn
Sound A1	
Box Office Managers	Heidi Olander, Alexx Conrad
House Manager	
ŭ	

#### SCENIC STUDIO ASSISTANTS

Phil Cunningham Alli Dembicki Ian Hawthorne Megan Lohner

Natalie Love Rebecca Schafer Gunnar Schmidt Ian Stillman

#### SCENERY/PROPS RUN CREW

Reuben Reese Sileyemon Ndongo

Trev Plutnicki Skylar Thomas

#### LIGHT & SOUND ASSISTANTS

Arri Allen Corev Farr Rebecca Schafer Joaquin Silva Tess Webster Ariana Woods

#### **ELECTRICS CREW**

\*Maxwell Bartel Miranda Cotman \*Matt Gittins \*Nick Hahn \*Noel Isaacson

\*Kathryn Lee Allison Mogle Trev Plutnicki André Spathelf-Sanders

\*Michaella Waickman

\*Elise Woods

\*denotes running crew

#### COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANTS

Julianne Graffeo Brady Irwin Anna Mulhall Hannah Pohlman Ashley Sattler

Melissa Schlecht Emma Sicker Nikki Soloman

#### **WARDROBE CREW**

Tristan Gillia Abigail Isom Allison Mogle Connor Murral Christopher Smith André Spathelf-Sanders **Jacob Sundlie** 

#### **BOX OFFICE ASSISTANTS**

Connor Dunn **Ieff Gise** Annie Schroeder Sydney Smith Tara Smith Kevin Thiel

# **PROGRAM**

### **Opening**

**Music:** S'Wonderful - (Gershwin) Ella Fitzgerald, "Ella Fitzgerald Sings the George and Ira Gershwin Songbook"

Cast

James Dean - Ben Folts, Elvis Presley - Jacob Sundlie, Humphrey Bogart - Connor Allston, Marilyn Monroe - Dana Cullinane

### Dean

Music: Sh Boom - The Chords/ Born To Be Wild - Steppenwolf

Cast

James Dean - Tommy Betz, Bobby Moody, Natasha Natraj, Monica Brown, Jenna Clark, Olivia Crago, Andre Spethelf-Sanders, Blaire Warner

### **Presley**

#### **Featuring**

Elvis Presley - Connor Cook, Gladys Presley - Erin Ulman, Sam Phillips - Tommy Betz, Colonel Tom Parker - David Buergler

**Music:** Everybody's Gonna Have A Wonderful Time Up There - Sister Rosetta Tharpe

Cast

Connor Cook, Erin Ulman with Olivia Crawford, Caroline Kane, Lauren Kent, Madison McAllister, Rebecca Miklos, Trey Plutnicki, Luke Stewart, Jordan Wood

Music: That's Alright Mama - (Arthur Crudup) Elvis Presley

Cast

Connor Cook with Monca Brown and Blaire Warner

Music: Jailhouse Rock - (Leiber and Stroller) Elvis Presley

Cast

Connor Cook with Monica Brown, Jenna Clark, Olivia Crago, Olivia Crawford, Bobby Moody, Natasha Natraj, Trey Plutnicki, Andre Spethelf-Sanders, Luke Stewart, Blaire Warner

Music: Viva Las Vegas - (Doc Pomus and Mort Shuman) Elvis Presley from the Elvis at the Movies Sountrack

Cast

Connor Cook wtih Caroline Kane, Lauren Kent, Madison McAllister, Rebecca Miklos

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Luke Stewart** (Company) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Marion, OH. Luke can be seen as Mr. Ulrich in the world premiere of *Krampus* at Short North Stage in December. Previous credits include Angel in *RENT* at Otterbein, as well as the Short North Stage productions of *Last Night of Disco* (Chris – world premiere), *Thrill Me* (Nathan), and *A Chorus Line* (Bobby).

**Ian Stillman** (Technical Director) is a senior BFA Design/Technology major from Rochester, NY. Previous credits include Assistant Technical Director for *Into the Woods* and *RENT*. Other credits include Dorset Theatre Festival (Scenic Carpenter), and Geva Theatre (Prop Artisan/ Carpenter). Ian is excited to be completing his last show at Otterbein University. Onward and upward, never stop propping.

**Jacob Sundlie** (Elvis Presley) is a freshman BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Marblehead, MA. Previous credits include Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* and Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls* at Marblehead High School, Peter Van Daan in *Diary of Anne Frank* at Marblehead Little Theatre (Dash Award Nomination), and Deck Electrician for RENT at Otterbein University. I would like to thank my coaches at MTCA and Stella Kane for making my first show at Otterbein one I'll remember forever! Lastly, I'd like to dedicate my performance to my Grandmother.

Erin Ulman (Gladys Presley/Company) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Centerville, OH. Previous Otterbein credits include Maureen in *RENT*, The Witch in *Into The Woods*, Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, Elaine in *Sweet Charity*, Mona Kent in *Dames at Sea*, Susan in *The Full Monty*, Festival 2013,14,15, Ensemble in *Les Misérables*, and Ensemble in *After the Fall*. Erin will be moving to New York City in December where she will be interning with Tara Rubin Casting and beginning her career as an actor. Erin wants to thank JeffaKevinI'mCoolGuy, 20sexteen, our amazing grandparents in the Theatre Advisory Board, Dr. John and the rest of the incredible faculty at Otterbein, and her family for the constant love and support she has received during her fantastic 4 years at Otterbein!

**Maggie Veach** (Assistant Director) is a senior BA Theatre major from Westerville, OH. Previous credits include 2nd Assistant Director for *RENT* and Assistant Director for *The 39 Steps*. Thank you to everyone involved for this amazing experience! Famously yours...forever.

Blaire Warner (Company) is a junior Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major and Dance minor from Johnstown, OH. Previous credits include Festival 2015, Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, and Dance 2013: *Once Again!* Blaire would like to thank the crew, stage managers, and Tammy for all the hard work and effort put forth into making this production beautiful; and thank you to Stella Kane for the brilliant choreography. She'd also like to thank her fellow dancers for their talent and laughter, and her family for always loving and supporting her in everything she does - performing and beyond.

**Jordan Wood** (Company) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Indianapolis, IN. He was last seen on the Otterbein stage as Collins in *RENT*. Special thanks to the entire cast and crew, family and friends and anyone who came out to see it. A special thank you to Stella for allowing me to take part in this incredible production. Enjoy the show!!

## BIOGRAPHIES

Ado About Nothing, and the Otterbein Summer Theatre 2015 productions of *Clybourne Park* and *The All Night Strut*. Hannah would like to thank her family and her sisters of Epsilon Kappa Tau for their ongoing love and support.

**Ashley Sattler** (Props Master) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Beavercreek, OH. Previous credits include Props Master for *RENT*, Wardrobe Master for Dance2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, Master Carpenter for the 2014 Summer Theatre Season, Props Master for *Sweet Charity*, and Publicity Assistant for Festival 2015. She would like to thank her family and friends for being so supportive and putting up with her antics. She wishes her family luck as they move overseas to New Zealand this winter and looks forward to joining them in the spring.

Rebecca Schafer (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a senior Design/Technology major with concentrations in lighting design and stage management. You may know her from her work on *RENT*, *Middletown*, and the last three consecutive Drag Shows (Lighting Designer), in addition to *The Nerd*, *The Greeks: The Murders, God of Carnage*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Stage Manager). She's completely flabbergasted that this is her final Otterbein show she gets to be a part of, grateful that her time here has come to a happy close, and excited for a new adventure. Many thanks to her family, the Husky, T.J. Gerckens & the HR Department, Team Lighting, and the gloriously talented cast and crew. Lots of love to her advisor, Kristen and What's-Up-Doc, Elizabeth & Matt, the DT faculty, Feathers, Melinda, and Dr. John. Her final show is dedicated lovingly to JeffaKevinl'mCoolGuy.

**Melissa Schlecht** (Wardrobe Master) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major and Film Studies minor from Potsdam, OH. Previous credits include Props Assistant for *Much Ado About Nothing*. I hope everyone enjoys this beautiful piece of work! Thank you to the amazing cast and crew! Break legs!

Joaquin Silva (Assistant Master Electrician) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major and Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies minor from San Antonio, TX. Previous credits include Sound Designer for *God of Carnage*, Assistant Master Electrician for *The Greeks: The Murders* and *Speed-The-Plow*, and Sound Operator for *Middletown*. I am thankful to be studying here at Otterbein and have endless love for my great friends and especially my family back home in San Antonio. I'm concentrating in lighting and sound and plan to pursue and sustain a career in live production before going back to graduate school.

**Sarah Simon** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major with minors in Music and Arts Administration from Algonquin, IL. Sarah's face was seen during the Otterbein Summer Theatre Season with her binder and House Manager name tag, and she also helped paint *RENT*. Thank you to her parents, Kappa sisters, and friends who have continued to support, love and encourage her; it's the little things in life that mean the most. Philippians 4:13. Congrats cast & crew - enjoy the show!

Sarah Smith (Production Assistant) is a junior BA Theatre and BA Music double major from Hilliard, OH. Previous credits include *RENT* (Production Assistant), *Rabbit Hole* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *The Greeks: The Murders* (Paint Assistant). Thank you to my mom and dad for all of the love and support. Special thank you to Tommy for being the best big brother I could ask for, and for supporting me and showing me what it means to go after my dreams.

**André Spatheld-Sanders** (Company) is a freshman BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from South Bend, IN. André wants to thank Tammy and Stella for their patience and for this chance to perform in such an amazing original production.

## **PROGRAM**

### **Presley Continued**

Music: What'd I Say - (Ray Charles) Elivs Presley

Cast

Connor Cook with Tommy Betz, Monica Brown, Jenna Clark, Olivia Crago, Olivia Crawford, Bobby Moody, Natasha Natraj, Trey Plutnicki, Andre Spethelf-Sanders, Luke Stewart, Blaire Warner, Jordan Wood

Music: Peace In The Valley - (Dorsey) Elvis Presley with the Jordanaires

Cast

Connor Cook and Erin Ulman

### **Bogart**

Music: Play It Again Sam - (Grossman, Hackady) Tony Bennett

Cast

Featuring Connor Allston and Dana Cullinane

Music: As Time Goes By - (Hupfeld) Dooley Wilson from the Casablanca soundtrack

Cas

Connor Cook and Caroline Kane

### **Monroe**

Music: I Wanna Be Loved by You - (Stothart and Ruby) Marilyn Monroe from the Some Like It Hot soundtrack

Cast

Dana Cullinane with Connor Allston, Ben Folts, Jacob Sundlie

**Music:** Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend - Marilyn Monroe from the Gentlemen Prefer Blondes soundtrack with Remix from the Swing Cats

Cast

Monica Brown with Tommy Betz, Olivia Crago, Lauren Kent, Rebecca Miklos, Bobby Moody, Trey Plutnicki, Andre Spethelf-Sanders, Luke Stewart, Erin Ulman, Jordan Wood

### **Finale**

Music: Young and Beautiful - Lana Del Rey from the Great Gatsby soundtrack
Voiceovers: Announcers - Mark Mineart, Bogart - Connor Allston,
Presley - Jacob Sundlie, Dean - Ben Folts, Monroe - Dana Cullinane

The Company and Georgia Curtis

Cast

### **Bows**

Music: Fame - Naturi Naughton and Collins Pennie, Lakeshore Records

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In 1942 Edward Hopper, one of America's most prominent realist painters, created what has now become an icon of American culture and one of the most recognized paintings of American life. *Nighthawks* depicts four strangers taking refuge from the darkness in a lonely late night diner and the timeless quality of the setting transcends locale and calendar. In 1984 German expressionist Gottfried Helnwein reimagined Hopper's work and placed four of the most famous pop icons in this same diner. Some say that Helnwein's *Boulevard of Broken Dreams* was a spoof of the Hopper work and a comment on the narrative. I choose to disagree with this point of view and to instead recognize the loneliness of this "iconic club."

These talented, rebellious and daring icons affected and even changed nearly every aspect of our culture. Teens could question and rebel, rock and roll emerged and engaged a voice that woke up the body and the soul, a less than handsome leading man made women swoon and men confident in their imperfections, and a lonely little girl created a luminous and vibrant soul who taught women that they could love themselves and their sexuality without fear or apologies and often, with great humor. But at what price did these icons ascend and leave mere mortality behind? Who could possibly understand their world and the isolation of that genius and talent? What if there was a refuge that kept out the darkness and provided companionship with a few kindred souls; a place suspended and exclusive for as long as time goes by? What if.....

- Stella Hiatt-Kane

### BIOGRAPHIES

Stella Hiatt Kane (Director, Choreographer) has been a member of the Otterbein faculty since 1989 and Director of Dance since 1996, a member of the BalletMet Academy faculty, and the founding Artistic Director of JazzMet. Ms. Kane has been a member of the national companies of *Sugar* and Bob Fosses' *Dancin*' and a member of the national and international companies of The American Dance Machine. She has made television appearances in productions such as PBS' "Dance In America" and "The Ann Reinking Special" with Ann Reinking, Chita Rivera and Ben Vereen. Ms. Kane has taught for New York's American Dance Machine/Harkness House and the Actors' and Directors' Lab. She has been a visiting guest artist/teacher at several universities including The Ohio State University and New York University and has been a master teacher in residence at the Northern Ballet Theatre in Leeds, England. Ms. Kane has also been a guest choreographer for Columbus Dance Theatre and BalletMet.

Notes: A huge thank you to all the incredibly talented designers, faculty, stage management team and students who helped to bring my little idea to fruition. Many thanks to Tammy Plaxico, Steven Meeker, Maggie Veach, Nikki Krupp and Deanne Reed for their assistance on this project. To Eryn, my favorite historian- thank you for sparking my brain and planting the seed. And to Kip- thank you for listening, suggesting and keeping the light on. I love you both.

**Rob Johnson** (Scenic Designer) is a full professor and the Head of Design/Technology in the Department of Theatre & Dance at Otterbein University. He has been a designer and professor at Otterbein for 28 years, joining the faculty in1987. His undergraduate

### **BIOGRAPHIES**

Corey Farr (Master Electrician) is a senior BFA Design/Technology major from Lakewood, OH. Previous credits include Lighting Designer/Master Electrician for *God of Carnage*, Assistant Lighting Designer for *RENT*, and Master Electrician for *The Greeks: The Murders*, Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe, Middletown*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. I want to thank all my family, friends, former and current professors and staff and Robert for making my 15 main stage productions here in my last 4 years at Otterbein an experience to remember. I look forward to hopefully work again at Cedar Point Live entertainment, working on the outdoor show "Luminosity Ignite the Night" for the second year in a row!

**Ben Folts** (James Dean) is a sophomore BFA Acting major from Hershey, PA. Previous credits include Rick Steadman (Otterbein Summer Theatre - *The Nerd*), Boy (*Much Ado About Nothing*), and Soldier (*The Greeks: The Murders*). He would like to thank the entire cast and crew and directing team of dance concert for making this such a fun experience. He would also like to thank all the bar stools in the diner for being such fun to spin on.

**Julianne Graffeo** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Granville, OH. Previous Otterbein credits include *RENT* and *Into the Woods* (Assistant Stage Manager). She would like to thank Emily, Tara and Annie.

Caroline Kane (Lauren Bacall/Company) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Westlake, OH. She was last seen as Lilac in Lusty Lil's Palace Theatre Review Show at Cedar Point. She was also seen in Otterbein University's *Into the Woods* and Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*. She would like to thank Stella, Tammy, the amazing cast, and crew for this amazing opportunity. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their love and support!

**Lauren Kent** (Company) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Cincinnati, OH. Previous credits include *The Last Night of Disco* (Miss Thang), *RENT* (Ensemble), *Into the Woods* (Florinda), Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe* (Dancer) and *Sweet Charity* (Suzanne). I would like to thank my family for their never ending support! Enjoy!

**Maddie McAllister** (Company) is a junior Allied Health major and Dance minor from Waverly, OH.

**Steven Meeker, Jr.** (Assistant Director) is a junior BFA Acting major and Creative Writing minor from Mount Vernon, OH. Previous credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Don Pedro), *The Greeks: The Murders* (Old Man), Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe* (Assistant to Choreographer), *The Yellow Boat* (Choreographer), and Festival 2013 and 2014 (Mime/Director) among others. Steven is a mime of nine years and serves as the president of Mainstage Improv. He would like to thank Shawn, his family, The Bells, the beautiful class of 2017, Evan, Natalie and Sally for all of their love and support. He would like to thank Stella for the amazing opportunity! Enjoy the show!

**Bobby Moody** (Company) is a senior Health Promotion and Fitness major and Dance minor from Toledo, OH.

**Trey Plutnicki** (Company) is a freshman BFA Acting major from River Edge, NJ. This is his first show at Otterbein and he would like to thank Stella Kane for this marvelous experience.

**Hannah Pohlman** (Assistant Wardrobe Master) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Delaware, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Stage Manager for *Much* 

## BIOGRAPHIES

**David Buergler** (Company) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Indianapolis, IN. Previous credits include Mark Cohen in *RENT*, Jason in *The Rabbit Hole*, Talthybius in *The Greeks: The Murders*, Dancer in Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, Butler in *Sweet Chairty*, and Dave Bukatinsky in *The Full Monty*. Thank you to the cast and crew for such an enjoyable and incredible process. I dedicate this performance to Pa's and Uncle John. Much love.

**Jenna Clark** (Company) is a senior Business Management major and Dance minor from Westerville, OH. Previous credits include Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe* and Choreographer of "unsound mind" in festival 2015. I have enjoyed being a part of this one-of-a-kind show, and I thank Stella for her wonderful vision. I would also like to thank my parents and friends for their love & support these past 4 years. Here's to our last show, seniors!!

**Connor Cook** (Elvis Presley and Humphrey Bogart – Dancer) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Pittsburgh, PA. Previous credits include Greg Gardner in *A Chorus Line* at Short North Stage, many roles this summer with Cortland Rep., Benny in *RENT*, and Poe in Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*. Connor would like to thank his family, friends, and educational influences for this amazing opportunity to dance in this concert under the amazing direction of Stella Kane. He attributes his dance training to not only Otterbein but the Larry Cervi School of Performing Arts back home in Pittsburgh as well! Enjoy the Show!!!

Olivia Crawford (Company) is a sophomore psychology and communications double major and Dance minor from North Canton, OH. Previous credits include Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe* – (Featured Dancer) and Festival 2015 (Dancer). Thank you to all of my friends and family, especially my parents, for the endless love and support. I wouldn't be where I am today without you, and I hope you enjoy the show!

**Karen Crenshaw** (Props Assistant) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Newnan, GA. Previous credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Charge Artist), Otterbein Summer Theatre 2014 and 2015 (Company Member), and Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe* (Assistant Stage Manager). I dedicate this show to my mother. Much love to my wonderful Class of 2017ers. Enjoy the show!

**Dana Cullinane** (Marylin Monroe) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Los Gatos, CA. Previous credits include *RENT* (Ensemble/u/s Maureen), *Clybourne Park* (Bev/Kathy), and *Into the Woods* (Lucinda/u/s Little Red). I would like to thank my incredible mother and grandmother for endlessly supporting me and for always encouraging me to do what I love. I hope you all enjoy the show!

Georgia Curtis (Company) is beyond excited to be back on the Otterbein stage. She was last seen here as Young Eponine in *Les Misérables*, but has performed in several shows around town with Columbus Children's Theatre, Westerville Civic Theatre and CATCO. She is 11 years old and a 6th grader at New Albany Middle School. When Georgia isn't acting or singing on a stage, she enjoys dancing on one as a member of the Broadway Bound Competition Team. She would like to thank Stella for taking a chance on her and letting her be the Diva she truly is. Diamonds are a girl's best friend!

**Alli Dembicki** (Paints Assistant) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Pemberville, OH. Previous credits include Props Master for *Much Ado About Nothing* and Otterbein Summer Theatre 2015.

## BIOGRAPHIES

degree is from Bowling Green State University. He also holds two masters degrees, one from West Virginia University where he studied scenic design, and the other from the Ohio State University where he earned his M.F.A. in lighting design. He freelanced professionally as a scenic and lighting designer for many years working with other universities and professional companies. He has designed award-winning scenery for much of his career. Highlights include Otterbein's smash hit, 42nd Street, working with Tony award winning director and choreographer Randy Skinner and more recently *Into the Woods*. Lighting designs include work for Ballet Met, Denison University, Ohio State University and Ohio Wesleyan University. He was also a pioneer in the use of 3D computer modeling and animation for scenic design and authored an interactive CD-ROM on "Basic Lighting Technology for the Theatre", published worldwide through First Light Video, out of Venice, CA. He gives thanks to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for all of his many opportunities and blessings.

Rebecca White (Costume Designer) joined the Theatre & Dance faculty as the resident Costume Designer in 2007 and teaches courses in costume history, costume design, costume technology, and makeup. Some of Rebecca's previous designs at Otterbein include Into the Woods, The Fantasticks, The Importance of Being Earnest, Pippin, Gypsy, and How to Succeed in Business...Without Really Trying. Rebecca's work has been on stage at the Santa Fe Opera, The Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Park Square Theatre, St. Cloud State University, Theatre l'Homme Dieu and the Minnesota Centennial Showboat. Rebecca holds an MFA from The University of Minnesota and a BS from The University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse.

T.J. Gerckens (Lighting Design) is the lighting design faculty member at Otterbein University, a USA829 Union Lighting Designer, and proud Otterbein Alum. At Otterbein he has designed the lighting for Dance 2014: Tell Tale Poe, and Into the Woods. As a freelance lighting designer T.J. has been part of the design team for the Tony Award winner and MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Mary Zimmerman for the last 22 years. Most recently he designed Mary Zimmerman's world-premiere adaptation of Treasure Island, currently playing at the Lookingglass Theatre in Chicago. His lighting designs have been seen at regional theatres across the United States, on and off Broadway, and at the Metropolitan Opera. Internationally, he has designed in England, Australia, and at the LaScala Opera House in Milan, Italy. He has received numerous awards for his designs including New York's Drama Desk Award and Lortel Awards for his lighting of Metamorphoses on and off Broadway, Jefferson Awards for *The Odyssey* and *Metamorphoses* in Chicago, and an award for "Exemplifying the Art of Collaboration" given to the Zimmerman design team by Entertainment Design Magazine. You can see his designs for Lucia di Lammermoor and La Sonnambula on DVDs released by the Metropolitan Opera. Upcoming design projects include Guys and Dolls at the Wallis Annenberg Center in L.A., Blood Wedding at the Lookingglass Theatre in Chicago, Treasure Island in San Francisco, and a yet-to-be announced opera at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. T.J. comes to Otterbein after two years at the University of Toledo, and prior to that he spent 17 years in production and executive management at CATCO. T.J. holds a BFA from Otterbein University and an MFA from Boston University. He is married to set designer, scenic artist, and Otterbein adjunct instructor Stephanie R. Gerckens. They have two children and live in Plain City.

**Doc Davis** (Sound Designer/ Lighting & Sound Supervisor) was born and raised in Pearl, MS. After receiving a BA in Theatre from Belhaven University, he continued his education at the University of Illinois. While completing his MFA in Sound Design, he worked as a sound engineer at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, assisting such music acts as Dee Dee Bridgewater, The National, Keb' Mo', Mavis Staples, and more.

# **BIOGRAPHIES**

Since moving to Columbus, OH, Davis has been very active in the Otterbein University Theatre Department acting as Adjunct Professor, Sound Designer, and Lighting and Sound Supervisor.

**Kate Bindus** (Stage Manager) is a senior BFA Design/Technology major from Chagrin Falls, OH. Previous credits include Stage Manager for *Dames at Sea* and *Middletown*, Assistant Stage Manager for *The Greeks: The Murders*, and Props Master for *Into the Woods*. After spending the past summer working for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Kate is really excited to be back at Otterbein stage managing Dance 2015: *Famously Yours...Forever*. She would like to thank the amazing department for all their support, her friends and sisters of EKT, and of course her amazing mother!

**Jen Brinker** (Charge Artist) is a Scenic Artist, Sign Painter and Muralist who has worked in NYC and Columbus, Ohio. She received her BFA from CCAD, studied at Cobalt Studios and is a current United Scenic Artist member. Past work includes: *Orange is the New Black, Bridge of Spies, The Wolf of Wall St.*, various Broadway and Off-Broadway productions.

Kristen Cooperkline (Production Manager) earned her Bachelor of Arts in History/ Theatre from The College of Wooster and her Master of Arts in American Culture Studies at Bowling Green University. She then received her MFA in Stage Management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2012. Her Illinois credits include Macbeth, La Calisto, Battle of Angels, February Dance, and Our Town. Following her graduation, Kristen served as the Event Coordinator for the first-ever American College Dance Festival Association South Regional Conference as well as a stage manager for Bebe Miller Company. She is thrilled to be a part of the Otterbein Family.

Mark Mineart (Voiceover Artist) Mark's professional theatre career spans over 25 years and three continents as an actor, director, and fight choreographer. He has appeared on and off Broadway with such stars as Denzel Washington and Kelsey Grammer as well as worked at many of the nation's most well respected and award-winning regional theatres. Classically trained, he has portrayed many of the great characters of world theatre, among them Cyrano de Bergerac, Macbeth, Cassius in Julius Caesar, Touchstone in As You Like It, Caliban in The Tempest, Long John Silver in Treasure Island, and Lennie in Of Mice & Men. He has created roles in almost a dozen world premiere productions, by such playwrights as Jane Martin and Eric Cobble, and even had roles written for him by multiple Tony and Drama Desk Award-winner Arthur Kopit. Mark has appeared in feature films, a variety television programs and worked as a performance capture artist on blockbuster video games such as Crysis II, Bullet Storm and NCIS: The Game. In August of 2015 Mark joined the faculty at Otterbein University where he serves as Associate Professor of Performance in the Department of Theatre & Dance. Mark will be treading the boards from December 2nd - 20th at the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus playing the notorious Black Stache in CATCO's production of Peter & the Starcatcher. His directorial debut at Otterbein, the farce Is He Dead? will open February 18, 2016.

Melinda Murphy (Movement/ Voice Coach) teaches Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method® in the Otterbein Theatre and Dance Department, with application to movement, voice, characterization, singing, and dance. Melinda is one of the few teachers trained in both methods; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. Since coming to Otterbein, she also trained to teach Fitzmaurice Voice work for its specialized tools for improving the voice and breath. Melinda has coached Otterbein productions since the turn of the century. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medalist Southern Gateway Chorus.

### **BIOGRAPHIES**

Tammy Plaxico (Assistant to the Choreographer) is a graduate of the University of Iowa (B.A. 1995, and M.F.A., 1998, performance emphasis). During her studies at the U of I, she served as a Teacher's Assistant, as well as Director of Dance Forum, a universitybased program which offered dance techniques to community adults and children. Her performances included student and faculty concerts and the annual department's Dance Gala. She was also a member of Dancers In Company, the U of I premier touring dance ensemble. Post graduate school, her studies focused on the STOTT Pilates Method. With certifications in Mat, Reformer, Cadillac, Chair, Barrels and Injury and Special Populations, she opened BodyMind Balance Pilates Studio in Worcester, MA, a studio dedicated to the integrity of the method. Upon moving to Columbus, OH, in 2003, Tammy implemented the Pilates program into the Ohio State University Dance Department and began teaching Pilates and dance at Otterbein University, as well as Ballet Met Academy. In 2010 she received her 200 hour yoga therapy certification from Shiva Shakti Synthesis and currently teaches at The Yoga Factory in Westerville. Tammy has been afforded the wonderful opportunity to choreograph for Otterbein's Annual Dance Concerts. Tammy resides in Westerville with her husband and four children, and is not only a teacher of movement arts, but a part time home educating mother.

**Patrick Stone** (Resident Technical Director) is in his second year here at Otterbein University having spent seven years at the University of Arkansas as the departmental Faculty Technical Director. He holds a Masters of Fine Arts from University of South Dakota in Vermillion and a Bachelors of Arts from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. He teaches classes in stage craft, properties design and construction, metal working, technical directing, wood working and motion scenery. He also enjoys consulting with local and regional theatres ranging from professional to junior high. Lately he has been exploring the application of pneumatic actuators and cylinders in scenery and props. Patrick's favorite drywall screw is 1-5/8".

**Arri Allen** (Sound A1) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major and Women's, Gender, Sexuality Studies minor from Cincinnati, OH. Previous credits include Sound A2 for *Into the Woods* and Stage Manager for *RENT*. In the future Arri plans to move to a dairy farm in Wisconsin.

**Connor Allston** (Humphrey Bogart - Diner Icon) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Shelby Township, MI. Previous credits include Roger Davis in *RENT*, Tenor in *The All Night Strut* and Axel Hammond in *The Nerd* this last summer, and Rapunzel's Prince in *Into The Woods*. As Humphrey would say, "Here's looking at you, kid."

**Tommy Betz** (James Dean) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Haddon Heights, NJ. Otterbein credits include *Into the Woods* (Jack) and *Sweet Charity* (Ensemble). Stella and Tammy, thank you for this memorable opportunity. I will carry it with me far beyond Otterbein. Thanks to Mom and Dad for making yet another trek out here. #2016orbust

**Monica Brown** (Marilyn Monroe – Dancer) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Houston, TX. Monica has performed in every dance concert and musical at Otterbein since freshman year. Favorite roles include Mimi in *RENT*, Little Red in *Into the Woods* and Eulalie in Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe.* She worked two summer stock seasons at Wagon Wheel Theatre in Indiana, playing the roles of Anita in *West Side Story* and Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof.* Monica feels so blessed to be a part of Stella's vision in this beautiful piece of art and to have been a student of hers. Love and hugs to the fabulous cast, crew, and creative team! She is looking forward to performing one more time on the fabulous Fritsche Theatre stage when the senior class will present "The Launch." Monica is beyond excited to continue her journey in New York City beginning in January. Enjoy our show!