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Closer Than Ever

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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*Otterbein
Theatre*



Summer

Presents...

CLOSER THAN EVER

LYRICS BY
RICHARD MALTBY, JR.

MUSIC BY
DAVID SHIRE

Conceived by Steven Scott Smith
Originally Produced Off-Broadway by
Janet Brenner, Michael Gill and Daryl Roth
Developed at the Williamstown Theatre Festival

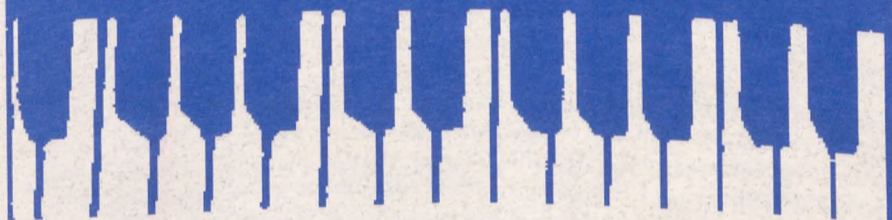
**Directed and Choreographed
by Doreen Dunn**

**Musical Direction
by David DeVenney**

Scenic design by Donna Williamson
Lighting design by D. Glen Vanderbilt
Costume design by Tamara Sommerfeld
Properties design by Jill C. Baird
Sound design by Peter Dean

July 19 at 7:30 p.m., July 20, 21, 22 at 8:00 p.m.,
July 23 at 2:00 p.m.
and July 26, 27, 28, 29 at 8:00 p.m.
and July 30 at 2:00 p.m., 1995

Campus Center Theatre
100 W. Home Street
Westerville, OH 43081



THE CAST

WOMAN #1	Mandy Fox
MAN #1	Ben P. Sprunger
WOMAN #2	Katherine Smart
MAN #2	Josh Gildrie
MAN #3	David DeVenney

The Band

PIANO	David DeVenney
BASS	Eric M. Van Wagner

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Doors	Company
She Loves Me Not	Mandy, Ben and Josh
You Wanna Be My Friend	Katherine and Josh
What Am I Doin'	Ben
The Bear, the Tiger, the Hamster and the Mole	Mandy
Like A Baby	Josh, Mandy and Katherine
Miss Byrd	Katherine
I'll Get Up Tomorrow Morning	Josh
The Sound of Muzack	Company
One of the Good Guys	Ben
There's Nothing Like It	Company
Life Story	Mandy
Next Time/I Wouldn't Go Back	Company

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Three Friends	Mandy, Katherine and Ben
Fandango	Mandy and Josh
There	Katherine and David
Patterns	Mandy
Another Wedding Song	Katherine and Josh
If I Sing	<i>David DeVenney</i> Josh
Back On Base	Katherine
The March of Time	Company
Fathers of Fathers	Ben, Josh, David
It's Never Been That Easy/I've Been Here Before	Mandy and Katherine
Closer Than Ever	Company

Closer Than Ever is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International, 545 Eighth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018.

WHO'S WHO

Mandy Fox (Woman #1) graduated from Otterbein in 1993 and is pleased to be back as a guest artist this summer. She is currently in her third and final year at the Yale School of Drama. Some of you may remember her as OST's Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense* or the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. At Yale Ms. Fox most recently performed in Charles Ludlam's *Le Bourgeois Avant-Guard*, Shakespeare's *Pericles*, *The Good Person of Setchwan*, and *Long Island Dreamer*; the east coast premiere of the rock-opera based on the life of Connie Francis. Last summer Ms. Fox was seen in CATCO's *A...My Name is Still Alice*. In her spare time Mandy does laundry.

Doreen Dunn (guest director/choreographer) Ms. Dunn's theatrical career has spanned stage and screen, both nationally and internationally, as actor, director, choreographer and playwright. Among her many director and choreographer credits, highlights include *Fiddler* in Vegas, *Fantasticks* in Paris, *La Ronde* in New York and Jean Stapleton's *Hello Dolly!* She has directed *The Women of My Father's House* at CATCO, *Kabuki Sleeping Beauty* for the Phoenix Theatre Circle and numerous productions at Players Theatre Columbus. Directing credits for Otterbein include *Nunsense* (I and II), both productions of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Something's Afoot* and *The Cherry Orchard*. Choreography highlights include *Evita*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Camille*. Ms. Dunn is a graduate of Northwestern University and the recipient of two Ohio Arts Council Playwriting Fellowships.

David DeVenney (music director/Man #3) is associate professor of Music at Otterbein, where he directs the Otterbein Chorale and the Early Music Ensemble, and teaches conducting and music history. He has taught at Otterbein since 1983 and holds degrees in music and conducting from Iowa State University, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati. Dr. DeVenney has conducted over thirty opera and musical theatre productions, most recently Opus Zero's spring presentation of Sondheim's *Assassins*. He is leaving Otterbein (the day after *Closer Than Ever Closes!*) to take a new position in the School of Music, University of Arizona in Tucson.

Donna Williamson (scenic designer), an Otterbein graduate, is pleased to be designing again for OST. Past credits here include set designs for *Top Girls* and *The Brothers Karamazov* and costume designs for *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, *Baby* and *The Boys Next Door*. She is currently in charge of the technical theatre at Columbus Academy. Donna would like to acknowledge her brother Michael, whose support and encouragement keeps him "Closer Than Ever."

D. Glen Vanderbilt (lighting designer) is a Professor of Theatre at Ohio Wesleyan University. He has worked around the country as a designer, director and educator at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, the University of Colorado, the Cleveland Playhouse, Ballet Met, the Boston Publick Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Vanderbilt University, Northwestern University, the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, and CATCO. His design for CATCO's production of *Harrison, Texas* won an award for excellence from USITT-Ohio, which Glen has won on two previous occasions. Mr. Vanderbilt is a member of the United Scenic Artists of America, USITT and is President-Elect of the Ohio Theatre Alliance. He has just moved into Columbus from Delaware upon the occasion of his marriage to Carol Kreim.

Dennis Romer (producing artistic director), artistic director for the Dept. of Theatre and Dance, is very pleased to be involved with the 29th OST season. He recently directed CATCO's critically-acclaimed production of *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* and is currently directing *Suburbia* by Eric Bogosian for CATCO opening July 12. Dennis is a member of Actors' Equity Association, the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. He has directed and performed in New York, Los Angeles, and regional theatres throughout the country. He originated running characters on the soap operas *As the World Turns*, *Search for Tomorrow*, and *All My Children*. As a television guest star, his credits include *Hotel*, *Dynasty*, *Starman*, *Matt Houston* and *Love Sydney*. He has also appeared in many national commercials and numerous voice-overs. Dennis is currently an assistant professor in the Dept. of Theatre and Dance. He is married to Doreen Dunn and they have a 12 year-old son Eric.

Marcia Hain (costume shop supervisor) earned her BS degree in Home Economics from The Ohio State University. Prior to joining the Otterbein staff in 1989, Marci was a costume shop manager and designer for Action Costumes, Inc. and Costume Specialists. Local theatrical work has been onstage at Players Theatre, Gallery Players, Opera Columbus and numerous high schools. She has also built costumes for two seasons at Maine State Music Theatre. Marci has designed costumes for the OST productions of *Night Watch*, *Nunsense II* and *Sherlock's Last Case*.

Fred L. Smith (assistant tech. director) has just completed his third year as assistant tech director for the Dept. of Theatre and Dance. This past season he designed the multiple sets for *Cat Among the Pigeons*. Fred is also a customer service rep at Schell Scenic Studio and serves as scenic and lighting designer at St. Charles Preparatory School where he just completed his 46th production.

Pat Foltz (production manager) is a freelance actor/director in the Columbus area. She received her PhD in theatre from Michigan State University and has been doing summer theatres all over the U. S. for way too long for way too little \$\$\$\$. But...such fun!

Timothy D. Allwein (master painter) graduated from The Ohio State University in 1991 with a BFA degree in theatre technology. He spent the summers of '90 and '93 with the Santa Fe Opera. He has held the position of tech director/resident designer for Gallery Players at the Jewish Center and at the Town Theatre in Columbia, SC. Tim recently got engaged and he thanks his fiance for letting him do this theatre stuff.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Producing Artistic Director	Dennis Romer
Managing Director	Tod Wilosn
Production Manager	Pat Foltz
Stage Manager	Bridget Bamber McCracken
Assistant Stage Manager	Wade Beam
Technical Director	Kathlyn D. Brandt
Assistant Technical Director	Fred L. Smith
Costume Shop Supervisor	Marcia Hain
Costume Shop Assistant	Kathryn Felsenthal
Master Electrician	Tamara Sommerfeld
Properties Supervisor	Jill C. Baird
Sound Engineer	Peter Dean
Master Painter	Timothy D. Allwein
Technical Assistants	Wade Beam, Julia Berkhofer
Box Office Assistants	Jenny Keplar, Sara Laudonia, J. W. Morrisette

WHO'S WHO (CONTINUED)

Jill Baird (props designer) is a senior design/tech major enjoying her third season with OST. She's designed props for several other productions in the past including *Androcles and the Lion*, *The Odd Couple*, *Wait Until Dark* and *The Boys Next Door*. Jill looks forward to her internship this fall in New York. She would like to thank all for their love and support and she gives special thanks to her special someone.

Wade Beam (ass't stage manager/technical ass't) is a senior from Sabina, OH. He recently served as ass't stage manager for *Catnap Allegiance* and is looking forward to appearing in *A Chorus Line* and being ass't stage manager for *Robin Hood* in the fall. Thanks to his family for their love and support.

Julia Berkhofer (technical ass't) is a sophomore BFA design/tech student from South Charleston, OH with an emphasis in costume design. She has worked as master carpenter for *Six Degrees of Separation* and as wardrobe master for *Catnap Allegiance*. She would like to dedicate her summer work to Mom and Dad for allowing her this educational experience.

Kathlyn D. Brandt (technical director) is a senior design/tech major from Adams County, IN. This summer she will be the tech. director for *Sherlock's Last Case* and *Closer Than Ever*. She also looks forward to stage managing *A Chorus Line* in the fall. Kathy is anticipating a relaxing and rewarding summer season.

Peter Dean (sound designer/engineer) has been very grateful for his OST experience. He would like to thank Pokey and Butch for their patience. He sends his love to all his family and especially Bird.

Josh Gildrie (Man #2) graduated from Otterbein in June and is enjoying his second OST season. His credits include Charlemagne in *Pippin*, Tom Sawyer in *Big River*, Big Daddy in *Sweet Charity*, Andrew Ralley in *I Hate Hamlet* and Bois D'Enghien in *Cat Among the Pigeons*. Josh's future plans include finding work and remembering to breathe every now and again.

WHO'S WHO (CONTINUED)

Jenny Keplar (box office/adm. ass't) is a junior BA theatre major from Columbus. At Otterbein she's appeared in *Sweet Charity* and *Sherlock's Last Case*. Jenny wishes to thank Tod, JW, Karlie and Sara for dealing with her bi-polar personality. Most of all she wants to express her thanks and best wishes to Jollina Walker.

Sara Laudonia (box office) is a junior BFA performance major at Otterbein. She would like to thank her family for their tremendous support and the ladies of 49 S. Vine Street for everything else.

Bridget Bamber McCracken (stage manager) is from Mt. Pleasant, MI. She is a senior performance major. In her first season with OST, she'll ass't stage manage *Sherlock's Last Case* and stage manage *Closer Than Ever*. She would like to thank the company, especially Peter, for all their help and support.

J. W. Morrisette (box office/adm. ass't), a recent Otterbein grad, returns for his fourth (ugh! enough already) year of OST. He is very happy to be back and he dedicates his box office trials and tribulations to his wonderful parents.

Katherine Smart (Woman #2) is a new Otterbein grad with a BFA musical theatre degree which will be so very beneficial to her out in the "real world." She most recently appeared as Charity in *Sweet Charity* and as Edith in *Jake's Women*. Katherine enjoys reading, math, writing letters and cleaning her room. She would like to thank Dan and the parental unit for their support and stuff.

Tamara Sommerfeld (costume designer/master electrician) will be a senior at Otterbein this year. She is looking forward to her internship and graduation next summer. This summer Tamara is the costume designer for *Closer Than Ever* and the master electrician for the season.

Ben P. Sprunger (Man #1) is proud to be returning to OST, having appeared in *Baby* and *The Odd Couple* last year. His mainstage credits include *Sweet Charity*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Androcles and the Lion* and *The Brothers Karamazov*. He will be a junior this year and he would like to dedicate his performance to his new room-mates Gangling, Trixie and Slurpy.

Eric M. Van Wagner (Bass) is a junior music education/theaory and composition major from Houston, TX. At Otterbein he's been a member of the orchestrs for such musicals as *Pippin*, *Baby* and *Sweet Charity*. He's also a member of or has played for *Opus Zero*, *Opus One*, *Jazz Ensemble*, *Early Music Ensemble*, *Marching Band*, *Concert Band*, *Wind Ensemble*, *Electro-Acoustic Workshop*, *Percussion Ensemble* and *Westerville Civic Symphony*.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Group Sales: Groups of 25 or more people are eligible for special group rates. For more information call 614/823-1209.

Cameras and Recording Devices: The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs during a performance are strictly prohibited.

Restrooms and Telephones: The restrooms and telephones are located upstairs opposite the main entrance of the Campus Center.

Administrative Office
614/823-1709
Monday through Friday 9:30-5:00 p.m.

Box Office
614/823-1109
Monday through Saturday 1:00-8:30 p.m.
and 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays

Mailing Address
Otterbein Summer Theatre
100 West Home Street
Westerville, Ohio 43081



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The Otterbein Summer Theatre Company, Staff and Guest Artists acknowledge the following individuals and families that have contributed to our 29th annual patron fund drive. Without their support we would find it difficult to exist.

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