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### RENT

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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# Otterbein University

Department of Theatre & Dance and Department of Music  
present



Book, Music & Lyrics by  
Jonathan Larson

Musical Arrangements by  
STEVE SKINNER

Original Concepts/Additional Lyrics by  
BILL ARONSON

Musical Supervision & Add'l Lyrics by  
TIM WEIL

Dramaturg  
LYNN THOMSON

RENT was originally produced in New York  
by New York Theatre Workshop and on Broadway by  
Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon and New York Theatre Workshop.

Directed by  
MELISSA LUSHER

Music Direction by  
LORI KAY HARVEY

Choreography by  
NATASHA NATRAJ

Scenic Design by  
ROB JOHNSON

Lighting Design by  
REBECCA SCHAFER

Costume Design by  
EMMA SICKER

Sound Design by  
DOC DAVIS

Cinematography by  
GREG SABO

Stage Managed by  
ARRI ALLEN

September 24-27 & October 1-3, 2015  
Fritsche Theatre at Cowan Hall  
30 S. Grove St., Westerville

RENT is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684  
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# CAST

Roger..... Connor Allston  
 Mimi..... Monica Brown  
 Mark..... David Buerger  
 Maureen..... Erin Ulman  
 Angel..... Luke Stewart  
 Joanne ..... Morgan Wood  
 Collins ..... J.T. Wood  
 Ensemble ..... Alex Armesto, Tommy Betz, Dana Cullinane, Lauren Kent,  
 Chris Marth, Natalie Szczerba, Aubree Tally

# THE BAND

Conductor/Keyboard I ..... \*Lori Kay Harvey  
 Keyboard II ..... \*Dennis Davenport  
 Bass.....\*Chad Greenwald (Bradley Mellen 10/03)  
 Guitar .....\*Karl Wohlwend  
 Percussion.....Tomasz Jarzecki  
 Computer Programmer..... Jesse Heetland

\* Denotes Music Department Faculty

# SPECIAL THANKS

Joseph Roller

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this  
 production is strictly prohibited.

# HONORARY CAST LIST

## Supporting Actor (\$50-\$99)

Harold Amspoker	Emily Gazerro Hall	Lynn & Joy Rinehart
Don & Marilyn Andersen	John & Ann Hentz	Brenda Jauchius Ritzman
Anonymous	Douglas Hoover	Anne Robinson
Bill & Judyth Barr	Norman Hosansky	Ronald & Joyce St. Pierre
Donald & Gene Bennion	Walter & Connie Kobalka	Albert & Louise Siegel
Dan & Linda Bevan	J. Thomas & Kathleen Jones	Rex & Jane Sprague
Carl & Carol Boehm	Bill LaTaille	James Tarpoff
Len & Sharon Bussard	Chuck & Connie Layne	Richard & Jeanette Robinson
Wallace & Barbara Cash	Richard & Catherine Loveland	Thomas
Ted Chaney	William Lyons	Roger & Margaret Lloyd Trent
Leonard & Roberta Clark	Barbara McKenzie	Michael Vehonsky
Mike & Debra Collins	William & Harriet Merriman	Jay & Barbara Wilcox
John & Barbara Condon	Dennis & Marjorie Munger	Sara Willson
Clay Cormany & Rebecca	Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil	Jim & Marilyn Young
Coleman Princehorn	Neil & Connie Ostrove	David & Ann Ziegel
Bob & Jocelyn Fu Curry	James E. Paxton	
Jim & Di Erickson	William Radloff	
Robert & Deborah Forsblom	Charles & Marion Rees	
Barbara George	Richard & Doris Reichert	

## Extra (\$10-\$49)

Elizabeth J. Arnold	Edwin A. Geer	Jack Sheppard
Christina Baker	Mike Grayson	Paul & Alyce Sheridan
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Benjamin H. Bennett	Charles & Charlene Hammond	David B. & Joyce Shannon
Dick & Joyce Brown	John & Alice Heller	Warner
Elizabeth A. Burrier	Elliot B. & Ruth Hodgdon	James E. & Carol Carpenter
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Judith E. Cashman Trust	Roger & Robin Howard	Thomas & Susan White
Larry & Margaret Cepek	Ronald & Margaret Jewett	Roger L. Wilson
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John & Ursula Corbett	Joseph & Elizabeth Kolmer	
Richard & Diane Demlow	Barbara Limbert	
L. Thomas & Mary Alice Dillman	Barbara Glor Martin	
Richard & Marie Dille	Shirley Bracken McJunkin	
Barbara Donohue	Carl D. & Helen W. Miller	
Denise Edwards	Tom & Mary Ellen Miller	
Alyce Douce Elbert	Eleanor Murphy	
Leigh & Sharon Evrard	John & Ann Ressler	
Susan Fenstermaker	David & Diane Russell	
Lawrence Friedman	Allan Sager	
Alzada Gallagher	Gregory & Sharon Shannon	

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# HONORARY CAST LIST

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

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Kathy A. Krendl & Richard S. Gilbert  
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Judy Gebhart Bear & Daniel Bear	Paul S. & Sheila Reiner
Pamela M. Erb-Melville	Douglas R. Smeltz
John & Terry Geary	Alan & Linda Smith
Sarah & Jim Hickey	Jon & Joyce Stonebraker
John T. & Eileen Fagan Huston	Norma F. Worley

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Anonymous	Paul Hammock	Jim & Martha Owens
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Thomas M. Bay &	David & Alma Nash Holl	Elizabeth A. Salt
Martha Dean Kerr	Myra Jamison	David & Beckey Stamm
Richard O. &	Herbert & Jeanne Johnston	J. Mikal & Janice Townsley
Linda Spicer Beckner	Thomas J. & Donna L. Kerr	Ken & Lise Wadkins
James V. Blazek	Douglas R. & Mary Pat Knight	Willis S. White
David Coffman	Thomas & Barbara Knight	Laura Cean Wilson
Roy & Joy Croy	Otto & Janet Laster	
John L. & Sharon Davis	Bernard Losekamp	
Brian Day	Michael & Nancy A. Miller	
Petrie Dodrill	Jack & Peggy Moreland	
Margaret Morgan Doone	Alan E. & Carol S. Norris	

# PRODUCTION STAFF

Chair, Department of Theatre & Dance.....John Stefano  
Chair, Department of Music.....Dennis Davenport  
Audience Services Director.....Elizabeth Saltzgeber  
Technical Director .....Patrick Stone  
Production Manager.....Kristen Cooperkline  
Costume Shop Supervisor .....Julia Ferreri  
Light & Sound Supervisor/ Sound A1 .....Doc Davis  
Administrative Assistant .....Matt Wolfe  
Movement Coach .....Melinda Murphy  
Charge Artist.....Edith Wadkins  
Assistant Directors .....Elizabeth Casto, Maggie Veach  
Dramaturg.....Maggie Veach  
Fight Choreographer .....Phil Cunningham  
Assistant Stage Managers .....Julianne Graffeo, Annie Schroeder  
Production Assistant.....Sarah Smith  
Assistant Technical Director .....Ian Stillman  
Carpenters .....Ian Hawthorne, Megan Lohner  
Paint Assistants.....Brady Irwin, Sarah Simon  
Properties Master .....Ashley Sattler  
Properties Assistant .....Emily Bubeck  
Master Electrician.....Ariana Woods  
Assistant Master Electrician .....Tori DeProspero  
Light Board Operator .....Jessica Palagano  
Wardrobe Master.....Anna Mulhall  
Wardrobe Assistant.....Nick Hahn  
Sound A2.....Joaquin Silva  
Sound Assistant.....Ethan Brown, Gunnar Schmidt  
Box Office Managers.....Heidi Olander, Alexx Conrad  
House Manager .....Alexx Conrad

## SCENIC STUDIO ASSISTANTS

Phil Cunningham	Natalie Love
Alli Dembicki	Rebecca Schafer
Ian Hawthorne	Gunnar Schmidt
Megan Lohner	Ian Stillman

## COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANTS

Julianne Graffeo	Melissa Schlecht
Brady Irwin	Emma Sicker
Anna Mulhall	Nikki Soloman
Hannah Pohlman	
Ashley Sattler	

## SCENERY/PROPS RUN CREW

Bax Bartel	Kara Jobe
Mikayla Burr	Connor Mural
Lindsay Cluckey	Trey Plutnicki
Alissa Dellork	Alexander Smith-Fields
Matthew Gittins	Andre Spathelf-Sanders

## WARDROBE CREW

AaronAllebach	Kathryn Lee
Noel Isaacson	Ethan Wintgens
Riley Mankin	

## LIGHT & SOUND ASSISTANTS

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

## BOX OFFICE ASSISTANTS

Connor Dunn	Sydney Smith
Jeff Gise	Tara Smith
Annie Schroeder	Kevin Thiel

## ELECTRICS CREW

*Abigail Isom	*Jacob Sundlie
Kara Jobe	Michaela Waickman
Kathryn Lee	*Grace Weir
*Jesica Palagano	*denotes running crew
Alexander Smith-Fields	

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT I

Tune Up A .....	Mark, Roger
Voice Mail #1.....	Mark's Mother
Tune Up B.....	Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny
Rent .....	Company
Christmas Bells #1.....	Homeless Man
You Okay, Honey.....	Angel, Collins
Tune Up Reprise.....	Mark, Roger
One Song Glory.....	Roger
Light My Candle.....	Mimi, Roger
Voicemail #2.....	Mr. & Mrs. Jefferson
Today For You A.....	Collins, Mark, Roger
Today For You B .....	Angel
You'll See.....	Benny, Mark, Roger, Collins, Angel
Tango Maureen.....	Mark, Joanne
Support Group.....	Mark, Angel, Collins, Ensemble
Out Tonight.....	Mimi
Another Day.....	Mimi, Roger, Angel, Collins, Ensemble
Will I.....	Company
On the Street .....	Mark, Angel, Ensemble
Santa Fe.....	Collins, Angel, Mark, Homeless People
I'll Cover You .....	Angel, Collins
We're Okay.....	Joanne
Christmas Bells.....	Company
Over the Moon.....	Maureen
La Vie Bohème/ I Should Tell You .....	Company

## 15 - minute INTERMISSION

## ACT II

Seasons of Love.....	Company
Happy New Year A .....	Roger, Mark, Mimi, Collins, Angel, Maureen, Joanne
Voice Mail #3.....	Mark's Mother
Voice Mail #4.....	Alexi Darling
Happy New Year B.....	Roger, Mark, Mimi, Collins, Angel, Maureen, Joanne, Benny
Take Me or Leave Me .....	Maureen, Joanne
Seasons of Love B .....	Company
Without You .....	Mimi, Roger
Voice Mail #5.....	Alexi Darling
Contact.....	Company
I'll Cover You-Reprise.....	Collins, Company
Halloween.....	Mark
Goodbye Love .....	Mark, Roger, Mimi, Collins, Maureen, Joanne, Benny, Pastor
What You Own .....	Mark, Roger
Voice Mail #6.....	Roger's Mother, Mimi's Mother, Mark's Mother, Mr. Jefferson
Finale A.....	Company
Your Eyes .....	Roger
Finale B .....	Company

# CREATIVE BIOGRAPHY

**Jonathan Larson** (Book, Music & Lyrics) received the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for *RENT*. He also won the 1996 Tony Award for Best Musical and the 1994 Richard Rodgers Award for *RENT* and twice received The Gilman & Gonzales-Falla Theatre Foundation's Commendation Award. In 1989 he was granted the Stephen Sondheim Award from American Music Theatre Festival, where he contributed to the musical *Sitting on the Edge of the Future*. In 1988 he won the Richard Rodgers Development Grant for his rock musical *Superbia*, which was staged at Playwrights Horizon. He composed the score for the musical *J.P. Morgan Saves the Nation*, which was presented by En Garde Arts in 1995. Mr. Larson performed his rock monologue *tick, tick... BOOM!* at Second Stage Theatre, The Village Gate and New York Theatre Workshop. In addition to scoring and song writing for *Sesame Street*, he created music for a number of children's book-cassettes, including Steven Spielberg's *An American Tail* and *Land Before Time*. Other film scores include work for Rolling Stones magazine publisher Jann Wenner. He conceived, directed and wrote four original songs for *Away We Go!*, a musical video for children. *RENT*, his rock opera based on *La Bohème*, had its world premiere on February 13, 1996 at New York Theatre Workshop. Mr. Larson died unexpectedly of an aortic aneurysm on January 25, 1996, ten days before his 36th birthday.

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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giving me this opportunity this semester! And as always, S/O to Momma T and Dad for the constant support and encouragement to follow and work hard for my dreams.

**Erin Ulman** (Maureen) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Centerville, OH. Previous credits include *Into the Woods* (Witch), *Sweet Charity* (Elaine), *Dames at Sea* (Mona Kent), *The Full Monty* (Susan), and *Les Misérables* (Ensemble). Erin will be finishing up her Otterbein career as a member of the Dance 2015: *Famously Yours... Forever* cast. Thank you so much to the professors, mentors, patrons, Theatre Advisory Board, 20sextreen, JeffaKevinI'mcoolguy, and my family for the support and love over the past four years!

**Maggie Veach** (Dramaturg) is a senior BA Theatre major from Westerville, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Director for *The 39 Steps* and Playwright of *The Law of Laughing*. Thank you all so much for this amazing experience!

**Jordan Wood** (Collins) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Indianapolis, IN. Previous credits include The Steward (*Into the Woods*), Albert/Kevin (*Clybourne Park*), and The Bass (*The All Night Strut*). A huge thank you to Melissa, Lori Kay, Natasha, Emma, Rebecca and the cast and crew. Shout-out to my parents, grandparents, my sistas, Daria and anyone who is here to enjoy the show!!!

**Morgan Wood** (Joanne) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Indianapolis, IN. Previous credits include Chorus Leader in *The Greeks: The Murders*, Lena in *Clybourne Park*, and The Alto in *The All Night Strut*. Thank you to Melissa, Arri, Annie, Julianne, and the entire cast and crew for this amazing opportunity. And special thanks to Mom, Dad, JT, Shelby, family, and friends for all of your endless support - I die without you!

**Ariana Woods** (Master Electrician) is a senior BFA Design/Technology major from Gahanna, OH. Previous credits include Master Electrician for the Otterbein productions of *Into the Woods*, *Sweet Charity*, *The Full Monty*, and Dance 2013: *Once Again!* *RENT* is my last production at Otterbein and it is a bittersweet feeling, but I am excited to be moving on to new things. Thank you to everyone who helped me along the way and break a leg!

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# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

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"Connection in an isolating age."

Almost twenty years ago, *RENT* opened on Broadway and quickly became the symbol of a generation. Its innovative format and bold, unapologetic exploration of taboo subjects turned a revolutionary page in the history of the American theatre. In approaching this iconic work, my primary goal has been to honor the intent of its creator, Jonathan Larson, without simply remounting the original production. Throughout the journey, my guiding torch has been the central theme of the story: the universal human need for connection.

We may not find ourselves facing the specific challenges of these characters (disease, poverty, addiction, societal condemnation), but we know the ache of loneliness they feel. We live in a frantically paced, digital age where the technology that was intended to bring us closer together often further isolates us. A quick text has become an accepted surrogate for deeper intimacy. We have hundreds of Facebook "friends," but we still feel a nagging sense of detachment. The unrelenting demands of our packed schedules rarely leave any space for nurturing our relationships.

Twenty years later, the question posed by the characters in *RENT* still resonates: "What binds the fabric together when the raging, shifting winds of change keep ripping away?" The answer, of course, is love... but the challenge is in the doing. Connection, by its nature, is messy and difficult. It requires time, intentionality, and a willingness to be vulnerable. Yet, as *RENT* so clearly shows, it is a fundamental requirement of the human spirit. May we all have the courage to measure our lives in love.

-Melissa Lusher

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Melissa Lusher** (Director) teaches acting, speech, and dialects at Otterbein's Department of Theatre and Dance, where she also serves as the resident speech/dialects coach for all productions. She holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia, and a B.F.A. in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. Melissa made her directorial debut with Otterbein Theatre's production of *Spring Awakening*, which was named one of the Best 10 Shows of 2012 by The Columbus Dispatch. Most recently, she directed last season's production of *The Greeks: The Murders* and Otterbein Summer Theatre's production of *The Nerd*. She extends her deepest appreciation to everyone involved with *RENT* for their commitment and artistry. As always, she dedicates her work to her husband, Joe, and her son, Lucas. If life is measured in love, hers is truly rich because of them.

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Lori Kay Harvey** (Musical Director) has been a member of the musical theatre faculty at Otterbein for 9 years and is thrilled to be a part of this production of *RENT*! In addition to music directing over 20 shows in central Ohio and throughout the US, she has performed extensively as an actor/ singer/ dancer on both national and international tours and in numerous regional theatres. Tour credits: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (National) with Patrick Cassidy and Deborah Gibson, *Grease* (Brazil); Regional theatre: *Beauty and the Beast* (Ordway Center, MN), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Arvada Center, CO), *The Taffetas* (Totem Pole Playhouse, PA), *Camelot* (Westchester Broadway Theatre, NY), *The Who's Tommy*, *Damn Yankees* (Mill Mountain Theatre, VA), *Brigadoon*, *Carousel*, *The Desert Song* (Media Theatre, PA), and *The Good War* (Weathervane Playhouse, OH). In 2014, she received nominations from both BroadwayWorld Columbus and the 10th Annual Jebby Awards for Best Actress in a Musical for her role as Diana in *Next to Normal* with the SRO Theatre Company in Columbus, OH. She won Best Musical Director from BroadwayWorld Columbus for *Les Misérables* at Otterbein in 2014. Concert credits include: *Mozart Requiem* with The National Chorale (Avery Fisher Hall), *Puttin' On the Ritz* with Erich Kunzel and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra (Carnegie Hall and recorded on TELARC label), and *The Magical Music of Disney* (Cincinnati Music Hall and Circle Theatre, IN, recorded on TELARC label and GRAMMY- nominated). Television credits: *Sex in the City*, *Guiding Light*, *Mel Torme's Christmas Special*, and various commercials and industrials. Education: BS in Voice Performance and Theatre from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Proud member of Actor's Equity Association. Thank you to the cast, crew, production team and Melissa for all your hard work, and to the members of the band who ROCK!!! As always, love to TJ, Macrae and our newest addition, baby Clara.

**Natasha Natraj** (Choreographer) is a senior Health Promotion major and Dance Minor from Portland, OR. Previous credits include *Sweet Charity* (Dancer), Dance 2014: *Tell-Tale Poe* (Dancer and Choreographer), Dance 2012: *Pulse* (Dancer), and Festival 2013 (Choreographer). Natasha had her work showcased at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance as part of a summer choreography residency. Thank you to the cast and crew of *RENT* for this incredibly humbling, awe-inspiring experience and Melissa and Stella for giving me this amazing opportunity. Thank you, Mom and Dad, for your support and general cuteness.

**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 in 1987. His undergraduate 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

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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the support they have given her over the years. She wishes her family luck as they move toward their dream in New Zealand and looks forward to joining them this winter.

**Annie Schroeder** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major from Dublin, OH. Previous credits include Company manager for Festival 2015, Assistant Director for *Into the Woods*, and Assistant Stage Manager for *Middletown*. Annie would like to thank her family, her ten sisters, her fellow pepper enthusiasts, and the faculty for their support. She would also like to thank the rest of the SM team for supporting her in the composition of her new hit single 525,600 chicken nuggets.

**Joaquin Silva** (Sound Assistant) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major and Womens Gender and Sexuality Minor from San Antonio, TX.

**Sarah Simon** (Paint Assistant) is a junior BA Theatre major with minors in Arts Administration and Music from Algonquin, IL. Sarah was last seen with a binder and a House Manager tag during the 2015 Otterbein Summer Theatre season. Painting definitely doesn't involve talking to as many people! Thanks and love will always go to her parents, friends and the One who has continuously watched over her. Hope you're all looking forward to an amazing season!

**Sarah Smith** (Production Assistant) is a junior BA Theatre and Music double major from Hilliard, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Stage Manager for *Rabbit Hole* (Advanced Directing Workshop, Paint Assistant for *The Greeks: The Murders* and Wardrobe Assistant for *Middletown*. Thank you to my amazing friends and family for all of the love and support. I could not be following my dreams and passions without you!

**Luke Stewart** (Angel) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Marion, OH. Previous credits include Chris in *The Last Night of Disco* (Workshop/Premiere) Nathan Leopold in *Thrill Me*, and Bobby in *A Chorus Line*, all at Short North Stage in Columbus.

**Ian Stillman** (Assistant Technical Director) is a senior BFA Design/Technology major from Rochester, NY. Previous credits include - Scenic Carpenter for the Dorset Theatre Festival, Prop Artisan/ Carpenter for Geva Theatre, and Master Carpenter/ ATD for various Otterbein University productions. No day but today. Break legs.

**Natalie Szczerba** (Ensemble & Mimi understudy) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Toledo, OH. Previous credits include Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Vicki in *The Full Monty*, Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*, and Ensemble in *Sweet Charity*. She is so blessed to have been given this wonderful opportunity to work on such a powerful show with an extremely talented cast, crew and production staff. She would like to give endless thanks to her loving family and the always incredible Class of 2017. Break legs and enjoy the show!

**Aubree Tally** (Ensemble) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Lemont, IL. Previous credits include Jack's Mother in *Into the Woods*, Betsy/Lindsay in *Clybourne Park*, and Festival 2014 and 2015. I would like to give a big thank you to Melissa Lusher for

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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for the supreme honor it's been working with you! Thank you to my family, friends, and brothers of Sigma Delta Phi Fraternity!

**Corey Farr** (Assistant Lighting Designer) is a senior BFA Theatre Design/Technology major from Lakewood, OH. Previous credits include Lighting Designer for the Classroom Project production of *God Of Carnage*, and Master Electrician for the Otterbein productions of *The Greeks: The Murders*, Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe, Middletown*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. I want to thank all my family and friends and Robert for their support. I am looking forward to my final production at Otterbein, Dance 2015: *Famously Yours...Forever!*

**Julianne Graffeo** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Granville, OH. She was previously the Assistant Stage Manager for the Otterbein production of *Into the Woods*. Julianne would like to give a shout-out to the awesome SM team and her wonderful classmates!

**Brady Irwin** (Paint Assistant) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Louisville, KY. Previous credits include Wardrobe Master for *Sweet Charity* and Props Master for *The Greeks: The Murders*. I also did my first costume draping project for *Rent*, I hope you enjoy Angel's skirt!

**Lauren Kent** (Ensemble/Swing/Dance Captain) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Cincinnati, OH. Previous credits include *Into the Woods* (Florinda), *Sweet Charity* (Suzanne), and *The Seagull* (Nina). I would like to send huge hugs and kisses to the cast and crew of this incredible, important show, and unending love to my family. NO DAY BUT TODAY Y'ALL!

**Chris Marth** (Ensemble/Mark Understudy) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Carlisle, PA. Chris performed as a Company Member with the Gretna Theatre last summer and has been seen on the Otterbein stage in *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Father). Other credits include *Company* (Peter) and *Gypsy* (Tulsa). A big thank you to the entire cast and crew for creating this wonderful community! Shout-out to his family and friends for their constant love and support!

**Anna Mulhall** (Wardrobe Master) is a senior BA Theatre and English double major from Columbus, OH. Previous credits include the Advanced Directing project, *Rabbit Hole* (Costume Designer), Weathervane Playhouse 2015 (Costuming Intern), *Little Prints* (Playwright), and Dance 2015: *Tell Tale Poe* (Wardrobe Assistant). Anna would like to thank her friends, family, and mentors for being fiercely supportive of her big heart and bigger dreams. Love, Safute, and DFTBA.

**Jessica Palagano** (Light Board Operator) is a freshman BFA Theatre Design Technology major from Hilliard. She is hoping for a fulfilling theater job in the future.

**Ashley Sattler** (Props Master) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major from Beavercreek, OH. Previous credits include Wardrobe Master for Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, Props Master for *Sweet Charity*, Master Carpenter for *Into the Woods* and the 2014 Summer Theatre Season. She would like to thank her parents and friends for all

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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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 Schafer** (Lighting Designer) is a senior BFA Design/Technology student with concentrations in lighting design and stage management. She'd like to thank her ME team and assistant for being wonderful with a green designer, her mentor TJ for hours of much appreciated support and guidance, Feathers for admitting that she's actually a huge fan of spotlights, and the SM team for every dang time we had to call "hold" for lights during tech. Lots of love to the cast and crew for absolutely everything, her amazing family, and the Husky. As always, gratitude to Wookie and Linzie for giving her roots. Thanks to the DT faculty for letting her go out with a bang her senior year. Her work on this production is dedicated to JeffaKevinI'mCoolGuy.

**Emma Sicker** (Costume Designer) is a senior BFA Design and Technology major from Powell, OH. Previous credits include Draper/Wardrobe Master for *Into the Woods*, Asst. Costume Designer for *The Greeks: The Murders* and Dance 2014: *Tell Tale Poe*, and Costume Designer for the Classroom Project production of *No Exit*. Emma would like to thank everyone who has supported her throughout these four years at Otterbein. Special thanks to mom, dad, Andrew, Rebecca, Julia, the costume shop, the wardrobe crew, cast and production team, class of 2016, and the sisters of Theta Nu. For Pookie.

**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. 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.

**Greg Sabo** (Cinematographer) is a photographer and cinematographer. A graduate of Ohio University CoFA Film Division. A member of the International Cinematographers Guild, and maintains an office in NYC and Columbus OH. Greg has photographed projects all over the world and has a strong body of work in commercials, documentaries, and features. Regardless of the type of project, his goal as Director of Photography is to create images that will not only tell the story, but that will affect the viewer on a subliminal level.

**Arri Allen** (Stage Manager) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major, Women's, Gender, Sexuality Studies minor from Cincinnati, OH. Previous credits include Stage Manager for the Otterbein Summer Theatre productions of *The All Night Strut* and *Clybourne Park*. In the future, Arri plans to move to a sandcastle in California.

**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



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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.

**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.

**Patrick Stone** (Technical Director) is in his second year at Otterbein University having spent seven years previously 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.

**Connor Allston** (Roger) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Shelby Township, MI. Previous credits include The Tenor in *The All Night Strut* and Axel Hammond in *The Nerd* this summer, Rapunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods*, and Jerry Lukowski in *The Full Monty*. This show has been a favorite of Connor's for several years, so please sit back, relax, and enjoy the finished product of *RENT*!

**Alex Armesto** (Ensemble) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Canton, MI. Previous credits include Karl/Steve in *Clybourne Park*, Narrator/Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*, and Young Spanish Man in *Sweet Charity*. Alex is a loving member of the GreenCouchCollective.

**Tommy Betz** (Ensemble) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Haddon Heights, NJ. He was last seen on the Otterbein stage in *Into the Woods* (Jack) and at the Forestburgh Playhouse in *La Cage aux Folles* (Mercedes) and *My Fair Lady* (Harry). Thanks to my incredibly supportive family, the Forestburgh community, and the quiet, peaceful village that I've come to know as home.

**Ethan Brown** (Sound Assistant) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology with a concentration in Audio Production from Granville, OH. Previous credits include *The Greeks: The Murders* (Set Crew) and *Dance 2014: Tell Tale Poe* (Spot Op). Thanks for taking time out of your 525,600 minutes to watch our show!

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**Monica Brown** (Mimi) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Houston, TX. Monica has performed in 10 mainstage productions at Otterbein, including every musical and Dance Concert since freshman year. Favorites were 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 is so grateful for the directing wisdom of Melissa, musical genius of Lori Kay, and the entire cast, crew, and creative team! She is looking forward to working on *Dance 2015: Famously Yours... Forever* where she will be dancer Marilyn Monroe! Enjoy *RENT*!!!

**Emily Bubeck** (Props Assistant) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Fairfax, VA. She is very excited to also be working as the Assistant Director and Dramaturg on *Much Ado About Nothing* this fall.

**David Buerger** (Mark) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Indianapolis, IN. Previous credits include Jason in *The Rabbit Hole*, Talthybius in *The Greeks: The Murders*, Dancer in *Dance 2014: Tell Tale Poe*, Butler in *Sweet Charity* and Dave in *The Full Monty*. Thank you so much to the incredible cast, crew, and production team for this amazing experience. I dedicate this show to my Uncle John and Pa's. Much love.

**Elizabeth Casto** (Assistant Director) Senior BA Theatre and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies double major from Woodsfield, OH. Previous credits include Assistant Director/Stage Manager for the Advanced Directing Project, *Rabbit Hole*, and Production Assistant for *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Lizzie is so thrilled and thankful to be assisting on her favorite show! Break a leg cast and crew!

**Alexx Conrad** (House Manager) is a senior BA Theatre major and Arts Administration minor. She is currently one of the Box Office Managers, the Treasurer for Panhellenic Council, a representative on the United Greek Governing Board, and also holds several positions in her sorority, Kappa Phi Omega. Alexx would like to thank Elizabeth and Matt for helping her develop her passions and being sources of inspiration. So much love to Mom and Connor for all they do.

**Connor Cook** (Benny) is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration from Pittsburgh, PA. Previous credits include Featured Dancer in *Sweet Charity*, Poe in *Dance 2014: Tell Tale Poe*, Greg in *A Chorus Line* (Short North Stage) and many roles this past summer with Cortland Repertory Theatre. Connor would like to thank everyone who has influenced his life and training up to this point, family, friends, and otherwise. He is honored and humbled to be a part of this incredibly powerful production and hopes you all enjoy it.

**Dana Cullinane** (Ensemble) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Los Gatos, CA. Other credits include *Clybourne Park* (Bev/Kathy), *Sweet Charity* (Rosie) and *Into the Woods* (Lucinda). She hopes you will enjoy the show!

**Phil Cunningham** (Fight Choreographer) is a senior BA Theatre major from Dublin, OH. Previous Fight Choreographer credits include *The Greeks: The Murders* and *Into the Woods*. Thank you to the entire cast and crew, especially Tommy, Chris, and JT,