Proud to help make our region a vibrant place to live through support of the performing arts.
A Message from the Director

“How do we change the world? One random act of kindness at a time.”
- Morgan Freeman

EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LIFE provides infinite potential for change. It is upon the fulcrum of these moments that we are presented with the opportunity to alter our course with an act of kindness and perhaps transform our existence and possibly another’s; what happens when we do? What happens if we illuminate this possibility for others? Amélie is a musical that posits and buoys the notion of radical empathy and demonstrates the power of rampant, unchecked kindness; that kindness bestowed upon our friends, family, even complete strangers, for no other reason than to improve their existence. This can change the world. For all of us – artists and audience alike – this beautiful story reminds and reawakens in us the belief that the kind actions of one person are indeed capable of making a difference: for an individual, an entire group, a community, and our civilization. When Amelie tries it, the results are profound, bringing positive change and a renewed faith in humanity to her “kindness beneficiaries”, and...most importantly, experiencing the results of her kindness just might inspire us to give it a try.

Thank you for being here tonight to support the collaboration of live theatre, music, and dance! Please consider making a gift of support to ensure future collaborations between UI Theatre Arts, the School of Music, and the Dance Program as we continue to explore and present high-quality Musical Theatre opportunities for our students and the community!

Enjoy the show,
Craig A. Miller

Special Thanks:
VIP Production Northwest
Adrian Crookston, Accordion Coach

Amelie is presented by Arrangement with Concord Theatricals.
www.concordtheatricals.com
World Premiere produced in September 2015 by Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Tony Taccone, Artistic Director Susan Medak, Managing Director. Presented in December 2016 by Center Theatre Group Michael Ritchie, Artistic Director, Stephen D. Rountree, Managing Director, Douglas C. Baker, Producing Director. The Broadway producer credits are as follows: Aaron Harnick, David Broser, Triptyk Studios, Spencer B. Ross, Harbor Entertainment, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Simone Genatt Haft, Marc Routh, Saltaire Investment Group, The John Gore Organization, David Mirvish, Terry Schnuck and Jujamcyn Theaters.
The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts’ Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation. Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
Amélie (The Musical)

Cast

Amélie .................................................................MONICA EVANS & ELISE VON BARGEN
Nino.................................................................TY HARRINGTON+ & JACOB MCGAUGHLEY
Amandine..........................................................KELLY ZAKARIASEN
Blind Beggar/Philomene/Sylvie..........................................................KARI WILSEY
Raphael/Bretodeau..........................................................DENNIS MCGREEVY*
Hippolito/Mysterious Man..........................................................MAYSEN BEALL
Elton John............................................................CHRISTIAN REED +
Dufayel/Collignon..........................................................ROM KIM
Joseph/The Goldfish..........................................................CONNOR HEIM
Lucien/Garden Gnome..........................................................JACOB BROCK
Georgette.............................................................SAMI BURTON
Suzanne..................................................................................KTTURNER+
Gina.....................................................................................MCKINLEY KIRK
Good-Looking Lug/Tourist..........................................................RYLON LOVE

Orchestra Personnel

Conductor ..........................................................VERN SIELERT~
Piano..................................................................................CHRISTIAN REED +
Synthesizer..........................................................ALEXANDRO AGUILAR, ISABEL MARTIN
Accordion ..........................................................MASON OYLER
Guitar................................................................................EVA LINDEMOOD
Bass..................................................................................JAKE GENDREAU
Percussion........................................................................NATHAN LANNIGAN
Flute..................................................................................ADRIANA VARN
Clarinet................................................................................MALLORY HUNT
Trombone............................................................................JAKEY CAMPBELL

Artistic Team

Director..........................................................CRAIG A. MILLER~
Orchestra Director/Conductor..........................................................VERN SIELERT~
Music Director..........................................................CHRISTIAN REED +
Scenic Designer..........................................................LOU PEROTTA*
Costume Designer..........................................................VALERIE DEMEERLEER
Lighting Designer..........................................................ALANA SHEPHERD~
Sound Operator/Designer..........................................................RYAN FRALEY*
Sound Engineer..........................................................DAVID HARLAN~+
Projection Designer..........................................................CHRIS SCHLOEMP*
Prop Supervisor..........................................................DAISY ERSKINE
Choreographer..........................................................JILLAN NAYLOR
Technical Director..........................................................MICHAEL BRANDT~+
Stage Manager..........................................................KATIE PRY*
Assistant Director/Dramaturg..........................................................BLAKE WATSON*
Intimacy Choreographer..........................................................KELLY QUINNETT~
Dialect Coach..........................................................TAYLOR TELFORD+
Assistant Scenic Designer..........................................................ANDY ZIEGLER

BIOS (continued)

Kelly Zakariassen (Amandine Poulain) is a native of Rochester, Minnesota and wears many hats as the director of business development at Fireline Medics and as mother of nine children. When she wasn’t chasing children, animals, or employees she found time to play Maud Dunlop in “The Music Man” (Troy Community Theatre), Rachel Wardle in “Pickwick Papers” (APOD Productions), Widow Corney in “Oliver!” (APOD Productions), and most recently Madame in Troy Community Theatre’s production of Rogers and Hammerstein’s “Cinderella.” She is delighted to be a small part of the meaningful and heartfelt story of “Amélie,” but is most grateful to learn from and grow with this wildly talented cast, crew, and direction team.

Alexandra Ziegler (Assistant Scenic Designer) is ecstatic to be the assistant scenic designer and a senior in the BFA theater performance program at U of I. Previous designs Alexandra assisted with on the Hartung stage were “Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play” (scenic) and “Macbeth: Alba Gu Brath” (costume). The latest U of I stage performance Alexandra was a part of was “Into the Woods” as Snow White and “Macbeth: Alba Gu Brath” as Lady Macduff and Banquo’s understudy.

Department of Theatre Arts

COMING NEXT

Best New American Play- Obie Awards | Best New Play - New York Drama Critics Circle

WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME
(an IRT Off-Season show)

A brilliantly crafted show, harrowing and funny and humane.
Directed by David Lee-Painter | Starring Kelly Quinnett
Preview: November 30 | $10 only!
December 1, 2 at 7:30 pm
December 2, 3 at 2:00 pm
Forge Theater | Tickets on sale now at uitickets.com

SPRING FIRST BITE
New Play Series on Zoom
March 1, 2, 3

GO, DOG. GO! (The Musical)
A big and little musical world Like a pop-up book that comes to life. For the whole family!
Preview: February 1 at 7:00 pm | $10 only!
February 2, 3, 9, 10 at 7:00pm
February 4, 11 at 2:00 pm
Hartung Theater

ORLANDO
An inventive, creative journey through centuries and genders.
Preview: April 25 at 7:30 pm | $10 only
April 26, 27, May 3, 4 at 7:30 pm
April 28, May 5 at 2:00 pm
Hartung Theater

INFO: WWW.UITHEATRE.COM
CHRIS SCHLOEMP (Projection Designer) has been an actor and projections designer in the Sonoma County, California theatre community for the last thirty years. When he isn’t treading the boards himself, Chris is the Theatre Program Director at Montgomery High School in Santa Rosa, California, where he is thrilled to be directing “The Cherry Orchard this Fall.” Ever the student himself, Chris is also in his third and final year of the distance MFA in theatre arts program at U of I. His projections design for last year’s production of “Cabaret” marked his first work in the Hartung Theatre, and he is beyond excited to be given the opportunity to return to campus again for this amazing musical.

VERN SIELER (Orchestra Director/Conductor) is professor of trumpet and director of jazz studies at IU of I. He also serves as the artistic advisor for the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival. From 2001-2006 he was director of jazz ensembles at the University of Washington, and he has also served on the faculties of Baylor University, Illinois State University and Millikin University. Sielter has also directed jazz ensembles at Normal Community West High School in Normal, Illinois. He holds BM degrees in jazz studies and music education, and a MM degree in jazz studies from the University of North Texas, and a DMA in trumpet performance from the University of Illinois.

KT TURNER (Suzanne) is a second year doctoral fellow in the Department of History at U of I. She received her MFA in directing, pedagogy, and history from the U of I Department of Theatre Arts in May 2022. Recent credits include: “Macbeth: Alba gu Brath” (Director & Co-Adaptor; Fall 2021), “Everybody” (Director; Spring 2021), “& Juliet” (Annie Rice; May 2021), and “The Revolutionists” (Marianne Angelle; Fall 2020). Avec cette production, elle rend hommage à ses professeurs de français: Mme Christiansen, M. Lenoux, Mme Armstrong, et Mme Moutou.

ELISE VON BARGEN (Amélie) is a second-year student at U of I and a member of Pi Beta Phi studying theatre arts with an emphasis in performance. This is her third show with the department previously playing Helga in “Cabaret” and Soul in “Vigils.” Other roles include Edwin Drood in “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” and Wednesday Addams in “The Adams Family.” Elise is excited to have previously playing Helga in “Cabaret” and Soul in “Vigils.” Other roles include Edwin Drood in “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” and Wednesday Addams in “The Adams Family.” Elise is excited to have been casted as Amélie alongside Monica and has loved the experience and all she has learned on the process. She would also like to thank her mom and dad, brothers and sister and all other her sisters for all their constant love and support.

KARI WILSEY (Blind Beggar/Philomene/Sylvie) is a senior at U of I in pursuit of her BFA in theatre arts. Some of Kari’s recent U of I performances include Edna in “Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play” and Louison in “The Imaginary Invalid.” At Lewis and Clark State College they received an Irene-Ryan Nomination for KC ACTF for her role as Onl Prior in “Glassheart.” Theatre arts have always played a major role in their life as an artist and they thank their mother, Janelle, for always being a source of support. Their career highlights include playing Helga in “Cabaret” and Soul in “Vigils.” Other roles include Edwin Drood in “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” and Wednesday Addams in “The Adams Family.” Elise is excited to have previously playing Helga in “Cabaret” and Soul in “Vigils.” Other roles include Edwin Drood in “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” and Wednesday Addams in “The Adams Family.” Elise is excited to have been casted as Amélie alongside Monica and has loved the experience and all she has learned on the process. She would also like to thank her mom and dad, brothers and sister and all other her sisters for all their constant love and support.

A very special thanks to Alison Steven and Gayle Worthington from The Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for their kindness, consultation, and coaching in our desire to be thoughtful, respectful, and authentic in the portrayal of a blind character by a sighted actor in this production.

For more information on The Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, please visit them at www.icbvi.idaho.gov