

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY THEATRE

presents

songs for a **new world**

Written by **Jason Robert Brown**

Lyrics by **Jason Robert Brown**

Music by **Jason Robert Brown**

Book by **Jason Robert Brown/**

conceived by **Daisy Prince**

Directed by

TERRI VAUGHAN with STEVE BRADDOCK

Music Directed by

DR. BRIDGET MORIARTY

Choreography

TERRI VAUGHAN with REAGAN ZUBER (Class of 2023)
and **DANCERS**

Costume Design

MAUREEN STEVENS

Production Design

DAVID DWYER

Sound Design

GLENN BERNARDIS

Light Design

RYLEE WATSON

(Class of 2022)

Video Design

LARS STOLPE

(Class of 2021)

Stage Manager

BENJAMIN KULWANOSKI

(Class of 2021)

**STREAMING IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI) NEW YORK, NY.**

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. mtishows.com

Presented virtually

May. 6—9, 2021

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

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

With this global pandemic, everyone's lives have changed substantially making us more dependent on our electronics than ever before. Zoom classes, meetings and social gatherings have replaced the in-person experience. We are so looking forward to a New World where we can be live and in-person again. Our framework for this production reflects the ways we use, rely and often resent our technology during these trying times. Everything was filmed live, masked and socially distanced to create a world you are all familiar with and live in every day. It is our great hope that the not-so-distant New World will bring all of us back together in the theatre very soon!

CAST

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| Dancer | Matthew Ball |
| Dancer | Katrina Copeland |
| Dancer | James DeLano |
| Dancer | Skylah Fields |
| Dancer | Zach Gammel |
| Singer | Alyssa Garmone |
| Singer | Michael Kelleher |
| Dancer | Tricia Lazatin |
| Singer | Austin Marshall |
| Singer | Isabel Merkel |
| Singer | Emily Palmerchuck |
| Singer | Caleb Paxton |

MUSIC

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Keyboard/Conductor | Dr. Bridget Moriarty |
| Percussion | Kevin Stevens |

TIME

The Present

CAUTION: *Some songs contain adult language.
~ there will be one ten minute intermission ~*

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Opening Sequence: The New World | Company |
| On The Deck Of A Spanish Sailing Ship, 1492 | Austin Marshall & Company |
| Just One Step | Isabel Merkel |
| I'm Not Afraid Of Anything | Alyssa Garmone |
| The River Won't Flow | Company |
| Transition I | Isabel Merkel |
| Stars And The Moon | Emily Palmerchuck |
| She Cries | Caleb Paxton |
| The Steam Train | Austin Marshall & Company |

ACT TWO

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| The World Was Dancing | Alyssa Garmone, Caleb Paxton & Company |
| Surabaya-Santa | Isabel Merkel |
| Christmas Lullaby | Alyssa Garmone |
| King Of The World | Michael Kelleher |
| I'd Give It All For You | Emily Palmerchuck & Caleb Paxton |
| Transition II | Michael Kelleher |
| The Flagmaker, 1775 | Isabel Merkel |
| Flying Home | Austin Marshall & Company |
| Transition III | Emily Palmerchuck & Company |
| Hear My Song | Alyssa Garmone, Michael Kelleher, Isabel Merkel & Company |

PRODUCTION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Producing Artistic Director | Steven Braddock |
| Technical Director | Jason Stopinski |
| Assistant Stage Manager | Shelby McNulty |
| Assistant Choreographer | Reagan Zuber |
| Assistant Master Electrician | Zachary King |
| Costume Shop Director | Marilyn S. Deighton |
| Costume Shop Supervisor | Kari Drozd |
| Box Office Supervisor | Keirsten Thomas |
| Box Office Personnel | Catriona Goodsell, Christian Hines, Tricia Lazatin |
| Prop Acquisition | Sydney McKinley |
| Dramaturg | Julia Hartloff |
| Swing Technicians/Follow Spot Ops | Meghan O'Connor, Rylie Randall |
| Page Turner | Christian Hines |
| Sound Technician | Spencer Dick |
| Audio Technicians | Justin Durrett, Randi Sykes |
| Video Supervisor | Lars Stolpe |
| Assistant Video Designer | Christian (C.J.) Webster |
| Video Technicians | Samantha Dell'Acqua, Morgan Mincer |
| Video Operator | Tyler Olson |
| Deck Crew | Cassidy Granchelli |
| Light Hang Crew | Emily Augello, Caitlin D'Ambra, Cassidy Granchelli, Kayleigh Harrigan, Marty Love, Shyhiem Rodriguez |
| Costume Shop Assistants | Chloe Diebold, Tricia Lazatin, Emily Palmerchuck, Christian (CJ) Webster |
| Scene Shop Assistants | Juan Aguirre, Carissa Clarcq, Spencer Dick, Lars Stolpe, Christian (CJ) Webster |
| Publicity/Playbill Coordination | Derek Moran |
| Outreach | Catriona Goodsell |
| Social Media | Steven Braddock, Adriano Gatto, Audrey Grout, Morgan Hilliker |
| Graphic Design | Suzanne Karaszewski |

DRAMATURGY

Jason Robert Brown is a renowned composer, lyricist, and pianist. His most popular shows include *Parade*, *The Last Five Years*, *13*, and *The Bridges of Madison County*, and he is notorious for his advanced and unusual works requiring a good grasp of technique, rhythm and vocals.

Songs for a New World, which premiered in 1995, was Brown's first musical and song cycle (song cycles develop characters that exist separately between songs, becoming a way to assemble pieces connected, not by the same plot as in traditional musicals, but linked by the same theme, topic, or connected mood). He created the show by linking songs from previous projects with new compositions under a variety of genres, all centered around the theme of choices, the moment of making a decision and how this allows for a transition from an older way of doing things to a new way.

In one of those "life imitating art" moments, *Songs for a New World* has lent itself as a good show to be digitally reconstructed in the isolated zoom format that has become so prominent today. With an overall theme, rather than an overarching plot, the show can be reimagined in a variety of ways. With new technology and the artistic visions of the directors, Niagara University Theatre has added to this saga of distinctly visioned *Songs for a New World* productions. There is a melding of singers and dancers in this production to create stories, not just told through song but mirrored in intent and interpretation through the accompanying dance.

Rehearsals involved a mixture of isolated sound booths and socially distanced staging, using Soundjack technology. Soundjack allowed our performers to be in different locations while performing together without the delays usually experienced over Zoom. Our singers were able to rehearse beforehand in real time, leading to a better sound quality and connection between the instrumentalists and the singers. The singers then joined the dancers onstage to help bring together song and dance in the storytelling. This production lends itself to our current world and plays with the circumstances in its performance, reminding us how important it is to continually create and innovate.

Julia Hartloff, Class of '23

HOW HAS OUR WORLD CHANGED?

The following statistics demonstrate an increased reliance on technology for everyday living.

Compiled by **Julia Hartloff**

Shopping

Online retail and e-commerce have grown from 10% to 30%-40% (and growing) of overall business.

Consumers spent \$861.12 billion online with U.S. sellers in 2020, an increase of over 44% from 2019.

Total Retail Sales:
2019: \$3.78 trillion
2020: \$4.04 trillion
A 6.9% increase

Online Dating

U.S. Online Dating Users:
2019: 42.8 million
2020: 44.2 million

Global Dating App Users:
2019: 250 million
2020: 270 million

TikTok

The most downloaded app of 2020.
Average Daily Use: 45 mins
In 2020, nearly 1 in 5 global internet users used TikTok.

US Daily Active Users:
Nov. 2019: 40 million
Jul. 2020: 91 million

Global Daily Active Users:
Jan. 2020: 508 million
Jul. 2020: 689 million

US Downloads:
2019: 46 million
2020: 89 million

Global Downloads:
2019: 682 million
2020: 850 million

Zoom

Usage increased approx. 67% between Jan. 2020 and Mar. 2020.

Dec. 2019: ~ 10 million users
Mar. 2020: > 200 million users
Apr. 2020: > 300 million users

Daily Active Users:
Dec. 2019: ~ 10.7 million
Feb. 2020: 12.9 million

Daily Downloads:
Jan. 2020: 56,000
Feb. 2020: 1.7 million
Mar. 2020: 2.13 million

SOURCES

Curry, David. "Dating App Revenue and Usage Statistics (2021)." *Business of Apps*, 10 Mar. 2021, www.businessofapps.com/data/dating-app-market/.

Iqbal, Mansoor. "TikTok Revenue and Usage Statistics (2021)." *Business of Apps*, 31 Mar. 2021, www.businessofapps.com/data/tik-tok-statistics/.

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Riley, Charles. "Online Shopping Has Been Turbocharged by the Pandemic. There's No Going Back." *CNN, Cable News Network*, 13 Oct. 2020, www.cnn.com/2020/10/11/investing/stocks-week-ahead/index.html.

Tankovska, H. "Topic: Online Dating in the United States." *Statista*, 25 Feb. 2021, www.statista.com/topics/2158/online-dating/.

"US Ecommerce Grows 44.0% in 2020." *Digital Commerce 360*, 1 Mar. 2021, www.digitalcommerce360.com/article/us-ecommerce-sales/.

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

The Niagara University Players is a student theatre organization that has been in existence for over sixty years and organizes social activities (Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas party, Kris Kringle gift exchange, annual Players' Banquet and more), fundraisers and community service activities. The NU Players also present an all-student production once a year. Join us this year for our production of *Independence*. Any NU student is eligible for membership (contact: nuplayers@niagara.edu).

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY PLAYERS BOARD OF OFFICERS 2020-2021

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Co-Presidents | Michael Kelleher, Isabel Merkel |
| VP/Concessions | Ben Hayes |
| Secretary | Sydney McKinley |
| Treasurer | Julia Miskines |
| Co-Head Events & Diversity/ Inclusion | Nefantee Mayers |
| Co-Head Events | Reagan Zuber |
| Public Service | Marley Judd |
| Soireé/Banquet Head | Alyssa Garmone |
| Publicity | Morgan Hilliker |
| Apparel | Catrina Goodsell |

PLAYERS PRESENTS:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Artistic Director | Skylah Fields |
| Assistant Artistic Director | Tricia Lazatin |
| Technical Director | Spencer Dick |

NU Theatre invites you to return in the Fall for our 58th season.

For more information on our
upcoming shows, and to reserve
tickets, please visit our website:

<https://theatre.niagara.edu/>

or contact our box office:

Ph: (716) 286-8685

Email: boxoffice@niagara.edu

In 1986, a group of long-time theatre goers incorporated themselves as the Friends of Niagara University Theatre in order to raise awareness and develop support for the theatre department.

Now you too can join the Friends' efforts to help ensure the future of one of the oldest professional theatre training programs in the region, and help students both on and off stage.

For more information, please visit theatre.niagara.edu/support or call 716-286-8483.

Join Today to help us build for Tomorrow!