

Lyrical Opera THEATER

Presents:

GIUSEPPE VERDI RIGOLETTO

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

Sung in Italian with English supertitle projections

CAST:

Rigoletto: Daniel Tuutau
Duke of Mantua: Jesse Toftum
Gilda (Cast A): Kahli Dalbow (July 25 & 27)
Gilda (Cast B): Alyssa Liu (July 29 & August 1)
Maddalena: Melissa James
Sparafucile: Ricky Parkinson
Borsa: Levi Frakes
Marullo: Dan Tomlinson
Count Monterone: Nelson LeDuc
Count Ceprano: Joshua Jensen
Countess Ceprano: Heather Shelley
Giovanna: Sarah Seamons
Page & Herald: Deborah Siddoway
Ladies & Cavaliers: Sarah Seamons, Melissa James, Garrett Medlock,
Dan Birchett
Choreographer & Dancer: Carly Schaub
Dancers: Erin Kearns-Brown, Craig Mitchell
Stage Manager: Sydney Andrascik
Stage hands: Jason Leavitt, Katelyn Hales
Sound & Artistic: Lyrical Opera Products

PROGRAM ORDER: Act 1 then a 10 minute intermission,
Act 2 then a 10 minute intermission,
Act 3 then a 10 minute intermission,
Act 4 to the end.

July 25, 27, 29 & August 1, 2020
7:00 - 9:30pm

ICW Cultural Event Center
1775 S. 4130 W. #G
Salt Lake City, UT

www.LyricalOperaTheater.com

RIGOLETTO

Opera in four acts by Giuseppe Verdi

Synopsis (English):

The action takes place in Mantua, Italy around 1500.

Act 1, a room in the Duke's palace: Strolling among the courtiers, the Duke of Mantua boasts of his many amorous conquests. His hunchbacked jester, Rigoletto, suggests that his master win the beautiful Countess Ceprano by imprisoning her husband. Ceprano, vows in revenge to abduct a young girl whom he believes to be Rigoletto's mistress. When Count Monterone forces his way in to denounce the Duke for seducing his daughter, he is mocked by Rigoletto. As Monterone is led away, he curses the jester, who falls to the floor in horror.

Act 2, a village house: Brooding over the curse, Rigoletto hurries home where he has hidden his beloved daughter, Gilda. Before he reaches it, he is accosted by the assassin, Sparafucile, who offers his services, but Rigoletto dismisses him. He enters his house where he is greeted by Gilda. She begs him to tell her about her mother, who died long ago. Rigoletto does, adding that now Gilda is all he has left to love in the world. He summons her nurse, Giovanna, whom he warns not to admit anyone to the house. Rigoletto leaves. The Duke bribes Giovanna and slips into the garden. He surprises Gilda, declares his love for her and tells her he is a poor student named Gualtier Maldè. Footsteps are heard outside, so the Duke quickly leaves. Gilda dwells on his name before going to bed. Meanwhile, the courtiers have come to abduct Gilda. Rigoletto is unwittingly tricked into helping them. The courtiers break into his house and carry off Gilda. At the sound of his daughter's cry for help, the jester, rushes into his house and finds it empty.

Act 3, the Duke's palace: The Duke fears that Gilda has been robbed from him. The courtiers enter boasting that they abducted Rigoletto's mistress and brought her to his chamber. The delighted Duke rushes into his quarters. Soon Rigoletto enters searching for Gilda. He astonishes the courtiers by confessing she is his daughter, yet they bar his way as he attempts to get to her. He pleads for mercy. Gilda runs out and into the arms of her father who orders the courtiers to leave. She admits to her father that she'd often seen the Duke at church. Monterone is led in on his way to prison and lifts his curse from the Duke. Enraged, Rigoletto swears vengeance on the Duke while Gilda begs for the Duke's pardon.

Act 4, a tavern beside a country road on a stormy, dark night: Rigoletto and Gilda lurk outside a tavern to which Sparafucile with his sister Maddalena's help, has lured his victim. The jester forces Gilda to watch the disguised Duke seducing Maddalena. Rigoletto tells Gilda to go home, dress as a boy and then meet him in Verona. He pays Sparafucile to murder the Duke and departs. Gilda returns to overhear Maddalena urge her brother to spare the handsome stranger and kill Rigoletto instead. Sparafucile refuses, but finally agrees to substitute the next guest who comes to the tavern. Gilda decides to sacrifice herself to save the Duke, knocks on the door, is let in and is fatally stabbed. Rigoletto returns and collects what he thinks is the body of the Duke. As he is gloating over the sack, he hears the Duke's voice in the distance. He frantically opens the sack to find Gilda, barely alive. She begs for forgiveness then dies. Rigoletto cries that Monterone's curse has been fulfilled.

Sinopsis (Spanish):

Acto 1, un cuarto en el palacio del duque: Caminando entre cortesanos el Duque de Mantua, jactaba sobre sus conquistas del amor. Su bufón, el jorobado Rigoletto, sugiere que su maestro gane la afición de la bella Condesa Ceprano, al encarcelar a su esposo. Ceprano, jura su venganza al secuestrar la mujer que él piensa ser la amante de Rigoletto. El jorobado se burla del Conde Monterone cuando entra a la fuerza para denunciar al duque por haber seducido a su hija. El Conde Monterone, mientras que está en camino a la cárcel, pone una maldición a ambos el bufon y el duque. El jorobado se cae al piso, lleno de terror.

Acto 2, una casa en la villa: Rumeando sobre la maldición, Rigoletto se apura a llegar a casa en donde ha escondido a su querida hija, Gilda. Antes de que pueda llegar a casa se le acerca un asesino Sparafucile, ofreciendo sus servicios a

Rigoletto el cual los rechaza. Por fin llega a casa en donde es bienvenido por Gilda. Ella le ruega a su papa de que le cuente sobre su madre, la cual falleció hace mucho tiempo. Rigoletto le cuenta a su hija sobre su madre. Y le menciona a Gilda que ella es lo único que ama en este mundo. Rigoletto llama a su enfermera, Giovanna y le pide que no deje a nadie entrar a la casa. Rigoletto se va. El duque le da una coima a Giovanna y entra al jardín. Sorprendiendo a Gilda, el declara su amor por ella. Le cuenta a Gilda que él es un estudiante pobre y se llama Gualtier Maldè. El duque oye pasos afuera y aprovecha en irse mientras que puede. Gilda, pensando en el nombre del estudiante, se prepara para dormir. Mientras tanto los cortesanos han llegado para secuestrar a Gilda. Y manipulan a Rigoletto para que les de su ayuda en secuestra a su propia hija. Los cortesanos entran a la fuerza y se llevan a Gilda. Al escuchar los gritos de su hija, el bufón corre para su casa, pero la encuentra basia.

Acto 3, el palacio del Duque: El duque teme de que le han robado Gilda. Los Cortesanos jactan al haber secuestrado a la amante de Rigoletto y la llevan a la habitación del duque. Encantado con las noticias, el duque corre a su habitación. En búsqueda de Gilda, Rigoletto llega al palacio. Sorprendiendo a los cortesanos, el bufón confiesa que ella es su hija. Pero aun los cortesanos le niegan el paso al jorobado. Rigoletto ruega por misericordia. Gilda corre a los brazos de su padre, el cual ordena que los cortesanos se vayan. Gilda le admite a su padre, de haber visto al duque en la iglesia. Mientras que se llevan a Monterone a la cárcel, el levanta la maldición que le puso al duque. Enfurecido, el bufón jura en vengarse del duque. Mientras tanto su hija, Gilda ruega por el perdón del duque.

Acto 4, una noche tormentosa en una taberna: Rigoletto y Gilda andan afuera de la taberna, en donde Sparafucile y su hermana, Maddalena, han atraído a la víctima del bufón, el duque. El bufón hace que Gilda se dé cuenta que el duque quien esta disfrazado, está tratando de seducir a Maddalena. Rigoletto ordena a Gilda de ir a casa, que se vista como hombre, y de que ambos se encuentren en Verona. Contrata a Sparafucile para que asesine al duque y después Rigoletto se da marcha. Gilda vuelve y por casualidad escucha a Maddalena tratando de convencer a su hermano a que no asesine, en vez al bufón. Sparafucile rechaza los intentos de su hermana, pero al final se pone de acuerdo en asesinar al próximo huésped que llegue a la taberna. Gilda, vestida como hombre, decide en sacrificarse por el duque. Toca la puerta, es bienvenida y inmediatamente es apuñalada por el asesino. Rigoletto regresa para colectar, lo que él piensa ser el cuerpo del duque. Mientras que raja sobre el bolso que contiene el cuerpo, el oye la voz del duque en la distancia. Horrorizado, Rigoletto abre el bolsón para encontrar a Gilda, la cual apenas está viva. Con la poca vida que retiene Gilda pide el perdón de su padre y muere. Lleno de lágrimas y tristeza, Rigoletto sabe que la maldición de Monterone ha sido realizada.

CAST:



Rigoletto: Daniel Tuutau, baritone, is originally from Los Angeles, California. He holds BA & MM degrees in music from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Utah in Vocal Performance. He frequently sings with the Lyrical Opera Theater and is currently a regular member of the Utah Opera Chorus. He has worked as an adjunct professor in voice at the University of Utah in the Theater Department and also teaches private studio voice lessons throughout the Salt Lake Valley. He lives in Salt Lake City with his wife, Brandy, and their four children.





Duke of Mantua: Jesse Toftum, tenor, is a composer, vocalist, and plays several musical instruments. He started studying music theory on his own at 16. By midway through high school his band director was deferring to Jesse to answer other students. He studied music composition for four years at Snow College, where he learned his love for Opera. Jesse is now a Junior at the University of Utah studying Computer Science. This is Jesse's third consecutive season with Lyrical Opera where he got his start in Carmen in the role of Remendado. He is happy to be working again under the direction of Lynnette Owens and with this stellar cast.



Gilda (Cast A): Kahli Dalbow is a lyric coloratura soprano and native of Pittsburgh, PA. She made her operatic debut in the role of The First Spirit in the Pittsburgh Opera's production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at the age of 15. Ms. Dalbow received her BFA in Vocal Performance from Carnegie Mellon University, and her MM in Vocal Performance from the University of Utah. Most recently, she was seen as Flora in Lyrical Opera Theater's production of *La Traviata*. Some of her favorite performed roles include Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Gianetta in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, and The Vixen in *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Kahli loves helping others find their voice and enjoys teaching many voice students at her home studio in Draper.



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Gilda (Cast B): Alyssa Liu is an Asian-American coloratura soprano who has been lauded for her effortless agility and lively stage presence. A versatile performer, Ms. Liu has been seen in a variety of roles, including the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (Utah Vocal Arts Academy), the title role of Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and *Sœur Constance* in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites* (University of Utah). Alyssa will finish her Master of Music at the University of Utah in December 2019, where she studies with Dr. Carol Ann Allred. Next, it is Alyssa's great pleasure to perform with Lyrical Opera Theater as Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto*.



Maddalena (Cast A): Melissa James has a master's degree in vocal performance from BYU. Major roles include Fiordiligi from *Così fan tutte*, Alice from *Falstaff* and Maria in Utah Opera's production of *Man of La Mancha*. She is currently a member of the Utah Opera Chorus and sings weekly for the Christian Science church. She was recently featured as a voice teacher in *The Story Book Home Journal* published by Al Young Studios and will be singing the role of Maddalena in Lyrical Opera Theater's production of *Rigoletto*.





Sparafucile: Ricky Parkinson's eclectic musical endeavors have taken him from acappella groups (BYU Vocal Point, ICCA champions in 2006) to opera (Utah Opera Chorus) to early music (5 seasons with Utopia Early Music Ensemble) to musical theater. He has performed in musical theater productions at Pioneer Theater Company (Olin Britt in *The Music Man*), Hale Center Theater in Sandy (*Smudge in Forever Plaid*) and Orem (*Javert in Les Miserables*), and Centerpoint Legacy Theater (*Adam in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, and *Adam in Children of Eden*). He was most recently seen as *Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady*, and *Landlord in James and the Giant Peach*.



Cavalier: Levi Frakes, tenor, has music in his blood. His father and grandfather were guitarist and he followed in their pathway becoming a skilled musician. He became interested in opera when he began voice lessons with Lynnette Owens and sang in his first but not his last operatic production, *La Traviata*, with Lyrical Opera Theater. He is singing in the chorus for *Rigoletto* and covering the role of *Borsa*. For a profession, he is a metal worker, we're talking the actual heavy-metal kind.

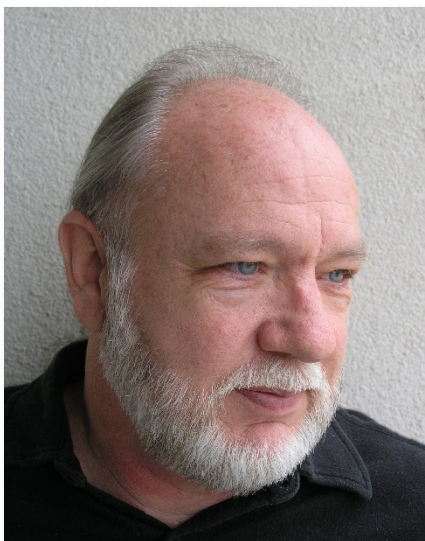


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Marullo: Daniel Tomlinson has performed in many musical theater productions over the years and is excited to be making his opera debut with Lyrical Theater Opera. He is a graduate of UVU with a bachelor's degree in Art and Visual Communications, with a minor in Music. He is currently back in school studying at the University of Utah pursuing a degree in Kinesiology. Just like his inability to stay away from continuing his education, he can't seem to stay away from the stage! Some of his past roles include; the Sergeant of Police in *Pirates of Penzance*, George Bailey in *A Wonderful Life*, and Motel the tailor in *Fiddler on the Roof*.



Monterone: Nelson LeDuc has never been a stranger to music. He played clarinet in elementary school, bass guitar in a rock band in the 1970s, and since 1988 has been a regular singer with Utah Opera Company, having now sung in 84 productions with that company. Besides singing a number of cameo roles with Utah Opera, Nelson has also been a featured soloist in the Mozart *Requiem*, *Messiah*, and with Utopia Early Music. He has sung roles in *The Mikado*, *Iolanthe*, *The Grand Duke*, and *Gianni Schicchi* as well as appearing in Lyrical Opera Theater's *Falstaff* and *La Traviata*. Nelson is currently pursuing a degree in music composition from the University of Utah.



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Count Ceprano: Joshua Jensen, bari-tenor, started singing at the age of 11, studying Italian Opera. When he was featured on Park City TV's morning show, the news team declared him the "8th wonder of the world." He sang the roles of the Imperial Commissario and Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly* and Sciarrone in *Tosca* with Lyrical Opera Theater. He has been a concert soloist in the Italian Festival, *Ferragosto* for ten years. He has sung for the Naturalization Oath Ceremony in Salt Lake City and sings frequently for military retirement ceremonies at Hill Air Force Base including for Colonel Christopher Kleinsmith, Master Sergeant Nicole Shinn and Master Sergeant Bernd Tripps. He appeared at the Hill Air Force Base assistance fund kickoff event with Miss Utah USA 2009 and with Miss Utah Teen USA 2009, the Community College of Air Force graduation and recently sang for the Mayor of West Valley City, Mike Windor.



Countess Ceprano: This is **Heather Shelley's** first experience working with the Lyrical Opera Theater. Her most recent opera performance was in UVU's *Die Feldermaus* where she played Rosalinde, but she can be seen most often performing in, or music directing, musical theater. Some of her favorite theater roles include Gwendolyn (*The Importance of Being Earnest*), Witch (*Into the Woods*), and April (*Company*). By day Heather works as a Realtor and an English teacher, and she is passionate about gardening, dancing, and DIY. Many thanks to Eric for his love and support.





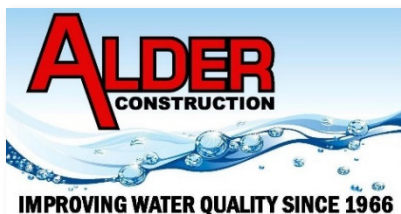
Sarah Seamons, Soprano, grew up in Ogden Utah and was part of High School and Community Theater. Sarah has also sung with the Mormon Youth Chorus and is currently taking voice lessons with Lynnette Owens. Sarah sang in the chorus of *Falstaff* and *La Traviata* with Lyrical Opera Theater and will sing the role of Giovanna in *Rigoletto*.



Page & Herald: Deborah Siddoway, soprano has worked collaboratively and individually on a variety of concerts. As a classically trained musician, her primary performance focus is Opera and Broadway. Her performances include Kate Pinkerton & Mama in *Madama Butterfly*, chorus in *Carmen*, *Falstaff*, *La Traviata* and *Tosca* with Lyrical Opera Theater. Her concert soloist performances include singing Puccini's "O mio babbino caro" and Rossini's "Duetto buffo di due gatti" with Lyrical Opera Theater soloing in the Matsumoto, Japan/Salt Lake City sister city Gala and Lyrical Opera Theater *Heart Song* concert. She has been featured in the Italian festival "Ferragosto" and West Valley City, Mayor Mike Winder's Gala concert and enjoys singing at local senior living centers.



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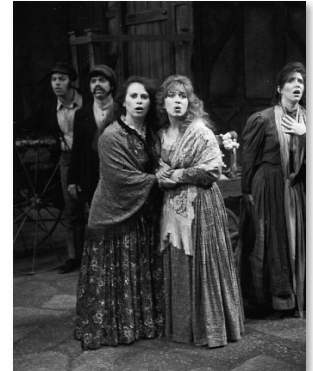
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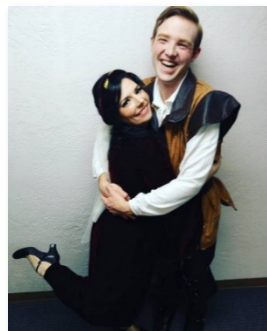
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Lady: Lynnette Owens, mezzo soprano, is much more involved in the “behind the scenes” production aspects of opera these days, collaborating with Lyrical Opera Theater to produce *Madama Butterfly*, *Tosca*, *La Bohème*, *Carmen*, *Falstaff*, *La Traviata* and now, *Rigoletto*. She loves nourishing our local Utah talent and providing a venue and means for them to grow and share their talent with their friends, family and our Utah community. She has a long history of performing experiences that prepared her for this new role like having been a concert soloist in Carnegie Hall and with distinguished orchestras such as the Utah Symphony. She has performed numerous leading operatic roles both nationally and internationally.



Borsa: Garrett Medlock is thrilled to be returning to Lyrical Opera Theater to sing Borsa in *Rigoletto*. Originally from central Illinois, Garrett studied vocal performance at Lawrence University before transferring to the University of Utah, where he received a Bachelor's degree in 2017. His favorite roles include Fenton and Dr. Caius in *Falstaff*, Nemorino in *L'elisir d'Amore*, Arbace in *Idomeneo*, and Don Ramiro in *La Cenerentola*. Garrett has performed with the Ohio Light Opera's for the past three summer seasons, and he appears regularly at the Capitol Theatre with the Utah Opera Chorus. In addition to his love of the stage, Garrett has a passion for choral singing and holds positions as a section leader in the Cathedral of the Madeleine Choir and as a member of the Utah Symphony Chorus.

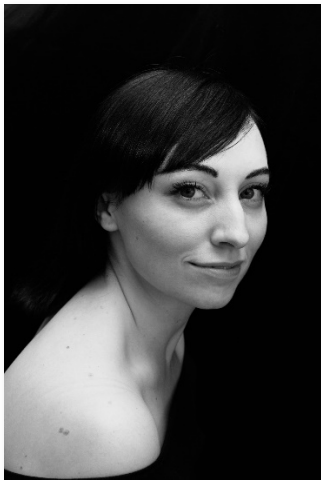
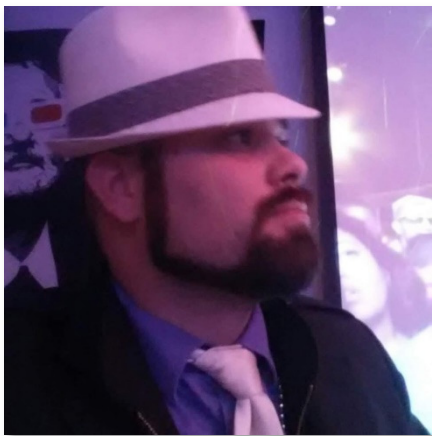


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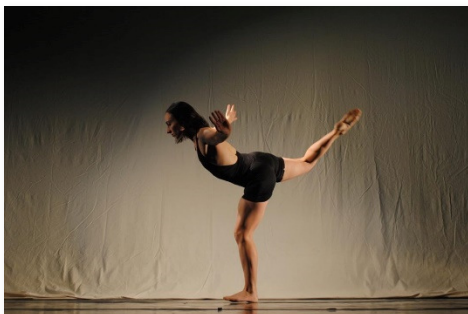




Cavalier: Dan Birchett. "Wolfman Dan" is a professional singer and entertainer in Utah. Dan teaches high school technical theatre and stagecraft at American Leadership Academy and owns and operates an A/V production company responsible for several award winning karaoke and DJ shows throughout the state. Dan has worked in Theatre for over 20 years (though he is usually backstage where he focuses on scenic design, construction, lighting and audio). While Dan has worked on dozens (if not hundreds) of musicals and stage productions, this is Dan's first foray into the world of Opera, and he couldn't be more excited for the opportunity!

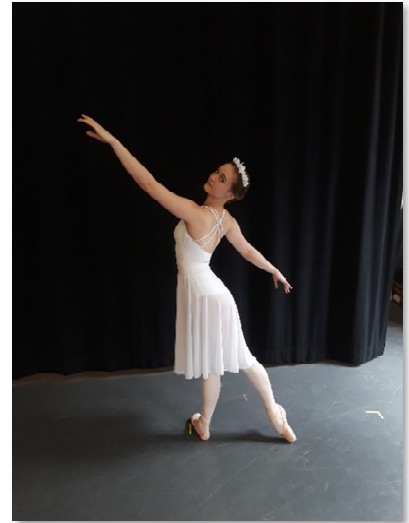


Choreographer/Dancer: Carly Schaub lives in SLC, where she also completed her M.F.A. at the University of Utah in Modern Dance. Before SLC, she lived in ND, dancing and serving as Outreach Coordinator for Northern Plains Dance. She also has a B.F.A. in Theatre/Dance from the University of Wyoming. Carly is an adjunct for Salt Lake Community College, and Westminster College, and teaches Modern and Ballet at Wasatch Arts Center. She teaches Dance for Parkinson's for U of U's Skagg's Wellness Center and RDT. She has choreographed for Deseret Experimental Opera, Snow College, and Cache Valley Civic Ballet, Northern Plains Dance and teaches Baroque and Renaissance dance. Carly directs Dance Balletti, an early Ballet reconstruction ensemble and she also dances with Municipal Ballet.

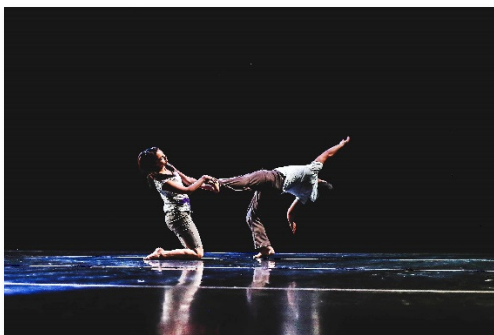




Dancer: Erin Kearns-Brown has been dancing since 2003 in CA, NY, and UT. She studied in Summer Intensives with American Ballet Theatre, The Joffrey Ballet (having trained with them for a year) and Ballet West (where she trained for 2 years). In addition to classical ballet in a variety of training styles, Erin has danced in modern/contemporary pieces, jazz, lyrical, tap, and character. She also performs “outside the box” in Hip-Hop, Bollywood and even Square-Dancing styles! She taught/choreographed for young students in the Ballet Russe style from 2014-2016. She is currently preparing for the LINK Audition Festival with Salt Contemporary Dance.



Dancer: Craig Mitchell, a Colorado Native, is a movement artist based out of Salt Lake City. He holds a BFA: Theatre and Dance from the University of Wyoming, with a concentration in Dance Performance and Choreography. The most fulfilling role that art plays in his life comes in the form of sharing dance with unlikely, undervalued communities and populations through the form of performance and outreach education. He has danced in prisons, Alzheimer care facilities, airplane museums, and under waterfalls, in Boys and Girls Clubs, at gas stations, and on an oil rig. His current mission is to grow that list.





Stage Manager: Sydney Andrascik is so excited to be the Stage Manager for this production! This will be her first show she had managed for, but she has worked on production teams in the past, working as a Production Assistant on *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and the Costume Designer for *Xanadu*, both done at Woods Cross High School. Sydney also enjoys performing, she has been seen on stage in *Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble), *Curtains* (Ensemble), and *Xanadu* (Urania, Andrews Sister, Hermes, Aphrodite). Sydney loves to go on adventures, playing E-sports, and learning new things. She is currently attending Utah Valley University where she is studying Deaf Studies and Costume Design.

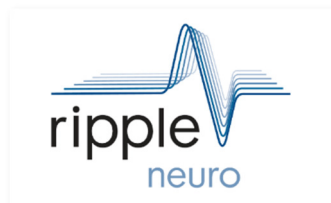


Stagehand: Jason Leavitt: I am looking forward to being behind the scenes again. I have managed and coordinated stage productions at a high school level, for several performances (*Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Wicked*, *Seussical*, and more). At Lone Peak High School I participated in an award winning production, and led several construction projects. I am currently working full time at a dealership and working my way into college. I enjoy being in the mountains, on the road, and under a car in the garage.



Stagehand: Katelyn Hales. I am excited to be working as a stagehand for the Lyrical Opera Theatre for the first time. I have recently graduated from Syracuse High School and have completed my first year at Brigham Young University. I have worked on many productions during my high school and college career including: *Little shop of Horrors*, *Pirate Queen*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Cinderella*, *Hairspray*, and more. I enjoy cross-stitching, painting, sewing, and the outdoors.

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With much love and appreciation to everyone involved in this extremely challenging production and to all our supporters, patrons, friends, families and loved ones for being there for us as we strive to express our souls through this old art form bringing our beauty into this world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynnette Owens", written in a cursive style.

Lynnette Owens