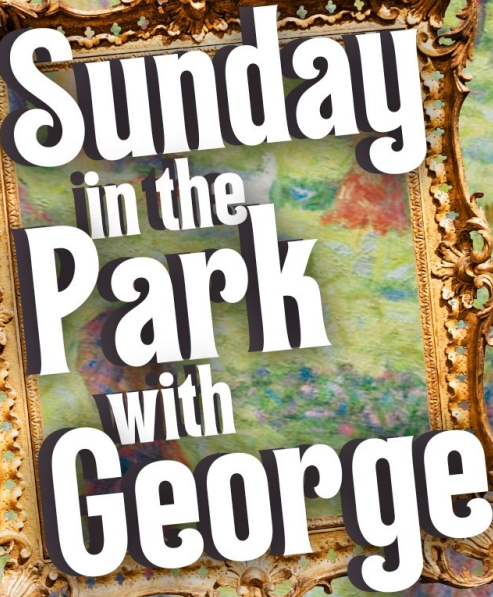


THE CARROLLWOOD CULTURAL CENTER
PRESENTS



Sunday
in the
Park
with
George

Book: JAMES LAPINE
Music & Lyrics: STEPHEN SONDHEIM



CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER

MARCH 15-24, 2024



for

MARY JO

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THE CARROLLWOOD CULTURAL CENTER

presents

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

Book by

Music & Lyrics by

JAMES LAPINE

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Originally Directed on Broadway by **JAMES LAPINE**

Orchestrations by **MICHAEL STAROBIN**

Originally Produced on Broadway

by The Shubert Organization and Emanuel Azenberg

by arrangement with Playwrights Horizon, Inc. New York City,

which produced the original production of

Sunday in The Park With George in 1983.



Inspired by the painting,

A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte

by Georges Seurat

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

Is presented through special arrangement with

Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING
OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

THE CAST

Georges/George	Marcus Blake
Dot/Marie	Lisa Prieto
Old Lady/Blair Daniels.....	Jill Ricardo
Nurse/Harriet Pawling	Erin Ruska
Jules/Bob Greenberg	Curtis Williams
Yvonne/Naomi Eisen	Katie Castonguay
Boatman/Charles Redmond.....	Neil Bleiweiss
Celeste #1/Waitress	Alexis Andriesse
Celeste #2/Elaine.....	Amanda LeFloch
Louise.....	Jayden Garner
Franz/Dennis.....	Joel Ferrer
Frieda/Betty.....	Kari Crowther
Soldier/Alex.....	Reagan Ricardo
Louis/Billy Webster.....	Craig Ruska
Mr./Lee Randolph	James Madden
Mrs./Gallery Attendee	Kelly Nowicki

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Paul Berg
Associate Music Director.....	Andi Zdrava
Associate Music Director.....	Michelle Kadonsky
Stage Manager	Tyler Temple
Assistance Stage Manager.....	Kirby Voltz
Tech & Lighting Director	Keith Eisenstadt
Sound Designer	Daniel Gentry
Costume Designer	Betty-Jane Parks
Costume Crew	Betty-Jane Parks, Katie Castonguay, Kari Crowther, Amanda LaFloch, Elliot LaFloch
Choreographer.....	Devan Bittinger
Set Design.....	Paul Berg & Keith Eisenstadt
Set Construction	Paul Berg, Emma Berg, Katie Castonguay, Juliette Crowther, Keith Eisenstadt, Adrienne Hutelmyer, James Porter
Projections	Betty-Jane Parks
Prop Design.....	Paul Berg
Audio Description.....	Mackley Fogarty
ASL Interpretation (March 22)	Tampa Bay Interpreted Performing Arts

MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

ACT I

<i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>	Dot
<i>No Life</i>	Jules, Yvonne
<i>Color and Light</i>	Dot, George
<i>Gossip</i>	Celeste #1, Celeste #2, Boatman, Nurse, Old Lady, Jules, Yvonne
<i>The Day Off</i>	George, Nurse, Franz, Frieda, Boatman, Soldier, Celeste #1, Celeste #2, Yvonne, Louise, Jules, Louis
<i>Everybody Loves Louis</i>	Dot
<i>Finishing the Hat</i>	George
<i>We Do Not Belong Together</i>	Dot, George
<i>Sunday</i>	Company

INTERMISSION

ACT II

<i>It's Hot Up Here</i>	Company
<i>Chromolume #7</i>	George, Marie
<i>Putting It Together</i>	George, Company
<i>Children and Art</i>	Marie
<i>Lesson #8</i>	George
<i>Move On</i>	George, Dot
<i>Sunday</i>	Company

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Welcome to Paris in the late 1880s!

Initially, I was supposed to direct a much different show from the one you will experience—one that takes place in 1st-century Judaea. However, performance rights to smaller theatres like ours can be revoked if that show is on tour or if the play will be revived on Broadway. That is what happened here—but everything happens for a reason.

I have truly loved working on *Sunday in the Park with George*. It is a musical that is not often produced, partly due to the difficulty of Sondheim's score. This cast and crew have been amazing to work with and create alongside. I am grateful for them and proud to have been able to spend time creating this world.

Life is made up of tiny moments that create a whole picture. I fell in love with George Seurat's painting, *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*, the first time I saw it at the Art Institute of Chicago. Growing up in northern Illinois, I was fortunate enough to go on field trips to the institute several times through grade school and high school. To stand in front of that art and be drawn into the world Seurat created is overwhelming.

For this production, I tried to pay homage to the artist and his masterpiece wherever and whenever possible—and I hope you enjoy the production.

Special thanks to the cast, Keith Eisenstadt and Daniel Gentry, for helping me take what was in my head and putting it on stage. Andi and Michelle, thank you for working through some of the most challenging music Sondheim has ever written. The staff of the Carrollwood Cultural Center for supporting my passion and keeping things moving under this beautiful big green roof of ours for the last six weeks. To Adrienne, Lily, and Emma, thank you for putting up with my schedule and obsession.

And finally, to Mary Jo. I saved you your seat in the booth.

Enjoy,
Paul



MARCUS BLAKE (Georges/George) is excited to be working with the Carrollwood Cultural Center once again. He has been seen previously at the Center as

Franklin Hart (*9 to 5: The Musical*), Joe Boyd (*Damn Yankees*), Claude Frollo (*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*) and Waiter/Man 3 (*First Date*). Other favorite roles include Marvin (*Falsettos*), Guiteau (*Assassins*), Nicky, Trekkie and Bad Idea Bear (*Avenue Q*), Don Quixote (*Man of La Mancha*), Molokov (*Chess*), Chairman (*Mystery of Edwin Drood*) and Sister Mary Amnesia (*Nunsense A-Men*). Marcus would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support. And a special thank you to his husband, George. "Thank you for filling my life with Color and Light. I love you!"



LISA PRIETO (Dot/Marie) has appeared at Carrollwood Cultural Center as Mrs Wormwood in *Matilda* and *It's a Wonderful Life* as Mary Bailey. Other favorite

performances in the Tampa Bay area include *Barnum* (Charity Barnum), *9 to 5: The Musical* (Doralee), and *Once at Eight O'Clock Theatre; Disenchanted!* (Snow White) and *Company* (Amy) at mad theatre; and *Into the Woods* (Cinderella) at Francis Wilson Playhouse. Love to Fernando! James 1:17.



JILL RICARDO (Lady/Blair Daniels) is a wife of 26 years and homeschooling mother of eight theater kids ages 22-3. A native Floridian and graduate of Florida Southern

College, she traveled in the *Up with People* program in 1993, performing with her cast in 24 U.S. states and eight European countries. Jill has been

seen at Carrollwood Cultural Center in *Titanic: The Musical* (Ida Strauss) and *Seussical*. Jill is the president of Arts in Motion Community Youth Theater Arts Education and the president and founder of the Uhuru Watoto Project, a grass-roots, non-profit that educates, feeds, and clothes girls in the Dodoma region of Tanzania. Jill is grateful to her husband and family for their support and to Paul Berg for this opportunity.



ERIN RUSKA (Nurse/Harriet Pawling) has appeared in many local Bay area theater productions and was last seen here at The Center as the Lady of the Lake in

Spamalot. Other favorite roles: Grandma Ida/Lauren in *First Date*; Kate McGowan in *Titanic: The Musical*; Judy Bernly in *9 to 5: The Musical*; Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*; Sr. Robert Anne in *Nunsense*; Catherine in *Pippin*. Much love and thanks to everyone involved with this production, her family, friends, husband Craig and their holy terrier Cooper.



CURTIS WILLIAMS (Jules/Bob Greenberg) a born-and-bred New Yorker, has a passion for the stage that was ignited at an early age.

From his memorable turn as Nanki-Poo in *Hot Mikado!* to the compelling portrayal of Thomas Andrews in *Titanic: The Musical*, Curtis has captivated audiences with his versatile talents. With a background in opera from his college years, he brings depth and resonance to the role of Jules in *Sunday in the Park with George*. Grateful for the unwavering support of family and friends, Curtis takes the stage with humility and dedication, ready to share his love for the craft with all who join him under the spotlight.



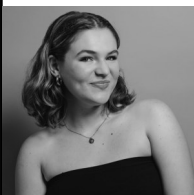
KATIE CASTONGUAY (Yvonne/Naomi) is thrilled to be back on stage! By day she is the Education Director for the Carrollwood Cultural Center, by night she is an

actor, performer and avid movie watcher. She has taught and worked with students of all ages and abilities in the Tampa Bay area for over 15 years with American Stage, Patel Conservatory, PARC, and the Carrollwood Cultural Center. She has performed with American Stage, StageWorks, Jobsite, Hatrick, and the Carrollwood Cultural Center over the last 15 years in the bay area. Much Gratitude to the Center, friends, mom, dad, and family and much love to the Quad Squad!



NEIL BLEIWEISS (Boatman/Charles Redmond) is so excited to be back on the Center's stage! Neil is no stranger to the Tampa theatre scene, having recently been

in New Tampa Players' *Shrek* (Papa Ogre/Papa Bear), with mad Theatre in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (George) and *The Prom* (Principal Hawkins, regional premiere), and other credits including *Into The Woods* (Baker, Not Your Normal Entertainment), *Hot Mikado* (Ko-Ko, Carrollwood Cultural Center), *Ragtime* (Houdini, Plant City Entertainment), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Jehan/Main Congregant, Carrollwood Cultural Center), and more. Art isn't easy, so thank you for continuing to support the arts, and enjoy the show!



ALEXIS ANDRIESSE (Celeste #1/Waitress) is so excited to be making her Carrollwood Cultural Center debut in such an amazing production. She currently studies

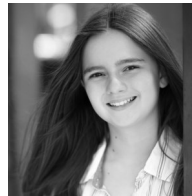
theatre and education at the Universi-

ty of South Florida. She has been seen on stage in *The Wedding Singer* (Julia) and *Sweeney Todd* (Beggar Woman). She's also worked backstage in *Willy Wonka Jr* (Assistant Music Teacher) and *Footloose* (Music Director). Alexis would like to thank Paul for giving the whole cast an amazing opportunity to do this show. Thank you all for coming and enjoy!!



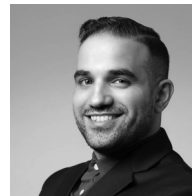
AMANDA LEFLOCH (Celeste #2/Elaine) is honored to join the cast of *Sunday in the Park with George!* She has taught music and performing arts from

primary to collegiate levels and enjoys making music with her husband, Evan. She sings with the Carrollwood Community Chorus and loves supporting the arts in the Tampa Bay area. A special thank you to Evan and Janet for supporting the homefront during this production!



JAYDEN GARNER (Louise/Photographer) is thrilled to be back at the Center where she played young Louise in *Gypsy* and Matilda in *Roald Dahl's Matilda*. Other favorite

roles: *Fun Home* at Carrollwood Players (Young Alison), *White Christmas* at Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theatre (Susan), *Broadway Showstoppers* at Straz. Jayden is a proud Alumni of Broadway Artist Alliance in New York City. Thank you Paul Berg for this wonderful opportunity.



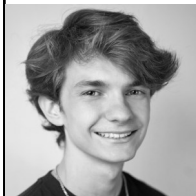
JOEL FERRER (Franz/Dennis) is thrilled to return to the Carrollwood Cultural Center stage for such a beautiful production. He is truly honored to be part of such an

immensely talented cast. Joel would like to thank his mother and grandmother for always being his biggest supporters.



KARI CROWTHER (Frieda/Betty) is joyfully returning to performing after a triumphant 12 year hiatus, infusing each performance with a patchwork of life experiences and creative energy. Offstage I

am a devoted mother and spouse, an Etsy artisan of costumes and equine memorials, an urban farmer, and a Licensed Massage Therapist.



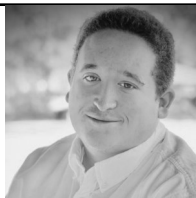
REAGAN RICARDO (Soldier/Alex) is an 11th grade homeschooled and is dual-enrolled at PHSC. He performs at Arts in Motion and has been seen in 19 productions

including *White Christmas* (Phil Davis), *Matilda the Musical* (Bruce Escapologist); *James & the Giant Peach* (Ladahlord); *The Laramie Project* (Aaron McKinney & Others); *Newsies* (Finch); and *Willy Wonka* (Charlie) Reagan played the title role in *Oliver!* and roles in *Titanic: The Musical*, both here at Carrollwood Cultural Center. He is an altar boy at Saint Leo Abbey and enjoys cooking and traveling--he loves Tanzania and Istanbul, Turkey. He takes voice with Elizabeth Post, acting with Capria Pichette, piano with Jason Joseph and dance at Blackwood Studios. He is passionate about sports especially the Tampa Bay Lightning, Buccaneers, and Rays. Reagan co-owns a small business, 811 Apparel, and enjoys being an entrepreneur.



CRAIG RUSKA (Louis/Billy Webster) recently played Patsy in the Center's *Spamalot* production last summer. Previous Bay area roles include Billy in *Chicago*, El

Gallo in *The Fantasticks*, Sid in *Pajama Game*, and Ismay in *Titanic: The Musical*. Huge thanks to the amazing cast, crew, and his leading lady Erin. This performance is dedicated to Mary Jo Hahn. The music you played lives on in our hearts.



JAMES MADDEN (Mr./Lee Randolph) started his acting journey in high school and has loved theater since. He's been in quite a few shows here at the

Center. Some include *Singin' in the Rain*, *Seussical*, and *Titanic: The Musical*. He'd like to thank Paul Berg for this opportunity. He'd also like to dedicate his performances to our beloved Mary Jo Hahn, may she Rest In Peace!



KELLY NOWICKI (Mrs./Gallery Attendee) is thrilled to be performing in her favorite musical. Previously, she has been seen as Rowena in *Once Upon a Mattress*

(CWP), Chorus Girl in *Singin' in the Rain* (Carrollwood Cultural Center), Miss Hannigan in *Annie* (NTP), and Elle's Mom/Judge in *Legally Blonde* (NTP). During the day she works as an American Sign Language Interpreter. When she doesn't have rehearsal, her free time is spent knitting and reading. Thanks to John and her parents for all of their love and support!

PAUL BERG (director) became interested in theatre during grade school (thanks Mr. Lane), eventually earning a degree in Acting and Directing from Illinois State University. Paul's directorial accomplishments include: *Titanic: The Musical*, *Twilight of the Golds*, *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, *A Boy's Life*, assistant directing *The Laramie Project*, *Pride and Prejudice* and *Angels in America* and co-directing *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. He has worked professionally as an actor in theatre, radio, television and film in Chicago. Film work includes: *ER*, *Chicago Hope*, *Early Edition*, *A Thousand Acres*, *Natural Born Killers* and *Chain Reaction*. Some of his favorite roles on stage have been: *True West* (Lee), *It's a Wonderful Life* (George), *Nightfall* (Poe), *The Foreigner* (Charlie), *Barefoot in the Park* (Paul), *Ordinary People* (Conrad). Paul is the executive director of the Carrollwood

Cultural Center. Hugs and kisses to Adrienne, Lily and Emma.

ANDI ZDRAVA (Music Director) is an Albanian native and has enjoyed a music career as a concert pianist around the world. He is currently the Music Director of the Illyrian Symphony Orchestra and teaches music at Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School. A conductor and Pianist Andi Zdrava began his piano studies at the Onufri School of Music, Albania. By the age of twelve, he moved to Athens, Greece, where he earned his Piano Diploma at the Glyfada Music Conservatory. He held teaching positions in piano and collaborative piano at Glyfada and the National Conservatory of Greece. Later, he earned his Bachelor degree in Music Composition from the University of Indianapolis. Maestro Zdrava completed his Masters degrees in Orchestral Conducting and Piano Performance at the University of South Florida, where he held the position of Graduate Assistant in both piano and orchestral conducting. Maestro Zdrava is a member of the Mirage Piano Trio, and Z Square Piano Duo, and previously served as Music Director Epiphany Cathedral in Venice.

MICHELLE KADONSKY (Music Director) has enjoyed time both on and off stage. Recent local credits include *Young Frankenstein* (CWP, Music Director), *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play* and *First Date* (Carrollwood Cultural Center, Music Director), *Titanic: The Musical* (Co-Music Director). On-screen credits include *Amazing Arts Challenge, Season 1* (NTP). Thanks to Paul, Andi, the Center and this amazing cast and crew for this opportunity.

TYLER TEMPLE (Stage Manager) A Tampa Bay native, Tyler received his BA in Theatre with a concentration in Theatre Arts from USF. His stage management journey began in 2015 working on a production of *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza and he never looked back. Selected stage management credits include: *Gypsy, Matilda, Titanic, Seussical* (The Center); *Green Day's American Idiot* (American Stage); *Tick, Tick... BOOM!* (SLT); *A Doll's House* (Carrollwood Players).

He gives many thanks to his mom and friends for their continuous love and support and to Paul Berg for this opportunity.

JAMES LAPINE is a playwright and director. On Broadway he has worked with Stephen Sondheim on *Sunday in the Park with George*; *Into the Woods*; and *Passion*. He also conceived and directed the musical review *Sondheim on Sondheim*. With William Finn he created *Falsettos* recently revived by Lincoln Center Theater; *Little Miss Sunshine*; *Muscle*; and directed Finn's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Other Broadway credits include his play based on Moss Hart's memoir *Act One* (also LCT), *Amour*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Golden Child*, and *Dirty Blonde*. He has written the plays *Table Settings*, *Twelve Dreams*, *The Moment When*, *Fran's Bed* and *Mrs. Miller Does Her Thing*. Lapine has been nominated for eleven Tony Awards, winning on three occasions. He has also been the recipient of the Pulitzer Prize, SDC's Mr. Abbott Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theater, and inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame.

STEPHEN SONDHEIM wrote the music and lyrics for *Saturday Night*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Anyone Can Whistle*, *Company*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Frogs*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Into the Woods*, *Assassins*, *Passion* and *Road Show* as well as lyrics for *West Side Story*, *Gypsy* and *Do I Hear a Waltz?* and additional lyrics for *Candide*. Anthologies of his work include *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *Marry Me a Little*, *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow*, *Putting it Together* and *Sondheim on Sondheim*. He composed the scores of the films *Stavisky* and *Reds* and songs for *Dick Tracy* and the television production *Evening Primrose*. His collected lyrics with attendant essays have been published in two volumes: *Finishing the Hat* and *Look, I Made A Hat*. In 2010 Broadway's Henry Miller's Theatre was renamed The Stephen Sondheim Theatre in his honour; in 2019, London's Queens Theatre was also renamed the Sondheim.

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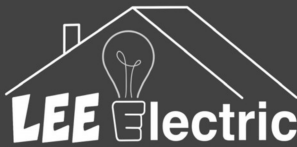
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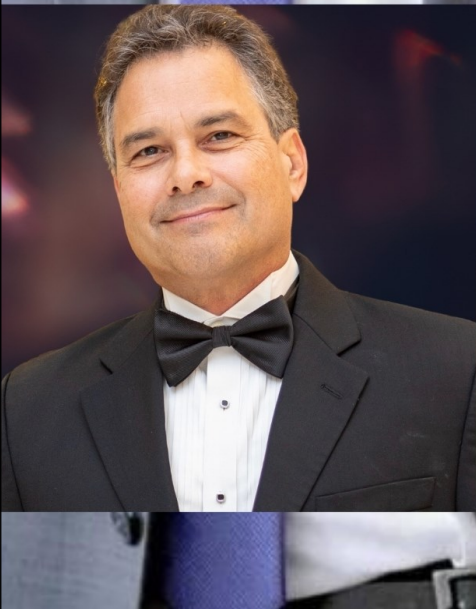
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7 P.M.



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