

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S
MUSIC AND THEATRE & DANCE
DEPARTMENTS PRESENT

ASTRONOMER DREAMING

concept by Jason Hiester
edits by LD Martin and Jennifer Whitehead

Directors

Jason Hiester and Jennifer Whitehead

Scene and Film Design

Josh Martin

Technical Direction and Light Design

Chad Knutson

Music Composition and Arranging

Lauren Spavelko and Rebecca Larkin

Choreography

Rashana Perks Smith with

Dancers Ellie Bearss and Anne Raspe

Artwork

Jeff Nilan with Photography Students

Carl DeScott, Maggie Myers, Mukami

Mboche, and Isaiah Harris,

with additional contributors

Kayla Rondinelli and Mary Kate McElroy

Costumes

Jaylene Marie Jennings

Stage Manager

Addie Wills

CAST (in order of appearance)

Mary (film)	Lyla Opitz
Mother (film)	Michelle Opitz
Mary	Bella Hintzman
Galileo	Hunter Coon
Mother	Dyna Bresson
Father	Austin Wood

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Karley Ackert	Anneliese Ingraham
Noah Green	Rachel Madore
Isa Johnson	Daniel Smith

READERS

Fiona Hansen
Margaret Welsh

CHORAL ART ENSEMBLE

Karley Ackert	Miah Katalenas	Gretchen Rutz*
Hannah Carpenter	Jacob Kenerson	John Schlabach*
Amanda Ciccone	Andrew LeVan*	Daniel Smith
Carlos Coello Escoto	Rachel Madore	Lauren Spavelko*
Hunter Coon	Greta Nelson	Jasmine Spitzer
Madison Deckop	Tiyinoluwa Olushola-Alao	Abby Stepp
Daniel Eilert	Logan Page	Tom Stevenson*
Noah Green	Rachel Parfenchuk*	Regan Tackett*
Nina Greer	Abby Parker	Princeton Vaughn
Jacob Heacock*	Grace Patrick	Noelle Weaver
Hayden Houpt	Alex Pope	Wyatt Wells
Anneliese Ingraham		Austin Wood

** indicates a community member guest performer*

DANCERS

Ellie Bearss

Bella Hintzman

Alex Dolph

Anne Raspe

Ali Dix

Kayla Rush

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Taryn Barnes, Flute

Anita Chiu†, Violin 2

Kathryn Lawson, Oboe

Devin Copfert†, Violin 2

Max Goulakos, Percussion

Nora Dukart†, Violin 2

Deborah O'Brient†, Percussion

Nancy Nehring†, Viola

Jana Rosst†, Violin 1

Gary Wasserman, Bass

Jane Van Voorhis, Cello

Youmee Kim, Rehearsal Pianist and Accompanist

Chien Hui Wong†, Rehearsal Pianist and Accompanist

†indicates a professional guest musician

PRODUCTION CREW

Assistant Stage Managers

Ella Florkey

Millie Rocco

Sound Technician

RJ Barnhart

Lighting Crew

Aaron Eichner

Fiona Hansen

Paige Hashman

Peytan Jenkins

Leeajah Lewis

Sam Merino

Daniel Smith

Addie Wills

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This past December (2020), as we approached the peak of COVID-19 infections, I found myself in bed for twelve days with a really bad case. While recovering, I came up with the concept for *Astronomer Dreaming*, where I planned and wrote the core elements of the piece. I wanted to design a piece that would combine and highlight the arts at Ohio Wesleyan in a collaborative performance incorporating visual arts, dance, acting, and solo and choral singing with orchestral accompaniment. I also wanted to find a way to create a transcendent theatrical experience. One where moments in time slow down and we are fully present, not simply entertained but moved. My hope is that through all the dark days this last year we can still find beauty, wonder and mystery in the world that surrounds us. I wish to sincerely thank all the artists, students, professors, and staff who have participated on the project; without their imagination and talent we could have never completed the work.

- Jason Hiester

Trigger Warning: *Astronomer Dreaming* has a brief allusion to domestic violence at the beginning of the show.

ASTRONOMER DREAMING

Scene I

Mary's Dream

by Lauren Spavelko and Rebecca Larkin

soloist: Nina Greer

Scene II

Dark Night of the Soul

by Ola Gjeilo

soloist: Jasmine Spitzer

Scene III

Lost in the Stars

from *Lost in the Stars*

by Kurt Weill

soloist: Austin Wood

The Sun Never Says

music by Dan Forrest

soloist: Miah Katalenas

Even

After

All this time

The sun never says

To the Earth

"You owe me."

Look

What happens

With a love like that.

It lights the

Whole

Sky.

- Shams-ud-din Muhammad Hafiz -

Sure on this Shining Night

by Samuel Barber

soloist: Anneliese Ingraham

Earth Song

by Frank Ticheli

Sing, be, live, see

This dark stormy hour

The wind, it stirs

The scorched earth cries out in vain

Oh war and power, you blind and blur

The torn heart cries out in pain

But music and singing have been my refuge

And music and singing shall be my light

A light of song, shining strong

Hallelujah, hallelujah

Through darkness and pain and strife

I'll sing, I'll be, live, see

Peace

Scene IV

Lux Aeterna

by Steve Dobrogosz

soloist: Jasmine Spitzer

Lux aeterna luceat eis,

May eternal light shine on them

Domine,

Lord

Cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,

With your saints for ever

Quia pius es.

For you are good

Requiem aeternam dona eis,

Give them eternal rest,

Domine,

Lord,

Et lux perpetua luceat eis.

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Nuit d'étoiles

by Claude Debussy

soloist: Rachel Madore

Nuit d'étoiles,	Night of stars,
Sous tes voiles,	Beneath your veils,
Sous ta brise et tes parfums,	Beneath your breeze and your fragrances,
Triste lyre	Sad lyre
Qui soupire,	That sighs,
Je rêve aux amours défunts.	I dream of gone loves.

La sereine mélancolie	Serene melancholy
Vient éclore au fond de mon cœur,	Now blooms deep in my heart,
Et j'entends l'âme de m'amie	And I hear the soul of my love
Tressaillir dans le bois rêveur.	Quiver in the dreaming woods.

Je revois à notre fontaine	Once more at our fountain I see
Tes regards bleus comme les cieux;	Your eyes as blue as the heavens;
Cette rose, c'est ton haleine,	This rose is your breath,
Et ces étoiles sont tes yeux.	And these stars are your eyes.

Luminous Night of the Soul

by Ola Gjeilo

soloists: Hannah Carpenter and Noelle Weaver

Scene V

In Whatever Time We Have

from *Children of Eden*

by Stephen Schwartz

soloists: Anneliese Ingraham and Austin Wood

You Will be Found

from *Dear Evan Hansen*

by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

soloists (in order of appearance): Noah Green, Rachel Madore, Austin Wood, and Anneliese Ingraham

Spark of Creation

from *Children of Eden*

by Stephanie Mills and Stephen Schwartz

soloist: Isa Johnson

Scene VI

Mary's Dream Reprise

by Lauren Spavelko and Rebecca Larkin

soloist: Nina Greer

THE END

CAST/CREW BIOS

*indicates an adult from the community

Karley Ackert (Ensemble, Choir) is a freshman Special Education and Psychology double major from Danville, Ohio. She is currently participating in Ohio Wesleyan's Chamber Choir, along with Choral Art Society. She is also a member of the on-campus a cappella group, Pitch Black. She was a part of Musical Theatre Scenes last semester where she played Baker's Wife in a few pieces from *Into the Woods*. She will be acting this spring in "One Acts" and could not be more excited to get further into acting at Ohio Wesleyan. This will be Karley's first time performing in front of a live audience at OWU and she hopes that you enjoy the show!

Taryn Barnes (Flute) is a senior majoring in Music and Marketing and graduating in May! She is so excited to be able to be a part of bringing *Astronomer Dreaming* to life! She hopes you all enjoy the show.

Ellie Bearss (Dancer) is a junior Politics & Government and Dance double major with a minor in Women & Gender studies, from Franklin, TN. She has been dancing for 16 years and has enjoyed participating in OWU's Orchesis and the dance club, Terpsicorps, since her freshman year. She is excited to share this collaboration with everyone and hopes you enjoy the show!

Dyna Bresson (Mother, Ensemble) is a freshman from Columbus, OH and she is majoring in Theatre. She has participated in a few shows at Ohio Wesleyan including "Inter/Sec", "Scenes!", *Twelfth Night, 2020*, and helped out in senior projects. Some of her notable roles include *Grease* (Rizzo), *A Chorus Line* (Val), *Hairspray* (Tracy), and a few world premiers! Dyna would like to thank everyone involved for putting together this amazing experience! Dyna would also like to thank her friends and family for continuing to support her. She cannot wait to continue to do more theatre at OWU and hopes you enjoy the show!

Hannah Carpenter (Choir) is a senior Middle Childhood Education major and Psychology minor from Piqua, OH. She performed in "Scenes!" during her first year, and has been a member of both Choral Art society and Chamber Choir for all four years at Ohio Wesleyan. She is excited to be part of this massive collaboration of creative work for her final performance at OWU.

Anita Chiu† (Violin 2) is a violinist and pianist who is currently pursuing a DMA degree at the Ohio State University. She also holds two master's degrees from Bowling Green State University majoring in violin performance and collaborative piano. Anita is a regular member of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and Lima Symphony Orchestra, where she serves as the assistant concertmaster.

Amanda Ciccone (Choir) is a sophomore Health and Human Kinetics: Exercise Science major with a minor in Music Performance, from Lawrence, New Jersey. She has been in Choral Art Society since her first semester here at Ohio Wesleyan. She was in *The Secret Garden* (Dreamer) last spring. She would like to thank her family and friends and hopes you enjoy the show.

Carlos Coello Escoto (Choir) is a freshman Music Composition and Economics double major at Ohio Wesleyan. He is very thankful to have the opportunity to perform during such uncertain times. He is looking forward to continuing to make long lasting memories with the Ohio Wesleyan Performing Arts department. A special thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this possible. He thanks you all for coming and hopes that you enjoy it!

Hunter Coon (Galileo, Choir) is a junior Microbiology and Music major from Vinton, Ohio. He has participated in Ohio Wesleyan's production of *The Secret Garden* as well as Choral Art Society, Chamber Choir, and Opera Scenes throughout his past three years. He would like to thank you for attending and he hopes you enjoy the show.

Devin Copher† (Violin 2) is a performer, recording musician, registered Suzuki teacher, and arts entrepreneur based in Columbus, OH. She currently serves as Concertmaster of the McConnell Arts Center Chamber Orchestra, as Assistant Concertmaster of the Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra, and as violinist for Columbus' Janus String Quartet. She is the Co-Founder, Director, and Violinist of Chamber Brews, a chamber music ensemble committed to breaking down the barriers within classical music.

Madison Deckop (Choir) is a sophomore here at Ohio Wesleyan and is a Music and Journalism double major with a minor in Business. She has been in Chamber Choir and Choral Art Society here since her freshman year in 2019. She loves to sing and is so grateful to be a part of such an incredible program. She has been a part of so many choirs and ensembles in the past and wants to someday put on her own show. She would like to thank all the people who have put so much time and effort into making this dream possible, and who have worked so hard to make it possible to perform, and hopes everyone enjoys the show!

Carl DeScott (artwork contributor) is a Geography major and a Politics & Government and Theatre double minor, hailing from South Euclid, Ohio. He hopes you enjoy all aspects of the show, from the singing, to the dancing, to the visuals (especially the visuals, he helped with that part).

Ali Dix (Dancer) is a freshman Dance major from Marion, Ohio. Her first experience at Ohio Wesleyan was in "Orchesis 20/21" as a dancer. She is excited to perform on stage and would like to thank everyone who helped put this show together. Ali would like to say best of luck to the cast and she hopes you all enjoy the show!

Alex Dolph (Dancer) is a sophomore Theatre, Dance, and Psychology triple major from Middletown, OH. She has previously been seen in *Twelfth Night, 2020* (Viola), "Woyzeck, INC." (The Doctor), "Time to Feast" (Gray), "Orchesis 20/21" (choreographer, dancer), *Eurydice* (Loud Stone), *The Secret Garden* (Assistant Stage Manager), "Orchesis 19/20" (dancer), and "One Acts 2020" (James, "Campfire" and Dewey, "Meat Cute"). She hopes you enjoy the show!

Nora Dukart† (Violin 2) is currently a student at Ohio State University pursuing a dual degree in music and business, studying violin and accounting, respectively. She will graduate in December 2021 and plans to stay in the Columbus area. Nora enjoys playing with and meeting musicians from all over the central Ohio region, and looks forward to making more music in the coming years.

Daniel Eilert (Choir) is a sophomore Astrophysics and Philosophy double major and has been a part of Choral Art Society both of his years at Ohio Wesleyan as a part of his Music minor. Although it has been difficult at times to work around all of the safety restrictions in place for COVID-19, he is grateful that such an involved performance has been able to come to fruition. He'd like to give a big thanks to Dr. Hiester for persevering with his vision despite the uncertainty, as well as to everyone else who has been a part of bringing this show to life!

Aaron Eichner (Lighting Crew) is a junior Theatre Education major. This is his first time on a lights crew. Thank you for witnessing this once-in-a-lifetime event.

Ella Florkey (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman and is undecided on their major. This is their first show with the Ohio Wesleyan Theatre Department and they are looking forward to the shows that they will work on in the future. They have loved working with everyone on *Astronomer Dreaming* and hope you enjoy the show.

Maximos Goulakos (Percussion) is a 2nd year Mathematics major from Solon, OH. Max has played percussion for the wind ensemble at Ohio Wesleyan for all four of his semesters so far, and he has played drum set and guitar in the jazz band in the past. This is his first experience in a theatre setting, and he is excited to see the show and be a part of the production.

Noah Green (Ensemble, Choir) is a senior BM Music Composition major from Granville, OH. He has previously written incidental music for *Twelfth Night 2020*, "Inter/Sect," *Eurydice*, "Orchesis 2019/20," "A Mother's Love," and *Cloud 9*. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Nina Greer (Choir) is a junior English Education major from Westerville, OH. She's been in Choral Art Society and Chamber Choir for her duration at Ohio Wesleyan. She's so happy that she's been given the opportunity to perform in some way (especially in the middle of a pandemic) and is so glad that Dr. Hiester has let us be a part of this with him. She would like to thank everyone who helped make this happen.

Fiona Hansen (Recitation - *Earth Song*, Lighting Crew) is a junior Theatre and English double major with an intended minor in Dance. She has recently directed *Medusa's Tale* and performed in *Twelfth Night, 2020* (Toby Belch). She'd like to thank everyone involved in this show for their hard work and would like to shout out her dad, who is her biggest supporter. She hopes everyone stays safe and breaks a leg on their journey to the stars!

Paige Hashman (Lighting Crew) is a senior Fine Arts major focusing in sculpture. This is Paige's first time on lights crew and Paige has enjoyed every minute of learning about what goes into the shows behind the scenes.

Isaiah Harris (artwork contributor) is a senior BFA Studio Art major with concentrations in photography and graphic design. He has no performance or choir experience but has instead, contributed to this performance with artwork and artistic insight. He is thankful to be a part of this performance and is very excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the various departments.

Jacob Heacock* (Choir), bass-baritone, will be a graduate of the Ohio State University with a degree in Vocal Performance. During his time at OSU Jacob was able to perform a variety of roles including Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Sam in Act II of Bernstein's *A Quiet Place*, as well as several other smaller-scale productions. Recently, he was a young artist at Bayview Music Festival performing Papageno in *The Magic Flute*, and Baby John in *West Side Story*. As a lover of Schubert, last year he performed his first *Winterreise*. Next year, he will be continuing his studies in Baltimore at the Peabody Institute.

Bella Hintzman (Mary) is a Theatre and History double major with a minor in Politics & Government. Recent shenanigans include but are not limited to stage managing *Twelfth Night, 2020* and "Time To Feast," acting in "Woyzeck, Inc.," and performing in last fall's Musical Theatre Scenes. She thanks you sincerely for taking the time to support theatre (especially during a pandemic), and hopes you enjoy the show.

Hayden Houpt (Choir) is a sophomore Music Education major from Marion, Ohio. This is his second semester in Choral Art Society, although his first performance with the group. He is involved in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Sanborn Sound, JayWalkers a cappella and several other groups around campus. He is excited to see this show come together!

Chien Hui Wong† (Rehearsal Pianist and Accompanist) is a native Taiwanese and received her Doctorate of Musical Arts in piano performance at the Ohio State University. She is currently an accompanist for the Ohio Wesleyan Choral Art Society, and pianist at Indian Run United Methodist Church in Dublin, OH.

Anneliese Ingraham (Ensemble, Choir) is a freshman Music (Vocal Performance), French, and self-designed Law & Justice triple major from Oak Park, MI. Anneliese has been in Choral Art Society and Opera Workshop for both of her semesters so far at Ohio Wesleyan. She knows how hard all of the disciplines have been working, and is excited to see everything come together. Anneliese would like to give a big thank you to Dr. Hiester and Dr. Whitehead for leading the group in this tremendous endeavor, and she hopes that you enjoy the show!

Peytan Jenkins (Lighting Crew) is a freshman Computer Science major at Ohio Wesleyan. This is her first show with the Theatre Department. She has loved working on it and hopes everyone has a great time with the show.

Isa Johnson (Ensemble) is a junior here at Ohio Wesleyan University as a Botany and Environmental Science double major with a minor in Chemistry. You might have seen her in "A Mother's Love" in One Acts. She has also been in *The Outsiders* as Marcia, and *It's a Wonderful Life* as U/S Mary. She's so excited to be a part of this wonderful performance putting so many disciplines together, it truly is a wonderful sight.

Miah Katalenas (Choir) is a sophomore who is double majoring in Social Justice and Women and Gender Studies from Lima, OH. This semester will be Miah's third year in Choral Art Society as well as being in Chamber Choir. Miah is also a part of other active groups on campus such as the Chalk Art Club, PRISM, and Black Student Union, that all aim to advocate for and promote BIPOC and/or the LGBTQIA+ people/communities both on and off campus. She is super excited to be a part of this piece with everyone, and hopes that you will enjoy the result of what she thinks will be a beautiful performance!

Jacob Kenerson (Choir) is a freshman Data Analytics major from Hudson, Ohio. Jacob has been in Choral Art Society and Chamber Choir for both of his semesters so far at Ohio Wesleyan. He knows how hard all of the disciplines have been working, and is excited to see everything come together. Jacob would like to give a big thank you to Dr. Hiester for leading the group in this unique performance.

Youmee Kim (Rehearsal Pianist and Accompanist) is one of the piano faculty at Ohio Wesleyan University. She has appeared in over 200 professional solo and collaborative performances around the world, recorded 4 piano CDs with critical acclaim, authored a book on contemporary piano music, and frequently served as a judge at international piano competitions. A dedicated teacher, she has over 15 years of college teaching experience with excellent ratings. Dr. Kim received degrees in piano performance from the Ohio State University (DMA), Indiana University (MM, Performer Diploma), and Ewha Womans University (BM) in South Korea.

Kathryn Lawson (Oboe) is a senior Music Performance major from Cincinnati, Ohio. She performs with the Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and Marching Bishops, and has performed with the OWU Woodwind Ensemble. She's excited to be a part of this performance and hopes you enjoy it!

Leeajah Lewis (Lighting Crew) is a current sophomore. Her major is Digital Media, with a minor in Spanish. She has been a part of theatre for years, though this time she is behind the scenes, not on the stage. This is her first year on light crew and serving as a Technical Assistant building sets for other shows. Leeajah hopes to be a part of future projects in the future of theatre at Ohio Wesleyan.

Andrew LeVan* (Choir) is a tenor, and software developer from Dublin, Ohio. He graduated with a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance from The College of Wooster in 2010 where he studied under Prof. David Templeton and Dr. Carrie Culver. Andrew received his Master's of Music in vocal performance from Indiana University in 2013 where he studied under Dr. Brian Horne.

Rachel Madore (Ensemble, Choir) is a freshman Economics and Music, with a vocal performance concentration, double major from Mansfield, OH. Rachel has been a member of Choral Art Society for both of her semesters, and Chamber Choir for one of her semesters, here at Ohio Wesleyan. She is elated to perform in her first full production since 2019 and is proud of all the work her peers and directors have put into bringing this production to life. Rachel would like to give a special thank you to Dr. Whitehead for putting up with the constant conflicting schedules and shenanigans of the ensemble.

Mukami Mboche (artwork contributor) is a junior BFA Studio Art major with concentrations in photography, painting and ceramics. She has no performance or choir experience but has instead, contributed to this performance with artwork and artistic insight. She is thankful to be a part of this performance and is very excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the various departments.

Mary Kate McElroy (artwork contributor) is a senior BFA Studio Art major with concentrations in photography, painting, and ceramic. She is involved in the Track and Cross Country teams on campus, and helped found Empower OWU, a sexual assault support group on campus. After graduation, McElroy is attending Ohio University as an MFA Candidate in Painting and Drawing. She is excited to be included in this interdisciplinary collaboration.

Maggie Myers (artwork contributor) is a senior BFA Studio Art major with concentrations in photography and painting. She has sung with Choral Art Society at Ohio Wesleyan for the past four years until this semester and has now contributed to this performance with artwork and artistic insight. She is grateful to be a part of this production and is excited that the various departments in the arts are collaborating on this unique piece.

Greta Nelson (Choir) is a sophomore Psychology major at Ohio Wesleyan. She has been in Chamber Choir and Choral Art Society during her time at Ohio Wesleyan and thoroughly enjoys singing with her peers, both in rehearsals and performances. She is very excited about her first involvement with Ohio Wesleyan's Theatre program and hopes you enjoy the brilliant brain-child of Dr. Hiester that is *Astronomer Dreaming*. Thank you to all who helped to make this happen, both behind the scenes and on the stage, and to those here to support!

Nancy Nehring† (Viola) began college as a piano major, but ended up with a Master's in Viola from the University of Michigan, afterward playing with many orchestras in Oklahoma, California, Oregon, Colorado, Wyoming, Mexico & Canada. An experienced arts administrator and teacher, Nancy has also performed with chamber ensembles across the Midwest & Canada. Formerly principal viola of the Central Ohio Symphony, she is now asst. principal and personnel manager of the Newark-Granville Symphony, and performs for Columbus Musicians LLC. Nancy accompanies the OSU voice studio of Dr. Kat Rohrer as well as many Columbus-area string students, and is a member of Janus Quartet.

Deborah O'Brien† (Percussion) obtained her Bachelor's of Music Education from Central Michigan University. She has since served as the Band/Choir Director at Walter French Academy and Central Montcalm Schools, and the Director/Music Arranger of Central Montcalm and Cedar Springs Drumlines. Debb has been a part of the winning of several Drumline Championships, and now plays in the Ohio Wesleyan Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Tiyinoluwa Olushola-Alao (Choir) is a sophomore Pre-Engineering major, with a minor in Music Composition, from Lagos, Nigeria. Tiyinoluwa has been in the Choral Art Society for two semesters now. They are excited to be a part of their first full production in over eight years. They would like to give special thanks to everyone, especially Dr. Hiester for driving the production from conception to completion. They hope you sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

Lyla Opitz (Mary, film) is 11 years old and a 6th grader in Raleigh, NC. She is thrilled to be in the production of *Astronomer Dreaming*! Lyla fell in love with musical theatre after seeing her older sister in a play, and has been singing, dancing, and acting ever since. She has performed over the past five years at Raleigh Area Children's Theatre, Theatre Raleigh, and more. Her favorite performances include *Junie B. Jones*, *Matilda*, *Annie*, and *Hairspray*. She would like to thank Jason Hiester for the opportunity and Josh Martin for the support. To the cast performing the show...break a leg!

Rachel Pafenchuk* (Choir) is a performer, conductor, and teacher located in central Ohio. Pafenchuk earned degrees in voice from Ohio Wesleyan University (BM) and Cleveland Institute of Music (MM). She currently serves as Director of Music Ministries at Powell United Methodist Church and also runs a private voice studio in Hilliard, Ohio.

Logan Page (Choir) is a freshman Music Performance and Music Education major from Dover, OH. This is his second semester in Choral Art Society and he has previously participated in Chamber Choir. He is also a part of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Sanborn Sound, and other music groups around campus. He is excited for the opportunity to perform and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

Abby Parker (Choir) is a sophomore Pre-Professional Zoology major from Perry, NY. She has participated in Choral Art Society and Chamber Choir throughout her time at Ohio Wesleyan. She is also a member of Pitch Black a cappella group. Abby is looking forward to this collaborative performance and hopes everyone enjoys it!

Grace Patrick (Choir) is a sophomore Music Education major. She has performed in "One Acts 2019" and is involved with Symphonic Wind Ensemble, NAFME, and Sanborn Sound. This is her first semester in Choral Art Society.

Alex Pope (Choir) is a junior Accounting major from Sunbury, Ohio. He has participated in Chamber Choir and Choral Art Society his entire time at Ohio Wesleyan. He is also the president of the JayWalkers which is an a cappella group here on campus. He is excited for the show!

Anne Raspe (Dancer) is a junior Dance major with a triple minor in Philosophy, Sociology/Anthropology, and Theatre. She has been dancing for 16 years and has enjoyed participating in Ohio Wesleyan's Orchesis and the dance club Terpsicorps since her freshman year. She is excited to share this collaboration with everyone and hopes you enjoy the show!

Millie Rocco (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Psychology, East Asian Studies, and Comparative Literature triple major from Biloxi, Mississippi. She is excited to be a part of such an intricate collaboration here at Ohio Wesleyan, and looks forward to performing in "One Acts" one week following *Astronomer Dreaming*. Millie finds it a pleasure to be back working on stage after being separated from her family's favorite pastime for so long. She would like to thank the stage manager, Addie Wills, for getting her involved, and hopes you enjoy the show!

Kayla Rondinelli (artwork contributor) is a BFA Studio major at Ohio Wesleyan with concentrations in graphic design, painting, printmaking, and textiles. She grew up in Denver, Colorado right alongside the Rocky Mountains, whose beauty never ceases to inspire her work. She will attend North Carolina State in the fall to pursue an MFA in Design. Her most recent works have ranged in content from urban landscapes to animals and figures. Kayla wants the designs she creates to make people think about, and long for, a better world. Art is one of the most influential tools for change, and she strives to convey messages and information in an impactful and visually appealing way.

Jana Rosst (Violin 1) is the concertmaster of the Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra. She has also performed with ProMusica and the Columbus, Westerville, New Albany, Central Ohio, and Ohio Valley Symphonies since moving to the Columbus area in 2012. She is in her fifth year of teaching String Orchestra in Gahanna Middle and High Schools. She also coaches for the Columbus Youth Symphony Orchestras. Ross received her Bachelor's and Master's of Music degrees in violin performance from Oberlin Conservatory and Rice University, respectively.

Kayla Rush (Dancer) is a sophomore Biology and Dance double major. Her past Ohio Wesleyan theatre/dance experience includes "Orchestrations 19/20" as a dancer, "Orchestrations 20/21" as a choreographer and dancer, and serving as the costume head for *Twelfth Night, 2020*. She is also the sophomore board representative for the Theatre & Dance department. Kayla is excited to be back on the Chappellear stage in a more traditional sense and to be working with so many talented artists!

Gretchen Rutz* (Choir) is a professional musician and attorney. She received her bachelors in Music Education from Capital University, and received her J.D. from the Ohio State University. She is grateful to have the opportunity to perform with a wonderful group of musicians and looks forward to live concerts, performances, and community events in the future as the country continues to open.

John Schlabach* (Choir) is a graduate of the Ohio State University with a degree in Vocal Music Education. John sings with several groups around the Columbus area including Opera Columbus, The Lancaster Chorale, Fior Angelico, Broad Street Presbyterian, and several others. He is happy to return to sing at Ohio Wesleyan under Dr Heister again, and is honored to be included in his new and exciting production!

Daniel Smith (Ensemble, Choir, Lighting Crew) is a freshman here at Ohio Wesleyan and is a Theatre Education major. Recent productions include *Twelfth Night, 2020* (Sebastian), "Long Before Wendy" (Peter), *As It Always Was* (Noken), and "It Isn't Real" (Milo). He was also in "Woyzeck, Inc." (Andres), "Scenes! 2021", and "Chapter 3" (Rowan Grant). Daniel is so happy that he was able to still make wonderful art during these crazy times. He has had so much fun getting to share this experience with his fellow castmates! A big thank you to Dr. Heister, Dr. Whitehead, Chad, Addie, and everyone else involved, for all they have done in order to make this show happen! He hopes you all enjoy the show!

Jasmine Spitzer (Choir) is a senior Music Education major from Minot, North Dakota. She is excited to take part in this interdisciplinary work that marries visual and performing arts to create something extraordinary. She would like to thank everyone involved for making this dream a reality.

Abby Stepp (Choir) is a sophomore Music Education major from Orient, Ohio. She was in Choral Art Society in the Spring of 2020, but was unable to perform with the group due to COVID-19. She is involved in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Pitch Black a cappella and several other music groups around campus. She is excited to see this show come together and hopes you enjoy it!

Tom Stevenson* (Choir) has over 40 years of experience in music and drama, including participation in Ohio Wesleyan's Choral Art Society as a community member. He is married to his beautiful wife Rita and they have three wonderful children and three vibrant grandchildren.

Regan Tackett* (Choir), soprano, holds a degree in vocal performance from Oakland University and a Master of Arts degree in voice pedagogy from the Ohio State University. During her graduate studies, Regan welcomed many performances as Queen of the Night with Opera Columbus' "Opera Goes to School" production of *The Magic Flute*, and enjoyed the opportunity to perform the role of Cunegonde in Ohio State Opera & Lyric Theatre's production of *Candide*. While currently maintaining a voice studio full-time, Regan continues to enjoy performing both modern and classical-period works from the operatic and concert repertoire.

Jane Van Voorhist (Cello) is a native of Detroit and resides in Columbus where she holds a private studio and is an avid freelance cellist. She performs regularly with groups such as the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Dayton Philharmonic, West Virginia Symphony, New Albany Symphony, Newark Granville Symphony, and others. She has also been a member of the Classical Music Festival in Austria, both as an orchestra and chamber musician. Jane earned her Bachelor's and Master of Music degrees from the Ohio State University.

Princeton Vaughn (Choir) is a junior Zoology and Environmental Science major with a minor in Music Composition from Bowie, MD. He has participated in Choral Art Society and Chamber Choir throughout his time at OWU. He hopes everyone enjoys the show!

Gary Wasserman (Bass) is a bass instructor at Ohio Wesleyan and does private studio teaching as well. Gary has previously performed with the Columbus Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, West Virginia Symphony, and others.

Noelle Weaver (Choir) is a freshman from Dublin, Ohio, majoring in Music and Medieval Studies. She has been a part of Chamber Choir and Choral Arts Society throughout her time so far at Ohio Wesleyan. Her instruments are the pipe organ and voice, and outside of the department she practices martial arts. She hopes you enjoy the multi-media experience!

Wyatt Wells (Choir) is a sophomore from Marion, Ohio majoring in International Business and Spanish with a minor in Theatre. He has acted in "Scenes!", "One Acts 2019" and the spring musical *The Secret Garden*. He was also a dancer in "Orchesis 20/21". Outside of the department he is a pole vaulter and a tour guide for Admissions. He is excited to be back on the stage after a very long year.

Margaret Welsh (Recitation - *The Sun Never Says*) is a senior Theatre and Dance double major and Fine Arts minor from Ashville, OH. Recent credits include "Twelfth Night, 2020" (Maria), *Medusa's Tale* (Medusa), and *Eurydice* (Big Stone). As always she would like to thank her mother Jean Welsh for her continued love and support.

Addie Wills (Stage Manager, Lighting Crew) is a junior Psychology major with Business and Theatre minors from Danville, Ohio. Her previous experiences with Ohio Wesleyan theatre include being an assistant stage manager for *Eurydice* and the stage manager for "Inter/Sect." She has also acted in "One Acts 2019" and in the Instant Theatre production by the Wesleyan Players in pre-pandemic 2020. She just completed her directing debut for "Scenes! 2021" and you'll see her directing again for this year's "One Acts," which she also wrote for. She's really enjoyed working with this wonderful group of people on this wonderful opportunity of a show, and hopes you enjoy the masterpiece that is *Astronomer Dreaming*.

Austin Wood (Father, Ensemble, Choir) is a senior Music Education major from Powell, Ohio. He has been involved in opera scenes and theater productions since his freshman year, and has been a member of Choral Art Society and Chamber Choir every semester. He would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

FACULTY/STAFF BIOS

RJ Barnhart (Sound Technician) is excited to join the company of *Astronomer Dreaming*. RJ has been doing sound for a number of years both with his church and local schools. When he's not freelancing RJ runs Remus Digital Media, a live events company specializing in live-streaming music events, but also providing expertise in all aspects of live production. RJ has enjoyed his experience working on this show and is excited to see what the future holds.

Jason Hiester (Director), Dr. Hiester, a tenor, teaches voice, conducting, and directs the choral program at Ohio Wesleyan University. He performs professionally in a variety of genres including opera, oratorio, choral, and jazz. His credits include roles with many professional choral groups and opera companies performing both as singer and conductor. Most recently as Assistant Conductor of Opera Columbus and Artistic Director of Converging Arts Columbus.

Jaylene Marie Jennings (Costume Design) is an Ohio native, residing in and raising her family in Columbus since graduating from the Ohio State University. Favorite credits include: *One Night With Janis Joplin* (Regional Tour) and working the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2011. She has been a company member for Available Light Theatre in Columbus for over eight seasons as a stage manager, costume designer, and collaborator: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *Paradise Park Zoo*, and *bobrauschenbergamerica*.

Chad Knutson (Technical Director) received his MFA in design from Wayne State University and Bachelor of Arts from Moorhead State University. This is his 18th year at Ohio Wesleyan, where he has worked as both lighting designer and scenic designer.

Rebecca Larkin (Music Composition and Arranging) is a composer of visual music for the stage and screen. She has been named a finalist for the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer awards and a scholar for the Game Audio Network Guild (GANG). She is an enthusiastic collaborator and constantly seeks opportunities to create new cross-disciplinary work. Rebecca earned her Master's of Music Composition degree from the University of Oregon and her Bachelor's of Music degree in flute performance from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Josh Martin (Scene and Film Design) is a recent Ohio Wesleyan Alum currently working as a Freelance Designer in North Carolina. Selected credits: *The 1st International Theatre Fair* (Producer/Designer), *Hundred Words for Snow* (Scenic/Lighting Designer), *The Secret Garden* (Scenic/Projections Designer), *The Country House* (Lighting Designer), *A Number* (Scenic/lighting/Projections Designer), *Far Away* (Scenic/Lighting/Projections Designer), "Just One Step" (Ed/New World), "Orchestrations 18/19" (Lighting Consultant/Projections), *Cloud 9* (Scenic/Projections Designer). Josh is currently serving as Artistic Director for Imperium Theatre Company.

Jeff Nilan (Artwork Coordinator) has been teaching photography, 2D color/design, and book arts at Ohio Wesleyan since 2008. His own artwork incorporates those media into an integrated practice and has been exhibited and collected widely throughout the US. Although this is his first time collaborating with Music and Dance, Jeff has had many opportunities to work on projects outside of the classroom with his OWU students. Experiences have included: photographic TPG trips to Panama and New Mexico, conference participation and SIP grant trips with book arts students, as well as class collaborations with various departments outside of Fine Arts. Prior to joining the faculty at Ohio Wesleyan, Jeff taught for several years at Indiana University, where he also received his MFA in photography.

Lauren Spavelko (Music Composition and Arranging, Choir) is a composer, arranger, studio teacher, performer, and visual artist. She is an OWU alumna (2011). She has been commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Johnstone Fund for New Music, the Central Ohio Symphony, and more. Her song cycle *Baby Book* was awarded the Spoleto Festival's 2017 Young Composers Prize (Italy) and was a finalist for the 2019 NATS Art Song Composition Award. She is excited to compose and perform again at Ohio Wesleyan. Please enjoy and say hello after the show!

Rashana Perks Smith (Choreographer) has been teaching dance technique, history, and theory at Ohio Wesleyan for 8 years. Also the artistic director of Motor Dance, Smith presents site-responsive, immersive, and collaborative performance works that examine human connections and community. She authored the Vera J. Blaine Choreographic Resources website as archival documentation of the teaching methods of Vera J. Blaine and as an online teaching tool for dance educators. Smith also worked at the OSU Wexner Medical Center in the Motion Analysis and Recovery Lab researching the ways in which technology, art, and movement studies combine to create interactive rehabilitation. Smith received her MFA in Dance at The Ohio State University and BFA in Dance at University of Texas.

Jennifer Whitehead (Director), associate professor of voice at Ohio Wesleyan University, teaches voice and voice-related courses as well as directing music department staged productions. Whitehead is a native of Columbus, Ohio, and a 2013 graduate of the Ohio State University with a Doctorate of Musical Arts in voice and singing health. She has appeared in both staged and concert works in central Ohio and has also been extensively involved with the Opera Columbus education and outreach programs. Dr. Whitehead is a frequent lecturer on vocal health and practice strategies for singers. She resides in Westerville, Ohio with her husband and daughter.

SPECIAL THANKS

RJ Barnhart, Glenda Nieto Cuebas, Richard Edwards, Chad Knutson, Josh Martin, Tim and Elaine Martin, Jeff Nilan, Lyla Opitz, Michelle Opitz, Lauren Spavelko, Rashana Perks Smith, Jennifer Whitehead, Addie Wills, and all of the singers, dancers, artists, instrumentalists, and crew.

AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

Please, no photography or recording of any kind. Please turn off all cell phones, as they can interfere with our equipment.

MONNETT BELL

The bell, used to signal the start of performances in Chappellear Drama Center, originally hung in the tower of Monnett Hall, a campus landmark building erected in 1857. Monnett Hall was a residence for women until it was closed over a century later. The bell signaled the closing time for classes to generations of Ohio Wesleyan students. Ringing a bell to announce the start of a performance is a custom dating back to the time of Shakespeare and before, and we honor that tradition here.

Unsplash photography by Simon Berger, Daniel Pascoa, and Benjamin Voros.

CHAPPELEAR DRAMA CENTER STAFF

Office Manager/Administrative Assistant	Lisa Hill
Office Staff	Ginny Faeth
Production Assistants	Garrick Bostwick
	Ernest Chando
	Caitlin Hyatt
	Hope Jones
	Leeajah Lewis
	Samuel Miller
House Manager	Pascal Fraire
Ushers	Samarvi Sultana
	Salman Ahmad
	Suffia Buttar
	Jahanzaib Khan
	Muhammah bin Arshad
	Ali Amer
	Olivia Anderson
	Kaylee Moore