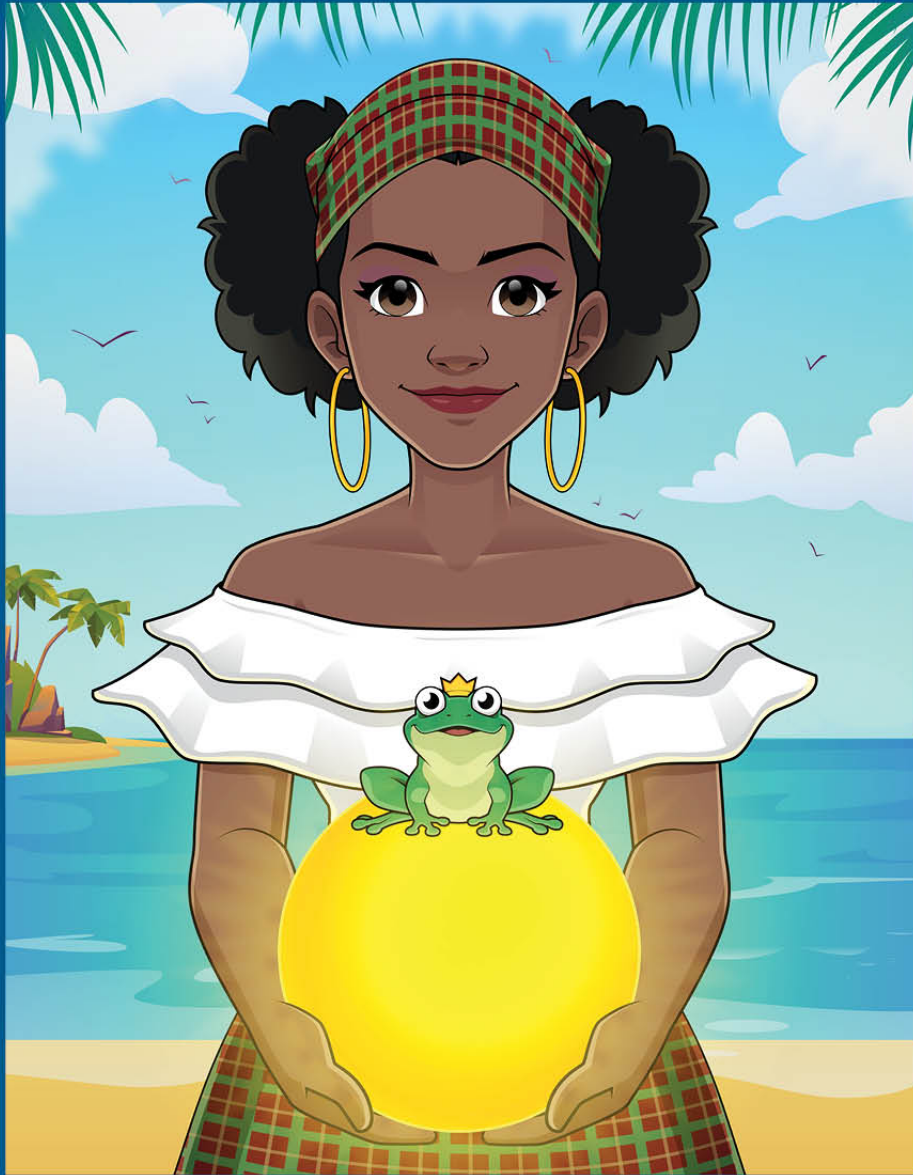


INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

Sun in Ya Hands

Written and directed by Emilio Rodriguez



March 10 & 11, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.

March 12, 2023 • 2 p.m.

Phoenix Theatre



Interlochen
ARTS ACADEMY

WELCOME



Welcome to Interlochen Center for the Arts.

Our multidisciplinary campus serves as a global hub for creativity, where a multitude of artists and art forms converge. Opportunities abound at Interlochen for young artists to deepen their skills while collaborating with peers across artistic disciplines, sparking curiosity and propelling personal growth.

Beyond tonight's concert, I hope you'll explore the extraordinary year-round cultural and learning opportunities available at our one-of-a-kind institution. Annually, we present numerous student and faculty performances from Interlochen Arts Academy, our residential arts high school, and from our world-renowned Interlochen Arts Camp. We offer online programs in the arts for students in grades 2-12 through Interlochen Online, and host classes and workshops for adults to rediscover their artistic passions through our College of Creative Arts. You can also enjoy live broadcasts and recordings of past performances on Interlochen Public Radio. Visit our website at interlochen.org to learn more about all we offer to enhance a creative life.

Proceeds from this evening's concert support student scholarships, so thank you for your part in supporting the next generation of creativity. I hope to see you on campus again soon.

Trey Devey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trey Devey', enclosed within a simple, hand-drawn oval shape.

President, Interlochen Center for the Arts

The Interlochen Arts Festival is a component of the nonprofit Interlochen Center for the Arts, one of the world's most vibrant and inspiring cultural communities. An international destination for unparalleled education and creative opportunities, Interlochen Center for the Arts brings together:

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY

The nation's premier arts boarding high school

INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP

World-renowned summer arts program for grades 3-12

INTERLOCHEN ONLINE

Online courses and private lessons taught by Interlochen faculty in a flexible format

INTERLOCHEN COLLEGE OF CREATIVE ARTS

An engaging series of classes and programs for adults

INTERLOCHEN PUBLIC RADIO

Two listener-supported broadcast services connecting northern Michigan with music, news, and culture from the region and the world—every day, 24 hours a day

Classical IPR: 88.7 FM, Interlochen; 88.5 FM, Mackinaw City; 94.7 FM, Traverse City

IPR News: 91.5 FM, Traverse City; 90.1 FM, Harbor Springs/Petoskey; 89.7 FM, Manistee/Ludington

INTERLOCHEN PRESENTS

A year-round performance program featuring hundreds of presentations by students, faculty, and world-renowned guest artists

LIPA

THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
FOR PERFORMING ARTS



Co Founded by
Sir Paul McCartney

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

FOR PERFORMERS AND THOSE WHO MAKE PERFORMANCE POSSIBLE



lipa.ac.uk



BUILD YOURSELF AT FROST

The Frost School of Music at the University of Miami is renowned for its unique Frost Method® curriculum which creates distinctive musicians that have artistic, technological, and entrepreneurial skills to succeed in the rapidly changing world of professional music.

Learn more today: admissions.frost.miami.edu

FROST | SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

*A coaching session with Kevin Kenner,
associate professor, keyboard performance*



Find your voice. Make your mark.

At Loyola, courage meets creativity. We are a community of performers living and working in the birthplace of jazz and America's first city of opera. Our programs are grounded in professional mentorship, real world experience, and skill development. Our students find artistic inspiration through Loyola's liberal arts coursework. Come experience our unique blend of expression, skill and ingenuity.

Who will you become?

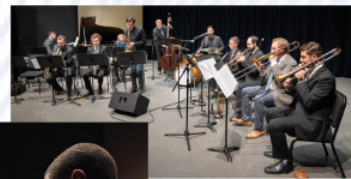
loyno.edu/visit



DEPAUL
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

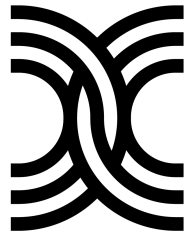


Whether you perform it or teach it. Write it or produce it. You'll need the training and tools to turn it into a career. Designed to be rigorous and collaborative, our programs of study give you the experience and the knowledge to confidently pursue a life dedicated to music.



**Music is a craft
and a calling.**

 music.depaul.edu |  733.325.7444 |  musicadmissions@depaul.edu



Interlochen

ARTS ACADEMY

Interlochen, Michigan
169th, 173rd, 174th Program of the 61st Year

*

Sun in Ya Hands

by Emilio Rodriguez

Directed by Emilio Rodriguez
Set Design by Stephanie Baugher
Costume Design by Katie Glenn
Lighting Design by Darian Hrdlicka
Sound Design by Robert Cracknell

Friday, March 10, 2023
7:30pm, Phoenix Theatre

Saturday, March 11, 2023
7:30pm, Phoenix Theatre

Sunday, March 12, 2023
2:00pm, Phoenix Theatre

CAST

Celia	Star Crane, New York, N.Y.
Ivan.....	Forest Hamel, Meredith, N.H.
Mia	Laila Adair, Fayetteville, Ga.
Naomi	Zara Wilson, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Henry.....	Harrison Hodister, Rochester Hills, Mich.
King Riel.....	MJ Schaeffer, Marion, Ark.
Queen Marisol	Grace Suarez, Miami, Fla.
Dunia	Kayla Sheree Pickett, Commerce Township, Mich.
Phillip.....	Christian Roose, Darien, Conn.
Willa	Finley Jacobs, Harbor Springs, Mich.
Jacob	Keller Gilliland, Telluride, Colo.
Ensemble.....	Jackson Alejandro, Traverse City, Mich.
	Alijah Cambridge, North Chicago, Ill.
	Nalini Charles-Belizaire, Glenolden, Pa.
	Tavish Dungan, Nevada City, Calif.
	Zhivan Florence, Charlottesville, Va.
	Tristan Lysonge, Pewee Valley, Ky.
	Elia Mimikakis, Chevy Chase, Md.
	Jaryse Sessions, Honor, Mich.
	Ruby Uribe, El Paso, Texas

SETTING:

Not so long ago on the fictional island of Namor

—The play will run approximately 80 minutes with no intermission—

* * *

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Early on in the play, Princess Celia of Namor says, "We won't let you take our land with wild wars/And then someday say our story was yours." To many audiences, on the surface, this story is an adaptation of a fairytale. Fairytales have often been attributed with European culture and aesthetics. But as I shared with the students in this production, fairy tales usually stem from folk tales which have cultural origins all over the world. Many of these stories which have been credited as Brother's Grimm or Hans Christian Anderson tales have been given that distinction simply due to the process of documentation that is widely celebrated in European cultures: the stories were formally written in a European language that could easily be translated to English (due to proximity of European countries) and preserved for both American and European present-day cultures. But research and intuition now question these citations.

We can track the exploration and colonization of many European countries and line up the timelines with when many fairy tales were "written" to what folktales were popular with countries and regions where settling and trade explorations happened. Intuition has also given researchers pause to the crediting of

European authors with further discoveries of origin stories of ancient Indian women with hair strong enough to climb and indigenous Puerto Rican tales of humans that turn into frogs. Stories that were never formally documented because their cultural function was to be shared orally through storytelling, dance, music, and other community performance rituals. There has also been documented evidence of fairy tale origins in stories such as *A Thousand and One Nights*, *The Annotated African American Folktales*, and *African and Caribbean Folktales, Myths and Legends*.

This research led to my essential question: "How can I manifest a reclaiming of what I believe already belonged to my ancestors"? I immediately thought of the resilience of my family in Puerto Rico who refused my parents' offer to live with them in Texas after Hurricane Maria. They were the true embodiment of Princess Celia's statement, "So when the next storm comes, you'll flee and roam/ But we'll stay here because this is our home." I knew this story had to be about holding on to cultural identity as much as it was a fairytale. I then had to figure out what the princess' golden ball would be in our new setting of the world and found an origin story about how indigenous Puerto Ricans believe the island was created. In the story, the sun is described as a beautiful golden ball that people can try to hold in their hands which I believe perfectly embodies the cultural principles of appreciating the beauty of the world and celebrating what is present instead of searching for what is absent: "Don't hang your hat somewhere your hand can't reach."

This play not only creates an opportunity for us to celebrate cultures outside of the Western gaze but also an opportunity for people to have a conversation about what supporting and uplifting cultures outside of our own can look like. A mirror/window effect where the play serves as a mirror for the experiences of people of color to be validated and a window for others to listen and learn through laughter, joy, pain, celebration, love and loss. As the story says "How you find your ending...is up to you."

* * *

Emilio Rodriguez's theatre career began at the age of two while performing in one-kid adaptations of *The Wizard of Oz* in his parent's living room using a broom, a funnel, and a pair of his mother's high heels. Since then, his plays have been performed across the country and in 2018 he won a Kresge Artist Fellow Award for playwriting. Rodriguez's play *God Kinda Looks Like Tupac* was awarded Best New Script at the 2021-2022 Encore Michigan Wilde Awards and his script *Swimming While Drowning* was a finalist for the 2017 Portland Theatre Area Drammy Awards for Best Original Script and will be featured in the upcoming *Anthology of Latinx Theatre for Young Audiences*. Rodriguez recently wrote a chapter for the book *Latinx Actor Training* which is now available. He was an inaugural recipient of the NALAC Catalyst for Change award and a recipient of the Culture Source Creators of Culture award. He currently teaches playwriting at the University of Michigan and acting at the Michigan Actors Studio, and previously taught acting and playwriting at Kalamazoo College. Emilio Rodriguez serves as founding artistic director of the Black and Brown Theatre (www.BlackandBrownTheatre.org).

* * *

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Stage ManagerMJ Brendel, Wash.
Music Director MJ Schaeffer, Ark.
Dance Captains/Choreography... Kayla Sheree Pickett, Mich.; Grace Suarez, Fla.
Division Director, Theatre Arts William Church
Director of Theatre Design and Production..... Stephen John
Executive Director, Interlochen Presents Brent Wrobel
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents–Production.....Jennifer Apple
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents–Design and ProductionJeffery Block
Technical DirectorJeffery Block
Assistant Technical Director.....Sammy Kriesch
CarpenterChristian Ward
Properties Master..... Joel Reedy
Light Board Operator.....Piper Lodato, Wash.
Sound Board Operator Emmy Starke, Pa.
Deck Stage ManagerZion Wallace, Md.
Costume Shop SupervisorAmanda Lifvendahl
Costume Technicians.....Eleanor Dobry, Caitlin Eldred, Cory John
Costume Technician in Residence Katie Glenn
StitcherSarah Koontz
Costume Shop Student Assistants Laila Adair, Ga.; Tatiana Arias, Ill.;
Aimee Craig, Canada; Kate Desel Dolan, D.C.; Ava Giorgione, Pa.;
Leah Hager, Wis.; Jake Jonesco, Ohio; Anne Maust, Mich.;
Leah Nansubuga, La.; Olivia Ray, Mich.; Nadine Waters, Mich.
Costume Shop Volunteers Mollie DaBell, Carol Johnson, Christine Lewis,
Bradley Roswell, Anne Stull

Special Thanks:

Cameron Beckham, Morgan Breon, Jazmine Broe,
Jillian Craighead, Dr. Patrice Johnson, Paul Popa,
Bianca Washington, Reigh Wilson, and Joshua Zambrano

—NO VISITORS BACKSTAGE— PLEASE GREET CAST MEMBERS IN THE LOBBY

* * *

You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting www.interlochen.org/giveonline.

Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus. Thank you for your cooperation.

www.interlochen.org

*Delivering
extraordinary real
estate experiences.*

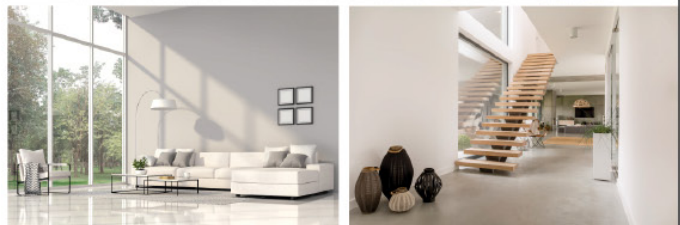
Serving Michigan, both coasts
of Florida, Northeast Ohio, and
the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Family owned and operated
since 1927.



COLDWELL BANKER | SCHMIDT REALTORS

800.800.5805 | SchmidtFamilyofCompanies.com
402 E Front Street | 522 E Front Street | Traverse City, MI



**YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE HERE
WILL BE UNLIKE ANYWHERE ELSE—
AND UNLIKE ANYONE ELSE'S.**



**STUDENT-DESIGNED
CURRICULUM**



**DIVISIONAL
STRUCTURE**



**NARRATIVE
EVALUATION**

Hampshire College
admissions.hampshire.edu

**Interlochen
IPR
Public Radio**

**Public radio created by our community,
for our community**

CLASSICAL IPR
88.7 FM Interlochen 94.7 FM Traverse City
88.5 FM Mackinaw City

IPR NEWS
91.5 FM Traverse City
90.1 FM Harbor Springs/Petoskey
89.7 FM Manistee/Ludington

LISTEN FROM ANYWHERE

Download the App



Ask Your Smart Speaker



InterlochenPublicRadio.org



COLLEGE for Creative STUDIES

Art. Design. Detroit. CCS enrolls more than 1,400 students from 31 states and 28 countries, pursuing Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in art and design disciplines. A Visual Arts Teacher Certification is also available. **Visit collegeforcreativestudies.edu for more information.**



WHO WILL FORGE NEW PATHS? SPARTANS WILL.

MUSIC.MSU.EDU/EXPLORE

- Realize your unique potential
- Explore limitless possibilities
- Discover the world of music

NEW FACILITIES | 40% EXPANSION
Acoustically superior practice, recording, rehearsal and performance spaces.

College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Carnegie Mellon University
School of Music

WHERE ARTISTRY + INNOVATION SHARE CENTER STAGE

Carnegie Mellon University

CarnegieMellonMusic
 @CMUmusic
 cmusic
 CarnegieMellonMusic

MUSIC.CMU.EDU

Inspire Creative Changemakers

Interlochen is where young artists transform their passion and potential into purpose. Their outlook and lives are shaped by an immersion in the arts. Inspire and support the creative changemakers of tomorrow with your gift to the Annual Fund.



interlochen.org/give

Office of Philanthropy
philanthropy@interlochen.org | 231.276.7623



INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

May 5 & 6, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.
May 7, 2023 • 2 p.m.
Corson Auditorium



interlochen.org/tickets

An
American
in
Paris
*A New
Musical*

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
George Gershwin &
Ira Gershwin

BOOK BY
Craig Lucas



Interlochen

Interlochen Center for the Arts gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors for their continued support:

NATIONAL



SUPPORTING



SPONSOR



FRIEND



PARTNERS IN THE ARTS



MEDIA

