

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY THEATRE PRESENTS

An American *in* Paris

*A New
Musical*

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
George Gershwin & Ira Gershwin

BOOK BY
Craig Lucas



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



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

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associate professor, keyboard performance*



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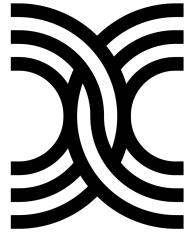


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Interlochen

ARTS ACADEMY

Interlochen, Michigan
242nd, 247th, 249th Program of the 61st Year

*

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS

Music and Lyrics by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin
Book by Craig Lucas

Originally produced on Broadway by
Stuart Oken Van Kaplan Roy Furman
By special arrangement with
Elephant Eye Theatrical & Pittsburgh CLO and Théâtre du Châtelet

Directed by William Church
Music Director and Rehearsal Accompaniment by Melinda Rohn
Orchestra Conducted by Leslie B. Dunner
Choreography by Matthew Lindstrom
Set Design by Stephanie Baugher
Costume Design by Amanda Lifvendahl
Sound Design by Robert Cracknell
Lighting Design by Matthew Benjamin

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Friday, May 5, 2023 | 7:30pm, Corson Auditorium |
| Saturday, May 6, 2023 | 7:30pm, Corson Auditorium |
| Sunday, May 7, 2023 | 2:00pm, Corson Auditorium |

The worldwide copyright in the music of George and Ira Gershwin
for this presentation are licensed by the Gershwin Family.

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC. www.concordtheatricals.com

CAST

Jerry Mulligan..... Drey'von Simmons, Syracuse, N.Y.
Lise Dassin Victoria Salisbury, Winter Garden, Fla.
Adam Hochberg Parker Simon, Monte Sereno, Calif.
Henri Baurel..... Finegan Elliott, South Bend, Ind.
Milo Davenport Tatiana Arias, Naperville, Ill.
Madame Baurel Lucy Adams, Port Washington, Wis.
Monsieur Baurel..... Joshua Leiser, Burlington, N.C.
Olga/Dance Corps Ana Schroeder, Grapevine, Texas.
Mr. Z/Dance Corps TJ McCarthy, Exton, Pa.
Madame Dutois/Ensemble Madeleine Pace, Westerville, Ohio
Monsieur Dutois/Ensemble Ryan Sytsema, Mount Pleasant, Mich.
American Soldier/Ensemble Tony Woodward, Missoula, Mont.
French Man/Ensemble Hayden Thompson, Union, S.C.
French Woman/Ensemble..... Isabella Parra, Lima, Peru
French Soldier/Ensemble Luke Ferrante, Naples, Fla.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Hannah Alexis, New Orleans, La.
Woman #1/Cabaret Singer/Ensemble Evangeline Heflin, Newark, Del.
Woman #2/Ensemble Jasmine Iacullo, Coral Springs, Fla.
Woman #3/Ensemble Grace Holscher, Pacific Palisades, Calif.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Emmy Starke, Malvern, Pa.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Ruth Abramovitz, Boca Raton, Fla.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Henry Grooms, St. Anthony, Minn.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Matthew Williamson, Wilmette, Ill.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Jake Jonesco, Dublin, Ohio
Dance Corps/Ensemble Gus Baldyga, Traverse City, Mich.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Katrina Gedmin, Norman, Okla.
Dance Corps/Ensemble Sarah Galle, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Parisian/Ensemble..... Madeline Ayala, Fort Worth, Texas
Parisian/Ensemble..... London McKenzie, Green Bay, Wis.
Parisian/Ensemble..... Rueby Wood, Central Square, N.Y.

UNDERSTUDIES

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jerry Mulligan..... | TJ McCarthy |
| Lise Dassin | Katrina Gedmin |
| Adam Hochberg | Ryan Sytsema |
| Henri Baurel..... | Luke Ferrante |
| Milo Davenport..... | Jasmine Iacullo |
| Madame Baurel | Grace Holscher |
| Mr. Z..... | Henry Grooms |

* * *

SETTING

Various locations in Paris,
beginning in August, 1944

—There will be a 15-minute intermission—

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

*Special thanks to the Foster Family for supporting this performance
through the Foster Family Costume and Set Production Fund.*

* * *

"(I'll build a) Stairway to Paradise" by George Gershwin,
BG DeSylva and Ira Gershwin

GERSHWIN INSTRUMENTAL COMPOSITIONS
"An American in Paris," "Concerto in F," "Cuban Overture,"
"For Lily Pons," "Second Prelude" and "Second Rhapsody"
by George Gershwin

An American in Paris
PIT ORCHESTRA
J Berry, manager

VIOLIN I

Jim Kaplan, N.Y.*
Ari Han, Va.*
Alissa Chang, Texas*
Audrey Weizer, Mich.*
Iris Danek, Calif.**
Nahuel Weber-Jacobsen,
Va.**
Auty Scherden, Colo.**
Miuccia Li, China**

VIOLIN II

Sabine Stern, Calif.*
Jane Finlayson-Fife, Ill.*
Harry Yang, China*
Pippin Forrest, Calif.*
Yuqin Huang, China**
Winter Wu, China**
Tessa Duncan, Canada**
Phoebe Bruchman, Texas**

VIOLA

Amelia Branch, Tenn.*
Eddy Graul, S.C.*
Bailey Rickman, N.C.*
John Turner, Miss.*
Vivienne Lucier, Ky.**
Val Serrano, Venezuela**
Jada Walker, N.J.**
David Lawrence, Utah**

CELLO

Cecelia McVicker, Ohio*
Tatiana Byam, Vt.*
Owen Aycock, Texas*
Vanessa Agyei, Mich.*
Sarah Mann, Mich.**
Meena Karimi,
Afghanistan**
Griffin Jones, S.C.**
Luke Walker, N.J.**

DOUBLE BASS

Macy Kiger, Ga.
Shelcy Dilone, Mass.

FLUTE

Nijaya Brown, Md. (alto)
David Lemper, Pa.
Micayla Rawling, Va.
(piccolo)

CLARINET

Andrei Bancos, Minn.
Joaquín Chávez, Peru (bass)
Luis Montero Hernandez,
Costa Rica

OBOE

Jill Peterson, Ky. (E.H.)
Shiyi Song, China

BASSOON

Elise TeKolste, Kan.

SAXOPHONE

Dario Allais, N.Y.
Gabriel Proctor, Ill.
(baritone)
Cameron Suber, Ga. (tenor)

HORN

Sophie Choy, Hong Kong
Max Robichaux, Texas

TRUMPET

Sebastián Haros, Texas
Jonathan Taylor, Calif.

TROMBONE

Allie Klaire Ledbetter, Miss.
Jaewon Shim, South Korea

PERCUSSION

Levi Bennett, Tenn.
Julian Jimenez-Pardo,
Costa Rica
Hannah Stone, Wash.

PIANO

Karen Hao, China*
Yimei Liang, China*
Mark DeFalco, La.**
Sichen Mao, China**

Pit Orchestra Roster Notes

Strings are listed in seating order.

The remaining musicians are listed alphabetically within their section.

Musicians are playing both acts unless denoted as follows:

* Denotes Act I ** Denotes Act II

* * *

PROGRAM NOTES

The landscape of Paris after its liberation in August of 1944 was that of horrific devastation. The flag of France had been banned and replaced with that of the Nazis, hanging starkly against the Champs-Élysées. Food except that which could be found on the black market had become extremely scarce. In mid-August, M Chevalier of the Academy of Science informed the Parisians that in the ultimate crisis, they could eat the leaves of the trees in the Bois; he especially recommended the linden and the ash. Dancing had been prohibited by German occupiers for being "too frivolous." Any new plays or manuscripts had to be approved by the Third Reich, leaving an overwhelming sense of hopelessness in the French people. George Kennan, an American ambulance driver, records in his diary an account of a young girl immigrating back into the city during the occupation, "There was only a bitterness too deep for complaint, a wandering too intense for questions. What would be her reaction to life after this? Just try to tell her of liberalism and democracy, of progress, of ideals, of romantic love...she saw the complete moral breakdown and degradation of her people." However, the Parisians refused to succumb to the darkness; rather after liberation, they immediately began to create new beautiful artwork and celebrations of daily life to rebuild.

An American in Paris was initially developed as a musical comedy film in 1951 based on lyrics by Ira Gershwin and music by George Gershwin. Set in 1951 with Gene Kelly as choreographer and principal actor, it remains one of the most optimistic post-war golden-age musicals that MGM produced. Perhaps its most notable feature is the 13-minute avant-garde "dream ballet" with no lyrics or dialogue serving as the film's finale. However, the stage musical *An American in Paris* contains several large distinctions. It premiered originally at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, France in 2014; directed and choreographed by Christopher Wheeldon. *An American in Paris* is set in 1944 right at the end of World War Two, and the effects of the war are fresh for our characters who exist in a Paris aching to return to the beauty and freedom they had before the war. Lise and Milo also have considerable changes to their characters; instead of being displayed as two women completely at the will of Jerry, we meet two strong women determined to change the artistic landscape of post-war Paris whose career and ambitions are their priorities, and their love for Jerry takes a back seat. These changes revitalize an old story, making our characters compelling and fresh while still paying homage to the old-fashioned Broadway-romance.

Our show is beautifully sculpted through the eyes of Jerry Mulligan, as we experience the awakening of a scarred Paris through the post-impressionist artwork of Jerry's notebook. Whilst Jerry sees and acknowledges the atrocities of the war, rather than seeing rubble, Jerry stubbornly sees the beauty in the people

of the city. Bodies twist from abstract images of pain and suffering into light airy shapes of hope and rebirth. He lights up the world of Lise whom he falls madly in love with, showing her that not only is she deserving of love and passion but that at times, joy is the best salve for the heartache of devastation. Accompanied by a lush sweeping orchestration, *An American in Paris* is a celebration of choosing to love despite the horrors one encounters in life and a call to see and add beauty to the world even if one feels hopeless. It is the breath you release on a warm spring morning, as you sip an espresso and revel in your distinct ability to love and be loved, and exist in a city like Paris.

—Program Notes by Tatiana Arias, Naperville, Ill.

* * *



Interlochen's third annual *Act for Art* Giving Days are May 3-5, and you can play a part!

*Imagine the cast list in this playbill with 80% of the names missing: that's how many of our students rely on financial aid to attend Interlochen. Our Giving Days raise funds for scholarships, and all *Act for Art* gifts will be matched—doubling your impact! This is the time to join the Interlochen donor community with your gift of support.*

Be a hero in a hopeful young artist's life! Give during *Act for Art* to make the dream of Interlochen come true.

Go to interlochen.org/2023actforart or scan the QR code to join in. (*Gifts made through noon on May 8 will count toward this year's Giving Days.*)



* * *

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Stage Manager Paige Cook, Ind.
Assistant Stage ManagersIvery Libby, Mich.; Piper Lodato, Wash.
Assistant Costume Designer Matthew Rudman, Colo.
Assistant Lighting DesignerQuinn Iris, Wis.
Additional ChoreographyRachel James
Tap Choreography Grace Holscher, Calif.
Vocal CoachDoug Peck
Division Director, Theatre Arts William Church
Division Director, Musical Theatre Justin Lee Miller
Director of 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
Assistant Technical Director.....Sammy Kriesch
CarpenterChristian Ward
Properties Master..... Joel Reedy
A2 Hal Sufrin, Pa.
Projections Technician Zann Ritchie, Mass.
Projections Operator Addison Duncan, Va.
Live Audio..... Robert Cracknell
Light Board Operator/ProgrammerQuinn Iris, Wis.
Spotlight Operators Margaret Fall, Okla.; Lilly Schmeda, Del.
Crew Hanna Maes, Fla.
Costume Shop Supervisor Amanda Lifvendahl
Costume Technicians.....Eleanor Dobry, Caitlin Eldred, Cory John
StitcherSarah Koontz
Costume Technician in Residence/Wardrobe Supervisor Katie Glenn
Wardrobe Jackson Alejandro, Mich.;
Cates Asleson, Ind.; Nalini Charles-Belizaire, Pa.;
Sara Davis, Mich.; Tristan Lysonge, Ky.
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 Carol Johnson, Christine Lewis,
Bradley Roswell, Anne Stull
Makeup and Hair Crew..... Zach Bernier, Md.; Ella Coleman, Miss.;
Carol Kepler, Brazil

Special Thanks

Cate Caplin, Teresa Hittner, Brian McCall,
Leslie Williams, Sydney James Harcourt, Kevin Cole

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* * *

UPCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS

Opera Workshop

Friday, May 12 – Saturday, May 13 | Harvey Theatre

Enjoy selections from your favorite operas performed by Interlochen Arts Academy voice students. Presented in revue style, the program will feature excerpts from classical and contemporary operatic works.

Singer-Songwriters: Picture in a Frame - Music Inspired by Visual Art

Friday, May 12 | Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

Hear the hits of tomorrow as Interlochen Arts Academy's singer-songwriter students share original works inspired by visual art. Enjoy diverse selections in a wide variety of genres, styles, and instrumentations.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org

* * *

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.

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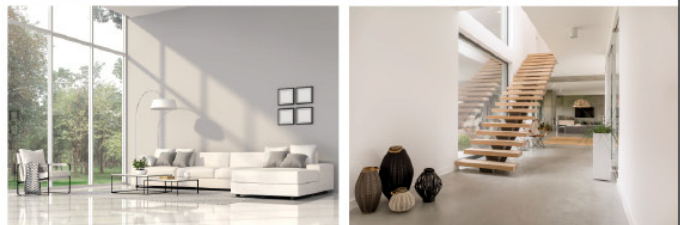
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