

PLAYBILL®

Ithaca College
Hoerner Theatre, Dillingham Center



we WEAR
the SEA
like a COAT

ITHACA COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES

Claire Gleitman, Interim Dean

Melanie Stein, Interim Provost

LaJerne Cornish, Interim President

Ithaca College Theatre

Ithaca College School of Music

and Opera Ithaca

Present

We Wear The Sea Like a Coat

Music by Sally Lamb McCune

Libretto by Rachel Lampert and Yvonne Gray

Conducted by Christopher Zemliauskas

Directed by Ben Robinson

Movement Coach by Jeanne Goddard

Run Time: 1 hour and 24 minutes

We Wear The Sea Like a Coat is co-produced with Opera Ithaca.

Ithaca College Theatre's 2021-2022 season is sponsored by Tompkins Trust Company



OPERA ITHACA

Ben Robinson, Artistic Director

Lynn Craver, Director of the Apprentice Artist Program

Board of Directors:

Deborah Montgomery, President

Dianne Orcutt, Vice-President

Barry Chester, Treasurer

Larry Harrington, Secretary

Emad Atiq

Charlie Kruzansky

Patricia Zimmerman

We Wear the Sea was incubated in Opera Ithaca's Inside the Creative Process series and marks the third world premiere since the company's founding in 2014.

Synopsis

ACT 1

Scene 1

Summer. Orkney, the Bay of Skail; near the remains of the Neolithic village of Skara Brae.

Two lovers race onto the shore. Sara, an oceanographer, and Jonathan, a writer, have just arrived from the US. They are startled by the force of the offshore wind as they swim together. Recovering, they talk excitedly about the year ahead. Meanwhile Charlie, a fisherman, observes the Arctic terns, and reflects on the vast distances they travel.

Scene 2

The next morning. The Bay of Skail.

Sara begins her work for Seaboard Atlantica, the oceanographic institute that commissioned her research. Jonathan meets Alastair, an Orcadian, who gently dispels some of the stereotypes he has of island life. He suggests Jonathan and Sara come to the Brig that evening.

Scene 3

The same evening. The Brig, a hotel bar in the harbour town of Stromness.

Colin, an environmentalist, warns of growing danger from climate change; Marcus, involved in business development, argues for economic growth. Alastair introduces Sara and Jonathan. Colin is wary of them but Rowan, the County Archaeologist, welcomes them and offers to show Jonathan round the vast Neolithic complex at the Ness of Brodgar.

Scene 4

Early the next morning. The Ness of Brodgar, a vast complex of buildings from Neolithic times.

Recognising similar motives for their contrasting work, Sara and Rowan bond readily. Sara leaves and Rowan discusses the people and artefacts of the Neolithic past with Jonathan. She points out the shared needs that connect people across time and space.

Scene 5

Autumn. Sara and Jonathan's rented cottage near the Bay of Skail.

Rowan and Jonathan return from a visit to Orkney's viking age Cathedral. Jonathan's spirits are high; he is eager to work on his stalled novel again. Sara is tense – anxious about her research. Seaboard Atlantica has not acknowledged receipt of her data. She worries about the ecological change she sees – and the ethical dilemmas in starting a family. The discussion becomes an argument. Rowan leaves. Sara apologises to Jonathan for her outburst and they make love. Later she wakes and checks her email. She is shocked to receive notification of the acquisition of Seaboard Atlantica, her employer, by the oil giant Hallex International.

Scene 6

Winter. The Brig, Stromness.

Chanting protestors converge on the Brig, angered by plans for new oil exploration by Hallex in waters north-west of Orkney. Vindicated, Colin confronts Marcus about his secrecy, then probes Sara and Jonathan. Maggie arrives with news that Charlie is seriously hurt and his creel boat damaged following a collision with a RIB that has been operating clandestinely. Colin fears its activity is connected with Hallex.

15-Minute Intermission

Synopsis (Cont.)

ACT 2

Scene 1

Early evening, Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). Sara and Jonathan's cottage.

Jonathan senses Sara has a secret. She smiles – but is evasive. They leave for the Brig.

Scene 2

Later the same evening. The Brig, Stromness.

The merriment at the Brig subsides as the revellers raise a toast to Charlie's recovery. Colin and Rowan enter with news that he has been airlifted to Aberdeen. Colin has evidence that a workboat operating for Hallex caused the accident - documents linking its work to data from Seaboard Atlantica have been found on board. He questions Sara; she admits that from the start of the New Year her contract will be with Hallex. Colin is incandescent at this betrayal; Jonathan is shocked and hurt that she has not confided in him.

Scene 3

Early the next morning, New Year's Day. Sara and Jonathan's cottage.

Remorse-filled, Sara has been awake all night. She plans to submit her resignation to Hallex immediately; the decision to leave Orkney will follow. Jonathan goes out, determined to celebrate the New Year with a swim, and Sara begins to type. We hear an Arctic tern – a voice of adaptation and survival. Rowan arrives and when Sara tells her she is pregnant, urges her to go after Jonathan and tell him. They exit and the music evokes the scene they face on the shore, his struggle and death in the waves.

Outside, Alastair sings of the persistence of the Arctic terns, birds of light.

Scene 4

Summer. Five years later. A beach in Maine, USA.

Sara walks alone on a beach in Maine. She calls and Johnny, her child, runs to her. They splash into the shallows and play together. She urges him to listen to the terns and to the song of the ocean as it enfolds the earth. Her final words evoke the adaptiveness of the terns and the protection the ocean gives.

Glossary of Orcadian Scots Vocabulary

Aabody: everybody

Afore: before

Bairn: child

Blide: pleased

Fae: from

Hid: it

Hids: its

Haar: sea fog

Ken: know

Kirk: church

Pleepan: whining; complaining

Sirpan: soaking wet

The morn's morn: tomorrow morning

Whaalbacks: waves

Wirsels: ourselves

Creative Team

Christopher Zemliauskas.....Music Director, Conductor
Ben Robinson.....Staging Director
Sally McCune.....Composer
Yvonne Gray.....Librettist
Rachel Lampert.....Librettist
Rebecca Gottbetter.....Scenic Designer
Cali Trainor.....Asst. Scenic Designer
Hannah Sotnek.....Costume Designer
Keegan Webber.....Lighting Designer
Jeanne Goddard.....Choreographer
Blaise Bryski.....Music Coach, Accompanist
Andrea Morokutti.....Music Coach, Accompanist, Supertitle Operator

Production Team

Adam Zonder.....Technical Director
Kelsey Roy.....Asst. Technical Director, Master Carpenter
Nell Walker.....Production Props Supervisor
August Rich.....Asst. Props
Ash Schimkus.....Charge Scenic Artist
Andrea Mejuto.....Asst. Scenic Artist
Stephen Griffin.....Production Electrician
Ashley Crespo.....Master Electrician
Cody Kiedrowski.....A/V Supervisor
Lili Branch.....Wardrobe Supervisor

Stage Management

Christina Johns.....Production Stage Manager
Steven Marti.....Associate Stage Manager (Scenic)
Wavyne White.....Associate Stage Manager (Props)
Maggie Caradonna.....Associate Stage Manager (Costumes)
Kate Barry.....Production Assistant
Ellie Berry.....Production Assistant
Abi Franzo.....Production Assistant
Dani Berman.....Student Stage Management Mentor

Cast

Elena Galván (3/1, 3/3, 3/5).....	Sara
Sofia Medaglia (3/4, 3/6)	
Dann Coakwell.....	Jonathan
Steven Stull.....	Alastair
Mariya Kaganskaya (3/1, 3/3, 3/5).....	Rowan
Madison Hoerbelt (3/4, 3/6)	
Brad Bickhardt.....	Colin
Nicholas Capodilupo.....	Charlie
Evan Sacco.....	Marcus
Matthew Amori.....	Brian
Ava Dunton.....	Maggie
Anchal Indu Dhir.....	Tern 1
Mayavati Prabhakar.....	Tern 2
Athena Rajnai.....	Tern 3
Felicity Davis.....	Ensemble/Tern 1 Cover
Malaya Press.....	Ensemble/Tern 2 Cover
Gina O’Sullivan.....	Ensemble/Tern 3 Cover
Zoe-Marie Fuentes, Stephanie Monteiro, Elyse Brachfeld	
Thomas Koo, Connor Lloyd, Nick Jones, Zach Kelly.....	Ensemble

Note from the Composer

The score for *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat* is eclectic and layered. As a contemporary love story about an American couple living in Orkney, Scotland, the opera draws from Scottish and American folk and popular music along with traditional Euro- and American-centric contemporary classical music. The natural sound world of Orkney is reflected in the orchestration – the use of layered woodwinds evokes a chorus of birds. The swell of the surf or the cyclical nature of the tide can be heard in the harmonic sequences and rhythmic patterns of the strings and percussion. In the recitative passages for voice, I’ve tried to capture the rhythms and contours of everyday speech. This is often layered above different background music, whether in the pub, Sara and Jonathan’s cottage, or at an archeological dig. These layers, too, mirror the multi-layered lives we live. The arias connect us to the inner emotional landscape of the characters – at times full of anger, at other times love, passion or grief. They also highlight the broader theme in the opera of the connectedness of all people and living beings through time and space. The three Arctic tern characters (sung roles in the opera) often speak to us on a deeper level: “The sky harps in our feathers a morning song. We are air, we are movement, we are constant light.”

Biographies

Cast from School of Music

Sofia Medaglia is a senior BM vocal performance major from Long Island, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (u/s Pamina, Ensemble). Outside credits include *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (La bergère) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop and *Carrie* (Chris), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy), *Shrek* (Fiona), and *Godspell* (Turn Back, O Man) at CK Productions.

Madison Hoerbelt is a senior BM vocal performance major. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *The Magic Flute* (Dritte Dame) and *Dido and Aeneas* (Second Witch, Second Shepherdess). Outside credits include *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (L'Enfant) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop, *Le Nozze di Figaro* (u/s Marcellina, Chorus) at Opera Ithaca, and *The Tender Land* (Ma Moss) at Chicago Summer Opera. Madison was also a District Competitor at the 2021-2022 Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition.

Nicholas Capodilupo is a sophomore BM vocal performance major from Hingham, Massachusetts. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Armored Man 1). Outside credits include *Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean) and *Chicago* (Mary Sunshine) and *Newsies* (Davey) at Cohasset Dramatic Club. He is also a member of the IC football team.

Evan Hawkins Sacco is a senior BM vocal performance and music education major from Port Jervis, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *The Magic Flute* (Sarastro) and *Dido and Aeneas* (He, Chorus).

Matthew Amori is a first-year BM vocal performance major from East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

Ava Dunton is a senior BM vocal performance major from Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Chorus).

Anchal Indu Dhir is a junior BM with an outside field in BM opera studies from Denver, Colorado. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Papagena). Outside credit includes *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (Le feu) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop.

Mayavati Prabhakar is a junior BM with an outside field in BS theatre arts management from Brookline, Massachusetts. Their outside credits include *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (La Chauve-Souris) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop, *Assassins* (Squeaky Fromme) at Macabre Theatre Ensemble, and *Time's Apprentice: A New Musical* (Rosa) at Theatrists Theatrics.

Biographies

Cast from School of Music (Cont.)

Athena Rajnai is a junior BM with an outside field in BS theatre arts management from the Poconos Mountains, Pennsylvania. Their previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Spirit). Outside credit includes *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (La Chatte) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop.

Felicity Davis is a senior BM vocal performance major from Annapolis, Maryland. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Stage Papagena, Chorus). Outside credits include *Hamlet* (u/s Gertrude, First Player) at Storytellers Theatre Arts, *Magic Under Glass* (Polly, Spirit) and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Congregant) at Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts, and *Beauty and the Beast* (Madame de la Grande Bouche) at Children's Theatre of Annapolis.

Malaya Press is a senior BM with an outside field in BS theatre arts management from Baldwin, Long Island, New York. Their previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Second Spirit). Outside credits include *IPAI Fairhope Scenes Concert: The Turk in Italy* (Fiorilla) at International Performing Arts Institute, *Street Scene* (Rose) and *Hänsel und Gretel* (Gretel) at Ithaca College School of Music, and *Puffs* (Sally Perks, Various) at IC Second Stage.

Gina O'Sullivan is a senior BM music education major from Binghamton, New York. Outside credit includes *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (Mother/Squirrel) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop.

Stephanie Monteiro is a junior BM with an outside field in BA journalism from Marlborough, Massachusetts.

Thomas Koo is a graduate MM vocal performance major from Granite Springs, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Magic Flute* (Tamino).

Zoe-Marie Fuentes is a senior BM vocal performance and music education major from the Catskill Mountains of New York. Outside credit includes *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (La Rainette) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop.

Nick Jones is a sophomore BM vocal performance and music education major from East Syracuse, New York. Outside credit includes *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (L'Arbre) at Ithaca College's Opera Workshop.

Biographies

Cast from Opera Ithaca

Praised for her “perfectly spun, silvery soprano” and “brilliant, crystalline top,” soprano **Elena Galván** has gained recognition as a soprano with “deft timing and repartee of a natural comedienne” with a “bubbly personality and wicked sense [of] fun.” Elena recently made her debut at Hawaii Opera Theatre as Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, a role she also performed at Florida Grand Opera, and returned to Opera San José to perform Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Papagena and Pamina (cover) in *Die Zauberflöte*. She was featured in a filmed version of *Gianni Schicchi* as Lauretta with Opera Ithaca, performed in virtual concerts for Livermore Valley Opera, and joined Fort Worth Opera as the title role of a workshop of *Poppea* (Lowe) at the start of the pandemic. As a Young Artist with Florida Grand Opera, Elena sang roles to critical acclaim including *Un ballo in maschera* (Oscar), *Don Pasquale* (Norina), *Carmen* (Frasquita) and *The Passenger* (Yvette). She has also performed with Opera Santa Barbara, Livermore Valley Opera, First Coast Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Kentucky Opera, Opera Saratoga, Virginia Opera, and more. This past year, Elena made her debut with the Villages Philharmonic and the Miami Orchestra. Also on the concert stage, Elena performed Mahler’s 4th Symphony with the Oakland Symphony, the World Premiere of Jorge Martin’s “Cuban in Vermont” with the NuDeco Ensemble in Miami, Handel’s *Messiah* with The Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, Binghamton Downtown Singers, The Arts at Grace Series. She also joined Out of the Box Opera for “Diva Cage Match.” Elena holds degrees in Vocal Performance from Ithaca College and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. www.elenagalvan.com

Dann Coakwell, tenor and Ithaca College voice faculty member, can be heard as a soloist on the Grammy-winning *The Sacred Spirit of Russia* (2014), the Grammy-nominated *The Singing Guitar* (2020), *The Hope of Loving* (2019) and *Considering Matthew Shepard* (2016), as well as the critically praised *Zabur* (2016). He has sung throughout Europe, Japan, and the Americas, under renowned conductors such as Helmuth Rilling, Masaaki Suzuki, Monica Huggett, William Christie, Nicholas McGegan, Matthew Halls, María Guinand, and Craig Hella Johnson. Having performed in venues such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, he has appeared with acclaimed organizations such as Internationale Bachakademie Stuttgart in Germany, Bach Collegium Japan, Orquesta Sinfónica de Venezuela, Pacific Baroque Orchestra in Canada, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra in San Francisco, Oregon Bach Festival, Portland and Indianapolis baroque orchestras, Conspirare, and the symphony orchestras of Orlando, Charlotte, Nashville, Indianapolis, Quad Cities, and Kansas City. www.danncoakwell.com

Biographies

Cast from Opera Ithaca (Cont.)

Steven Stull has lived and performed in Ithaca since 1986 and appears regularly with Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, Society for New Music, The Arts at Grace, Rochester Philharmonic, and Opera Ithaca. He has been a soloist in sixty performances with Symphoria, Syracuse Symphony, and Syracuse Opera, and has sung nearly eighty performances with the West Virginia Symphony. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and Oberlin College Conservatory, Steven has also appeared with Glimmerglass Opera, Tri-Cities Opera, Artpark, BAM, Kyrgyz State Opera, Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh, American Modern Ensemble, Oswego Opera, Anchorage Festival of Music, Fredonia Bach and Beyond Festival, and orchestras in Buffalo, Erie, and Jacksonville. Since 1990, Steven and choreographer Jeanne Goddard have presented an eclectic series of music, theatre, and dance performances on their organic vegetable farm overlooking Cayuga Lake in Ithaca, NY, and in 2013 they founded the organization Triphammer Arts. Steven's numerous recordings are available from operacowpokes.com.

Mariya Kaganskaya would like to update her bio to the following: Hailed for her "rich mezzo" (OPERA Magazine), Mariya Kaganskaya recently created the role of Teacher in the Santa Fe Opera's world premiere production of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*, the recording of which earned the GRAMMY Award for Best Opera Recording. Appearances in the 2021-2022 Season include *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat* (Rowan) and *Hansel and Gretel* (Sandman) with Opera Ithaca, *L'amico Fritz* (Beppe) with Teatro Grattacielo, and debuts as the *Pique Dame* (Polina) and the Mezzo soloist in Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky cantata and Mahler's 3rd Symphony. Other recent credits include *Le nozze di Figaro* (Cherubino), *Werther* (Charlotte (cover)/Käthchen), *Florencia en el Amazonas* (Paula), *Salome* (Herodias (cover)/Page), and *Frida* (Mrs. Rockefeller/Natalia) at Florida Grand Opera, and *La Cenerentola* (Tisbe), *Madama Butterfly* (Suzuki), and *Third Wood Sprite* in Rusalka at Arizona Opera. Additional credits include *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Mexican Woman) at Opera Santa Barbara, and *Trouble in Tahiti* (Dinah), *Così fan tutte* (Dorabella), *L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Ottavia) and the title role of Serse at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Her recent awards include First Place in the Lois Alba Aria Competition, the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, the Gershwin International Music Competition, the St. Petersburg Opera Guild Competition, the Pacific Musical Society Competition, the Eastern and Southeastern Regions of the NATS Artist Awards, and the San Francisco District of the Metropolitan Opera National Council. She is the third-place winner of the 2020 Edward M. Murray International Competition of Voice.

Biographies

Cast from Opera Ithaca (Cont.)

Praised for his “healthy and soaring tenor voice” (The Herald Times), Korean American **Brad Bickhardt** is a vibrant and versatile performer in both the operatic and musical theatre canon. Highlight performances have included *L’elisir d’amore* (Nemorino), *West Side Story* (Tony), and *La traviata* (Alfredo), as well as originating the role of Colin in *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat*. Additional 2021-2022 appearances have included filming *Stone Soup* for Tri-Cities Opera, appearing in recital with Chelsea Opera and Maryland Opera, and as a guest artist at Baldwin Wallace Conservatory. Mr. Bickhardt has previously appeared with Opera Saratoga in their production of *Man of La Mancha* under the baton of Broadway conductor, Laura Bergquist, as well as in Opera Naples’ productions of *West Side Story* and *La traviata*. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, he was on the roster of The Glimmerglass Festival in productions of Wagner’s *Die Feen* as well as *The Sound of Music*, and in 2019, was a member of the prestigious Wolf Trap Opera Studio in which he covered and performed principal roles in *L’heure espagnole*, *L’île de Merlin*, *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, and *Ariadne auf Naxos*. On the concert stage, he has appeared as the tenor soloist in Schubert’s *Mass in G*, Beethoven’s *Choral Fantasy*, and Mozart’s *Miss Brevis in B ♭*. Mr. Bickhardt received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Vocal Performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music where he appeared in thirteen productions with IU Opera Theater as well as serving as an Associate Instructor of Voice. He was named an Encouragement Award from the Central Region of the Metropolitan Opera National Council and is a proud alumnus of the rosters of Tri-Cities Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, Opera Naples, Wolf Trap Opera, Opera Saratoga, and Charlottesville Opera. His primary vocal instruction has been under renowned baritone Andreas Poulimenos and husband and wife team Kevin and Heidi Grant Murphy. He joins Arizona Opera for their 2022-2023 season.

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff

Christopher Zemliauskas is Assistant Professor at Ithaca College and the Music Director for Opera and Musical Theatre, where he has conducted productions of *La Clemenza di Tito*, *Cendrillon*, *The Medium*, *The Old Maid and the Thief*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Ragtime*, *Company*, *Sister Act*, and *Rent*. Prior to this he was Music Associate Professor at NYU Steinhardt and Assistant Music Director of the Opera Program at CU, Boulder. Recent professional credits include Lucy at Milwaukee Opera Theatre, as well as *Acis and Galatea*, *The Burning Fiery Furnace* (Britten), *Our Town*, *Carmen*, *A Little Night Music*, *West Side Story*, and *Carousel* at Central City Opera. Additional credits include the world premiere of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* in Berlin, Germany, as well as music staff for The San Francisco Opera, The Minnesota Opera, Opera Colorado, Opera Theater of the Rockies, Indianapolis Opera, Music Academy of the West, Opera Company of Middlebury, The Hangar Theatre, and The Merola Opera Program.

Ben Robinson is the Artistic Director of Opera Ithaca www.operaitthaca.org and Raylynmor Opera (New Hampshire), and the Managing Director of Lyric Fest - www.lyricfest.org (Philadelphia's art song concert series). As a stage and film director, he has mounted numerous productions, highlighted by new productions for which he also wrote new English libretti: *Madame Butterfly*, *Macbeth*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Bastien and Bastienne*, and Pauline Viardot's *Cendrillon*. Recent projects include co-creating Lyric Fest's video series, #ConqueringSocialDistanceOneSongataTime, and directing stage productions of *Suor Angelica* (WTAMU), *La tragédie de Carmen*, and *Iolanthe*, and film productions of *Pagliacci* and *Bastien and Bastienne* for Raylynmor Opera and *Gianni Schicchi* for Opera Ithaca, the latter of which Opera Magazine heralded as the "deftest use... of Covid-era technology as part of modern operatic reality" and was later acclaimed by Opernwelt as one of the "Top Choices" of the operas presented throughout the pandemic. This season, projects include film productions of *Hansel and Gretel* and *The Impresario*, stage productions of *The Medium*, *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat* (World Premiere), *Le nozze di Figaro*, *La Cenerentola*, and *Falstaff*, and the first ever music video by the Opera Cowgirls. He is a lecturer of opera at Ithaca College and resides in Philadelphia.

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff (Cont.)

Sally McCune's work has received performances across North America and Europe. A native of Detroit, she was educated at University of Toronto, California Institute of the Arts and Cornell University where she studied with Steven Stucky, Roberto Sierra and Mel Powell. Her work has been recognized by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the American Composers Orchestra and the New York Foundation for the Arts and is published by G. Schirmer, Hal Leonard, Heritage Music Press and Murphy Music Press. McCune has served as guest composer at institutions and festivals across the US, including the Eastman School of Music, University of Georgia, University of South Carolina South, The College of New Jersey, Seal Bay Festival and Songfest. She has taught at Cornell University and Syracuse University and is now on faculty at Ithaca College. *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat* is McCune's first opera.

Yvonne Gray is a writer and musician. She studied at the University of Edinburgh and the University of the Highlands and Islands. She has worked with visual artists, musicians and writers on a variety of collaborative projects - most recently, *Words into Music* for the George Mackay Brown Centenary, 2021. She has received a Scottish Arts Council Writers' Bursary and a Hi-Arts Award. *Reflections*, a collaboration with artist John Cumming, was shortlisted for the Callum MacDonald Memorial Award for Scottish poetry pamphlets in 2013. Her work has been published widely in journals and anthologies, including *New Writing Scotland*, *These Islands*, *We Sing* (2011), *The Dark Horse* and *Beyond the Swelkie* (both 2021). Other publications include *Swappan the Mallimacks* (2006), *In the Hanging Valley* (2008), *Hours* (2011), and *Reflections* (2012).

Rachel Lampert is the artistic director emerita of Kitchen Theatre Company, Ithaca, New York where she served for twenty years before stepping down in 2017. She has written the book and lyrics for six produced musicals with composer/collaborator Larry Pressgrove, as well as a dozen family-oriented musicals with composers Lesley Greene, John Coyne and Kevin Rockower. Her solo play *The Soup Comes Last* about her experience staging *West Side Story* in China was produced in Ithaca, New York City and on tour. She received the SALT (Syracuse Live Theater Award) Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017. This is her third collaboration with Sally Lamb McCune (*Scoot, Sizzle and Slide*, a dance play without words and the incidental music for *Our Town* at the Kitchen Theatre Company). *We Wear the Sea Like a Coat* is her first opera. Thanks to Yvonne Gray, Sally Lamb McCune, Ben Robinson and all the artists for their work and to Opera Ithaca and Ithaca College for bringing a new opera to the stage.

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff (Cont.)

Rebecca Gottbetter is a senior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in scenic art and scenic design from Woodland Hills, California. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *House of Desires* (Scenic Charge), *Stop Kiss* (Technical Director, Props Master), *Antigone Project* (Assistant Scenic Designer), *Marisol* (Props), and *Twelfth Night* (Scenic Artist). Outside credits include two thesis films and a student publication: *Black Girls Dont Get Love* (Production Designer), *City On A Hill* (Production Designer), and *Embrace: A Student Publication* (Graphic Design, Photography) at Ithaca College.

Cali Trainor is a junior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in carpentry, lighting design, scenic art, and scenic design. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *Head Over Heels* (Assistant Master Carpenter), *Shifting Spaces* (Assistant Scenic Charge), and *Sister Act* (Scenic Artist). Outside credits include *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Scenic Designer, Master Carpenter) and *James and the Giant Peach* (Scenic Designer, Master Carpenter) at YGENYK Productions.

Hannah Sotnek is a senior BFA theatre production and design major with an area of interest in scenic design from Boston, Massachusetts. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *House of Desires* (Scenic Designer), *The Other Shore* (Technical Director), *Gather Ye Children* (Scenic Designer), *Sister Act* (Assistant Props Manager), and *Pippin* (Assistant Scenic Designer). Outside credits include serving as the Props Artisan for the Summer 2019 Season at Shakespeare & Co. and *Dawn Rising* (Production Designer), *Galatea* (Production Designer), and *Low Tide* (Production Designer) at Ithaca College Park School.

Keegan Webber is a senior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in lighting design and lighting technology from Sun Valley, Idaho. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *House of Desires* (Production Electrician), *The Trojan Women* (MA Programmer, Master Electrician), *She Kills Monsters* (Production Electrician), *Antigone Project* (Master Electrician), and *Ragtime* (Electrician). Outside credits include *Lainey Wilson* (Lighting Designer), *Pink Martini* (Lighting Designer), and *Jewel* (Lighting Designer) at the Sun Valley Pavillion and *Time For Three* (Lighting Designer) and *Robert Cray* (Lighting Designer) at The Argyros Performing Arts Center.

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff (Cont.)

Jeanne Goddard has created choreography for opera, musical theatre, and chamber ensembles for forty years, working with the Eastman School of Music, Syracuse Opera, Tri-Cities Opera, Western New York Opera Theatre, the Buffalo Guitar Quartet, the Ariadne String Quartet, Ithaca Brass, and the original Ithaca Opera. Her work has also been commissioned by dance companies and public television, and she has led movement workshops for singers at Glimmerglass Opera and SUNY Fredonia. Having co-founded three modern dance repertory companies, Jeanne currently co-directs the CRS Barn Studio in Lansing, New York, producing multidisciplinary performance events for Triphammer Arts Inc. with her partner, Steven Stull. Jeanne trained and performed with Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, Lois Welk/American Dance Asylum and others, and in 2001 she traveled to Kyrgyzstan to teach and perform. From 1987-2016 Jeanne chaired the dance program at Wells College, where she received the Excellence in Teaching award upon her retirement. She holds a M.A. in Dance and a Certificate in Movement Analysis.

Blaise Bryski has been opera coach in the Ithaca College School of Music since 2012. He is also the visiting lecturer in piano at Cornell University and a long-time member of Mother Mallard, the world's oldest synthesizer band. He recently gave the world premiere of 'Breath & Hammers', a concerto for piano and wind ensemble by Mark Winges. In addition, Mr. Bryski is an accomplished fortepianist and holds a doctorate in 18th-century performance practice from Cornell University.

Kelsey Roy is a junior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in carpentry and props from Natick, Massachusetts. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *Sister Act* (Scenic Carpenter), *Pippin* (Props Artisan), *The Trojan Women* (Master Carpenter), and *RENT* (Assistant Props Supervisor).

Nell Walker is a senior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in costume technology and props from New York, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *The Other Shore* (Costume Design), *House of Desires* (Costume Technician), *The Magic Flute* (Scenic Charge Artist), *Dido and Aeneas* (Wardrobe Supervisor), and *Sister Act* (Assistant Props Supervisor). Outside credit includes *Fade* (Head Props Supervisor) at Kitchen Theatre Company.

August Rich is a sophomore BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in carpentry, props, and scenic art from Rochester, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *House of Desires* (Assistant Scenic Charge), *RENT* (Deck Crew), *The Magic Flute* (Props Team), *Head Over Heels* (Props Team), and *The Trojan Women* (Props Team).

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff (Cont.)

Cody Kiedrowski is a senior BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in carpentry and lighting technology from Ontario, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *Dido and Aeneas* (Master Electrician), *Antigone Project* (Master Carpenter), *House of Desires* (Technical Director), and *The Magic Flute* (Master Carpenter).

Lilijana Branch is a sophomore BFA theatre production and design major with areas of interest in costume design and costume technology from Ashtabula, Ohio. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *RENT* (Assistant Scenic Charge) and *Head Over Heels* (Wardrobe Crew).

Christina Johns is a senior BFA stage management major. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *House of Desires* (Associate Stage Manager), *Head Over Heels* (Associate Stage Manager), *2020 New Play Incubator* (Production Stage Manager), *Sister Act* (Associate Stage Manager), and *Tatjana in Color* (Production Assistant). Outside credit includes *Giants in the Sky* (Stage Manager) at Interlochen Center for the Arts.

Steven Marti is a senior BFA stage management major from Hunterdon, New Jersey. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *The Other Shore* (Production Stage Manager), *Head Over Heels* (Assistant Director), *Marie Antionette* (Associate Stage Manager), *Hedda Gabler* (Associate Stage Manager), and *Violet* (Production Assistant).

Wavyne White is a sophomore BFA theatre production and design major with an area of interest in props from Phoenix, Arizona. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *Sister Act* (Props), *Antigone Project* (Production Assistant), *Sender* (Production Assistant), and *RENT* (Assistant Lighting Designer).

Maggie Caradonna is a sophomore BFA stage management and BA psychology double major from Arlington, Massachusetts. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *The Other Shore* (Associate Stage Manager) and *Head Over Heels* (Production Assistant). Outside credits include *The Who's Tommy* (Stage Manager), *The Three Musketeers* (Stage Manager), and *Me and My Girl* (Associate Stage Manager) at Arlington High School.

Kate Barry is a first-year BFA stage management major from Libertyville, Illinois. Outside credits include *Shrek The Musical* (Production Stage Manager) and *A Love Letter* (Production Stage Manager) at Libertyville High School.

Biographies

Artistic and Production Staff (Cont.)

Ellie Berry is a first-year BFA stage management major from Brunswick, Maine. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credit includes *The Other Shore* (Production Assistant).

Abigail Franzo is a first-year BFA stage management major from Mt. Pocono, Pennsylvania. Outside credits include *Pippin* (Production Stage Manager), *The Fantasticks* (Production Stage Manager), and *Almost, Maine* (Production Stage Manager) at Pocono Mountain East High School.

Daniella Berman is a senior BFA stage management major from New York, New York. Previous Ithaca College Theatre credits include *RENT* (Production Stage Manager), *Proof* (Production Stage Manager), *Mary Jane* (Production Stage Manager), *Dido and Aeneas* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *Violet* (Production Assistant). Outside credits include *The Police* (Production Stage Manager), *Queens Girl In The World* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *An Odyssey* (Production Assistant) at Hangar Theatre, and *Catch Me If You Can* (Assistant Stage Manager), *The Odd Couple* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *Grease* (Assistant Stage Manager) at New London Barn Playhouse.

Orchestra

Violin I

Yu Ray Chu, concertmaster
Victoria Keenan
Katelyn Levine

Violin II

Finn McGregor
Olivia Hutchings
Ashley Apanavicius

Viola

Noah Ceterski
Laura Avila
Lydia Dustin

Cello

Laura Van Voris
Alex Renzoni

Bass

Jack Pesch
Zach Naughtright

Flute

Lila Weiser
Laurie Hall

Clarinet

Jenna Beaudoin
Julie Kratz

Oboe

Landon Locke

Bassoon

Eden Treado

Horn

Evie Morse

Trumpet

Nathalie Mejia

Trombone

Miranda Lape

Percussion

Patrick Roche
Ethan Pinckert
Gregory Savino

Crews

Audio

Jasmine Williams
Bella Woody
Grant Halliburton
Ethan Horbury

Electrics

yair assayag
Joshua Cheeseman
Quin Frederich
Ares Garcia
Gracie Gleason
Jackson Guarino-Sanders
Mara Hanson
Jake Jervis
Adam Kedik
Kristopher Kiyoi
Amy Shapiro
Abigail Thompson
Chloe Zonis
Sam Henson
Natalie Roenke
Scout Santoro

Costumes

Khani Cossa
Jr Dandrea
Giovanna DiSanto
Claire Grotto
Sarah Marsh

Carpentry

Kathrynn Meuser
Laurn Ward
Miriam Schatz
Sam Barao
Ruth McCoy Miles
Mikayla Velazquez
Carly Gelfand
Max von Kolnitz
Aiden Connor

Props

Kaitlyn Malone
Brianna Sink
Sydney Wilson
Zack Blumenstyk
Riley Fortin
Mason Risser
Jules Elcik
Jackson Leuenberger

Scenic Art

Will Coleman
Ryan Crooker
Lexi Esposito
Amelia Graff
Taylor Narcisse
Avery Saad
Rebecca Newma

Faculty & Staff

Chair, Lighting Design Mentor, Theatre Minor Coordinator.....	Steve TenEyck
Associate Chair.....	Cynthia Henderson
Coordinator of Theatre Operations.....	Mary Scheidegger
Production Associate, BFM SM Area Coordinator.....	Amanda Spooner
Artistic Associate.....	Aimee Rials
Administrative Assistant.....	Sherri Dunham
Lighting and Sound Supervisor.....	Mike Garrett
Scenic Design Mentor.....	Daniel Zimmerman
Guest Scenic Artist.....	Stiller Zusman
Costume Design Mentor.....	Amanda Gladu
Sound Design Mentor.....	Don Tindall
Props Mentor.....	Joey Bromfeld
Costume Shop Manager.....	Lilly Westbrook
Costume Shop Cutter and Draper.....	Ainsley Anderson
BATS Area Coordinator.....	Saviana Stanescu Condeescu
BFA Acting Area Coordinator.....	Paula Murray Cole
BFA MT Area Coordinator.....	Gavin Mayer
BS TAM Area Coordinator.....	Angela Branneman
BFA TPD Area Coordinator, Scenic Art Mentor.....	Ruth Barber
Dramaturg Mentor.....	Walter Chon
Dance Minor Mentor.....	Amy O'Brien

Acknowledgements

Ivy Walz, Associate Professor and Interim Assistant Dean - Mezzo-Soprano
Tamara Acosta, Assistant Professor - Soprano
Dann Coakwell, Assistant Professor - Tenor
Martha Guth, Assistant Professor - Soprano
Keely Futterer, Lecturer - Soprano (Fall 2021)
Brad Hougham, Professor and Associate Provost for Academic Affairs - Baritone
Jennifer Kay, Associate Professor - Mezzo-Soprano
Sidney Outlaw, Assistant Professor - Baritone
Patrice Pastore, Professor - Soprano
Dawn Pierce, Assistant Professor - Mezzo-Soprano
Rachel Schutz, Assistant Professor - Soprano
Alison Wahl, Assistant Professor - Soprano
Marc Webster, Associate Professor - Bass
Grant Cooper, Director of Orchestras

Thanks to the Literary Estate of George Mackay Brown for permission to use the title We Wear the Sea Like a Coat, a line from the poem “To a Hamnavoe Poet of 2093” by George Mackay Brown published in Following a Lark (1996) and The Collected Poems of George Mackay Brown (2015), both published by John Murray.

Grateful thanks to Thora Fettes who has given permission for the use in Act 2 Scene 2 of “Isie’s Gaan tae Brew” written by her father, songwriter Allie Windwick.