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Moorpark College Theatre Arts Department Proudly Presents The Curious Savage

By John Patrick

2023 Fall Mainstage Peformances: October 12th, 13th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 21st at 8:00PM Peformances: October 15th and 22nd at 2:00PM ASL Interpreters Provided on October 14th at 8:00PM

> Run Time: Approximately 2 hours There will be a 10-minute intermission

> > Setting

The play takes place in the living room of The Cloisters, a sanitorium in Massachusetts. The time is the early 1950's early March.



Act I Scene 1 Night Scene 2 The next morning

Act II Scene 1 That night, after dinner

~10-minute Intermission~

Act II Scene 2 A few nights later

> Act III A few minutes later

Director/Producer: Suzanne Fagan Assistant Director: Courtney VanScoyk Assistant Director: Amy Jiménez Stage Manager: Zac Pelc Assistant Stage Manager: Mollie Schaefer

Administration for Moorpark College, the Arts, Media, and Communication Studies Division, and the Performing Arts Center

President of Moorpark College Dr. Julius Sokenu Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. John Forbes Vice President of Business Services Dr. Jennifer Clark Interim Vice President of Student Support Dr. Khushner Dadabhoy Division Dean Dr. Elizabeth David Department Chair Dr. Nathan Bowen PAC Technical Director. Ariana Burrell PAC Tech II Brian Koehler PAC Tech I Melissa Lay Box Office Manager/PAC Assistant Krista Lederer Division Office Administrator Victoria Collie



The Casts

Cast: ABC

Performance Dates

October 12 @ 8:00pm, October 14 @ 8:00pm (with ASL Interpreters), October 15 @ 2:00pm, October 20 @ 8:00pm Mrs. Savage - Anna Belle Sanders Dr. Emmett – Andrew D. Pérez Dr. Johnson – Conner Noeske-Landis (20th) Dr. Johnson - Brady Hubbard (12th, 14th, 15th) Miss. Willie - Luna Aguilar Miriam - Christina "Charms" Harms Gardener – Hunter Klotz Mrs. Paddy's Husband – Hurasp Hohmann Titus - Reginald Whigham Samuel – Hunter Uliasz Lily Belle – Mikayla Flores Fairy May- Natalia Valentina Perez Varas Hannibal - Levi Hammond Mrs. Paddy – Jana Scott Florence – Alex Spangler Jeffrey – Sebastien Kessler

Cast: KK

Performance Dates

October 13 @ 8:00pm, October 17 @ 10:00am (with ASL interpreters), October 19 @ 8:00pm, October 21 @ 8:00pm, October 22 @ 2:00pm Mrs. Savage – Kourtney Westphal Dr. Emmett – Andrew D. Pérez Dr. Johnson – Conner Noeske-Landis (17th, 19th, 21st, 22nd) Dr. Johnson - Brady Hubbard (13th) Miss. Willie – Valerie Morales Miriam – Christina "Charms" Harms Gardener – Hunter Klotz Mrs. Paddy's Husband – Hurasp Hohmann Titus – Garrett Wilson Samuel – Hunter Uliasz Lily Belle – Rachel Ahern Fairy May- Sabrina Ebright Hannibal – Sebastien Kessler Mrs. Paddy – Stephanie Hickman Florence – Tessa Hallock Jeffrey – Levi Hammond

Technical Theatre Crew

PAC Technical Director: Ariana Burrell Theatre Technical Director: Brian Koehler Lighting Designer: Melissa Lay Scenic Designer & Tech/Scenic Faculty: Brian Koehler Faculty Costume/Makeup Supervisor: Haleh Risdana

Costume Designer/Costume Construction: Kristen Fernandez Mrs. Savage Costume Designer/Construction: Anna Belle Sanders Costume Construction/Stitcher: Rhiann Olshane Mrs. Paddy's Husband Costume Stylist/Stitcher: Noa Walker Dresser Supervisor: Kristen Fernandez Assistant: Dresser Supervisor: Noa Walker Dresser: Bella Whitson Dresser: Lizette Deemar Dressers & Stitcher support TTHA M27A Costume Design Makeup Supervisor: Paris Bacharach Nola Cannon M.U.A Kris Arias M.U.A Zoe Bowlds M.U.A Nola Cannon M.U.A Makeup Artist support TTHA M28 Production Makeup

Prop Master: Makayla King Assistant Prop Master: Rylie Pascual Lead Set Dresser: Lucia Salazar-Davidson Audio Designer: Lia Eacott Assistant Technical Director - Scene Shop: Ryan Kuzma Master Carpenters: Dante Alanis, Mollie Schafer Lead Carpenter: Elizabeth Kastner Charge Artists: Morpheus Kostromin, Maddie Paniccia Lead Painter: Bucky Delgado Light Board Operator: Sienna Nurnberger Sound Board Operator: Lia Eacott Stage Left Crew Lead: Makana Lani Uchimiya Backstage Crew: Rylie Pascual, Faith Vom Cleff Zaarour

Scenic Construction/Painting and Lighting Crew: Dante Alanis, Paris Bacharach, Adam Bahir, James Chesla, Bucky Delgado, Kiana Cowles Meyer, Lia Eacott, Christina Harms, Amy Jiménez, Raquel Kanalz, Elizabeth Kastner, Hunter Klotz, Morpheus Kostromin, Ryan Kuzma, Giselle Larios, Luca LaVigna, Christian Molieri, Sienna Nurnberger, Paul Oseguera, Maddie Paniccia, Rylie Pascual, Zac Pelc, Coten Randall, Mollie Schafer, Makana Lani Uchimiya, Adrianna Valdivia, Faith Vom Cleff Zaarour, Noa Walker, Josh Yates, Gabe Valentine

Participating Class (Stagecrafts): Steven Alonso, Samvel Aramyan, Cass Blake, Audrey Fischer, Mikayla Flores, Charles Jackson, Claire Jiao, Raquel Kanalz, Luca LaVigna, Jackson Leighton, Rylie Pascual, Cameron Pench, Kala Porras, Evelyn Rogers, Jesus Rosales, Isabel Salas, Mae Simoneau, Alex Spangler, Anastasia Swanson, Avery Webster, Cass Whitehead, Josh Yates

Director's Note

Directing *The Curious Savage* has been exactly what I expected and nothing like what I was expecting.

I knew this play would be character driven.

I knew this play would touch on mental health, that mental health is health and that the stigma regarding mental health would be highlighted.

I knew this play would require a close-knit cast.

What I didn't expect was how committed the students would be to the new, somewhat avant garde approach to their characters. The cast did animal studies, an acting exercise made popular by acting teacher Lee Strasberg where actors study an animal and bring the animal traits to their characters. Visiting the Santa Barbara Zoo and using one rehearsal to physically become those animals and amalgamate them into the characters was an amazing experience to witness as I felt it brought a lot of these actors to a new level in their craft.

The actors also surprisingly dived in head first with sensitivity and respect when fleshing out the reasons behind why these characters were guests in the sanitorium. Being in one of these facilities back in the 1950's was quite different then reaching out for help these days. The discussions regarding LGBTQ discrimination, PTSD, misdiagnosis and over prescribing medications were sobering as were the videos we researched from the 1950's depicting the earnest efforts of the Dr.'s and staff.

Lastly, the characters who play the guests of The Cloisters, are comfortable with the eccentric behavior of each other, and even prize it. It was essential that the cast felt the same way about each other. Kindness and respect for each other's little quirks, and different ways of approaching their characters needed to be present for everyone to feel safe to explore, fail and grow. I loved this charming play the first time I read it, but it is truly because of each and every one of these actors, how they championed each other, how that is so easily seen on the stage, how they brought elements of the characters that I didn't see before, that has made me love this play even more than I thought I could.

I hope you take away from this play the kindness and playfulness of the characters. I hope you see how mental health is health and we should be able to freely discuss it and seek help. I hope you enjoy it even more than you thought you would.

Special Thanks

John Loprieno, Dina Pielaet. Clare Sadnik and the MakerSpace, Tyler Alexander, Heidi Martin, Angela Giglia, Reece Oliver, Kodi Atkins, Kaela Watso, Julius Sokenu, John Forbes, Jennifer Clark, Khusher Dadabhoy, Elizabeth David, Nathan Bowen, Jake Phillips, Brian, Darraty and Ryland, Nick McLouth, Kelly Little, Nick Pappas, Aubrey Saverino, Moira MacDonald, Monica Garcia, John Forbes, Veronica Gobrogge, Aminta Chinchilla, Sarah Graue, Kelsey Stewart, Campus Canyon College Preparatory Academy, Robert Sack, Madeline Nelson, Allison Case Barton, Brianna Cruz, Michaela DuBois, Breanne Insley. All are welcome to join Student Health Center's

> Overcoming Overthinking Nov. 8 & Dec 6 3-4 in PA 107

Social Skills Nov. 15 & Dec. 13 3-4 in PA 107

Confidence Training Oct. 25 & Nov. 29 3-4 in PA 107

Mental Health Groups

Anxiety & Stress Management Every Monday 3-4 in PA 107

> Trauma Healing Oct. 11 & Nov. 22 3-4 in PA 107

The Cast



Luna Aguilar



Rachel Ahern



Ryland Fagan



Sabrina Ebright



Mikayla Flores



Tessa Hallock



Levi Hammond



Christina "Charms" Harm



Stephanie Hickman



Hurasp Hohmann



Brady Hubbard



Sebastien Kessler



Hunter Klotz



Valerie Morales



Connor Noeske -Landis



Andrew D. Pérez



Anna Belle Sanders



Kourtney Westphal Reginald Whigham



Jana Scott

Garrett Wilson



Alex Spangler



Natalia Valentina Perez



Hunter Uliasz



Cast Bios

Luna Aguilar (she/her) (Miss Willie) has been acting for over 14 years! She is so incredibly excited to perform with this amazing cast. Her previous roles include Ifigenia in *Electricidad*, Pat in *Kinky Boots*, and Anita in *West Side Story*! She hopes you enjoy the show!

Rachel Ahern (she/her) (Lilly Belle) is so excited to be performing on Moorpark's main stage for the first time! Her most recent experience includes the Moorpark College One Acts, and she has been involved with the theater community since age 10.

Sabrina Ebright (she/her) (Fairy May) is ecstatic to be performing onstage once again after her Moorpark College debut last spring in *The Tempest* as a Sprite. She would like to thank the cast and crew and everyone who offered her support. She hopes that this show will be as heartwarming and meaningful to watch as it has been to create!

Ryland Fagan (he/him) (John Thomas) is in 6th grade. This is his first show. He enjoys video games and anime.

Mikayla Flores (she/her) (Lily Belle) is ecstatic to be a part of the Savage family and her first production at Moorpark College! Previous performances include *Little Shop of Horrors* (u/s Chiffon, u/s Ronnette) and *Peter Pan* (First Brave). Mikayla would like to thank her family, friends, and this incredible cast for their constant love and support. She'd like to say a special thank you to Suzanne for giving her this opportunity to learn and grow as an actor.

Tessa Hallock (she/her) (Florence) is so excited to be performing in her first main stage production at Moorpark College. She feels so honored to have been given this role and is so excited to see how people will react to this character. She would like to thank all of the directors and crew for working so hard to make this show so amazing. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their support. Enjoy the show!

Levi Hammond (he/him) (Jeffrey/Hannibal) is a pretty cool guy. He is double casted in *The Curious Savage* as Jeff and Hannibal. If you would like to catch Levi play both characters make sure to come and watch the play as many times as possible. Fun fact, Levi can't play the violin or piano.

Christina Harms/Charms (she/her) (Miriam) is excited to have her supportive role on the main stage

production. You may have seen her as a Sprite in *The Tempest*. Charms would like to thank the cast and crew for all of their hard work and support. @_christina_harms

Stephanie Hickman (she/her) (Mrs. Paddy) is making her stage debut and couldn't be more excited to be playing the role of Mrs. Paddy here at Moorpark College. She would like to thank Suzanne Fagan for giving her this opportunity and being an amazing director and teacher. She is very grateful for being able to work alongside such a talented cast and crew. We hope you enjoy the show and have as much fun watching it as we do performing it.

Hurasp Hohmann (he/him) (Mrs. Paddy's Husband) is excited to be performing in *The Curious Savage* at Moorpark College. He has not participated in theatre yet at Moorpark because he is studying engineering. He looks forward to performing a rude and careless husband to Mrs.Paddy. -_-

Brady Hubbard (he/him) (Dr. Johnson) is very excited to perform in his first play at Moorpark College. He was raised in the mighty jungles of Canada by a gaggle of geese that rivaled Sebastien Kessler's. He would love to give a big thanks to Suzanne, Pebbles, and the cast for giving him this opportunity and giving him a bunch of friends along the way.

Sebastien Kessler (he/him) (Hannibal, Jeffrey) is super happy to perform in his first main stage play at Moorpark College. He was raised by a gaggle of geese in the wild jungles of Canada. He wants to thank Suzanne, Pebbles, the geese and the rest of the cast & crew for this amazing experience.

Hunter Klotz (he/him) (Gardener) is extremely excited to perform in his first main stage production at Moorpark College in a wonderful play! One of his hobbies and passions is gardening, so he feels like this role is perfect for him. Hunter is a violinist/violist and music major at Moorpark College branching out into other performing arts in order to expand his artistic pallete and repertoire.

Valerie Morales (she/her) (Miss Willie) is very ecstatic to be in this production with such a wonderful and brilliant cast. This is her first show on mainstage but was previously seen in the one acts last spring where she played Paz in *Consagrada* and also co-directed a one act as well. Valerie would love to thank her family and close friends for their constant support and their help during the process!

Cast Bios

Conner Noeske-Landis (he/him) (Dr. Johnson) plays the sensational, outstanding, glamorous Dr. Johnson, AKA DJ. This is his first show in Moorpark College but he's been in shows at Royal High School. He has loved working with everyone and he hopes you enjoy hearing him scream just as much as he enjoys screaming. twitch.tv/puphs

Andrew D. Pérez (he/him) (Dr. Emmet) Is filled with excitement to be a part of his second main stage production here at Moorpark College! His previous roles include Spider the homeboy in *Electricidad*, the Pastor in *Consagrada* and the Officer/Kit-Kat poster artist in *Cabaret*. He is grateful to be a part of a cast with such talented people. He'd like to thank his family and friends for all of their continued love and support.

Natalia Valentina Perez (she/her) (Fairy May) is in her fourth production at Moorpark College, playing the role of Fairy May. She is fascinated by this story and all the characters, as well as all the work that was put behind it; nothing else would bring her more gladness than sharing this splendid piece to be enjoyed. She would also like to thank her mentors and peers for always encouraging her and helping her to maintain her spirit for acting.

Anna Belle Sanders (she/her) (Mrs. Savage) is so excited to finally be let out of the basement! She is delighted to be on the mainstage for the first time. Previous credits include Dresser Supervisor (*Cabaret*), Dresser Supervisor (*The Tempest*), Dresser Supervisor (*Electricidad*), Treadmill (*Survival of the Fitness*, Spring 2023 One Acts). She would like to thank her family, friends and Suzanne for all the love and support and a big shoutout to all the techies.

Jana Scott (she/her) (Mrs. Paddy) is thrilled to be in her first mainstage production (especially at her age)! It's been 54 years since her last stage appearance in the 6th grade. She would like to thank her instructors, Suzanne Fagan and John Loprieno, for their encouragement, friends and family for their support, and her husband for just being.

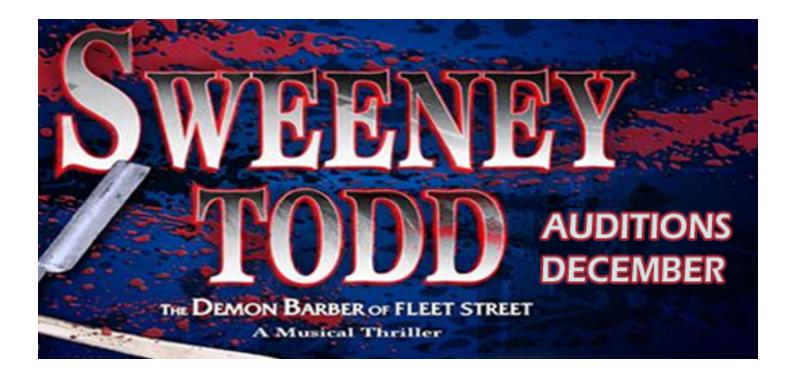
Alex Spangler (she/her) (Florence) is so excited to be in her first main stage production ever. Alex started acting about two years ago, but can most often be found writing/directing/producing behind the camera. She wants to thank Suzanne and the amazing cast for their support, and her mom for believing in her since literally day one. She can't wait for everyone to meet Florence!

Hunter Uliasz (he/him) (Samuel) is happy to be performing in *The Curious Savage* at Moorpark College. His previous roles he's had at Moorpark include Clifford Bradshaw in *Cabaret* and an inhabitant in The Tempest. He was also a part of Panic! Productions *Footloose* as Bickle/ensemble. He hopes you have a wonderful day and enjoy the show.

Kourtney Westphal (she/her) (Mrs. Savage) is so excited to play her first lead role in a mainstage production! You may have previously seen her in *Blithe Spirit* as Madame Arcati. She would like to thank her cousin, Rachel, for all her support and love, as well as her other family and friends. And finally, shout out to the cast and crew for making this show a "memory of loveliness."

Reginald Whigham (he/him) (Titus Savage) is proud to be a part of the Savage Family at Moorpark College. However, "curious" Senator Titus may be, Reginald hopes you have as much fun watching the character as he did developing the role. You can follow Reginald on his acting journey through Instagram @reginald7mua.

Garrett Wilson (he/him) (Titus Savage) is so excited to play Titus Savage and be in his first show at Moorpark College. With his last show being over a year ago (Angel in *Rent*), he was a bit nervous going into a play after so long, especially with such a different character than he's ever played before, but has loved every second of it! This show has been such an amazing experience! To the cast, crew, Suzanne, and his family, "you have a good seat." Enjoy the show!



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