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BACKSTAGEPASS

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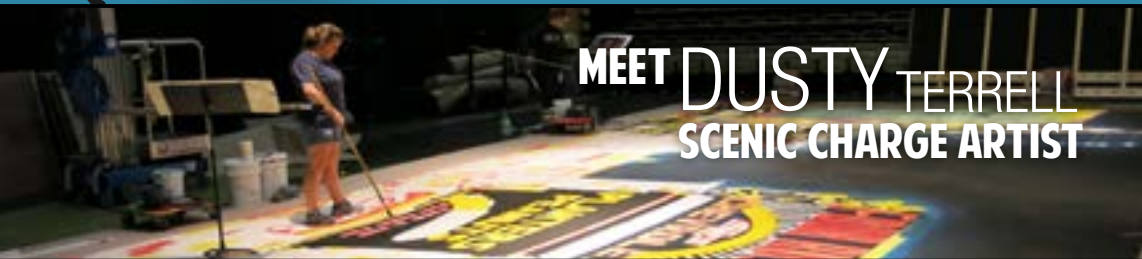
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"A CLASSIC BLEND OF **MUSIC, LAUGHTER, AND DANCING!**"

When Broadway hopeful Bobby Child heads to Deadrock, Nevada to escape an overzealous fiancée and foreclose on an abandoned theater, he discovers love, life and tap dancing in the desert.



MEET DUSTY TERRELL SCENIC CHARGE ARTIST

Photo Credits: Holly Porch

THE ART OF of DROP Painting

Q: How many large, full-stage backdrops have you painted for *Crazy for You*?

A: We created four backdrops for the show: a desert landscape, the New York City skyline circa 1930, and two for the Gaiety Theatre in Deadrock, Nevada – an interior of the theatre and a backstage view.

Q: How long did it take to create the backdrops?

A: Usually, it takes about a week to create a backdrop, depending on the complexity of the

design and the techniques we use to translate the information in full scale. More time is allotted for backdrops that need more detail. The New York City drop is the one I am most excited about. What makes it so interesting, other than being such a great visual, is the painting we had to do around translucent areas, which permits the back lighting to show through. We also sprayed, instead of brushed, additional details on the drop to create a softer, more natural look. For the Backstage Drop we also used a technique known as spattering, or shaking the brush in a controlled movement, to create an older, grimmer look on the drop.

Q: You also paint all the set pieces, any interesting things to look for?

A: When we start our design meetings, I have a conversation with each show's set designer to make sure we fulfill their vision for the production. He or she sends us drawings or renderings, which we then make tangible. Once our scene shop crew, Richard, Hal and Joe, have built the sets, they give them to me and my team, Sean Cox and Noelle Ruegg, and we paint the desired effects. One interesting detail that a majority of the audience may not notice

are the pieces for the backstage dressing rooms of the theatre. Before distressing the doors, we painted them three or four times and made them look nice. Painting in layers and then distressing, gives the doors an old, weathered look that evokes a theatre past its prime.

Q: When did you get involved in theatre?

A: I've been performing since I was a child and I've always gotten encouragement from my family. Living in rural Oklahoma didn't offer many opportunities to perform other than at church or school functions. Originally, I thought Microbiology was my future. It wasn't until my second semester of my freshman year of college that I realized I wanted to major in Theatre. And, when I discovered in my sophomore year that I could work in theatre as a scenic artist, my course was set and I later earned my MFA in Theatre Design.



Just a few of the tools Dusty needs to complete a drop.



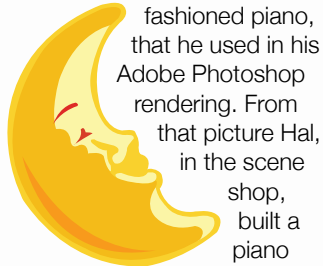
Completed cityscape drop.





Q: In your time at Riverside, what has been your most rewarding project?

A: That is so hard to say. I get very involved with every backdrop or set piece I work on. There have been so many in my time here and at the theatres I worked for in the past. I did love the scrim (show drop) we painted for last season's *I Love A Piano*. The set designer found a great picture of an old



fashioned piano, that he used in his Adobe Photoshop rendering. From that picture Hal, in the scene shop, built a piano from scratch that served as the "star" of the show. From that same picture, we painted a "realistic" piano on a scrim that spanned the entire stage opening. More importantly, though, I love what I do and I enjoy working with my team in creating an environment that enhances the audience's enjoyment of the production.

Gaiety Theater Lobby Backdrop

Gaiety Theater Backstage Backdrop

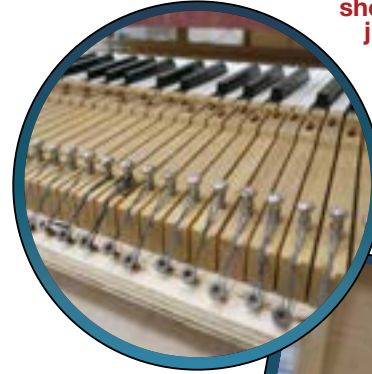
Photo Credits: Holly Porch



GOING **CRAZY** IN THE SHOP

"One of the challenges for a show like *Crazy for You* is juggling the various paint treatments and surfaces needed to distinguish different scenes, while making sure they all flow together to make a unified design."

-Sean Cox, Asst. Scenic Charge Artist



Featured: The Entrance to the Bar at the Gaiety Theater and the Saloon Piano



ON THE STARK STAGE
CRAZY FOR YOU
JAN 13-FEB 1, 2015

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
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& IRA GERSHWIN
BOOK BY KEN LUDWIG



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father-daughter team will
share their unique
perspectives of politics in
Washington in an
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STUART VARNEY
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Charismatic, articulate and
candid, Mr. Varney will cut
through the jargon to make
complex economic issues
accessible and interesting.



March 16, 2015

IAN BREMMER
*President and Founder of
Eurasia Group*
Mr. Bremmer will provide
analysis about how political
developments and national
security dynamics move
markets and shape
investment environments
across the globe.



March 30, 2015 TBA

Underneath the Lintel

BY PLAYWRIGHT GLEN BERGER

An obsessive librarian, an overdue book, and a little time travel.

On an inauspicious morning at a Dutch library, a librarian makes an unexpected find in the overnight return box - a weather-beaten Baedeker guidebook 113 years overdue. Determined to track down the borrower and give him "the fine of his life," the librarian studies the book for clues on the miscreant and follows the leads on a globe-trotting journey that takes him from London to China, from Australia to New York. Throughout his trek, he unlocks ancient mysteries and discovers interesting truths about himself. Funny, touching, and surprising, this compelling adventure by Glen Berger is storytelling at its best.

ON STAGE
JAN 27 -
FEB 8, 2015

Jim VanValen as the Librarian



Returns to RIVERSIDE THEATRE

"I first discovered the play when it was at the Soho Playhouse in NYC back in 2001. I was fascinated by the piece, the mystery and search for answers within the story, and the relationship created between the actor and the audience within the theatrical event. I found it to be an amazing play and an incredibly engaging production told through simplicity, intimacy, and real connection. It was exciting when years later Allen asked me to take a look at the script for a future production at Riverside, and now I am honored to be able to return to Vero Beach and share in this experience of story-telling with the Riverside audiences.

"This will be my fifth production at Riverside Theatre. (Past productions here include: *Sylvia*, *Rounding Third*, *She Loves Me*, and *Three Viewings*.) Riverside holds a special place for me for many reasons -- most importantly, because it was here that my wife Brenda and I first met each other back during 2004's *She Loves Me*. We now have a wonderful daughter,

Maysie, and have since moved to Iowa where I am Head of the Acting Program in the Theatre Department at Cornell College. I will always be so grateful to Allen and the Riverside company for the many talents I have worked with in the past and for the many blessings I have received both on and off stage."

The play was written in 2001, and first produced by the Actor's Gang in Los Angeles. It moved on to the Soho Playhouse in New York where it ran for 450 performances. T. Ryder Smith was nominated for the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Solo Player. *Underneath the Lintel* has been translated into eight languages and produced over 200 times by smaller theaters around the world.

Journey to LONDON



BEIJING



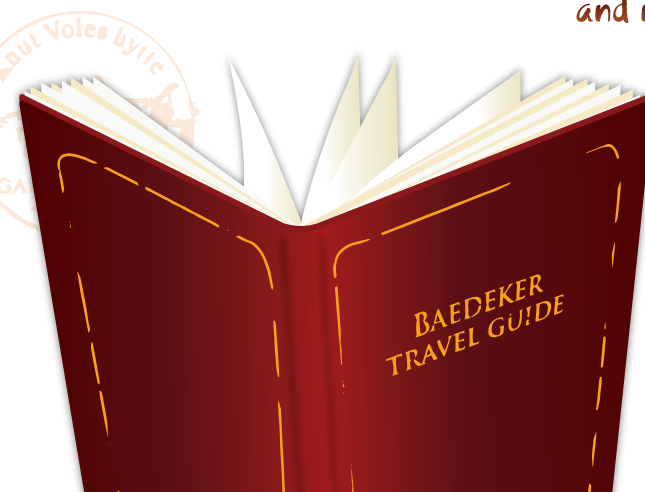
AUSTRALIA



and more in *Underneath the Lintel*

"Berger has shown a penchant for men obsessively investigating truths that blind them to more ordinary pursuits of happiness. This one-man show is no exception. It's a satisfying mix of intelligent writing and quirky humor in a package that isn't neatly wrapped up with pat answers."

Jana J. Monji,
Los Angeles Times



Astrachan Theatre Award PROGRAM



The cast of *I Love a Piano* has a talk-back with the students on their field trip.

The Astrachan Theatre Award program has a simple mission:

- Annually, provide 500 high school students with an earned opportunity to attend a professional performance at Riverside Theatre for FREE
- Reward students for distinguished achievement: Academic; Theatre Arts; Volunteer; Other (TBD by School Administrators)
- Support educators in encouraging and rewarding performance excellence
- Help students develop the "well-rounded experience" essential for success
- Provide an exceptional introduction to professional performing arts
- Instill an interest in the arts, building the supporters, performers, and audiences of tomorrow
- Offer a "Talk-Back" opportunity following the performance with members of the artistic staff and cast
- Meet Anita Astrachan, the program initiator and benefactor, a Riverside Theatre Board Member and Patron Producer, and retired high school theatre/drama teacher



Photo Credits: Holly Porch



Supporting Families



Riverside Theatre has partnered with United Way to support people in need with effective human services. Patrons can make a donation when visiting, or go to www.unitedwayirc.org for an online contribution. United Way banners in the Orchid Lobby, as well as informative brochures at guest services, describe ways to access services as well as ways to support the kind of programs that improve the quality of life of all Indian River County residents.

With your support we can: ensure children stay on track to graduate from high school – college or career ready; help more working individuals and families improve their financial stability; and build healthier communities for all children, adults, families and seniors.

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Kate Gill

Development Director

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MEMBERSHIPS START AT JUST \$50

WEST SIDE STORY



Captivating Choreography with ALEX SANCHEZ

You have an extensive biography in Dance performing not only in the Ballet world (Ballet Chicago, Ruth Page Ballet, Southern Ballet Theater), but also in major Broadway productions (Carousel, Fosse, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, The Red Shoes). When did you know you wanted to make Dance your profession?

I was taking adult dance classes at Lou Conte Dance Studio in Chicago. In class one day, I saw a man staring at me. After class he approached me and asked me questions about what I was doing there. I told him I was taking classes for fun because I just love to dance. He introduced himself as Lou Conte. He told me that I have a lot of raw talent and could be a professional dancer, but I needed training. He offered me a scholarship. I've always loved dancing but was too afraid to commit to it as a profession. When he offered me the scholarship, it was like a sign and a validation of a dream I desired to be real. I took the scholarship, quit college, and moved out of my parents' house. I was nineteen years old.

Have you choreographed a production of West Side Story before?

Ironically, *West Side Story* was the first professional musical I choreographed. It was at the Woodminster Theatre in California. My wife, Lainie Sakakuram, who is an accomplished choreographer, was supposed to choreograph the show. She was unable to but recommended me for the job. I also ended up playing Riff in that production.

Do you take inspiration from Jerome Robbins' work for your interpretation?

Absolutely! His work is written all over the show. It's ingenious and so much a part of the fabric of this piece.

What can Riverside Theatre audiences expect from our production?

To see great dancing, hear great singing, and be touched by great drama. Everything about this show is exceptional. I believe the music is the greatest ever written for a musical. The audience will be entertained, inspired, deeply affected, and hopefully experience the emotional roller coaster that is *West Side Story*.



The tale of two
**STAR-CROSSED
LOVERS**
from different worlds
who fight to
keep their
passion alive!

Book by
ARTHUR LAURENTS
Music by
LEONARD BERNSTEIN
Lyrics by
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Going on 57 years...

Conceived by Arthur Laurents, Leonard Bernstein and Jerome Robbins in 1947, it took *West Side Story* ten years before it opened on Broadway. The story, based on *Romeo and Juliet* and originally called *East Side Story*, was set on the Lower East Side of Manhattan and portrayed the romance of a Jewish girl and Irish Catholic boy. Busy with other plays and movies, the three collaborators never managed to produce the musical.

In 1955, Oscar Hammerstein recruited Stephen Sondheim to join the team as lyricist. At that time, New York City was plagued with violent gang wars, and the team decided to change the conflict to a war between the Polish American Jets, and the Puerto Rican Sharks. The setting was moved to the west side of Manhattan in a neighborhood that was subsequently razed to build Lincoln Center; hence, the new title, *West Side Story*. The show marked a turning point in American musicals, due to its dark theme, extended dance sequences, sophisticated music, and focus on social problems.

In the spring of 1957, Stephen Sondheim recruited Hal Prince to direct, once the original director decided not to continue. Casting the show was difficult since the actors had to be proficient at singing, dancing and acting, and needed to be young enough to pass as teenagers.

Opening at the Winter Garden Theatre in September of 1957, the show ran for 732 performances and was nominated for six Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The show was an even bigger hit in London where it played for three years. The movie *West Side Story* opened in 1961, starring Russ Tamblyn, Rita Moreno and Natalie Wood. It was an immediate blockbuster, winning ten of its eleven Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture. The stage show continues to be produced around the world.



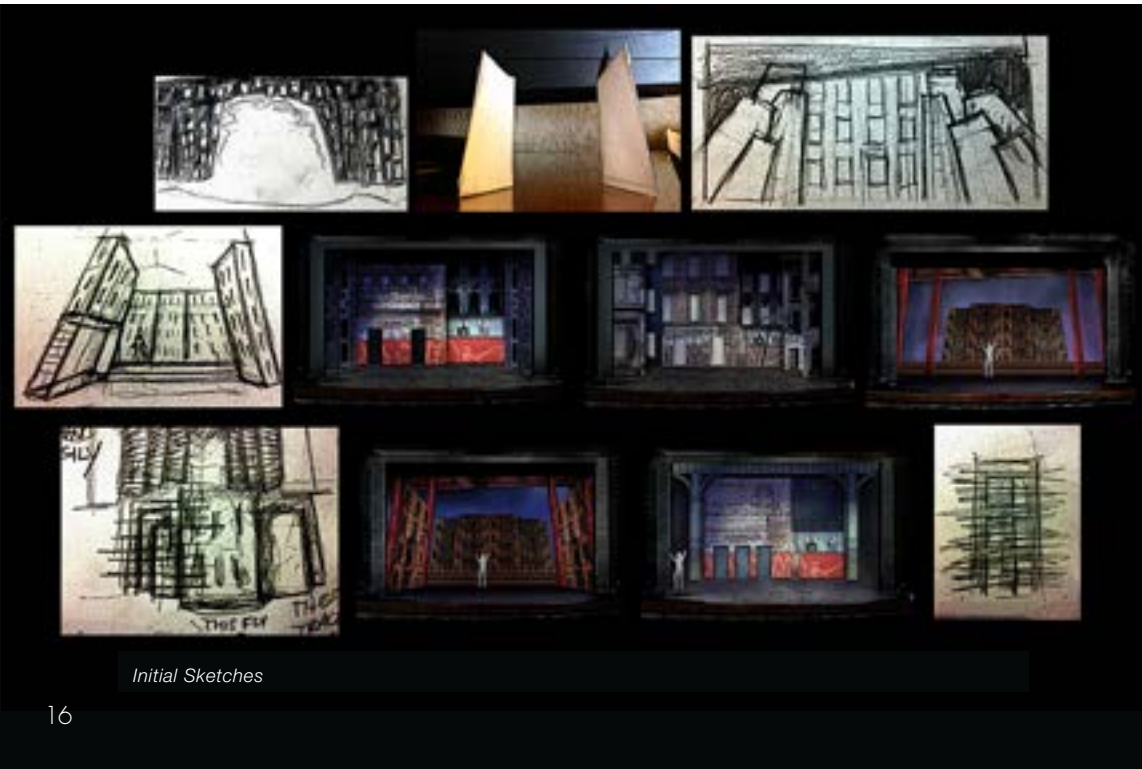
SNEAK PEEK

INTO THE MIND OF
Cliff Simon,
Scenic Designer

I was influenced greatly by having grown up in the Bronx during the same time period, though I was a little younger than the *West Side Story* characters. That world, as I remember it, was very colorful, active, and sometimes threatening. I moved to Manhattan when I was 20, and I spent a good deal of time roaming around the West Side Highway. By that time, it was deserted, ever present looming overhead, and in a sort of exciting way, exotic... like in a scary movie, maybe. So in this design, that highway is ever present and encroaching on the people in the play. When Tony and Maria escape into their world of love, their fantasy where everything is perfect for just the shortest time, the blink of an eye---then the stage opens up physically and there is more air and light on the stage, where their love can breathe. But not for too long before that ends...



The Somewhere ballet, where the city melts away...



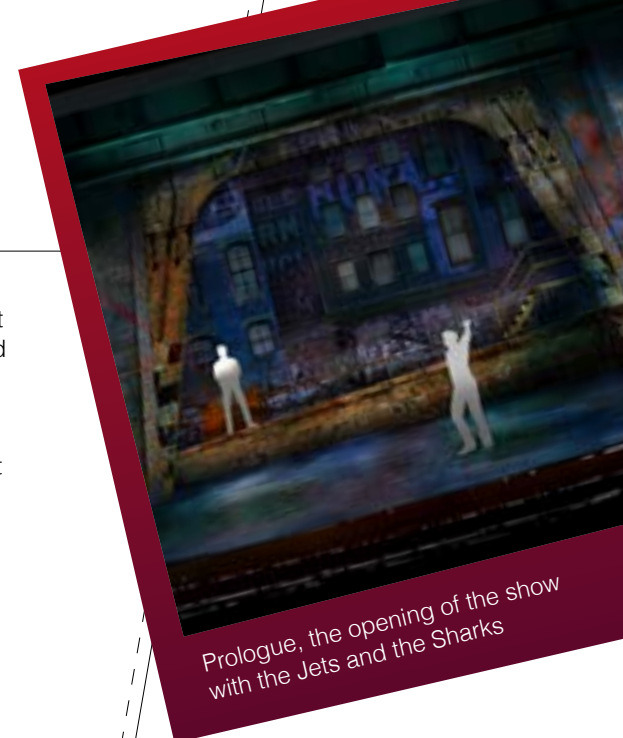
Initial Sketches

WEST SIDE STORY

Technical Director
Richard MASON

Theatre is such a collaborative art that each design feels rooted in the time and circumstances of its creation. In 1993, I saw a production of *West Side Story* in a performing arts center. As impressive as the show was, it was hard to connect to the characters from 200ft away in the balcony. The large scale of that production makes me appreciate the intimacy of productions at Riverside Theatre. The audience is never too far away from the drama unfolding on the stage, which I believe delivers a more enriching experience.

This is my first production of *West Side Story*, which sounds strange given a career in theatre spanning over 15 years. One element that I find



Prologue, the opening of the show with the Jets and the Sharks

“The audience is never too far away from the drama unfolding on the stage, which I believe delivers a more enriching experience.”



compelling in our upcoming production is the duality between the realistic and fantasy elements of the show. In the reality of the city, the set design conveys the confinement of an urban environment, with an abundance of steel, brick and concrete. By contrast, the fantasy moments will present a more open environment where the city fades away, showing the sky and the stars.

Photo Credit: Holly Porch
Digital Renderings provided by Cliff Simon

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DAVID PITTSINGER premieres "America, My America"

David Pittsinger, who recently played Emile de Becque to critical acclaim in last season's production of *South Pacific*, performed the song "America, My America" in September with the 40-piece U.S. Air Force Orchestra in Bowie, Maryland. Written by Allen D. Cornell, Riverside's Producing Artistic Director, and Ken Clifton, Riverside's Musical Director, "America, My America" is currently part of a re-imagined production of *Midnight Clear*, which took place in 2008. Set in a small coastal town in Maine in 1854, *Midnight Clear* is the tender love story of a Southern belle who falls for a Northern boy just before the Civil War and had its world premiere at Riverside in November of 2001.



Mr. Pittsinger added "America, My America" as an encore to his commissioned musical score, "Arlington Sons," a tribute to his late father, a U.S. veteran who served as a distinguished Tomb Guard at Arlington. "Arlington Sons" was performed by Mr. Pittsinger and his son, Richard, at Arlington National Cemetery accompanied by the U.S. Air Force Reed Quintet.

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February 16, 2015

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You're a Good Man, CHARLIE BROWN

Directed by Jeff Horger
DEC 29-31 & JAN 2-4

HAPPINESS IS....



Happiness is one of only six naturally-occurring emotions in human beings. The others are sadness, anger, shock, fear, and disgust. Happiness is a part of who we are as a species. We all feel happy sometimes, even if we don't know why. We were meant to feel happy. Happiness is one of the founding principles of this country. (The others are life and liberty.) Happiness is a part of who we are as a society. We all have the right to feel happy, and nobody should be allowed to take that away from us.

Ultimately, happiness is also what this show is about. It's the story of Charlie Brown, Lucy, Snoopy, and the rest...but it's more than that. It's the story of being a kid, the pursuit of happiness, how elusive that can be, and how sometimes it's the little things that make all the difference. It's like being in a musical with a few of your friends, or making a new friend during the rehearsal process. It's like having a music director teach you a song you never knew existed before a few weeks ago, like having an assistant director who dares you to find the strength within yourself to take dramatic risks on stage. We're trying to do more than create a show. We're trying to create a little bit of happiness. I hope you can come share in it with us. We have plenty for all!

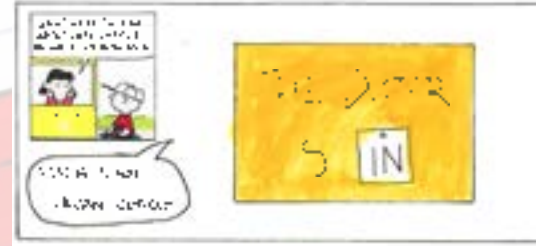
Nostalgic, FUN, and Heart Warming!

"I am specifically working with the kids on breaking down the many monologues in the show. It's very fun to watch the kids add their own personal touch to that character. They all have so much talent and are eager to learn, which makes my job an absolute joy."

- Allison Heinz, Assistant Director



Model built to represent the stage



Sketches by Scenic Designer Noelle Ruegg



The most fun part is characterizing the songs, and watching as the actors put themselves into the music and lyrics - forgetting about any insecurities in a song, and just letting it fly!

- Angelyn Cater, Music Director

SCENIC DESIGN

Designing a 3D Stage From 2D Art

with Noelle Ruegg

Q: Is Charlie Brown your first Scenic Design endeavor? What others have you designed?

A: Charlie Brown is my first independent realized design. Previously I co-designed *Guys And Dolls* with David "Kip" Shawger and did several theoretical designs while in school.

Q: What did you find challenging about designing this show?

A: Hand Drafting! I love to draw and I wanted to keep my renderings similar to the hand drawn cartoon style of Peanuts, but this meant spending a lot of time and energy over my drafting table.

Q: What inspired your design, and which parts of Peanuts are most prominent?

A: You're A Good Man Charlie Brown is a musical that brings a comic strip to life, and I wanted to put a little hint of the comic strip itself in my design. The set is reminiscent of a comic book page with its many "panels" that frame the comically short scenes.



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9:30PM
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HEADLINERS

JAN 9 & 10

FEB 20 & 21



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- JAN 10 UPROOT HOOTENANNY
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CALENDAR of EVENTS

So much to do.....some suggestions for you!

JANUARY

- 9 & 10 10:00a-5:00p
Vero Beach Museum of Art Antique Show
- 10 6:30-9:30p
Live in the Loop
FREE Outside Concert
7:30p & 9:30p
Comedy Zone
- 13 8:00p
Crazy for You OPENS
Plays through Feb 1
10:00p
Opening Night Reception
- 15 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
Crazy for You
- 19 6:00p
SUPPER CLUB
Sold Out
- 22 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
Crazy for You
- 23 6:30p
Live Music in the Orchid Lobby
8:00p
Crazy for You
- 24 Environmental Photography Opens at Vero Beach Museum of Art

- 27 8:00p
Underneath the Lintel OPENS
Plays through Feb 8
- 29 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
Crazy for You
- 30 6:30p
Live Music in the Orchid Lobby
8:00p
Crazy for You
- 31 10:00a-5:00p
Gardenfest at Riverside Park
2:00p & 8:00p
Crazy for You

FEBRUARY

- 1 10:00a-5:00p
Gardenfest at Riverside Park
2:00p
Crazy for You
- 6 5:00p
14th Avenue Art Gallery Stroll (Downtown)
8:00p
Underneath the Lintel
- 14 5:30p
Sunset Saturday at Ocean Drive
- 16 5:00p
Riverside Premiere Benefit
- 17 8:00p
West Side Story OPENS
Plays through Mar 8

- 10:00p
Opening Night Reception
- 19 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
West Side Story
- 20 & 21 6:30-9:30p
Live in the Loop
FREE Outside Concert
7:30p & 9:30p
Comedy Zone
- 26 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
West Side Story
- 27 6:30p
Live Music in the Orchid Lobby
8:00p
West Side Story
- MARCH
- 5 6:00p
Wine & Scotch Tasting in Orchid Lobby
7:30p
West Side Story
- 6 5:00p
14th Avenue Art Gallery Stroll (Downtown)
6:30p
Live Music in the Orchid Lobby
8:00p
West Side Story



THE GROUND-BREAKING,
LANDMARK MUSICAL

WEST SIDE STORY



BOOK BY ARTHUR LAURENTS MUSIC BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN LYRICS BY STEPHEN SONDHEIM

**FEB 17-
MAR 8**

The ground-breaking, landmark musical, *West Side Story* tells the tale of two star-crossed lovers from different worlds who fight to keep their passion alive. Based on one of the greatest love stories of all time - Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* – *West Side Story* is powerful and poignant, with a score considered to be one of Broadway's finest. From first note to final breath, *West Side Story* soars with classics "Something's Coming," "Tonight," "America," "I Feel Pretty," and "Somewhere."

GUEST SERVICES: 772.231.6990 | RiversideTheatre.com
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