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presents



Book by **Joseph Stein**
Music by **Charles Strouse**
Lyrics by **Stephen Schwartz**
Orchestrations by **Michael Starobin**

Production Stage Manager
Margaret J. Soch

Properties Design
Jane Quetin

Scenic Design
Mamie Trotter

Costume Design
Drenda Lewis

Lighting Design
Julie N. Simmons

Choreography
Ann Nieman

Director
Cheryl Denson

Music Director/Conductor
Jay Dias

RAGS is produced by special arrangement with
The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization
229 W. 28th St., 11th Floor
New York, NY 10001
rnh.com

SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

- SCENE 1** The Hold of a Ship Nearing Ellis Island, 1911
Prologue.....Immigrants
- SCENE 2** Ellis Island and a Dock at Battery Park
Greenhorns.....Americans and Immigrants
Open Your Eyes..... Avram, Rebecca
Greenhorns (Reprise).....Americans
- SCENE 3** The Cohen's Tenement Apartment on Suffolk Street
Brand New World Rebecca, David
- SCENE 4** Newspaper Office/Social Worker's Office
Children of the Wind Rebecca
- SCENE 5** A Street on the Lower East Side/Bronstein's Sweatshop
Penny a Tune Klezmers, Rachel, Sweatshop Workers, Rebecca,
Rosa, David, Ensemble
- SCENE 6** Bronstein's Sweatshop
- SCENE 7** Outside Bronstein's Sweatshop, later
Easy for You..... Rebecca, Saul, David
- SCENE 8** The Yiddish Theatre
It's Hard to be a Prince Hamlet, Ophelia, Gertrude, Rosencrantz,
Guildenstern, Ensemble.
- SCENE 9** Suffolk Street, later that night
Blame it on the Summer Night Rebecca
- SCENE 10** The Cohen's Apartment
For My Mary Ben, Gramophone Tenor
- SCENE 11** The Street in front of the Cohen's Apartment Building
Rags..... Avram, Bella, Rebecca
- SCENE 12** The Streets of the Lower East Side, July 4
Fourth Day of July..... Ensemble
Finale Act I..... Rebecca, Nathan

Act II

- SCENE 1** The Roof of the Cohen's Apartment Building
Fourth Day of July (Reprise)..... Ensemble
Yankee Boy..... Nathan, David, Rebecca, Ensemble
Uptown..... Nathan, Rebecca
- SCENE 2** A Street on the Lower East Side
Three Sunny Rooms Rachel, Avram
- SCENE 3** Outside Bronstein's Sweatshop
Wanting Rebecca, Saul
- SCENE 4** Another Street
Rags (Reprise)..... Bella

SCENE 5	The East Side Democratic Club <i>What's Wrong with That</i>	Big Tim Sullivan, Nathan, Rebecca
SCENE 6	Bronstein's Sweatshop <i>Bread and Freedom</i>	Rosa, Rebecca, Sam, Esther, Sweatshop Workers
SCENE 7	Union Square <i>Bread and Freedom</i>	Strikers
SCENE 8	The Cohen's Apartment	
SCENE 9	A Dock at Battery Park <i>Finale Act II</i>	Company

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Rebecca	Amanda Passanante*
Saul	Brian Hathaway*
David	Chet Monday
Avram	Jackie L. Kemp
Ben	Jonathan Bragg
Bella	Kristin Dausch*
Rachel	Lois Sonnier Hart*
Nathan	G. Shane Peterman*
Jack	Martin Antonio Guerra
Rosa	Lucia A. Welch
Anna	Mary-Margaret Pyeatt
Esther/Gertrude	Sahara Glasener-Boles
Sam	Daniel Saroni
Big Mike	J. Alan Hanna
Klezmers	Joseph Holt, Keith J. Warren
Bronstein	Tom Grugle
Hamlet	Max Swarner
Ophelia	Amber Nicole Guest
Rosencrantz	Joseph Holt
Guildenstern	Mikey Abrams
Big Tim Sullivan	Stephen Bates
Gramophone Tenor	Stephen Bates

Adult Ensemble:

Mikey Abrams, Stephen Bates, Brendan Cyrus, Randy Dobbs, Michelle Foard Emily Ford, Sahara Glasener-Boles, Carlos Gomez, Tom Grugle, Martin Antonio Guerra, Amber Nicole Guest, J. Alan Hanna, Maranda Harrison, Joseph Holt, Morgan Mabry Mason, Preston David Pickett, Diane Powell, Mary-Margaret Pyeatt Daniel Saroni, Max Swarner, Scott Taylor, Keith J. Warren, Lucia Welch

Youth Ensemble:

Isaac Jarrell, Lily Monday, Ashton Morales

* Member, Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States

Cast

MIKEY ABRAMS (Ensemble) returns to Lyric Stage having last been seen in *Funny Girl*. Other credits include Uptown Players, Rover Dramawerks, Stage West, Garland Summer Musicals, Granbury Opera House, ICT Mainstage, Hip Pocket Theatre, Grand Prairie Arts Council, Brookhaven Theatre, & Theatre Arlington. Love to Scott, Gretel, & Chewy!

STEPHEN BATES (Ensemble/Tim Sullivan) is very pleased to be returning to Lyric Stage after having been a part of their production of *Evita*. Stephen was last "seen" on stage as Dave in *The Full Monty* at Watertower Theater. Love to Lilly and Molly.

JONATHAN BRAGG (Ben) is thrilled to make his Lyric Stage debut in *Rags*! He holds a BFA from Abilene Christian University and has locally performed at Theatre Three (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), Garland Civic Theatre (*Sweeney Todd*), Casa Mañana (*Evita*), and Uptown Players (*Next to Normal*).

BRENDAN CYRUS (Dance Captain/Ensemble) Brendan is thrilled to be back at Lyric after doing *Gypsy*. Has worked for many DFW theaters in the past. Thanks to Cheryl, Jay, Steven, Ann and Maggie. Love to M&M and his family, especially his mother. The Magic is You!

KRISTIN DAUSCH (Bella) is thrilled to be a part of *Rags*. Also seen in *Flora*, *The Red Menace* and *Funny Girl* for Lyric Stage. Recently seen in *Broadway Winners*, *Broadway By The Year* and *Broadway's Rising Stars* at Town Hall in her New York home.

RANDY DOBBS (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on Lyric stage. Other Lyric shows include: *Showboat*, *Sweeny Todd*, *110 in the Shade*, *Evita*, *Ragtime* and *King David*.

MICHELLE FOARD (Ensemble) is thrilled to be returning to Lyric Stage! She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Truman State University. Select credits: *Gypsy*/Lyric Stage, *Pippin*/Theatre Three, *The Fantasticks*/Onstage in Bedford, *Sugar*/

ICT MainStage and High School Musical/Casa Mañana.

EMILY FORD (Ensemble) was born and raised in Calgary, Canada. She graduated from McGill University with her B. Mus. in vocal performance. Emily's credits include Ermenegarde in *Hello Dolly!* (Janiec Opera), Liesl in *The Sound of Music* (Storybook Theatre), and Clara in *The Nutcracker* (Freehouse Dance).

SAHARA GLASENER-BOLES (Esther/Ensemble) debuts with Lyric Stage. Before moving to Dallas, Sahara performed with Chicago's Light Opera Works and Quest Theatre, Ohio Light Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Cleveland Opera, Tri-Cities Opera in New York, and Friends of Operetta in Los Angeles.

CARLOS GOMEZ (Ensemble) has performed for GSM, Uptown Players, Water Tower, Dallas Opera and CTD. He is thrilled to be part of this talented cast. He was recently seen in *Pippin* (Theatre Three) and *Victor/Victoria* (Uptown Players). Love to the production team!

TOM GRUGLE (Mr. Bernstein / American 2 / Ensemble) - is a veteran Dallas area actor, happy for this opportunity at Lyric, and grateful that his grandmother came to Ellis island from Germany on her way to a new life in 1914. 042903

MARTIN ANTONIO GUERRA (Jack/Ensemble). This is Martin's 8th production with Lyric Stage. He most fondly remembers *Evita*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *My Fair Lady* and his recent role as Thomas Andrews in *Titanic* at Brookhaven. He has also performed with the Dallas Opera, FW Opera, and the Turtle Creek Chorale.

AMBER NICOLE GUEST (Ensemble)-Work includes *My Fair Lady*, *ShowBoat in Concert* (Lyric Stage); Doatsey Mae in *The Best Little... in Texas* (Casa Mañana); *Binge, Good Things* (Stage West); *bare* (Uptown Players). Bachelor of Music from SMU.

J. ALAN HANNA (Big Mike, Ensemble) is happy to be back on stage with Lyric Stage. He is the resident stage manager for Garland



Summer Musicals and is directing "Woman in Mind" in the Dupree and "Forever Plaid" in Grand Prairie this coming spring. LU Carlos

MARANDA HARRISON (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her Lyric debut! Favorite roles include: *Phantom* (Christine), *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle) and *Singin' in the Rain* (Kathy). Much love and thanks to Mom, Dad, David, Brit, Nic, family and friends. Proverbs 3:5-6

LOIS SONNIER HART (Rachel) Lyric Stage credits include *Show Boat*, *Funny Girl*, *The Night of the Hunter*, *Ragtime...* DFW: *Peter Boyer's Ellis Island*, *The Dream of America*. Circle Theatre, Casa Manana, Theatre Three, Uptown Players. The York Theatre, 37 Arts, NYMF, Paper Mill Playhouse, TOTS (Atlanta).

BRIAN HATHAWAY (Saul) was previously seen at Lyric Stage in *As Thousands Cheer*, *Fiorello*, *Hello Dolly*, *Evita*, *The Living End*, *King David* and *Finian's Rainbow*. Other favorite roles include *Oklahoma* (Ali Hakim), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Aldolpho) and *A Year with Frog & Toad* (Toad)

JOSEPH HOLT (Ensemble) is a fourth year Vocal Performance and Foreign Languages major at SMU. Regional credits include: Voice of the Plant in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Water-Tower); *Music Man* (GSM); *My Fair Lady* (Lyric Stage).

ISAAC JARRELL (Ensemble) rejoins the Lyric family after appearing in *OLIVER!* this summer. His favorite roles have been Dill in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Gavroche in *Les Miserable*, and his first role as Lazar Wolf in *Fiddler on the Roof*. L'Chaim!

JACKIE L. KEMP (Avram) has appeared in local productions for Lyric, Theatre Three, ICT, GCT, and Coppell. A Dallas native, he is also involved in music ministry through his church. His life is dedicated to his family who gives him purpose and joy.

MORGAN MABRY MASON (Ensemble) is thrilled to make her Lyric Stage debut! Favorite roles include: *How To Succeed In Business...*

(Rosemary), *Sound Of Music* (Maria), *Phantom Of The Opera* (Carlotta), *Little Women* (Meg), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie), *Plano Symphony Orchestra* (Soloist). Be blessed and enjoy!

CHET MONDAY (David) Chet was seen in *King and I*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Oliver!* and *Gypsy* at Lyric. He has performed his comedy juggling act in China, Jordan, and Off-Off Broadway. Chet is in the Gifted and Talented program at Travis Middle School.

LILY MONDAY (Ensemble) Lily's theatrical debut was in *The King and I* at Lyric. Other shows include: *Night of the Hunter*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and *Sound of Music*. Lily studies dance and trapeze. She is in GT Dual Language at Farine Elementary.

ASHTON MORALES (Ensemble), aged 10, recently in *Oliver!*, delightfully returns to Lyric Stage for this production of *Rags*. Also has appeared at Theatre Arlington, GPAC and with Ballet Frontier. Ashton thanks all who support him and the directors for this opportunity.

AMANDA PASSANANTE (Rebecca) is elated to return to Lyric Stage with this extraordinary cast and creative team, having previously appeared in *West Side Story* (Rosalia/Somewhere Soloist). Regional: *Trailer Park* (Pippi), *Camelot* (Guenevere), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Lucy), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Dot/Marie), *My Fair Lady* (Eliza), and *Sweeney Todd* (Johanna). Off-Broadway: *Di Yam Gazlonim!* (Drama Desk-nominated Yiddish revival of *The Pirates of Penzance*). www.amandapassanante.com.

G. SHANE PETERMAN (Nathan) Lyric Stage: *Sweeney Todd*, *The Human Comedy*, *Allegro*, *Most Happy Fella*, *A Little Night Music*; New York: *The Night of the Hunter*; *Time after Time*, *The Girlfriend*; Regional: *Beauty and the Beast*; *Music Man*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Civil War*, *Putting it Together*, *Man of La Mancha*, *A Funny Thing/Forum*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Grand Night for Singing*, *Some Enchanted Evening*; numerous Film/TV projects.

Cast

PRESTON DAVID PICKETT (Ensemble) is a Senior at Dallas Baptist University. He is thrilled to be part of such an amazing cast! Previous credits include *Titanic the Musical*, *Gianni Schicchi* and *Pirates of Penzance*. Thanks to Jay and Cheryl for the opportunity.

DIANE POWELL (Ensemble) Diane is thrilled to be returning to Lyric Stage having been last seen here as the rose seller in *Oliver!* Past performances include ICT's *How To Succeed* and Luisa in MTD's *The Fantasticks*. This one's for M&D. 1John 4:15-16.

MARY-MARGARET PYEATT (Anna, Nurse, Social Worker): Previously at Lyric: *Sweet Charity* (Ursula); *A Day In Hollywood...* (Masha/Dancing Feet). Elsewhere: Uptown Players (*Regrets Only/Tibby, Equus/Dora*); Theatre Three (*The Roads To Home/Vonnie, Vieux Carre/Miss Carrie*); WaterTower (*Our Town/Mrs. Webb, Company/Amy*); Echo Theater (*Daisy In The Dreamtime/Daisy*).

DANIEL SARONI (Sam/Ensemble) is excited about debuting on Lyric Stage. His theater credits include Rum Tum Tugger in *CATS* at GSM, and Family Music Theatre's productions of *Phantom of the Opera* (Monsieur Andre), *CATS* (Tugger) *Titanic* (Etches), *West Side Story* (Pepe).

MAX SWARNER (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his Lyric Stage debut. Selected credits: *How to Succeed...* (Finch; ICT Mainstage), *Equus* (Alan Strang; Uptown Players), *Pippin* (Pippin; Theatre Three), *The Roads to Home* (Mr. Long; Theatre Three). DFW Critic's Forum Award winner for *How to Succeed...*

SCOTT TAYLOR (Ensemble) Lyric debut! After 12 years in New York as an actor, director, and musical director, he is now the head of theatre at Flower Mound High School. Thanks to Cheryl, Jay, Mikey, Gretl, Chewie, his family and students who constantly inspire him.

KEITH J. WARREN (Immigration Officer/Klezmer Singer/Ens.) – makes his 8th appearance with Lyric Stage. Select credits: Gaston/

Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Billy Bigelow/*Carousel*, Valentin/*Kiss of the Spiderwoman*, Frank/*Rocky Horror Show*, Harry/*Flora, The Red Menace*, Anthony/*Sweeney Todd*, Jocko-Pastey/*Gypsy* and Harry/*My Fair Lady*. Next up, *KISMET* at Lyric.

LUCIA A. WELCH (Rosa, Ensemble) was seen in *My Fair Lady*, *Showboat* and *King and I* at Lyric. Recent performances include Rita in *Last Summer at Blue Fish Cove*, Lily Dale in *Young Man From Atlanta* at Uptown. Many thanks to Cheryl, Jay and Steve!

Creative Team:

CHERYL DENSON (Stage Director) In the capacity of resident director, *Rags* marks Cheryl's 45th directing assignment for Lyric Stage. Miss Denson would like to thank Steve Jones, the Lyric Board of Directors and the generous "Angels" of Lyric Stage for allowing her to create, in harmony with an amazing creative team, the quality work we strive to do. We are able to draw from this area's very best creative talent, while enhancing their work with talent from around the country to bring to this area productions that we are proud to call our own. Thank you for supporting our efforts!

JAY DIAS (Resident Music Director/Conductor) for Lyric Stage: world premiere of *1927 Show Boat in Concert* (including libretto & score preparation), restoration of the score for *Gypsy*, premiere of the restored *The King And I, Carousel, My Fair Lady, West Side Story, Funny Girl, Bye Bye Birdie, Oliver!*, and *Sweeney Todd* (in concert) at the Meyerson Symphony Center; Music Director highlights include Lloyd Webber's premiere German version of *Sunset Boulevard* (directed by Trevor Nunn, cast album on Polydor), Hamburg's *Das Phantom der Oper* (directed by Hal Prince, starring Peter Hoffmann), *Don Giovanni* (in concert), Paris premiere *Evita* (Broadway World Tour), *The Phantom of the Opera* (The Kennedy Center, et al). Playwright/Composer (with lyricist Clayton Stang): *Stella Dallas* (in development) and *A Christmas To Remember* (Lyric Stage,



2000). Teacher: Music Theatre Performance for the NYC branch of The American Musical And Dramatic Academy with former students including pop stars Jason Derülo and Janelle Monáe. Honored by the Dallas Fort Worth Theater Critics Forum for Outstanding Creative Contribution as Music Director for the 2010-'11 season work for Lyric Stage.

DRENDA LEWIS (Costume Design) Most recent designs include: Circle Theatre: *Great American Trailer Park Musical, Opus, Lone Star Christmas Carol* Jubilee Theatre: *One Mo' Time, Aint Misbehavin.* At Lyric- *My Fair Lady, Bye, bye, Birdie Funny Girl, The Winner, Fiorello, As Thousands Cheer, West Side Story.*

JULIE N. SIMMONS (Lighting Design) is always thrilled to be working with Lyric Stage! Julie has been the lighting designer for the recent Lyric Stage productions of *Flora The Red Menace* and *My Fair Lady*. She designs for several theatre companies in the area including Uptown Players and Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre. She is currently the

Technical Director for the Murchison Performing Arts Center at UNT.

ANN NIEMAN (Choreographer) An award-winning choreographer, Ann has created over 150 productions for regional theatres across the U.S. and Europe. She would like to thank the audience for supporting live theatre. Enjoy the show!

JANE QUETIN (Property Design) Jane has done property design for Lyric Stage for the past 10 years. She holds a B. A. degree from San Jose State University in California and an M. F. A. degree from the University of Utah.

MARGARET J. SOCH (Stage Manager) This is Maggie's forty-first show with Lyric Stage having started with the company in 1997. In 2008 she won a Column Award for Stage Managing *Carousel*. Other companies: Aspen Music Festival, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Ft. Worth Opera and El Paso Opera. She has been a member of Actors Equity for over 20 years. Love to Tom and family.

Thoughts from the creators of RAGS

Charles Strouse, composer

"Joe Stein, before he died, worked long and earnestly on a re-write of ' RAGS ' - and I, with him. He loved my music as I have loved Steven Schwartz's lyrics - as much as anything all of us had ever done. The vagaries of the commercial theater being what they are (and a million composers might echo this from the grave) RAGS had been consigned to the list of 'also-rans.' I still think of it as some of the best work we have ever done - a heartfelt tribute to our great country. How then to thank Steven Jones and Lyric Stage for giving us back our vision - I don't know - but these words are a small attempt."

Stephen Schwartz, lyricist

"RAGS began as a project initiated by Joseph Stein, the book writer. He had been asked by producer Lee Guber to write a sort of sequel to his show FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, describing what happened to Tevye and his family after they left Anatevka and came to America (hence the fact that the characters are Russian immigrants). As Joe worked, the show gradually evolved into being about a different family. I believe it was Lee Guber's suggestion to focus the show on a woman character, and Joe came up with the idea for Rebecca, a young woman who arrives to join her husband and then is thrown back on her own devices when he isn't there to meet her. I remain extremely proud of the score for RAGS . I think it is Charles Strouse's best music, and that's saying a lot, and I feel good about my lyrics."

RAGS ORCHESTRA

JAY DIAS, Conductor

VIOLINS

HAYDEN OLIVER,
Concertmaster
NICOLE MELKI
RENEE HEMSING
CATHERINE THOMPSON
RANDY LYLE
ANNA ROBERTS
YORK SHAW
BECKY WILSFORD
MARY HAVENSTRITE
SUSAN MOURA
ARTHUR BUSBY

VIOLAS

AMBER SANDER
BETH ROMIG
MIGUEL CANTU IV
CAMERON REHBERG

DOUBLE BASSES

PHILIP FRIEND
BRIAN HENSON

WOODWINDS

PAUL DUTKA
CHRISTY SPRINGER
LAURA IRVIN
GREG DEWHIRST
CHAD OSTERMILLER
FRENCH HORN
CHRISTOPHER FORTENBERRY

TRUMPETS

LACEY HAYS
DON JOHNSON

TROMBONE

PAUL BIRK

TUBA

TREVOR CULP

GUITAR/BANJO/ MANDOLIN

KIM PLATKO

PIANO/CELESTA

ADAM WRIGHT

KEYBOARD

ALEC BART

TRAP SET

STEVE BEGNOCHE

PERCUSSION

CHRIS COLTMAN
CHARLES ROCKWELL

ON-STAGE MUSICIANS:

VIOLIN

ARTHUR BUSBY

CLARINET

ANTHONY BENITEZ

TRUMPET

KURT BONNETT

TROMBONE

MARTY KOBUCK

TUBA

TREVOR CULP



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REHEARSAL PIANIST JEFF CROUSE

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2011-12 SEASON

Two more great shows!

KISMET IN CONCERT

Jan 26-29, 2012

Jan 26, 27, 28 @ 8pm

Jan 29 @ 2:30pm

Carpenter Hall

KISMET in concert A musical Arabian night

MUSIC BY ALEXANDER BORODIN, MUSICAL ADAPTATION AND LYRICS BY ROBERT WRIGHT
AND GEORGE FORREST, BOOK BY CHARLES LEDERER AND LUTHER DAVIS

OKLAHOMA!

Jun 15-24, 2012

Jun 15, 16 @ 8pm

Jun 17 @ 2:30pm

Jun 21, 22, 23 @ 8pm

Jun 24 @ 2:30pm

Carpenter Hall

OKLAHOMA! The musical that started it all

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS, BOOK AND LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

TICKETS

Visit lyricstage.org

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- review archived shows and info
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**PARK
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