

# CityU Musical 城大音樂劇

CityU Arts Festival 城大藝術節 2023/24

 <sup>8</sup>

 **20.10** 7:30 р.м. Friday 星期五
 **21.10** 7:30 р.м. **Saturday** 星期六
 **22.10** 3:00 р.м. Sunday 星期日

Wong Cheung Lo Hui Yuet Hall, 5/F, Lau Ming Wai Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong 香港城市大學劉鳴煒學術樓五樓 黃翔羅許月伉儷講堂

> Organised by Student Development Services Supported by Cultural and Sports Committee





Additional Book Material DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE Based on the Touchstone Pictures Motion Picture "Sister Act" written by Joseph Howard

Orchestrations by Doug Besterman Vocal and Incidental Music Arrangements by Michael Kosarin

Dance Music Arrangements by Mark Hummel

Produced on Broadway by Whoopi Goldberg & Stage Entertainment in association with The Shubert Organization and Disney Theatrical Productions

Originally Production Developed in Association with Peter Schneider & Michael Reno and Produced by Stage Entertainment

### SISTER ACT

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



Unauthorised video taping or audio recording of this performance is strictly prohibited Copyright@All Rights Reserved

## **Producer's Foreword**

•

•

0

0

•

0

0

0

0

•

Let us proudly present the 8<sup>th</sup> CityU Musical's production: Sister Act!

Recalling the first production of CityU Musical in 2016, Student Development Services initiated a brand new student programme on the campus, embracing our determination to nurture CityU students' performing arts talents, especially in singing, dancing and acting. And a musical is the best theatrical performance that combines all three elements we aim for and provides comprehensive training to observe the students' changes before and after the programme.

Our first production in 2016, *Fame*, was a tough challenge to our colleagues and production team as we did not have any theatrical experience in producing a Musical. Surprisingly, we discovered many talented CityU Performers and received much appreciation from the audience. With the University's support, we decided to keep on the challenge with more fabulous productions and establish a one-of-a-kind brand, CityU Musical.

Time flies! CityU Musical has already presented 7 productions, including *Fame* (2016), *Grease* (2017), *Footloose* (2018), *Chicago* (2019), *Rent* (2020/21), *West Side Story* (2021/22), *Fiddler on the Roof* (2022/23). Hundreds of students tasted the fascination of on-stage performance, and more encouraging, some students decided to begin their careers as stage professionals. We believe the on-stage performance inspires lives.

This year, CityU Musical continues to challenge: critically acclaimed as "the funniest musical" in Broadway history, *Sister Act*. The legendary story of the disco diva, Deloris, and her drastic influence in the quiet and rigid convent make the stage alive. I am excited that 25 talented students are ready to present this funny yet moving Broadway classic to you!

Musical production is never easy! Initiating in February, audition in May, and 4-day Macau Intensive Training Camp in August, till the show today, it has been almost nine months. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all production crew members and my colleagues from the Student Development Services who made this dream come true. I am also incredibly proud of our cast members for their hard work and full-hearted involvement in training and rehearsal.

As the signature cultural programme at CityU, I wish CityU Musical would continue to develop and flourish. Let's show begin!

#### Dr. Tim Wong

Producer

C

C

-

0

0

C

C

0

0

C

0

## **Director's Foreword**

0

0

•

0

0

0

0

C

.

•

0

C

0

0

0

C

0

0

0

0

0

.

0

0

0

C

e

0

0

0

0

0

C

Most people recognise the name *Sister Act* as the 1992 American film starring Whoopi Goldberg. When I was in high school, I left the theatre with a smile on my face and greatly admired the multi-talented actress who could sing, dance, and play any role. This movie may have planted a seed of my love for musical theatre.

Looking back, it has been thirty years since then, and I have loved singing and performing. From my time in the performing arts academy until now, musical theatre has been an integral part of my life. When you find something you are passionate about, you explore, study, wholeheartedly immerse yourself in learning, and even fall in love with it. We give our all without regret because the experience and fulfilment it brings are irreplaceable. Furthermore, we learn to cherish because we are willing to give. Along the way, we experience success, setbacks, failures, frustrations, and even moments of avoidance. But when we remember our original intentions, we can overcome even the toughest challenges. In the past few years, the world has undergone many changes, and even now, many people question where they truly belong. In life, we are constantly searching for our true selves. When there comes a moment where you can release all burdens and masks and sincerely face yourself, accept yourself, forgive yourself, appreciate yourself, and love yourself, the answer will echo in the deepest part of your heart with the sincerest attitude. Eventually, you will find your own place.

Speaking of this iconic Broadway musical, we must introduce the composer Alan Menken. He is one of the outstanding and prolific musicians of our time. You may not know him personally, but his works are most likely among your favourites. If you enjoy *Beauty and the Beast, The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, Enchanted,* and many other Disney works, they are all the products of his talents. The challenging choral songs of *Sister Act* have given my team a hard time, but when you see them singing in harmony and moving the audience, that feeling alone is worth applauding.

Lastly, I want to express gratitude to CityU and Dr. Tim Wong for their efforts in bringing one after another Broadway musical to the campus. During difficult times, performing arts play a crucial role in holistic education. Musical theatre enhances students' sense of belonging to the school, classmates, and teachers in university life. After being involved in arts education for twenty-five years, witnessing how every place and every student grows through musical theatre has been my best gift.

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

#### Chan Lik Sang (Big John)

Director

C

0

C

0

C

C

C

C

### **Sister Act** U.S. National Tour Version (2012)

A woman hiding in a convent helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she rediscovers her own. This feel-good comedy smash is based on the hit film.

*Sister Act* is the feel-good musical comedy smash based on the hit 1992 film that has audiences jumping to their feet! Featuring original music by Tony and eight-time Oscar winner, Alan Menken (*Newsies, Beauty* and *the Beast, Little Shop of Horrors*), this uplifting musical was nominated for five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

When disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, witnesses a murder, she is put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be a found: a convent! Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and uptight Mother Superior. Using her unique disco moves and singing talent to inspire the choir, Deloris breathes new life into the church and community but, in doing so, blows her cover. Soon, the gang is giving chase, only to find them up against Deloris and the power of her newly found sisterhood.

Filled with powerful gospel music, outrageous dancing and a truly moving story, *Sister Act* will leave audiences breathless. The cast is chock full of amazing roles for women of all ages, making this a perfect choice for high schools and community theatres. A sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, *Sister Act* is reason to REJOICE!

Reference: https://www.mtishows.com/sister-act

## **Biography of the Author**

#### **Cheri Steinkellner**

Cheri Steinkellner has won four Emmy Awards, two Golden Globes, The People's Choice, BAFTA, Writers Guild Award, Parents Choice and TV-Land Legend Awards, for writing and producing Cheers (recently named one of the Top 10 Best Written Comedies in TV history), and The Jeffersons, Facts of Life, Family Ties and Who's The Boss, and for creating the acclaimed Disney animated Saturday morning TV series and feature film, Teacher's Pet. A 2011 Tony-nominee for Sister Act (with husband Bill Steinkellner, Alan Menken and Glenn Slater); Cheri has also written Princesses (with Bill, David Zippel and Matthew Wilder); and book and lyrics for Mosaic (with Georgia Stitt), and Jailbirds on Broadway (with Bill and Jeff Rizzo). Other stage includes Our Place, and Instaplay - L.A. s original - and longest-running improvised musical-comedy. An Indy Award winner and Ovation nominee for Hello! My Baby, Cheri currently teaches writing at Stanford and UCSB and directs youth theatre in beautiful Santa Barbara, where she and Bill raised their three favourite children/writers/ artists: Kit, Teddy, and Emma.

Reference: https://www.mtishows.com/people/cheri-steinkellner

#### **Bill Steinkellner**

Award-winning television and screen writer: "Cheers" and Disney's "Teacher's Pet" (Emmys, Golden Globes, BAFTAS, Writers Guild and People's Choice Awards). Book writer (with wife, Cherri): Sister Act the Musical (London Palladium, Hamburg, Broadway 2011), Princesses (Goodspeed, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Writer/director (with Paul Reubens): the original Pee-wee Herman Show (Groundlings, Roxy Theatre, HBO). Creator/director: Instaplay, L.A.'s first allimprovised musical-comedy. Author: the L.A. Times bestseller Postcards From the Moon.

Reference: https://www.mtishows.com/people/bill-steinkellner

## Introduction of Music Theatre International

Music Theatre International (MTI) is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form.

MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide.

MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior™ shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle schoolaged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students.

Reference: https://www.mtishows.com/about



It is Christmas Eve in 1977 at a disco nightclub in Philadelphia. Club singer, Deloris Van Cartier, and her two back-ups are performing in front of an empty house. A gangster and four henchmen appear. Van Cartier's boyfriend, Curtis Jackson, owns the nightclub ("Take Me to Heaven"). Deloris is overjoyed as she believes her boyfriend is going to introduce her to a record producer on that day. She soon learns, however, that this is not to be. Jackson tells her he cannot join her for Christmas Day but gives her a coat, which she discovers belonged to his wife. Hurt and frustrated, Deloris goes to her backup singers, Michelle and Tina, about her dreams of stardom and fame ("Fabulous, Baby!") She decides to break up with Jackson and head out of Philadelphia to go fulfil her dreams on her own. When she happens to witness Jackson and his crew murder someone accused of "squealing" to the cops, though, she becomes terrified. Deloris promptly runs away as Jackson orders his men to get her and bring her back.

Sometime later, Deloris runs into a police station and tells the desk chief, Eddie, about what has happened. The two recognize each other as old friends from school, with Deloris calling him "Sweaty Eddie." Eddie decides that Deloris needs to go into the witness protection program and sends her to the place he believes Jackson will never find her: a convent! When Deloris arrives, she is disappointed to learn from the Mother Superior that contact with the outside world is limited and that she cannot smoke, drink or wear any of her less-than-appropriate clothing ("Here within These Walls").

Deloris joins the other nuns for dinner and is introduced as Sister Mary Clarence. After several comedic interactions with the overly perky Sister Mary Patrick, Deloris discovers just how much is limited when she is a nun ("It's Good to Be a Nun"). Deloris then asks them about what they're missing, and Mother Superior makes Deloris go on a fast. Meanwhile, back in his nightclub, Jackson is frustrated that he cannot find Deloris anywhere. He tells Joey, TJ and Pablo how he will not stop until he finds and kills Deloris ("When I Find My Baby").

Back at the convent, Deloris is hungry from the fast. She goes across the street to a slinky bar and is followed by Sister Mary Patrick and Sister Mary Robert, a shy and quiet nun. When the two nuns arrive, they see how fun things can be outside of the convent. However, Deloris recognizes Joey, TJ and Pablo entering the bar. Suddenly, there is a fight in the bar, giving Deloris, Sister Mary Patrick and Sister Mary Robert a chance to escape. Eddie and Mother Superior meet them back at the convent. Mother Superior confronts Deloris, telling her that she must conform to the life of the nuns. Eddie agrees and reveals that Jackson has upped the price on her head, so she needs to be careful. Deloris storms back to the convent after being informed that she has to wake up at 5 a.m. and join the choir. Eddie, now alone with only the drunks and homeless on the street, privately reflects on his desire to just let go and impress Deloris ("I Could Be That Guy").

The following morning, Deloris attends the choir practice and realizes how bad the situation is. Deloris offers to teach them, thus taking over from Sister Mary Lazarus, an older nun. Deloris teaches the nuns how to sing in key and on time. She also manages to break the quiet and timid Sister Mary Robert out of her shell ("Raise Your Voice"). That Sunday, the choir performs a rousing, up-tempo hymn ("Take Me to Heaven – Reprise"). Although the church is struggling, the improved performance and new material bring an influx of donations and membership. Mother Superior, however, is horrified at how the simple, traditional choir she knew has changed and become modern.



Mother Superior wants to get rid of Deloris, but Monsignor O'Hara reminds her that the men who were planning to buy the church love the choir and have given their money to improve and keep the church... specifically because of the choir. Over the last few weeks, the choir has become incredibly successful, and the money from donations has paid for the church to be remodelled and fixed ("Sunday Morning Fever").

Later, Monsignor O'Hara bursts in with exciting news: the choir has been asked to perform a special concert in front of the Pope. Deloris is thrilled but also regretful; Jackson and his goons have spotted Deloris with the choir on the television accepting the invitation. Jackson orders his henchmen to get into the convent and bring Deloris back. TJ, Joey and Pablo discuss how they will do this ("Lady in the Long Black Dress"). Meanwhile, Mother Superior prays to God, asking why He has given her the challenge that is named Deloris ("I Haven't Got a Prayer"). She soon receives a call from Eddie.

Deloris is approached by the Nuns before they go to sleep, asking her to lead them in prayer for their show for the Pope on the following day ("Bless the Show"). Mother Superior arrives shortly thereafter and informs Deloris that the court date for Jackson has been moved up to the next day and she must leave immediately. The other nuns overhear, and Deloris is forced to tell them the truth about who she really is and that she cannot perform with them. Deloris quickly runs off to get her things, followed by Sister Mary Robert while the other nuns disappointingly go back to their rooms.

As Deloris prepares to leave, Sister Mary Robert begs to come with her, claiming that she has been inspired to become a stronger person and go after the things she wants ("The Life I Never Led"). Deloris tells her that she doesn't need her to do that and that she can do it all herself if she really wants to. Deloris runs from the convent and stays at Eddie's house for the night. While there, she is initially overjoyed that, the following day, she will testify against Jackson and his boys to go back to pursuing the career she's dreamed of ("Fabulous, Baby! – Reprise"). But feeling immense guilt for abandoning her sisters when they needed her, she begins to reflect on her life, finally realizing that the choices she is making will leave her with nothing but fame and money. She decides to return to the convent and sing with her sisters ("Sister Act").

Elsewhere, Jackson thinks up a new way to get into the convent ("When I Find My Baby – Reprise"). Dressed as nuns, Jackson, Joey, TJ and Pablo sneak into the convent. They find and chase Deloris. The Nuns see this and they all prepare to protect Deloris. Mother Superior, however, is adamant that they stay away and call the police, which prompts an outburst from Sister Mary Robert, who tells her that she won't be quiet anymore ("The Life I Never Led – Reprise"). The other nuns agree and all go running through the convent to look for Deloris.

Deloris eventually runs into Jackson, leading to a final confrontation. He is armed and dangerous, and she is scared but calm. Jackson demands that Deloris to get on her knees and beg for her life. However, all the sisters and nuns run in, unafraid; they stand in front of her, telling Jackson that they will have to go through them first ("Sister Act – Reprise"). Jackson is about to start firing at the nuns when Eddie comes in and fights Jackson off. He arrests Jackson and his boys. He and Deloris then share a passionate embrace. Mother Superior and Deloris come to a truce and agree to accept each other – warts and all. As the curtain begins to fall, we transition to the performance in front of the Pope as the nuns stand in unison with their voices ringing in harmony, led by a changed Deloris Van Cartier ("Spread the Love Around").

## **Musical Numbers**

#### Act One

- 1. Take Me To Heaven (Nightclub)
- 2. Fabulous, Baby!
- 3. The Perfect Place
- 4. Here Within These Walls
- 5. It's Good to Be a Nun
- 6. When I Find My Baby
- 7. I Could Be That Guy
- 8. Raise Your Voice
- 9. Take Me To Heaven (Nun Choir Version)

#### Act Two

- 10. Entr'acte
- 11. Sunday Morning Fever
- 12. Take Me To Heaven (Newscast)
- 13. Lady in the Long Black Dress
- 14. I Haven't Got a Prayer
- 15. Bless Our Show
- 16. Benedicta-ta For Now
- 17. The Life I Never Led
- 18. Fabulous, Baby! (Reprise)
- 19. Sister Act
- 20. When I Find My Baby (Reprise)
- 21. The Life I Never Led (Reprise)
- 22. Sister Act (Reprise)
- 23. Spread the Love Around
- 24. Raise Your Voice





#### **CHAN Hui Ka Celine**

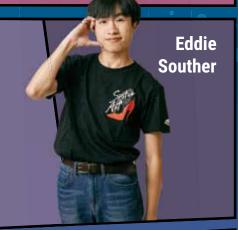
Digital TV and Broadcasting, Year 2

To me, CityU Musical is not just about performing arts, but also a process of discovering my possibilities and pushing my limits. I will remember all the times we spent together to make everything happen. Love my Sisters! (And the Gang Brothers too, of course!)

#### CHAN Kin Cheung, Michael

Finance, Alumna

With their endless laughter and energy, these lovely cast members are the reason why I am back on this stage. With the courage of Eddie, we can all be that guy that shines the brightest. Thank you all for making this "Perfect Act".





#### CHAN Tsz Ching, Sukey

English, Year 4

Being in this musical has been an experience like no other. *Sister Act* has been one of the most challenging, yet most rewarding production I've participated in. I'm truly blessed to be able to work with this talented cast and team of instructors. I'm part of one terrific *Sister Act*!

#### **CHENG Ho Man, Winson**

Creative Media, Year 4

I am so glad to be here with my lovely and talented cast members. Being part of the musical is such an amazing experience for me. I still cannot believe that my dream from last year now turns into reality.

Joey is a bad guy, dull, kind, and always has a mysterious confidence. What an interesting role to play! Hope you enjoy the show and give more applauses to all the actors who always work hard. Joey

#### CHING Lok Chee, Sarah

English, Year 3

"It's not just Singing; It's Rejoicing."

From a club singer-dancer to a nun, the change in attitude and emotions is drastic for me. All the glamour, fame and fun are suppressed within the convent. Yet, Deloris turns up the music so we could sing and dance again. There is so much love and care from the cast, and working together has been such a blast.

I hope you enjoy our energetic performance!





#### CHOI Ka Lok, Bee

Systems Engineering and Management, Alumna

It's an honor for me to be part of the CityU Musical for the second year. *Sister Act* was such a classic comedy back in the 90s and we are now reenacting it! We are fabulous! God has brought you here to our show for a reason. Take the hint. Vamos!

#### HE Jinzhixin, Steven

Business Economics, Year 2

Performing in *Sister Act* has been a gift. The intensive rehearsals in choreography expanded my dancing abilities. Integrating tight harmonies improved my vocal skills, but the most enriching part was bonding with my castmates. I am proud to be able to tell this uplifting story to audiences through great music and hilarious comedy.

/ Ernie Ensemble Cop / Ensemble

#### HO Wing Fung, Michael

Global Research Enrichment and Technopreneurship, Year 3

What an honour and privilege to be a part of this musical.

My involvement in the musical last year rekindled my love and passion for music and theater. This year I come to participate in *Sister Act* with great enthusiasm and expectations. I am sure that the audience will find this presentation intriguing and entertaining, as the team proudly showcases our talents and gifts through the expressions of music and acting.

#### Nun



#### HU Tongjia, Ella

Finance, Year 2

From rehearsals to the stage, it has been a journey full of music and joy. Words cannot describe how lucky I am to join the CityU Musical team and most importantly to meet such a creative and energetic group of people.

"Together, we can make things happen." And now everyone, enjoy the show!

#### **KWAK Dahye**

Digital TV and Broadcasting, Alumna

No expression is enough to describe how lucky I am to have been part of the production for the past years.

I am grateful to the production team for their trust in me and to the cast members for their support and endless love. Sister Mary Robert has lived in a convent for her entire life. By the end of the story, her journey has only just begun. I hope that everyone who is facing the same situation finds the courage to lead their own lives and remember that that is only the beginning.



TJ

#### LAU Shun Hang Peter

English, Year 4

It is my honour to mount the stage, and fill it with colour and joy. TJ's charm will spread across Philadelphia, and we will make you squeal for sure!

#### LIN Chit Sum, Sammie

Chemistry, Alumna

Glory be, it's good to be a nun!

Though balancing work and rehearsals was tough, I have so much fun in playing *Sister Act*. A big thanks to my amazing castmates for their support! Much love to the team and you are all fabulous, baby!

Tina / Nun

#### LIN Yingyi, E

Creative Media, Year 3

To be honest, you might not recognise me on stage, but I will always be your favorite "Sister" and grandma.



Pablo



#### LIU Kai Chun, Karl

Creative Media, Year 4

CityU Musical is a place where miracles happen.

Everyone is trying their best to perform in the show. It is my first time to play such a significant character, the story's villain! Curtis has an entirely different personality than I do. I will try my best to act!

#### MALDONADO FERNANDEZ Benjamin

Exchange Student

I am so grateful to be a part of the fabulous *Sister Act*. Not only the play is funny and challenging, but also everyone is so kind and passionate about the work we are doing.

Nun

#### PANG Cheuk Nam, Kylie

Digital TV and Broadcasting , Year 2

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the CityU Musical and meet such amazing cast members. This being my first musical performance, I have learnt and grown so much during my time here. The memories we made will always hold a special place in my heart. Good show everyone and I hope you all enjoy the show!

#### PUA Krystelle Jasmin Espiritu

/eterinary Medicine, Year 2

Sister Act is all about how family can sometimes be found in the most unexpected situations, and the same can be said for our very own cast. I believe watching this musical is just as magical as performing in it. You are in for a special treat – "the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing!"

Sister Mary Martin-of-tours

#### **WONG Cheuk Ying Christie**

Psychology, Year 4

I am blessed and grateful to have the chance playing as Sister Mary Patrick. She is very special to me, a total breakthrough!

This lady is an unstoppable beam of passionate sunshine who gets you excited about just about anything! May God bless us with passion and enjoyment in everything we do! We have our sisters by our sides and we have our sisters' love and pride! Thank god for bringing everyone here together for this terrific *Sister Act.* 





#### WONG Ching Wa, Nicole

Criminology and Sociology, Year 2

Feeling well-supported and joyful during every training session, I am honored to have this opportunity to enlarge my social circles by making new friends and to create invaluable memories among us. We were in Macau for a 4-day Intensive Training Camp and learned a lot about the importance of teamwork and the power of believing in yourself in making miracles happen. I cherish our friendship and the coaches' attentive guidance.

#### WONG Yat Long, Don

Data Science, Year 2

Participating in CityU Musical was a big challenge for me. Although I had some music background, acting and dancing were completely new to me. I encountered many difficulties, but I was really grateful for all the help I received from my pals. I could not have performed that well without them.



Mother Superior

#### WU Shanshan, Sheena

Computer Science, Year 3

I directed and performed in a mini-musical show with my friends in high school, and I really enjoyed standing on the stage. Since then, I have been expecting an opportunity to perform on a larger stage, and I am very fortunate and happy to be selected as one of the CityU Musical cast members. I believe I can present an unforgettable memory to the audience and myself. Cheers!

#### YEUNG Man Sik, Toby

Law, Year 1

Being part of the cast of *Sister Act* is a precious opportunity to explore myself. I can also connect with people through, not languages, but the music.





#### YEUNG Yung, Dawn

Creative Media , Year 2

I joined the Musical quite late but I truly enjoy every bits I get to experience, even the long and intensive rehearsals we stay behind. These are the memories that I cherish. Everyone here in the Musical is passionate in what they are doing, and I feel that is what makes it special. I especially love how the Musical creates a space for people like me, a beginner, to explore acting, dancing and singing without feeling ashamed or weird. Instead, I see everyone else is trying to do their best, which only motivates me more.

#### YU Jinming, Jin

Biomedical Engineering, PhD

It is my honor to join CityU Musical for the third year. This activity makes me feel that it was a good decision to join CityU PhD program instead of the ones from other universities. I cherish all of memories with my talented friends from musical, who I will miss for the rest of my life.





#### YU Lok Sze Nikki

Computer Science, Year 2

It is an honour to perform on stage with all these beautiful human beings. Not only have I learnt how to sing, dance and act during these months, but I have also known a group of friends who are always there for each other.

So, sisters and brothers, let's enjoy the stage and spread the love around!









## Chan Lik Sang (Big John) Director

Chan (Big John) graduated from the School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, major in Acting. He was awarded Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation Scholarship and Outstanding Actor Award. He won 2 Runner-up (Group Skits) of World Clown Competition 2014 (US Chicago). Big John participated in different musical theatre performances, such as The Wizard of Oz, Forsettoland, Sumo Do, Sumo Don't, My Fair Lady, 1941 girl (1<sup>st</sup> Run and Re-Run), Dark Tales, The Border Town, The Three Little Pig Pig, The Good Person of Szechwan (1<sup>st</sup> Run, Re-Run and 3<sup>rd</sup> Run), Man of la Mancha, The Little Shop of Horrors, Vagabond, and The Legend of the White Snake. He was also a playwright, director and lyricist, and his production included The Fantasticks, Invisible Symphony, Nubia, The Mystery of Chinese Name, The Writing Adventure of Bui Bui 2017, Far Far Far Away, Under the Stars, We Dream, The Footprints, Trove of Life, West Side Story and Fiddler on the Roof.

Big John is experienced in the educational drama and has worked with different professional theatre companies in different schools as a drama tutor. In 2004, he was invited to further his studies in Aesthetic Education at Lincoln Centre for the Performing Arts in New York. Besides theatre works, Chan was also involved in film and television, movie, advertisement and dubbing. He is a free-lance actor, drama tutor and drama adjudicator. Recently, he directed different English musical theatre productions such as *The Wizard of Oz, Oliver Twist, West Side Story* and *Fiddler on the Roof.* He has also been involved as an event director and part of the creative team in big projects such as Halloween at Ocean Park from 2008-2014.

Chan was the drama tutor and show director of HKAPA EXCEL's one-year Musical Theatre Program from 2011-2017 and the Artistic Director of the Hong Kong Children's Musical Theatre from 2017-2022.

Big John is current judging by the Hong Kong School Drama Festival, the Hong Kong Federation of Drama Societies Jury, Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong Ltd member.



### Pong Law Musical Director

Graduated from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts with a master degree in music composition and electronic music, Pong Law is a versatile composer, arranger and keyboardist.

Being passionate about varied genres of music, Pong has been commissioned to compose and arrange music for different ensembles and orchestras, including Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, Hong Kong City Chamber Orchestra, Hong Kong Youth Chinese Orchestra, Wuji Ensemble, Taipei Liuqin Ensemble, The Baden-Wurttemberg Youth Wind Ensemble etc.

Beside concert music, Pong is also active in the local musical theatre scene. He has been the arranger and keyboardist for different productions, including productions by Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Actors' Family, Windmill Grass Theatre, etc.

Pong is also a session keyboardist in the local pop music scene. He is the touring keyboardist for Jason Chan and Phil Lam.



### Margaret Cheung Singing Coach

Margaret Cheung is an in demand musical theatre performer, vocalist and vocal coach. She obtained her Bachelor of Creative Industries from the Queensland University of Technology, Australia, and a diploma from the School of Drama at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

Cheung has worked with most professional theatre companies in Hong Kong (Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Actor's Family, Theatre Space, Hong Kong 3 Arts Musical Institute, Hong Kong Arts Festival etc). She has worked frequently with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, and was invited by the orchestra to present a solo concert "My Technicolor Childhood" in 2017.

Besides her work in musical theatre, her voice can be heard in acappella (Yatpo Singers, Vsing), Cantopop backup vocals (Joey Yung, Andy Lau, Deanie Yip, Anthony Lun, Mimi Lo, Karen Mok etc), voiceovers (Cantonese dubbing for Luisa in Disney's *Encanto*), and on the cover album "Directions", due for release in late 2023. She is mentored by Eli Fung (Beilosi) in voice and studies the Estill Voice Model with Naomi Eyers. She is currently an Estill Master Trainer-Candidate. She has recently branched out into singing coaching for the professional musical theatre, serving as coach for productions such as *Next to Normal* for 3AMI and *Yat-sen Musical* for Hong Kong Arts Festival.

€.



### Nikki Ng Choreographer

Nikki Ng graduated from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, majoring in musical theatre dance. She obtained the UK ISTD Tap Dance Elementary Certificate and the Australian CSTD Jazz Dance 1-8 (Honours) Certificate. During her studies, she participated in multiple musicals, operas, and dance performances. She represented the academy on dance exchanges to the Philippines and Prague, and also received a scholarship to study and observe in New York.

Currently, Nikki actively engages in education and choreography work. She has collaborated with various artistic groups and institutions, including Theatre Space, 3AMI, R & T, Hong Kong Children's Choir, Hong Kong Chorus Society Limited and Vocational Training Council. Additionally, she serves as a dance teacher and musical theatre choreographer for primary and secondary schools.



### Henry Shum Choreographer

Shum graduated from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in Chinese Dance and Choreography. Currently, he is a guest lecturer at the HKAPA. He was invited to reprise his work, *Day In Day Out*, by the Hong Kong Dance Alliance and the Dance Association of Korea. He has worked with well-known art groups such as the Hong Kong Dance Company in *Qingming Riverside* and 8/F Platform's *And the Thunder Sings*, JS Dance Theater in *Fragile* (2011), the E-Side Dance Company in *Converging Beams*, among others. He was invited by various dance organisations to go on exchanges and performances in Portugal, the United Kingdom, Korea and Malaysia, etc.



### Lo Ka Nang (K.O.) Assistant Director

Lo Ka Nang (K.O.) graduated from the School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 2017, major in Acting. After graduation, he has worked with various theatre companies and taught drama in HKAPA Excel, primary schools, secondary schools and college.

In 2018, he was nominated the Best Actor in Supporting Role (Comedy/Farce) at the 28th Hong Kong Drama Award of the Hong Kong Federation of Drama Societies for his work in *Die Firma dankt*. K.O. has joined the Jumbo Kids Theatre as a full-time actor in 2019.

### Fred Cheung Production and Stage Manager

Fred graduated from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, major Art, Event and Stage Management. He was awarded "The Best DSM of the Academy" in 2011/12 in school with the drama production, *The Man of the Blue and Black*. Fred has worked with the Hong Kong Disneyland, Ocean Park and different companies to serve as stage manager and production manager. He also worked for Hong Kong International Airport Festivals as a stage manager for many years.

Fred has participated in production with children in different regions, not only in the mainland, Hong Kong and Macao. He went to Africa to teach local orphans has produced the musical *Azibo*. In 2013, he worked in the D100 radio as a DJ. Fred had been a tutor of HKAPA Excel Summer Musical from 2014 to 2021. He has also taught many primary and secondary school students in theatre and stage knowledge for many years.

Fred is currently the Artistic and Technical Director at Theatre Merchants. In 2016, he built up a new production house Earth's Kidz Prodction. He hopes he can produce more good productions and educates the kids. He believes "Theatre is for all Kidz. The Kidz future is something we build in the present".





# Stage Production

## Creative and Production Team

Producer	Dr. Tim Wong
Director	Big John Chan
Musical Director	Pong Law
Singing Coach	Margaret Cheung
Choreographer	Nikki Ng
	Henry Shum
Assistant Director	Lo Ka Nang (K.O.)
Production and Stage Manager	Fred Cheung
Deputy Stage Manager	Jo Lo
Set Designer	Cheung Ching Wo
Costume Designer	Ching Hoi Man
Lighting Designer	Siu Bao Fong
Sound Designer	Can Ha
Wardrobe Supervisor	Cheung Doi Yee
Dresser	So Wing Yan
	Fung Sau Ngan
	Cheng Sze Wan (Psychology, Year 3)
	Lee Ming Wai (Digital TV and Broadcasting, Year 3)
Make-up and Hairdressing Supervisor	May Chu
Light Crew	Athena Yau
	Yiu Man Fei
Sound Operator	Chow Tak Hei
Sound Crew	Wai Zak Sun
	Li Ching Lam
	Wong Chak Yu
Stage Crew	Ivan Ho
	Ng Kin Fung
	Lee Hau Him (Electronic and Communication Engineering, Year 5)
	Tsang Wing Lam (Media and Communication, Year 4)
Video Recording	C. Production House

## Project Management

Student Development Services Kathy Ng

Shirley Tam Jacob Lam

## Surtitle Team

Chief Editor	Lai Chin Ching Emily
Chinese Surtitle Translation	Li Haze
	Mak Hoi Kiu
	Shen Xinyue (Translation and Interpretation, Year 4)
	Chan Wai Sum (Linguistics and Language Applications, Year 3)
Surtitle Operator	Mak Hoi Kiu

## Acknowledgements

### **Professor Freddy Boey**

President and University Distinguished Professor, City University of Hong Kong

### **Professor Lee Chun Sing**

Provost and Deputy President, City University of Hong Kong

#### **Professor Isabel Yan**

Associate Provost (Student Life), City University of Hong Kong Chairman of the Cultural and Sports Committee

### Dr. Larry Ng

Director of Student Development Services, City University of Hong Kong

### Dr. Tim Wong

Consultant of Student Development Services, City University of Hong Kong

#### **Cultural and Sports Committee**

### **Student Development Services**

Thank you for supporting our performance.

We would be grateful if you could spare some time to give us feedbacks for continuous improvement.

Please scan the QR code for an online feedback form.

Thank you once again and we look forward to seeing you again in the future.

#### Audience Survey (English Version)



https://cityuhk.questionpro. com/Musical2324EngSurvey

#### 觀眾問卷 ( 中文版本 )



https://cityuhk.questionpro. com/Musical2324ChinSurvey





## Follow us on:

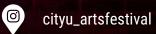


https://www.cityu.edu.hk/ctspc/



 $\mathbf{\mathbf{O}}$ 

CityU.Cultural



CityU Arts Festival