DIGITAL BOOKLET

A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT THE NEW UPCOMING MUSICAL

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THE CREATORS: LUCIER & ROSE

S. C. Lucier is an SDC member and award- winning director who has worked on a range of projects (NYMF, FringeNYC, SCDF Observership), including associate directing Kerrigan-Lowdermilk's immersive house party musical, The Bad Years. She has also designed, production managed, and collaborated with various companies, and has even performed for choreographer Sally Silvers in a Baryshnikov Arts Center residency, on roller skates!

Meghan Rose is a writer, performer, and producer who currently fronts and writes in two bands: The Loud Soft Loud and Damsel Trash. She began her career as a composer, music directing and teaching music in Madison, WI, where she has received multiple awards for her work. Rose is also the co-author of musicals that have been featured in the NYC Fringe Festival and NYMF, most recently HELD: A Musical Fantasy.

Lucier and Rose met during the first NYC production of HELD: A Musical Fantasy, and the two have been collaborating ever since. Most recently, Rose wrote original scoring for Lucier as she directed A Midsummer Night's Dream with Hip to Hip Theater's outdoor Shakespeare company.

CAST

MELISSA ROSE HIRSCH
XENA

HANNAH RIPP-DIETER
GABRIELLE

KRISTIAN ESPIRITU
MYRINA

KRISTIN DAUSCH
APHRODITE

SEAN QUINN HANLEY
ARES

ANGELO MCDONOUGH
JOXER, VLAKAS, GOONS

ZIA
EPHINY

ANDREW SWACKHAMER
KAKO, GOONS

JOYAH LOVE SPANGLER
AMAZONS, MAIDENS

Song 1

OVERTURE/ KAVAL SVIRI

The show opens in darkness with a synth choir singing "Kaval Sviri," the traditional Bulgarian folk song used in the opening credits of the Xena: Warrior Princess television series. The track grows steadily in volume and intensity straight into the heavy rock guitar riff of the first song "Bad Guys."

Song 2

BAD GUYS

BAD GUYS

Bad guys doing bad things
Bad guys doing bad things

We Steal, we raid
We're not afraid
Big deal, we sin
The bad guys always win

We fight, we rage
We take our wage
We suck within
The bad guys always win

Look another stupid knick-knack
Pity if somebody broke that
It's not even hard to kill you
What a boring town to live through

Doesn't it make the most sense
We deserve more than peasants
You're weaker than us so step aside
You won't even miss your pathetic life

We don't care 'cuz you don't matter

Bad guys doing bad things
Bad guys doing bad things
Bad guys living like kings
Bad guys doing bad things

I'm mean, I'm dumb
It's so much fun
One big trash bin
The bad guys always win

Don't be so scared and helpless
It's so easy to be jealous
We'll come back for the pretty ones
This is so much fun

We don't care 'cuz you don't matter
More and more and more!

Bad guys, bad things
Bad guys, bad things

It's not my problem that you're poor and weak
It's your own fault that we're on a winning streak

Bad guys doing bad things
Bad guys doing bad things
Bad guys living like kings
Bad guys doing bad, bad!

Song 3

BATTLE ON!

As Xena and Gabrielle fight to save the village from bad guys, tribal drums, orchestral strings, electric guitars, and a rock drum kit underscore the action with musical variations on "Kaval Sviri" and "Bad Guys."

Song 4

STRONGER TOGETHER

AMAZONS

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon Warrior

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon Warrior

I made this weapon and my skills are insane
I made new armor out of leather and chain
I made this muscle out of passion and pain
And so I know
We're stronger together

I'm training everyday and look at me fight
My thighs hurt really bad but it's alright
Come see me later, I'll be up all night
And so I know We're stronger together

I bit a cow's leg off in a dare
I can burn a man's skin with my stare
I'm two percent body fat and covered in hair
And so I know We're stronger together

I will die for you, I've got twenty tattoos
We're super ripped and we'll mess you up!

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
And so I know
We're stronger together

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
And so I know
We're stronger together

Amazons are warriors
And we protect our sisters
We're always loyal to our Queen
We are harmony
Have trust in each other
We are pieces in a well-oiled machine
We are the guardians
Protectors of the forest
We respect the land and help to keep it green
We are family
We all slay
We're bad bitches and we like it that way

We are strong and hot,
We eat a lot
We're super ripped and we'll mess you up!

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
And so I know
We're stronger together

I am an Amazon
I am an Amazon
And so I know
We're stronger together

Song 5

IF WE WERE

XENA & GABRIELLE

I would want to spend all of my days
Traveling around with you, and
Learning all your quirky ways
Writing down your every deed
I'd fill my scrolls with verses in your praise

I would let you share my bedroll
But sleep closest to the fire
Know to celebrate your birthday big
Always tell you it's your heart that I admire
Closest to the fire

If we were
Like they're telling us we are
Then we would know
After all those nights of sleeping under stars
When your close I'd crash and burn
If we were
But we're not
But if we were

I would want to make our friendship last
Take you to the marketplace to
Dress you up and have a blast
Forgive you for that frying pan
Talk you out of trouble from your past

I would listen to your stories
And make Argo treat you nice
Always come to rescue you from harm
I would know that you were worth the sacrifice
It's you at any price

If we were
Like they're telling us we are
Then we would know
After all those nights of sleeping under stars
When your close I'd crash and burn
If we were
I know we're not
But if we were

[Dance Break / Chobo Fight]

I would never know how much to say
Follow you to battle even
When you told me I should stay
I'd think of you as family
And miss you every time you were away

I would always want you happy
Even if it meant goodbye
Tell myself we're nothing more than friends
And I'd know that in my heart it's all a lie
Would it mean goodbye

If we were
Like they're telling us we are
Then we would know
After all those nights of sleeping under stars
I'd be at home in love with her
If we were
If we were

Song 6

MY MANY SKILLS

XENA

The things I've learned through many years
Instilling and exploiting fear
Will haunt me for a lifetime to come
My village of Amphipolis
The hometown that I truly miss
Has barely welcomed back who I've become
But oh, my many skills

Conquering was all I cared for
Feeding hate and worshipping war
Forsake love to get the things I want
Battlelust is always looming
Stay alive by not assuming
Anyone as loyal confidant
But oh, my many skills
Oh, my many skills

Destroyer of Nations, that's who I am
Even after conquering my will
I'm never free from the deeds I've done
But oh, my many skills
Oh, my many skills

It's hard for me to say aloud
The reasons why I'm hardly proud
When Gabrielle tries digging through my past
I never want to tell the truth
Atrocities done in my youth
That loving look she gives me wouldn't last
But oh, my many skills
Oh, my many skills

Your name is what you've made it
You do good now
So that must mean you are good
This legacy that's haunting me
Will it ever be understood?

Instead I force myself to say
Something vague, and don't replay
The actions that are shameful to me now
Apollo's light cannot forgive
The hateful life I chose to live
And I cannot forgive me anyhow

Destroyer of Nations, that's who I am
Even after conquering my will
I'm never free from the deeds I've done
But oh, my many skills
Oh, my many skills

Song 7

GREED IS A NEED

KĀKO

I can spot a priceless treasure
Wonders begging to be bought
It may be a tome of Homer's
Or hair of Argonaut

I once sold the box of Pandora
Printed with her cursed hand
The secret to my booming business?
Creation of supply and then demand

I am the greatest warlord
Living by a rich man's creed
Steal it in the night, then sell it back for twice a-
greed, is a need for me

Genius is my secret power
Better than the Ixion stone
Nothing stops a fool from buying
Items that I don't quite own

Helmets that are painted silver
Weapons that will melt when wet
Make it so your name's a shiver
Something that they can't forget

Greed is the word to live by,
Take if from a famous bad guy!
Find the thing I want and favor is a guaranteed
Greed is a need for me
And for you if you want to be like me
Which of course you do!

Song 8

WE ARE NOT OUR PAST

MYRINA

I'm aware of what they say
The Nation's gone, we had our glory days
Now our tribes have fallen far
Until we're gone, that's who we are
It's the story we've been told
But it's powerless and old
And I'm never giving in

Live in the here
Be in the now
We journey on, somehow
I keep my eye on the future bright ahead
And I believe
We'll make it through
Even when days are dark, no
We are not our past
And there's no end to what we'll do
We are not our past

Ever since I was a girl
I've wanted more
It's you I'm fighting for
All I've done is meant to show
That we will live That we can grow

And I swear that we'll be freed
I will be the one to lead
I'm not afraid of what it takes

Live in the here
Be in the now
We journey on, somehow
I keep my eye on the future bright ahead
And I believe
We'll make it through
Even when sorrow finds us
We are not our past
And there's no end to what we'll do
We are not our past

We are more than what they've done
Every sister rise as one
A new era has begun!

Live in the here
Be in the now
We journey on, somehow
I keep my eye on the future bright ahead
And I believe
We'll make it through
When we are strong together
We are not our past
And there's no end to what we'll do
We are not our past

Song 9

A HERO'S HEART

JOXER

A hero's heart
I'm Joxer!
A hero' heart
I'm Joxer!

Once upon my hero-ing I fought a Cyclops den
The giant things were numbering no littler than ten
Outrunning them was not a chance and I had lost my horse
My only choice of staying 'live was beating them by force
Into the tallest tree I climbed and firmly held my sword
I called aloud into the den and outward rushed the horde
Then with one strike I slayed them in the name of Aphrodite
I did that! I'm Joxer the Mighty!

A hero's heart Is always true
He needs a wife
It won't be you!

[stunt break]

It's true I may not have great skills of swordplay
I fear the fight will go your way, not my way
But you need any cheering
I'm always endearing
My talents are hard to display

A hero's heart Is always true
When danger calls
There's much to do

I know my mightiness might be misleading
I feel this may end with crying or pleading
But still, my colander armor
Is always a charmer
I smell like a flower in spring

His hero's heart Is less than true
He need's a wife It should be you!

I'm Joxer!

I'm Joxer!

A hero's heart Is sometimes blue
Saving the world Is hard to do
I hope that Gabrielle notices someday
She says a warrior has her heart one day
She needs understanding
That's right in my branding
A friend never too far away

Song 10

WHEN YOU'RE A LEADER

EPHINY

Never ask of any sister
More than you alone
Would do to keep our village safe
From enemies unknown
When sparring with your new recruits
You shouldn't let them win
But gently make it harder
To unleash what lies within

Always show your truest self
Never play a part
Your tribe will love your honesty
They'll see into your heart

Never force your way on others
Earn respect instead
Willingness to follow you
is how you know you've led
When you're a leader
When you're a leader

In ruling matters of dispute
Be firm but always fear
Discipline is quickly lost
When it seems like you don't care
Be guided by Amazon law
But always use your head
In matters of the tribal state
Rules are felt, not read

Always show your truest self
Never play a part
Your tribe will love your honesty
They'll see into your heart

Never force your way on others
Earn respect instead
Willingness to follow you
is how you know you've led
When you're a leader
When you're a leader

Gods know, you won't have all the answers
Queens fail, but they always follow through
You may fall,
and there's no such thing as perfect
If you lead them well, they'll carry you

Always show your truest self
Never play a part
Your tribe will love your honesty
They'll see into your heart
Never force your way on others
Earn respect instead
Willingness to follow you
is how you know you've led
When you're a leader
When you're a leader

Song 11

MORE THAN A ROMAN

VLAKAS

Oh, we've know you very well
Seen your stature grow by day
We have worked for men before
But you take our breath away

We're so glad you own our lives
In charge of everything we do
You've got us workin' day and night
To keep from being killed by you

Always tell us what to do
We'll make Rome shine
We can conquer everyone
One village at a time

You're the smartest Roman
You're the richest Roman
You'll make us great, Roman
You're more than a Roman
You are the K-A-K-O Ro-man for me!

K-A! K-O!
K-A! K-O!

There are stories old and true
Of business men from east to west
And none were feared as much as you
It's obvious that you're the best

We've never seen someone as good
At making money like you do
We know that if we serve you well Someday
we can be rich too
Always tell us what to do
We'll make Rome shine
We can conquer everyone
One village at a time

You're the smartest Roman
You're the richest Roman
You'll make us great, Roman
You're more than a Roman
You are the K-A-K-O Ro-man for me!

You're the smartest Roman
You're the richest Roman
You'll make us great, Roman
You're more than a Roman
You are the K-A-K-O Ro-man for me!

Song 12

WHAT'S THE POINT

MYRINA

Never trust a Roman
I've heard it said before
Stories of their past
Will rock you to the core

Now the Fates will gather
Deciding on my lot
They're saying, "What a waste,
The girl that time forgot"

Romans stand for everything
I would've fought to kill
They take your body hostage
And mock your will

Everything you care for
Is another person's greed
Goodness needs to fight
To go where there's a need

What's the point?
They've ended me before I could begin
What's the point?
If Romans always win
And you fight and you bleed
But you never succeed, then it's over

Now I would give anything
To have the chance to lead
Fighting for all kinds of us
Who should be freed

This known world will show you
Time and time again
Those deserving power
Are very seldom men

What's the point?
They've ended me before I could begin
What's the point?
If Romans always win
And you fight and you bleed
But you never get any closer

Amazons are strong
Amazons are warriors
Now I know I'll never be their Queen

Amazons are strong
Amazons are warriors
We are the guardians
And we protect our sisters—

Song 13

ABOVE IT ALL

APHRODITE

Above it all
I'll always be
Above it all
There's nothing more for me
Seasons change
Leaves will color and fall
All things may die
But death, I'm above it all
I'm here above it all

I've studied Grecian mortals from my place in the skies
I've witnessed all their not-so-groovy traits
But I do see some qualities and customs that surprise
Selfless love extends from this thing they call a "friend"

Above it all I'll always be
Above it all
There's nothing more for me
Humans change
Temples rise and then fall
All things may die But death,
I'm above it all
I'm here above it all

The other gods, they never take me seriously
They think that love's a foolish mortal game
But all the damage Ares does with violence and with hate
Is only held at bay by the love I grow each day

Above it all
I'll always be
Above it all
There's nothing more for me
Rulers change
Rome will rise and then fall
All things may die
But death, I'm above it all
I'm here, above it all

What a rush it would be
To care for anything or anyone who isn't me
La-da-da, la-da-da-da-da-da
La-de-da-de-da-de-da-de-da-de-dee!

Above it all I'll always be
Above it all
There's nothing more for me
I could change
Say goodbye to it al
I But how can I
When death, I'm above it all
I'm here, above it all

Song 14

ASKING TOO MUCH

XENA

If this were a play, I've upstaged myself
I can never out-act that evil in me
True second chances are hard to find
So how to I feel mine when you're smiling at me?

Without me you would've been
Free from the pain of my past
But you followed me, willingly
How did you know we would last?

Life is a road, there's always an ending
Mine has been dark, all jagged and bending
I shouldn't be here
But somehow, I'm walking with you by my side

I can't deserve time to spend freely
Despite how I hide you really see me
With one simple touch
I suddenly feel like I'm asking too much
Too much

How do I care so deeply for you?
I guess I'm surprised how different I seem

Without me you would've been
free from the pain of my past
And the day I met you,
I was planning on making my last

You trust what I do, provide a safe landing
And still follow through with true understanding
I'll take what I've got
Redemption or not
I can't ask you for more

You should be here, you're loved and you're needed
And I'll battle on until I'm defeated
I'm not much to lose
So I won't make you choose
No, that's asking too much

Always an ending
Jagged and bending
You should be free from
Facing what I've done

The gods have a cruel way with hearts
They love when we put on a show
Are they entertained yet?
I knew I'd be letting you go
So I'll go

Am I allowed a happily after?
A life filled with light, forgiveness and laughter
It's an unsettled score So anything more
And I'm asking too much
I'm asking too much
That's asking too much

Always an ending
Jagged and bending
I won't be asking more

Song 15

HOW TO GET THE GIRL

ARES & APHRODITE

Fitted leather wearing
Full of lust for life
Savage and uncaring
Killer with a knife

When it comes to women
Power will impress
Strutting your dominion
Will equal success

Here's the way to charm her
Flex and make it so
Polish up your armor
And she won't say "no"

Fortune favors action
So give it a whirl
Now you know how to get the girl

Passionate and daring
Slow to draw the sword
Always sweet and caring
Alluring and adored

Love is everlasting
It's patient and it's kind
Sweet and understanding
But still undefined

Worship in her temple
Pledge to make it grand
Always call her tubular
And you'll have her hand

Gifts can say it best
in diamonds and pearls
And now you know how to get the girl

Good is overrated
The hero thing is old
Bloodlust that's un-sated
Leaves the ladies cold

Achilles was unlucky
Jason sailed his ship
Hercules-
-let's not include that boy toy in this-

Take it from a killer
Better to be bad
Sweetness doesn't thrill her
And then you're just sad

The secret to the style is bulging and burl
And now you know how to get the girl

Here's the proper mantra
Girls cannot be "got"
First they have to want ya
Then you have a shot

Song 15

HOW TO GET THE GIRL CONT.

ARES & APHRODITE

There's uses in the bad boy
On that we both agree
But showing her a soft side
Is just as a easy

Take it from a lover
Savory is sweet
Ambivalence will hover
But it's no cute-meet

Roll yourself in Persian rugs and let her unfurl
Now you know how to get the girl

Love's your way to conquer
Better from behind

Good ole over-under's
A drug trip for the mind

Fighters can be sexy
Warriors are hot

Muscles that are flexing
Are such a love-shot

Love that's unrequited
Vengeful or obsessed

Once they've reunited
It's all a lust-fest

Song 16

AMAZONS RISE

GABRIELLE

There's an endless greed in front of us
It doesn't care who it kills
There's a swarm of men who've lost their hearts
If we don't stop 'em who will?

The threat is real that our future's lost
We won't let 'em prevail
We may never stop them for good but
We can tip the scale!

Rise and show them what the Amazons have made
They can try to scare us but we are not afraid
Fight for what is right and what is true
We will end you!

Our kind have long been left for dead
And extinction is real
Now it's up to you to make a stand
Take the power you feel

Myrina's alive, we haven't lost
Follow me all the way
Time to send a message loud and strong
We do not obey!

Rise, we'll show them what the
Amazons have made
You can try to scare us
but we are not afraid

We are not our past!
We are not our past!
We are not our past!
We are not our past!

Song 17

FINAL BATTLE

In this epic sequence, the Amazons and Romans go head-to-head in a choreographed stage fight.
Will the Amazons prevail?
Tribal drums, orchestral strings, electric guitars, and a rock drum kit again underscore the battle with musical variations on "Kaval Sviri" and "Amazons Rise."

Song 18

WARMER IN THE SUN

GABRIELLE

It's hard to picture now but I was
Almost someone's wife
Before Xena saved us all that day

The warlord's raid would make us slaves
But save me from a life arranged
My spirit dormant, bravery in chains

I still recall that day she
Came to town, I'd never seen
A woman quite like her

A courage swelled inside of me
I knew I'd felt before
To see her fight and save us made it roar

It seems so long ago when I think about it now
So let me tell you what I wish I'd known
A hero helps uncover you
She'll teach you to be strong
And that it's warmer standing in the sun

It wasn't easy knowing who I ought to be
And even harder walking in her shadow
Growing at a sidekick's pace
Failing, feeling out of place
I didn't know I'd ever be worthy on my own

All those years of growing up restrained
Had made it hard to realize I was free
Comfortable in darkness
Awake, but in a shell
She taught me how to fight for good
and showed me myself

It seems so long ago
when I think about it now
So let me tell you what I wish I'd known
A brand new hero lives in you
Can you see, we fight as one
And that it's warmer standing in
the sun

In the sun-
In the sun-
In the sun-
In the sun-

It seems so long ago
when I think about it now
I have to tell you what I finally know...

Song 19

A HERO'S HEART REPRISE/ FINALE

JOXER & MYRINA

A hero's heart
Is always true
That doesn't change
When she's not choosing you

And though I don't have the great skills that Xe' may
I hope that someone will notice me one day

I know your mightiness might be misleading
But you're no weaker for crying or bleeding
Your true understanding is mighty fine branding

(A hero's heart)
You're Joxer!
(A hero's heart)
I'm Joxer!

The track plays out the rest of "A Hero's Heart," then erupts into dueling electric guitars shredding into an instrumental rock jam on the "Bad Guys" theme. The rest of the Finale is a full band instrumental medley highlighting songs from the entire show.

XENITES HAVE RAVED:

"X:WM has ended me. AMAZING job...
this needs to be seen on a stage."

"So many brilliant references - excellent lyrics
and I loved the music!!"

"I am truly living my best Xenite life because of these
tracks and I can't wait to hear more of and learn
more about this show!!"

COMING SOON

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