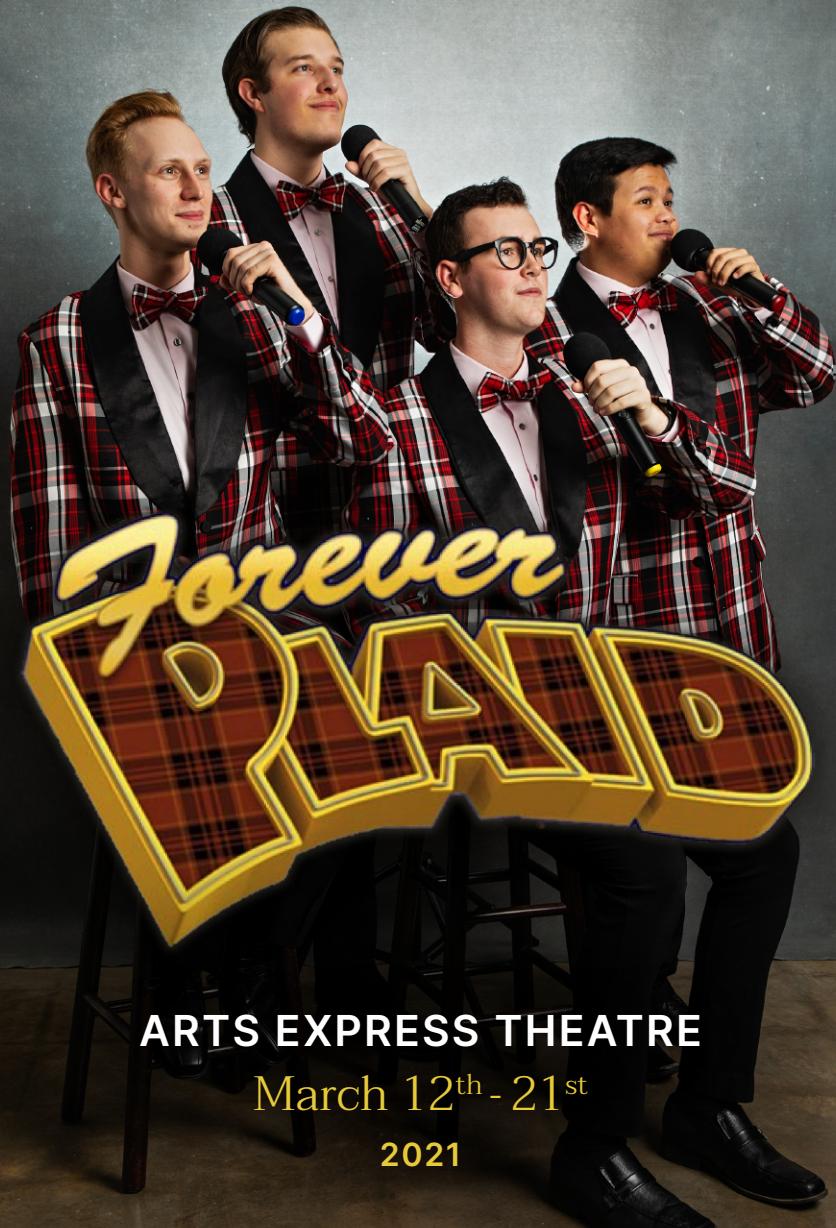


SAPAC

SOUTHERN ARIZONA
PERFORMING ARTS
COMPANY



Forever PLAD

ARTS EXPRESS THEATRE

March 12th - 21st

2021

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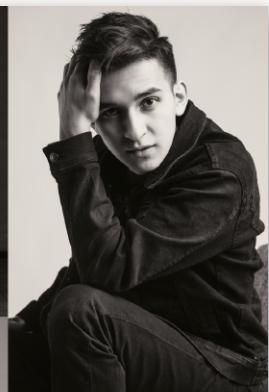
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SAPAC - SOUTHERN ARIZONA PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY

Presents



WRITTEN, ORIGINALLY DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY
Stuart Ross

MUSICAL CONTINUITY SUPERVISION & ARRANGEMENTS BY
James Raitt

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY
Gene Wolsk

Direction & Choreography by **JOSE 'CHACH' SNOOK**

Music Direction by **MATTHEW HOLTER**

Stage Management by **ASHLEY HENDRICKSON**

Assistant Direction by **DANNY FAPP**

Set Design & Projections by **CHACH SNOOK & MATT HOLTER**

Lighting Design by **MICHAEL SORENSEN**

Sound Design by **MIKE DUNN**

Costume Design by **TORI HOLTER**

Props designed by **ANNETTE HILLMAN & SUE BISHOP**

————— ★ Starring ★ —————

LIAM BOYD XANDER MASON

TOPHER ESGUERRA BEN MUCKENTHALER

Show Notes

High school pals Sparky, Jinx, Smudge, and Francis -- the "Plaids" -- are talented "guy group" -- just four nice young men who love singing harmony. They practice in the basement of Smudge's family's plumbing supply company, play proms and department stores, and dream about success. When the Plaids are killed in a car accident on the way to their first big gig -- at the Airport Hilton Cocktail Bar, on February 9, 1964 -- the young men linger in limbo, as unresolved as their final chord, until the conjunction of various "astro-technical" phenomena allows them to return to Earth, perform their final concert, and hopefully win a place in Heaven -- and the deluxe plaid dinner jackets of their dreams. Will they overcome asthma, ulcers, nerves, and forgotten lyrics? Will they find the perfect chord? With a warm and clever book by Stuart Ross, *Forever Plaid* is a delightful, mischievous, and unashamedly heartwarming homage to the sweet and innocent sounds of the '50s and the '60s and features harmonically spectacular orchestrations of popular hits such as "Three Coins in the Fountain," "16 Tons," and "Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing."

A Message from the Director

Twenty-three years ago,

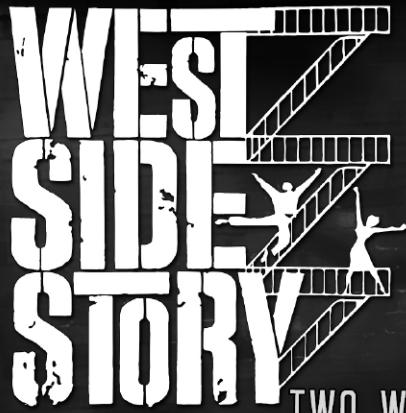
I was in the inaugural production of a new theatre company in Sedona, the short-lived Oak Creek Theatre Company. The production was *Forever Plaid* and was my first encounter with this magical and heavenly show. Little did I know that a year later, I would be on the National Tour of *Forever Plaid* tramping around the country sharing this beautiful show with the wonderful people of this country from LA to Springfield, Mass. I often tell people that I could've done this show for the rest of my life so you can imagine my excitement when Dennis asked (read I suggested) that I should direct the SAPAC production of *Plaid*. Throw in the musical direction of my compadre, Matt Holter and I knew this was going to be a production to remember, even before we had this stellar cast.

There is just something about this show that reminds you that all will be ok in the world. This show could not come at a better time. Add to that a hard-working production crew and cast that make the stage magic happen. I have been so impressed, particularly with these young men bringing these characters (back) to life. Passing down the torch of this show has been an absolute joy and I don't know a show that I've directed where I just couldn't wait for the next rehearsal to start. These boys (as I call them) have worked so hard and truly embodied the spirit of what it means to be a "good guy!" And just to let you in on a little secret, they're not acting.

MY WISH: *You leave tonight with a smile on your face, a song in your heart, and a reminder that good people still do exist in this world and beyond!*

~CHACH SNOOK

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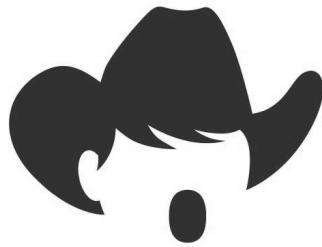
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ON FEBRUARY NINTH
CHANT: DEUX EX PLAID
WHAT HAPPENS
THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN
GOTTA BE THIS OR THAT
UNDECIDED
MOMENTS TO REMEMBER
CRAZY 'BOUT YA BABY
THE OSTERIZER SCHOOL OF HARMONIC THEORY
NO NOT MUCH
PERFIDIA
CRY
SIXTEEN TONS / CHAIN GANG
THE CATERING DRILL / SHE LOVES YOU
THE GOLDEN CARDIGAN
CATCH A FALLING STAR
CARIBBEAN PLAID
HEART AND SOUL
MERCURY
LADY OF SPAIN
SCOTLAND THE BRAVE
SHANGRI-LA / RAGS TO RICHES
LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING

THIS SHOW IS ONE ACT WITH NO INTERMISSION

DEDICATION

Forever Plaid is dedicated to the “good guys”; to the guys who wheeled the projector carts for the AC club; to the guys who saved their allowance to give their parents a special night on the town for their anniversary; to the guys who carried an extra handkerchief; to the guys who never went beyond first base, and if they did, they didn’t tell anyone. We Salute You!

The Songs

ANNIVERSARY SONG

by Al Jolson & Saul Chaplin

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CATCH A FALLING STAR

by Paul Vance & Lee Pockriss

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CRAZY 'BOUT YA BABY

by Pat Barret & Rudi Maugeri

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CRY

by Churchill Kohlman

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DAY-O

*by Erik Darling, Bob Carey
& Alan Arkin*

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DREAM ALONG WITH ME

*by Erik Darling, Bob Carey
& Alan Arkin*

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GOTTA BE THIS OR THAT

by Sonny Skylar

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HEART AND SOUL

*by Hoagy Carmichael
& Frank Loesser*

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JAMAICA FAREWELL

by Lord Burgess

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KINGSTON MARKET

by Irving Burgie

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- SONGS CONTINUED -

LADY OF SPAIN

by Robert Hargreaves, Tolchard Evans, Stanley J. Damerell & Henry Tilsley

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LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING

by Paul Francis Webster & Sammy Fain

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MAGIC MOMENTS

by Burt Bacharach & Hal David

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MATILDA

by Harry Thomas

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MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

by Al Stillman & Robert Allen

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NO, NOT MUCH

by Al Stillman & Robert Allen

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PAPA LOVES TO MAMBO

by Al Hoffman, Dick Manning & Bix Reichner

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PERFIDIA

by Milton Leeds & Alberto Dominguez

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RAGS TO RICHES

by Richard Adler & Jerry Ross

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SHANGRI-LA

by Carl Sigman, Matt Malneck & Robert Maxwell

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SHE LOVES YOU

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SING TO ME MR. C

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SIXTEEN TONS

by Merle Travis

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TEMPTATION

by Arthur Freed & Nacio Herb Brown

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THEME FROM THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

by Ennio Morricone

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THREE COINS

IN THE FOUNTAIN

by Sammy Cahn & Jule Styne

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UNDECIDED

by Sid Robbin & Charles Shavers

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Cast

Smudge	Liam Boyd
Jinx	Topher Esguerra
Frankie	Ben Muckenthaler
Sparky	Xander Mason
Voice Over	Juan Aguirre
Understudy	Danny Fapp

Band

Piano	Daniel "Sly" Slipetsky
Bass	Dylan DeRobertis

Production Team

Director/Choreographer	José "Chach" Snook
Music Director	Matthew Holter
Production Stage Manager	Ashley Hendrickson
Assistant Director	Danny Fapp
Assistant Stage Manager	Indigo Runge
Props Committee	Annette Hillman & Sue Bishop
Costume Designer	Tori Holter
Scenic Designers	Matt Holter & Chach Snook
Sound Designer	Mike Dunn
Lighting Designer	Mike Sorensen
House Manager	Debbie Madrid
Photography	Molly Condit @ Great Bear Media & Maria Gawne
Program Design	Bryan Darling @ Fat Trees Design



Chach Snook

DIRECTOR

Chach lived in NYC as a professional singer/actor for almost 10 years. As a member of the jazz a cappella group Pieces of 8, he recorded 2 albums. Chach performs many concerts in Arizona, some with wife, Jodi Darling. He has been seen singing with Khris Dodge Entertainment, The 4GENTS, and other groups. Favorite productions: Forever Plaid (Jinx)-National Tour; Arizona Onstage Production of Les Misérables (Enjolras) with his daughter, Julia Darling Snook; St. Francis Theatre in the Foothills: Directed A Christmas Survival Guide and Godspell 2012; Directed and starred in successful runs of I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (Man 1), Triumph of Love (Harlequin), and The Last Five Years (Jamie) with the Roadrunner Theatre Company (6 MAC Nominations); With Arts Express: She Loves Me (Sipos); he is the Music Director for the Monte Awards (Southern Arizona High School Musical Theatre Awards) and most recently Sweeney Todd (Sweeney Todd) again with his daughter. Chach has a Vocal Performance degree from NAU and is an award-winning Arts Educator. He currently is an Arts Integration Specialist with the Opening Minds Through the Arts (OMA) program for TUSD and for 12 years he was the Flowing Wells Jr. High School Choir and Drama teacher where he directed over 75 concerts, plays and musicals. Chach sends much love to his family (Jodi, Julia and Gabriel) and friends for their continued support.



Matthew Holter

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Matthew is originally from the Fargo-Moorhead area and grew up with the music of the mid-20th Century all around. A widely recognized director and performer, his career has provided opportunities all over the world from China and Russia to performances throughout North America. Locally, Matthew maintains a very busy teaching and performing schedule. Mr. Holter is a Mentor Teacher for Choral teachers and a member of the Central Fine Arts Staff in TUSD teaching as an OMA specialist whose students have appeared frequently in district and public performances. In addition to his teaching, he is involved with numerous music organizations, notably Grammy-nominated True Concord Voices & Orchestra and founding The 4GENTS, Tucson's old-school, doo-wop professors. Since 2015, Mr. Holter has served as the Music Director for St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Tucson. Matthew and his wife, Victoria, live happily in Tucson with their five children.



Liam Boyd

SMUDGE

LIAM is currently a musical theatre student at Arizona State University. Liam is making his SAPAC debut in *Forever Plaid*. Favorite roles include Ash in *Evil Dead: The Musical* (Catalina Foothills High School), Cornelius

in *Hello Dolly* (Catalina Foothills High School), and Joseph in *Light Switch* (Arizona State University). Liam is currently ranked 13th in the world in Irish Dancing. Liam is extremely grateful to be a part of this cast and gives many thanks to SAPAC as well as his mom, dad, and girlfriend for their never-ending support.



Topher Esguerra

JINX

Topher Esguerra (Jinx) is a voice student at the UofA striving to share his art and make good music. You may have seen him in previous SAPAC productions

in the role of Nanki-Poo in *The Hot Mikado* or as a part of *Songs for A New World*. He is also currently a music director for UA's premiere a cappella group CatCall. He would like to thank his mom for moral support at home, the men of CatCall for making music such a big part of his life, and for all of his closest friends that help him follow his dreams of performing.



Xander Mason

SPARKY

Xander is thrilled to be playing Sparky! He recently graduated from the University of Arizona with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of his favorite roles have

been Johnny (American Idiot), Bobby (Cabaret), and Ernst (Spring Awakening). "I'd like to thank my parents and sister for being my support system, my friends for encouragement and inspiration, and the audience for letting us share this story with you."



Ben Muckenthaler

FRANKIE

Ben is proud to be in his first show with SAPAC. He is currently auditioning for BFA programs and is helping run The Blank Conversations Theatre Company

in Las Cruces, NM. Recent shows include Sweeney Todd as Anthony, The Last Five Years as Jaimie, and Tuck Everlasting as Miles. Ben was also a finalist in the 2019 Monte Awards.



Danny Fapp

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Danny is thrilled to be joining SAPAC for the first time with Forever Plaid. Danny previously appeared in Tucson in shows like The Light Princess (Stone Suitor) and She Loves Me (Waiter), as well as in the Quad Cities in a

Green River (Jason). Danny is a Junior at the University of Arizona and is currently pursuing degrees in Marketing and Creative Writing. He is also a Vice President of the Charles Darwin Experience, a University-based short form improv team that normally performs weekly shows for students and the community alike. It has been his utmost honor to understudy and assistant direct this wonderful cast, and he can't wait for you to see the show!



The Gawnes
Photography



Juan Aguirre

VOICE OVER

Juan made his professional debut with Arizona Opera Company in '97 and has since performed opera roles such as Sarastro (*Magic Flute*), Pooh-bah (*The Mikado*) and Fr. Laurent (*Romeo et Juliette*).

Also, a regular on musical theatre stages throughout the state he has interpreted roles such as Javert (*Les Miserables*), Capt. Von Trapp (*Sound of Music*) and Caiphas (*Jesus Christ Superstar*). Equally versed in popular music, he performs regularly in concerts throughout Mexico and the US. He is the bass singer for The Presidio Boys, a country/gospel male quartet and for renowned doo-wop vocal group, The 4GENTS. Off of the stage, Juan can be seen/heard on national television and radio as a bilingual actor and voice over artist, as well as having appeared in a few feature films. When not performing he enjoys stage directing, teaching private voice, and using Opera to teach Language Arts in TUSD's award winning program Opening Minds through the Arts (O.M.A.).

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• • •

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Daniel “Sly” Slipetsky

PIANIST

Daniel is a free-lance jazz pianist and tuba player who has happily made Arizona his home since the summer of 1997. A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Sly began his piano studies at the ripe age of eight, and when he suddenly picked up the tuba upon entering high school, his maturity level went downhill, but it opened up a whole new musical world for him. In between his high school years, he attended a summer camp for musicians known as Encore/Coda, in Maine, where he got his first taste of playing jazz and improvising. After graduating from high school in 1992, Sly further honed his jazz skills on both instruments attending three major universities (Delaware and Arizona), and since moving to the Grand Canyon State, he has been lucky to have earned his living strictly as a performing musician: everything from solo piano, to piano/vocal duos, to jazz combos, to big bands, to salsa bands, to dixieland bands, to international tuba conferences, to theatrical accompaniment, to mock radio shows with a tiny bit of voice acting, Sly has embraced it all.

Dylan DeRobertis

BASS

Dylan is a native of Oregon who has lived in Tucson for the last 12 years. Since living in Tucson, he has performed with a wide variety of local musicians and organizations. Some of these include the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Lonely Street Productions, Khris Dodge Entertainment, Tucson Jazz Collective, Arizona Onstage Productions, and various small groups in the genres of jazz, rock, latin, soul, and blues. He holds a Master’s degree in double bass performance from Indiana University. Dylan also is a faculty member at Tucson Junior Strings’ Chamber Music in the Mountains program in the summer on Mt. Lemmon.

Ashley Ryan Hendrickson

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Ashley is extremely grateful to SAPAC and Dennis Tamblyn for the opportunity to work with the cast and crew of Forever Plaid. A native of Tucson, she is a Senior District Manager for ADP. Ashley graduated from the University of Arizona School of Theatre Arts with a B.F.A. in Stage Management. Recently, she was the Production Stage Manager for the touring show The Hot Mamas. Other shows include The Producers, Stars of David, Broadway Tonight and The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical all with Arizona Onstage Productions. Prior to joining SAPAC, she worked on over 50 productions with Arizona Repertory Theatre and CC Productions. She is a charter member of the International Thespian Society Troupe #5370 and proud mommy to fur-baby Dasher. Ashley wishes to thank her friends for their love and support. Mom-I hope Heaven is better than we think it is. I love you...morest!

Indigo Runge

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Indigo is a senior at Catalina Foothills High School. She has been involved in theatre for almost her entire life, both onstage and offstage. Behind the scenes she has been a lighting designer, stage manager, sound designer, and director. This is Indigo's first time working with SAPAC. She is grateful for this amazing opportunity and loves working with this cast and crew. She plans on majoring in theatre at a college to be determined. She thanks her family for their never ending love and support in her pursuit of her passions.

Annette Hillman

PROP MASTER

Annette received her BA in Theatre at California State University at Long Beach and her MFA in Theatre from Purdue University. She apprenticed at Actors Theater of Louisville. Previously, she directed, ALWAYS, PATSY CLINE (MAC NOMINEE, Director, Musical), NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY for Live Theatre Workshop and THE PRODUCERS for Arizona Onstage Productions. She has been a MAC Winner, for Director, Comedy for BELOW THE BELT and LOOT at Live Theatre Workshop. She also has directed two original productions at the University of Arizona. She has acted in many local productions, most recently, WOMEN IN JEOPARDY at LTW, and was an ensemble member of Bloodhut Productions.

Sue Bishop

PROP ASSISTANT

This is Sue's first time working with SAPAC, but not her first, working with many of the talented cast and crew on this production. She is grateful and thrilled for the opportunity to reignite some creative skills and assist with props. Sue has worked in a variety of roles in theater, both onstage and offstage. Some of her favorite acting roles include Ruth in Calendar Girls, Sister Mary Regina in Nunsense and Renee in the female version of The Odd Couple. She is also one of the founding members of The Oro Valley Theatre Company. Sue would like to thank the audience for your participation. With your continued support we will once again see a thriving Tucson theater community. Enjoy the show!

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Benefactor

ERIN PARADIS

LIZ CRACCHIOLO

— Special Thanks —

Kitty and Ed Glanz as well as Trish Thayer for underwriting
the building of our piano shell (The TG Shell)

Maria Gawne and The Gawnes Photography for the use
of their space for rehearsals

Bill Waters for building the piano shell

Arts Express for hosting us at the last minute

The 4GENTS for the use of their equipment and for vocal coachings

Juan Aguirre for the voice overs

Thom Lewis for the use of the accordion

General Director Notes

BY DENNIS TAMBLYN

When I thought of presenting "Forever Plaid", it was because I had seen the show in the past and loved how such a morbid presence could become a funny, touching and beautiful show. That is the power of the theatre...you can tell someone the premise of a show is about 4 dead guys, but then in the same breath say "but it's very light-hearted". When I first presented the idea of involving Chach Snook in the project, I asked him to be the choreographer and he said "no I'm directing". In that instant I knew that he was absolutely right and I almost kicked myself as to why I didn't think of that in the first place. Matthew Holter as our music director was a no brainer as he continually is able to show the Tucson theater community that his talents are endless.

As with all theatre companies across the globe, COVID has changed us for better and for worse. Worse because we all miss doing what we love, but better because we have dug deep and figured out unique ways of presenting theatre. Arts Express has led the charge by working with the county on developing COVID protocols where live theatre could be performed as safe as possible. I will be the first to admit that I didn't think it was possible, but I am glad to say I am wrong. I just ask that you all embrace the way in which this show needs to be presented in this current day. I promise that by the end of the show, you won't even remember they were wearing masks in the first place.

Stay tuned for future productions from SAPAC in the summer and fall. As the vaccine is being rolled out and the numbers continue to decline, theatre venues will start taking bookings. I already know what's in store and I promise you it will be good...really good...speaking of really good...this cast will blow you away. Enjoy.