

## 2025-2026 Season

*The Red Bike*  
By Caridad Svich  
Directed by Laura Smiley  
October 17-22

*Into the Woods*  
By Stephen Sondheim  
Directed by Aaron Galligan-Stierle  
November 21-23

*Ride the Cyclone*  
By Jacob Richmond and Brooke Maxwell  
Directed by Kari-Anne Innes  
March 6-11

Shakespeare Comedy, TBD  
April 17-22

*A Grand Night for Singing*  
By Rodgers and Hammerstein  
Directed by Aaron Galligan-Stierle  
May 2nd (2 performances)

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THEA 399:  
New Play Development  
presents

# Lyrics and Laughter from Shanghai: A *Relevant* Cabaret with Historical Commentary

By

Emily Beckman, Heath Chase, Nicholas Cox,  
Ryan Eggert, Daniel Haubenreich, Kari-Anne Innes,  
Sarah Mazur, Connor McCracken, David McGrogan,  
Kayne McKeever, Maxwell Medford, Maggie Mitchell,  
Julia Nurenberg, Sebastian O'Leary, Kevin Ostoyich,  
Rebecca Preneta, Hailey Rodgers, Ezmerelda Schaub,  
Emilio Sotillo, Kadence Storms

Under the direction of  
Dr. Kari-Anne Innes  
Dr. Kevin Ostoyich

Unless otherwise indicated all translations of songs and Gerhard  
Gottschalk's couplets by Kevin Ostoyich.

Dedicated to

Elliott Wrenn, Megan Lewis, and the reference librarians and  
archivists at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum  
and

The security guards at the United States Holocaust Memorial  
Museum and to the memory of Stephen Tyrone Johns.

Adapted from manuscripts found in  
The Harpuder Family Papers in The Shapell Family Collections,  
Conservation and Research Center of the  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum  
and other scholarly articles and archives.

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## PROFESSOR'S NOTE

This semester the New Play Development class has researched and developed a new play about Jewish performers who found refuge from Nazi persecution in Shanghai, China. Specifically, the play is a revival of social worker and amateur comedian Gerhard Gottschalk's farewell performance of *Life of a Schlemiel*, a cabaret he performed frequently during his time in Shanghai.

In the German tradition of the "coupletist," Gottschalk narrates in rhymed verse the story of someone down on their luck who finds and spreads happiness through music and laughter. Under the guidance of historian Dr. Kevin Ostoyich and dramaturg/director Dr. Kari-Anne Innes, students used source materials from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to research, write, compose, design, direct, choreograph, and perform songs and stories from the lives of Shanghai Jewish refugees. Whenever possible, dialogue has been translated verbatim from historical documents. Most of tonight's songs were taken from Gottschalk's notes and manuscripts. It was common for refugees to rework popular tunes of the time with lyrics that reflected their Shanghai experience. Because the English translation of German lyrics does not always fit the original tune, we have taken some liberties with our arrangements while keeping the original meaning and spirit of the lyrics. Likewise, for lyrics with no tune provided, we have set them to popular music of the time.

Some of tonight's characters, Mr. Redish, Lilly Flohr, Herbert Zernik, and Frieda Gottschalk are documented as having attended Gerhard Gottschalk's farewell performance. Other well-documented Shanghai performers, Wolfgang Frankel, Shoshanna Kahan, and Kurt Lewin have been added to provide a fuller picture of Shanghai musical life. Still other characters, Harry Katz, Ellie Grasse, and Jozef Ehrlich are drawn from articles and interviews by Dr. Kevin Ostoyich.

The shoes on the program cover represent a technique of actress and playwright Anna Deavere Smith who performs her plays barefoot as an act of humility, an acknowledgement that she is walking into someone else's story, and she can never fully walk in their shoes. We do the same in order that we might commemorate and learn from history through the empathetic art of theatre.

Kari-Anne Innes

## CAST

Professor O'Leary, historian  
Daniel, research assistant  
Elliott, reference librarian  
Ida Abraham  
Julius Katz, Harry's father  
Frieda Katz, Harry's mother  
Harry Katz, young refugee  
Ilse Katz, Harry's sister  
Mr. Redish, host  
Gerhard Gottschalk  
Ellie Grasse, refugee (late teen)  
Rachel, Ellie's friend (late teen)  
Bill Grasse, American G.I.  
Tom, Bill's friend, American G.I.  
Wolfgang Frankel, musician  
Shoshanna Kahan, actress  
Lilly Flohr, former film actress  
Kurt Lewin, lyricist  
Jozef Ehrlich, restaurant owner  
Bernie, customer  
David, restaurant delivery person  
American Official at Consulate  
Beardless Man  
Woman in Line  
Woman in Line  
Woman in Line  
German Jewish Man  
Herbert Zernik, comedian  
Frieda Gottschalk, Gerhard's wife

Band

Sebastian O'Leary  
Daniel Haubenreich  
Emilio Sotillo  
Ezmerelda Schaub  
Ryan Eggert  
Emily Beckman  
Kayne McKeever  
Kadence Storms  
Max Medford  
Julia Nurenberg  
Emily Beckman  
Ezmerelda Schaub  
Heath Chase  
David McGrogan  
Ryan Eggert  
Hailey Rodgers  
Kadence Storms  
Sarah Mazur  
David McGrogan  
Connor McCracken  
Heath Chase  
Julia Nurenberg  
Max Medford  
Sarah Mazur  
Bex Prenata  
Hailey Rodgers  
Nicholas Cox  
Nicholas Cox  
Bex Prenata

Heath Chase  
Ryan Eggert  
Sarah Mazur  
Daniel Haubenreich

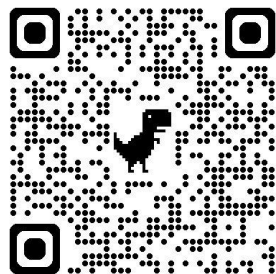
## CREATIVE TEAM

Directors	Kari-Anne Innes Emilio Sotillo, Emily Beckman Maxwell Medford
Stage Manager	Maggie Mitchell
Playwriting Team	Sebastian O'Leary, Heath Chase, Hailey Rodgers, Kari-Anne Innes, Kevin Ostoyich
Scenic, Lighting, Costume and Props	Kadence Storms, Bex Prenata, Nicholas Cox
Music Directors	Daniel Haubenreich, Ryan Eggert, Sarah Mazur
Choreographers	Ezmerelda Schaub David McGrogan Julia Nurenberg
Assistant Stage Managers	Connor McCracken Kayne McKeever

### Special Thanks

Dean Dan Bauer, Lincoln Sandham, Rebecca Morrice, Mary Hodson,  
Samantha Kuchta, Aaron Galligan-Stierle, Judy Silva,  
Sara Dickensheets, Jennifer Bartek, Jessica Jordan, Mikayla Hoppe,  
Rebecca Ostoyich, Raphaela Loosen, the Florence and Laurence  
Spungen Family Foundation, Käte Hamburger Kolleg (global  
dis:connect) Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München.

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## MUSICAL NUMBERS

<b>Why Shanghai?</b> Music and Lyrics: Ezmerelda Schaub Arrangement: Daniel Haubenreich	JULIUS, FRIEDA, HARRY AND ILSE KATZ, ENSEMBLE
<b>LIFE OF A SCHLEMIEL</b> <b>Birth</b>	
<b>Raisins and Almonds</b> Music & Lyrics: Abraham Goldenfaden and Ezmerelda Schaub	IDA ABRAHAM
<b>Childhood</b>	
<b>Granny's Stories*</b> Music and Original Lyrics: Otto Reutter Shanghai Lyrics: Kurt Lewin Arrangement: Daniel Haubenreich	ENSEMBLE
<b>Adolescence</b>	
<b>Lover's Lane</b> Music and Lyrics: Freddy Sieg Translation: Monica Herrnfeld-Oppenheim Arrangement: Ryan Eggert	TOM, AMERICAN G.I.
<b>Adulthood</b>	
<b>With the Watch in His Hand*</b> Music and Lyrics: Otto Reutter Arrangement: Daniel Haubenreich and Heath Chase	WOLFGANG FRANKLE
<b>Mr. (Ms.) X Goes to America*</b> Lyrics: Unknown Tune: "Na pierwszy znak" Music: Henryk Wars Arrangement: Hailey Rodgers	SHOSHANA KAHAN
<b>Trip to America (Australia)*</b> Lyrics: Unknown Tune: "Boomps-A-Daisy" Arrangement: Kadence Storms and Connor McCracken	LILLY FLOHR
<b>Carousel, Carousel*</b> Music and Original Lyrics: Otto Reutter Shanghai Lyrics: Kurt Lewin	KURT LEWIN LILLY FLOHR
<b>In 5 to 6 Years It Will All Be Over Though*</b> Music and Original Lyrics: Otto Reutter Shanghai Lyrics: Unknown	GERHARD GOTTSCHALK HERBERT ZERNICK
<b>Farewell</b>	
<b>Children, Children</b> Music and Original Lyrics: Otto Reutter Shanghai Lyrics: Unknown Arrangement: Patrick Jansen	GERHARD GOTTSCHALK
<b>Goodbye Song</b> from <i>White Horse Inn</i> Music: Josef Locke Arrangement: Patrick Jansen	ENSEMBLE

\*Translated by Kevin Ostoyich