

at Molloy College



SHELEA NATURAL WOMAN A NIGHT OF SOUL





PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS

WITH MINDI ABAIR & VINCENT INGALA

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Oct 23, 24, 30 & 31 at 11AM

By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg
Background Music by Herbert Stothart
Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard
Orchestration by Larry Wilcox

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company
Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co.
and distributed in all media by Warner Bros.

Dorothy Glinda/Aunt Em Wicked Witch of the West

Scarecrow Tinman Lion

Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard/Ensemble

The Wizard of Oz

Ensemble Ensemble Ensemble Ensemble Ensemble

> Lighting Designer Chris Wolf

Audio Technical Director Calvin Guevara-Flores

Scenic Design
Michael Clark – 5th Wall Productions Inc.

Costume Supervisor Samantha Eagle Lauren Norris Chloe Allen Matt Kenna Alex Arlotta Anthony Bologna Abigail Morrison Danny Bae David Van Dyke

Sydney Wade Savannah Trotter Hannah Schooner Taylor Neilson Olivia Bodner

Stage Management Michael Higgins

General Management Kathleen Marino

> Artistic Director Angelo Fraboni

Music Director Andrew Bourgoin

Director Emily Hausmann

ABOUT

CAST

CHLOE ALLEN is a senior at Molloy/CAP21 and is thrilled to be performing again after what feels like a lifetime. Previously she was seen in the *Madison Theatre Christmas Spectacular* and some of her favorite roles have included Belle in *Beauty and the Beast, Jo in Little Women, Cosette in Les Miserables, and lvy in Bare: A Pop Opera.*

She would like to congratulate our fabulous Director Emily for making her directorial debut at the Madison and the rest of the cast, crew, and creative team for their talent and hard work!

ALEX ARLOTTA couldn't be more excited to kick off senior year with a fantastic season at The Madison Theatre! Many thanks to his friends, family, teachers, cohorts, his cat and his fish (the cat and the fish haven't met yet, wish me luck).

DANNY BAE (Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard/Ensemble) is extremely excited to be performing for *Wizard of Oz!* He is currently a senior in the Molloy/CAP21 program. You may have last seen Danny in the Madison's *Give Our Regards to Broadway: From Broadway to Silver Screen.* He would like to thank his family, friends, and teachers for loving and supporting him throughout all of his endeavors!

OLIVIA BODNER This is Olivia Bodner's third production this season with the Madison! Most recently seen in *Give Our Regards to Broadway: From Broadway to the Silver Screen, Dancing Through the Decades* and *Give Our Regards to Broadway: A Tribute to the 1960's.* She is a current senior in the CAP21 program here at Molloy, and is very grateful to be back performing with her supremely talented cast and crew. She wishes everyone a wonderful time experiencing theatre together again!

ANTHONY BOLOGNA is a senior at the Molloy/CAP21 Conservatory and is very excited to return to the Madison Theatre! He has been seen before in the 8th Annual Madison Theatre Christmas Celebration, Give Our Regards to Broadway: A Salute to the 1960s, and the National Tour of Seussical the Musical. The Wizard of Oz is a very special piece to Anthony, and he would like to thank his mother, family, and friends for their support, as well as Angelo for this opportunity and dedication to the production. Find him on Instagram @anthonybologna

MATT KENNA (Wicked Witch of the West) is so excited to be playing such an iconic role! Matt is a senior in the Molloy/CAP21 BFA program. You may have seen him before in *Give Our Regards: 1960s* and *A Home For the Holidays*. Favorite past roles include: Xander in *The Olympians* (CAP21), Kenickie in *Grease* (Roger Rees Award Nomination) and Georg in *Spring Awakening*. For Mommy: I'll love you forever. Enjoy the show!

ABIGAIL MORRISON is a senior Theatre Arts student in Molloy's CAP21 program, and she is thrilled to be taking part in another production with the Madison Theatre. Some of her favorite past roles include Zoe in *The Olympians* (a role she originated in its first staged reading), the Wicked Stepmother in *Cinderella*, and Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She would like to thank the production team and everyone who has worked behind the scenes to make this production possible.

TAYLOR NEILSON is a current senior at CAP21 and is beyond thrilled to be performing at the Madison once again! She was most recently seen in Dancing Through the Decades. Some of her favorite roles include Princess Fiona in Shrek and Sheila Bryant in A Chorus Line. She thanks you all for coming and hopes that you enjoy this wonderful show!

ABOUT

LAUREN NORRIS is a senior with Molloy's CAP21 Theatre Arts program and is so excited to be back performing with her second show at the Madison Theatre! You might have seen her previously at the Madison in the 2019 *Christmas Celebration.* Some of her favorite past roles include Sophia in The Olympians (an original staged reading), *Cinderella* in *Into the Woods*, Little Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown*, and Martha Dobie in *The Children's Hour.*

HANNAH SCHOONER is a Senior at CAP21 getting their degree in Theatre Arts. Hannah was previously employed at the Madison as an Usher, but this is their second show performing on the Madison stage! Hannah is extremely excited to be back at Madison performing live this season. Aside from performing, Hannah is also passionate about costuming. Enjoy the shows!

DAVID VANDYKE is so excited to be making his debut at the Madison Theatre! He's originally from the Portland, Oregon area where he performed with various companies including the Young Professionals at Oregon Children's Theatre where he originated the role of Lionel in Shiver: a musical ghost story. He is a Junior at Molloy in the CAP21 Musical Theatre program and is also pursuing a minor in music. He is excited for the return of live theatre and hopes you enjoy the show!

CREATIVE TEAM

ANDREW BOURGOIN (Music Director / Event Producer) Broadway/Touring Keyboards: Aladdin, Mean Girls, Something Rotten!, Matilda, The Little Mermaid, The Sound of Music. Musicals/Special Events: Ogunquit Playhouse, The Ordway, Guthrie, Hennepin Theatre Trust, Children's Theatre Company, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Theater Latté Da. Proud Executive Producer: Spotlight Showcase, a Minneapolis based training program for young musical theatre artists. BM

Performance; St. Olaf College. AFM Local 802. IG: @andrewbourgoin

MICHAEL **CLARK** Rumors abound that Michael now only exists from the shoulders up in the virtual realm. Frequently seen on Zoom, Discord, FaceTime and other outlets of social media, actual physical sightings have become on par with Neesie and Sasquatch. Undisclosed sources speculate that he is involved in fostering a new relationship with the AI supercomputer at University of Florida, yet some have reported seeing a spectral apparition of him in the Molloy Production Booth. Michael serves this year as Resident Scenic Designer, helping the other collaborators realize new artistic visions.

SAMANTHA EAGLE just graduated from Molloy College with a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus on Theater Arts. She's worked in almost every aspect of theatre, and is thrilled to be expanding her repertoire to costuming.

ANGELO FRABONI produced & Directed the Opening Gala in 2011 and has continued to present, produces and direct entertainment for the Molloy Community over the past 10 seasons. He won the 2009 Drama Desk Award for the critically-acclaimed series *Celebrity Autobiography* and has produced dozen shows and events in NYC before coming to Molloy. He continues create and develop new work at the Madison Theatre to help develop professional opportunities for the Molloy CAP21 Theatre Arts students including new plays, musicals, and short films.

Mr. Fraboni enjoyed a long performance career that includes 6 Broadway shows, 4 Encore shows at City Center, the Radio City Christmas Show, multiple national and international tours, and as a principle dancer in a Ballet company. He has worked in film and commercials work, as well.

EMILY HAUSMANN is so excited to be making her directorial debut on the Wizard of Oz TYA with a cast full of people she adores! Emily graduated in 2020 from the Molloy/CAP21 BFA program, and has been involved with the Madison Theatre since 2017 as a performer, intern, video editor, instructor, and assistant director at the Musical Theatre Summer Intensive. Emily is originally from Victoria, Texas, where she discovered a love for theatre both onstage and off, and grew up assistant directing and choreographing shows in her community. As a performer she has been seen at the Madison in Urinetown, Hit the Deck, Give Our Regards to Broadway, and the 2020 Gala. Emily wants to thank Angelo Fraboni for keeping her employed, and Kathleen Marino for keeping her sane! emilyhausmann.com

MICHAEL HIGGINS is a NYC based Stage Manager for Theatre and Corporate Events. He is delighted to be returning to the Madison Theater, face masks and all. Selected Theatrical Credits: A Chorus Line (Madison Theater), West Side Story in Concert (Madison Theater), Little Shop of Horrors in Concert (Madison Theater), Assassins (Bethesda Rep.), Crimes of the Heart (M.W. Rep.), The Shape of the Stars (O'Neill Theater Center) Education: SUNY Purchase, Conservatory of Theatre Arts

KATHLEEN MARINO is great.













CAST



Chloe Allen



Alex Arlotta



Danny Bae



Olivia Bodner



Anthony Bologna



Matt Kenna



Abigail Morrison



Taylor Neilson



Lauren Norris



Hannah Schooner



David VanDyke



Sydney Wade



November 12 at 8PM

With widespread comparison to the vocal expertise of legendary Whitney Houston, and the piano prowess of Alicia Keys, it's no surprise that artist and actress, Sheléa (pronounced shuh-lay-yuh), has garnered co-signs from the likes of Stevie Wonder, Mary J.Blige, Missy Elliott, David Foster, Queen Latifah, Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Hudson, Quincy Jones, and more.

Blending traditional pop, jazz, R&B and soul, Sheléa brings a contemporary edge to classics, and a classic touch to contemporary pop standards. With years of making a name for herself as a vocal powerhouse, having performed twice at the White House; Library of Congress; Carnegie Hall; the Kennedy Center; and more, 2020 marked her acting debut as Dorinda Clark in The Clark Sisters: The First Ladies of Gospel. The Lifetime biopic drew 2.7 million viewers and "was the strongest original movie for all television for 2020 across key demos including both broadcast and cable." Based on the iconic Clark Sisters, the film recounts the story of the highest-selling female gospel group in history, and of their trailblazing mother, Mattie Moss Clark (Aunjanue Ellis). With the film as the top social trend across all television. Sheléa's name was prominently found leading the charge.

Having been discovered to have an aptitude for vocal harmony at age 2, Sheléa was already writing songs on her first wooden piano for her sisters by age 4. She began piano lessons at age 7, and her musical talent was regularly on display at Bakersfield Southside Church before age 12. However, it wasn't until Sheléa arrived at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama when she thought about making music for a living, after gaining her first recording studio experience singing with a short-lived girl group. Though her major changed, classical music steadfastly remained her minor, and she ultimately graduated with a B.A. in music, with an emphasis in piano.

With only local performances and recorded vocals on the theme song for Will & Jada Pinkett Smith's, All of Us, under her belt, Sheléa's first

big break came via a connection with vocal sextet, Take 6, members of the tight-knit 7th Day Adventist Church Community. In 2008, she was featured on the group's Grammynominated album, *The Standard*, singing the classic, "Someone to Watch Over Me." Stevie Wonder heard the recording and loved her voice so much that he invited her to visit him at his Wonderlove Studio. This meeting led to her having the opportunity to sing at his annual Christmas concert, "A House Full of Toys," and later join him as a background vocalist on his "Songs In the Key of Life Revisited Tour."

Following the tour, she went on to compose and perform the theme song, "Love Fell On Me", for SONY's Jumping the Broom (2011), starring Angela Bassett, and meanwhile, her own composition/recording "Can't Play it Cool With You" (a jazzy ballad featuring trumpeter, Chuck Findley) was tapped for an episode of the CW superhero show, Black Lightning, Around the same time, Sheléa was also working as a songwriter/vocalist with legendary producers, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, followed by her writing and producing three songs for Chanté Moore's Love the Woman, including the single, "It's Not Supposed to Be This Way." Subsequently, she also co-wrote "I Fell In" (with Phil Galdston composer of "Save the Best for Last") for Vanessa Williams' album, The Real Thing. In addition to writing for other artists, and recording vocals on major motion picture soundtracks such as Hotel Rwanda, Akeelah and the Bee, and Be Cool. Sheléa released her 2013 debut album, Love Fell On Me, featuring heavyweights Stevie Wonder, Brian McKnight, and Narada Michael Walden. Her single, "I'll Never Let You Go", hit #22 on the Billboard R&B charts and charted for 22+ weeks at its peak.

In 2016 Sheléa was invited by Rickey Minor to perform a set at Quincy Jones' house for Gina Clayton-Johnson's Essie Justice Group fundraiser. Following an unforgettable performance, she connected with Quincy and was signed to his management roster shortly thereafter. She was then handpicked to be the

ABOUT

inaugural artist to perform at Quincy's first-ever music venue, Q's Bar and Lounge, located in the Palazzo Versace Hotel, Dubai.

On top of creating original music, Sheléa has cemented her reputation as the go-to voice for legendary tribute concerts. With a resume and list of performance credits that are as staggering as they are multi-faceted, she has traveled internationally as a featured vocalist in "An Intimate Evening with David Foster" singing selections made famous by Natalie Cole ("Unforgettable"), Chaka Khan ("Through the Fire"), Whitney Houston (songs from "The Bodyguard" motion picture soundtrack), and Toni Braxton ("Unbreak My Heart"), as well as the power duet "Tell Him" on which she sang Barbra Streisand (giving her the nickname: "The Black Barbra") with Pia Toscano singing Celine Dion.

Sheléa was initially invited to perform at the White House at the suggestion of Stevie Wonder to honor master songwriting team, Burt Bacharach & Hal David, with the Gershwin Prize singing the Dionne Warwick classic "Anyone Who Had a Heart" (a showstopper she reprised at the Songwriters Hall of Fame Awards and at David's memorial service). She was asked to return for a second performance at the White House, before President Barack & First Lady Michele Obama (who led the room in a standing ovation) for "Smithsonian Salutes Ray Charles," singing "Night Time is the Right Time" with Anthony Hamilton.

Sheléa was also featured on the PBS-TV specia *I Zoltan Maga: Live from Budapest with David Foster* as a special guest of the Hungarian violinist, and in the fall of 2016, Sheléa appeared in HBO's multi-Emmy-nominated film, *All the Way*, singing and acting as a funeral choir soloist, loosely based on the great Mahalia Jackson.

For five consecutive years, she has toured with saxophonist, Kirk Whalum, on his *The Gospel According to Jazz* Christmas shows, and is featured on his Grammy/NAACP Image Awardnominated, *The Gospel According to Jazz: Chapter IV.* Furthermore, Sheléa sang the spiritual "Wade in the Water" at the Kennedy Center Honors, accompanying the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in tribute to choreographer Carmen de Lavallade, and at the Governor's Ball, she sang the Diane Warren-penned World Humanitarian Day anthem, "I Was Here" (originally recorded by Beyoncé).

Sheléa made her Carnegie Hall debut performing "Shattered" in tribute to songwriting great, Jimmy Webb. Her tribute to Great American Songbook legends, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, became the impetus for her long-awaited third album, Pretty World: A Tribute to Alan and Marilyn Bergman. And with an invitation from The Recording Academy, she honored Tina Turner through a medley of "What's Love Got to Do With It"/"Proud Mary"/"The Best" on the PBS special, A Grammy Salute to Music Legends. After performing on a variety of specials, 2019 brought forth Shelea's very own PBS special, Quincy Jones Presents: Sheléa, in which she performed a variety of originals, mixed with everything from Aretha to Whitney Houston.

And most recently, Sheléa has been at the forefront of the Quincy Jones Tribute concerts at venues such as The O2 Arena in London; the AccorHotels Arena in Paris; and the legendary Stravinski Hall at Montreux Jazz Festival; singing Michael Jackson hits in honor of Quincy's work on Off the Wall, Thriller, & Bad.

As a member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, Sheléa was an invited guest speaker at the "Grammy Museum Summer Sessions," helping to educate high school students on the value of music, songwriting craft, vocal technique, and allaround professionalism. In addition to working with students and writing songs for kids, Sheléa is also an avid proponent for female empowerment. Most notably, she teamed up with Grammy Award-winning producer/ songwriter, Tena Clark, to sing the anthem "Break the Chain" for the global launch of "One Billion Rising," headed by Eve Ensler and Taína Asili. Sheléa also closed the 2016 TEDWomen conference in San Francisco, with a performance of "I Believe" and performed for the National Women's History Museum honoring Jennifer Siebel Newsom and Dolores Huerta.

In line with her passion for spreading empowering messages, she posted a personal affirmation in song form on Instagram, and later released it as a single, after receiving an overwhelming amount of covers and demands from people all over the world asking for her to release it as a single. "You Are Enough" is available now!

IVY LEAGUE OF COMEDY

PRESENTS A SALUTE TO OUR NEWEST HEROES November 13, 8PM

Madison Theatre and The Ivy League of Comedy are proud to honor America's Newest Heroes, Health Care Workers and First Responders!

The Ivy League of Comedy is the premier group of stand-up comedians touring America. Known for their elite brand of clever comedy, you've heard their brilliant comedic voices on latenight TV and Comedy Central. Now come see them live on stage!

The Ivy League of Comedy honors audiences with original, well-written comedy that doesn't resort to playing on stereotypes or picking on the audience. From theatres to corporate events to fund-raising shows for charities, The Ivy League of Comedy brings you stand-up comedy's funniest and brightest.

This hilarious comedy show is as perfect for entertaining your clients as for a great date or a casual night out with friends. Wouldn't you rather be the one talking about the show instead of just hearing about it later? Don't be disappointed that you missed out. Buy your tickets now and join the fun laughing with America's Newest Heroes!

Myg Kaplan is a comedian named Myg Kaplan (pronounced "Mike Kaplan"). Myg has appeared on the Tonight Show, Conan, Letterman, James Corden, Seth Meyers, Comedy Central, Last Comic Standing, and America's Got Talent. He has a one-hour standup special on Amazon, "Small, Dork, and Handsome," and two podcasts, The Faucet and Broccoli and Ice Cream. His first album, "Vegan Mind Meld," was one of iTunes' top 10 comedy albums of the year, and his newest album, "A.K.A.," debuted at #1. The NY Times called it "invigoratingly funny" and included it among its five "coronavirus best new comedy specials"... "to remind you of the old normal." And now, here we are in the new weird!

Michele is a brash New York stand-up comedian. After leaving a high-paying executive position at a computer company, Balan honed her comedy skills making the rounds at local New York comedy clubs. Using her guick wit and savvy sense of humor she soon found herself in performing regularly at Carolines on Broadway, Gotham Comedy Club, Broadway Comedy Club and The Comic Strip Live. As Michele's popularity grew so, did the press. The New York Post's Cindy Adams declared Michele "Dynamite". Voted one of the "Top 10 Comics" by Backstage Magazine. The San Francisco Bay Times also placed her on their national Top 10 and Broadway World honored Michele at number two in their Top 10 List of cabaret performers. Balan went on to appear on The Joy Behar Show on HLN, Byron Allen's Comics Unleashed, and the OUTlaugh festival on LOGO, the Montreal "Just for Laughs" festival, and "Gotham Live". One of her biggest thrills, was being one of the top 5 finalists on NBC's Last Comic Standing 4!

Besides appearances on Comedy Central, Amazon Prime and SiriusXM radio, Mr. Vignola also has performed at Montreal's prestigious "Just for Laughs" Comedy Festival and toured the Middle East with Armed Forces Entertainment.

Stand-up comedian Shaun Eli has rightfully been called one of America's smartest comics. He's headlined comedy shows on five continents. Whether it's a story about dining with a vegetarian or successfully fighting a parking ticket, master storyteller Shaun Eli proves that there's hilarity in the ordinary if you approach life with a comedic warp. Job interviews? Serving on a NYC criminal jury? How about the Ten Commandments? For just about anything he's experienced Shaun has a hilarious story at the ready.



WITH MINDI ABAIR & VINCENT INGALA November 26, 8PM

Make your list and check it twice! This holiday concert is more than just nice!! A Peter White Christmas with Mindi Abair and Vincent Ingala is coming to town. Contemporary jazz lovers eagerly await this annual fun filled concert, which has packed fans into halls and arenas coast-to- coast year after year.

Peter White is an extraordinary and fluent acoustic guitarist whose skills are world-renowned. Revered saxophonist Mindi Abair returns again with her dynamic vigor ready to captivate audiences far & wide. Vincent Ingala is no stranger to contemporary jazz audiences—his charisma, energy, and musicianship will put a smile on anyone's face.

Peter recalls, "My earliest memories of Christmas were probably not much different from many other people: snowflakes, tinsel, Santa Claus, reindeer, and the opening of presents surrounded by family. As a child, my father taught me to play Christmas music on my first instrument, the recorder, and my love for Christmas music has endured throughout the years. I hope this tour will be an opportunity for many Smooth Jazz fans to enjoy their favorite Christmas songs in a family setting. You know, I might even bring my recorder!" Peter White's classic acoustic guitar style can be enjoyed through an ever-growing and best-selling catalog, including his latest release "Music for Starlux Airlines" (2019).

"Growing up, my family would get together for Christmas every year" Mindi reminisces. "My grandmother would cook oyster stuffing and

rhubarb pie, and we'd all play and sing together. I still make a rhubarb pie every year in her honor. My grandmother gave me great advice early on, 'If you play the piano you can be the life of any party!' She was an opera singer and would sit and play piano and sing Christmas songs. My father would take over and play more rock/blues/jazz versions of Christmas songs and we'd all sing. And of course, I'd pull out my sax and play along with my father on piano. What an amazing way to grow up, with music surrounding me, and weaving into my life so seamlessly from a young age." Mindi's newest release is her first "Best of" (2021) compilation on Pretty Good For A Girl Records which consists of 19 songs including her biggest hits, previously unreleased gems, a few of Mindi's personal favorites, and her brand new single "April".

Vincent Ingala "I can vividly remember not being able to fall asleep waiting for Santa Claus to arrive on Christmas Eve. Somehow though, he always managed to get the job done while I was sleeping, and before I could catch him! I remember feeling extra special that Santa would place all of the gifts around the fireplace like a display, as opposed to them being wrapped under the Christmas tree. I would sneak downstairs multiple times with my flashlight to get a sneak peek before the sun would rise on Christmas morning! Memories such as these I will always continue to hold in my heart, and they are what makes Christmas a very magical time of the year." Vincent's latest release is "Echos of the Heart" (2020) on Shanachie Records.

MADISON THEATRE 2022 SUMMER SERIES

