

PLEASE KEEP ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS TURNED OFF WHEN IN THE THEATRE. THANK YOU.

Please Note

- Food and drink must not be brought into the theatre.
- The use of cameras or recording devices is strictly prohibited.
 - Smoking is not permitted in the Noel Fine Arts Center.
- In the case of an emergency, ushers will assist audience members at each exit.

Theatre & Dance Department productions are partially funded by the Student Government Association.

The UWSP Department of Theatre & Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and the National Association of Schools of Dance.

2009-2010 Theatre & Dance Faculty and Staff

Amy Beversdorf
Associate Lecturer, Dance

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Associate Lecturer, Theatre

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Cutter/Draper

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Assistant Professor of Theatre

Wendy Dolan
Costume Shop Manager
Associate Instruction Specialist

Michael Estanich
Assistant Professor of Dance

Jeannie Hill
Assistant Professor of Dance

Tim Howard
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BFA Musical Theatre Coordinator

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Professor of Dance
Dance Program Coordinator

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Tyler Marchant
Assistant Professor of Theatre

Roger L. Nelson
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Jeffrey Stephens
Assistant Professor of Theatre
BA/BS Drama Program Coordinator

John Strassburg
Dance Program Accompanist

Director's Notes

Jonathan Larson (February 4, 1960 – January 25, 1996) wanted to write a musical about his life that reflected the world he lived in and the lives of his friends and loved ones. He also wanted to write a score that would connect the world of musical theatre with the MTV generation. He battled throughout his life to stay true to that instinct, and his struggles eventually created the musical you are seeing this evening. While writing *Rent*, Larson worked as a waiter at the Moondance Diner in Manhattan during the weekends and focused on composing and writing during the weekdays. *Rent* represents nearly a decade of work in Larson's creative life, much of it lived barely above the poverty line.

Playwright Billy Aronson came up with the idea to write a musical update of *La Bohème* in 1988. He wanted to create a musical inspired by Giacomo Puccini's opera in which the luscious splendor of Puccini's world would be replaced with the coarseness and noise of modern New York. In 1989, Aronson and Larson began to collaborate on the new project. Larson eventually came up with the title and suggested moving the setting from the Upper West Side to Manhattan's Lower East Side. The collaboration stalled however, and in 1991 Larson asked Aronson if he could use the original concept they collaborated on and make *Rent* his own.

Rent began as a staged reading in 1993 at the New York Theatre Workshop (a non-profit theatre located on the Lower East Side of Manhattan) and was followed by a studio production that played a three-week run a year later. The version that is now known worldwide, a result of the collaborative and editing process between Larson and the producers and director, was never publicly performed before Larson's death. Tragically, Larson died of an aortic aneurysm believed to have been caused by Marfan syndrome in the early morning on January 25, 1996 the night before the final dress rehearsal of the show. It is believed that if the aortic aneurysm had been properly diagnosed and treated, Larson would have lived.

Rent played through its planned engagement to sold-out crowds and was continuously extended. The decision was finally made to move the show to Broadway where it opened at the Nederlander Theatre on April 29, 1996. It went on to win three Tony Awards, a posthumous Pulitzer Prize for Drama and eventually became the 7th longest running show in Broadway history. *Rent* is

inextricably tied to the tragedy of Larson's untimely death. The themes contained within the musical as well as the lyrics of many of the songs have an extra clarity when you consider the life and death of the creator of the show. They cannot be separated, nor should they. It is the legacy of *Rent*.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all my collaborators for their work on the production. Tim Howard (Music Director), Jeannie Hill (Choreographer) and Roger Nelson (Assistant Music Director) were invaluable to me in putting this together and supporting the work with their vision and passion -- their contributions cannot be overstated. In addition, each of the Designers and Technicians put their stamp on the work with precision and creativity. The fantastic Stage Management team kept things moving along with professionalism and good humor, and Ben Kern (Assistant Director) always kept me on task and provided an excellent second eye for the work. Finally, the company of actors worked ceaselessly and tirelessly to measure the love the production asked and demanded.

I would like to thank each of you for supporting LIVE theatre. There are a lot of options for entertainment these days, and I thank you for supporting our work and the ongoing art form that is Theatre.

~Tyler Marchant
Director, *Rent*

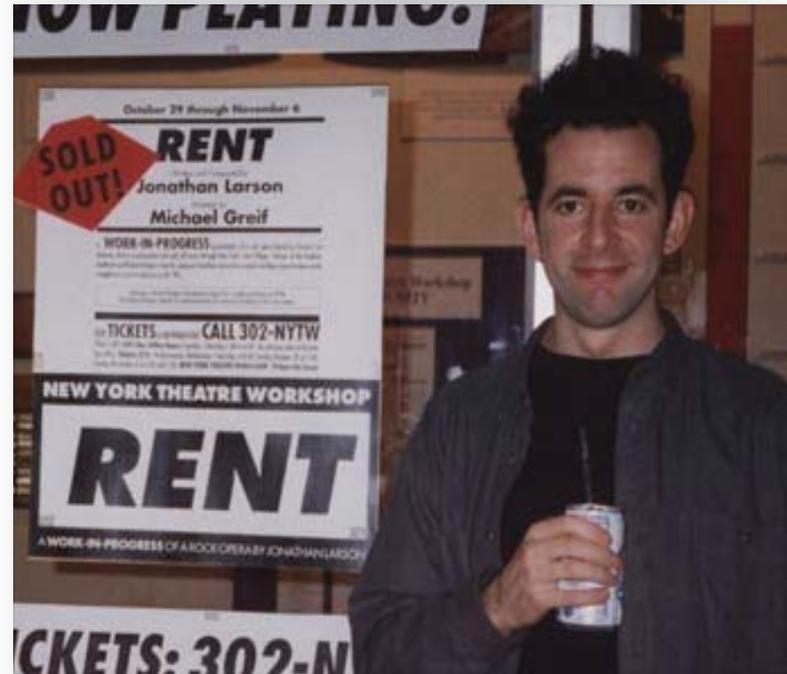
*(Some biographical excerpts taken from
RENT, produced by Melcher Media, Inc &
Wikipedia.com)*

Biography ~ Bryan Baumgardner - Guest Artist Sound Designer

Making his debut at UWSP, Bryan has had a wonderful time working with the cast, crew and faculty. Based in Milwaukee, Bryan has worked in the theatrical/show production industry for 10 years.

His production credits as a sound designer include, *West Side Story*, *Chorus Line*, *Aida*, *Once on this Island*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Mame*, *Normal*, and *Godspell*. He also has worked on many notable events such as, Superbowls XLI-XLIV, Summerfest, Harley Davidson 105th, America's 400th Anniversary, George Bush, Barack Obama, Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, United States Bowling Congress, National Association of Campus Activities, and Download Festival just to name a few.





*Larson next to the poster for "RENT"
at New York Theatre Workshop*

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Department of Theatre & Dance

Presents

RENT

*Book, Music and Lyrics by
Jonathan Larson*

*Musical Arrangements
Steve Skinner*

*Original Concept/Additional Lyrics
Billy Aronson*

*Music Supervision and Additional Arrangements
Tim Weil*

*Dramaturg
Lynn Thomson*

*RENT was originally produced in New York
by New York Theatre Workshop and on Broadway
by Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon
and New York Theatre Workshop*

Directed by
Tyler Marchant*

Musical Director
Tim Howard*

Choreographer
Jeannie Hill*

Assistant Music Director
Roger L. Nelson *

Costume Designer
Libby Stadstad

Scenic Designer
Andy Broomell

Properties Designer
Jennifer Wilson

Lighting Designer
Gary G. Olsen*

Stage Manager
Scott Frost

Sound Designer
Bryan Baumgardner

*Denotes Faculty/Staff

RENT

Cast

Mark.....Derek Prestly
Roger.....Zachary Woods
Mimi.....Ginny Glaser
Joanne.....Meggan Utech
Maureen.....Elizabeth McMonagle
Angel.....Evan Garry
Tom Collins.....Justun Hart
Benny.....Jacob Horstmeier

ENSEMBLE

Candace Buck
Matthew Cooke
Katie Debs
Cortez Edwards
Erica Figurin
Michael Gastaldi
James Hansen
Stephanie Hansen
Sadie Langemo
Jesse Michels
Zakary Morton
Kelsey Schmitz
Creg Sclavi
Meagan Wells

The Orchestra

Conductor/Piano.....Tim Howard*
Roger L. Nelson*.....Keyboard
Luke Ringelstetter.....Electric/Acoustic Guitar
Philip Smyth.....Electric/Acoustic Guitar
Matthew Endres.....Percussion
Jenilee Klish.....Electric Bass

* Denotes Faculty/Staff



Jonathan Larson in rehearsal for "RENT"



Last night of work at the Moondance Diner

October 4, 1991

Bill Aronson
394 First Street #4L
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Bill:

As per our phone conversation, I'm planning, with your permission, to go ahead and continue working on RENT. If any such miracle as a production happens, I'll give you credit for original concept and any lyrics of yours that I use.

At such time, we'll obviously draw up a more official agreement so you'll be fairly compensated for your work.

Thanks for the green light.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jonathan Larson

RENT

Setting:
Lower East Side, New York City
The Early 90's

Act One

Tune Up A.....Mark, Roger
Voice Mail #1.....Mrs. Cohen
Tune Up B.....Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny
RENT.....Company
Christmas Bells.....Homeless Man #1
You Okay Honey?.....Angel, Collins
Tune Up Reprise.....Roger, Mark
One Song Glory.....Roger
Light My Candle.....Roger, Mimi
Voice Mail #2.....Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson, Maureen
Today 4 U A.....Mark, Collins, Roger
Today 4 U B.....Angel, Mark, Collins, Roger
You'll See.....Benny, Angel, Mark, Roger, Collins
Tango: Maureen Intro.....Mark, Joanne
Tango: Maureen.....Mark, Joanne, Tango Dancers
Support Group.....Support Group
Out Tonight.....Mimi
Another Day.....Mimi, Roger, Support Group
Will I?.....Company
On The Street.....Mark, Angel, Collins, Ensemble
Santa Fe.....Mark, Angel, Collins, Ensemble
I'll Cover You.....Angel, Collins, Mark
We're Okay.....Joanne
Christmas Bells.....Company
Over the Moon.....Maureen, Backup Singers, Mark
La Vie Boheme.....Company

**There will be a 15 minute Intermission
between Acts**

Act Two

Seasons of Love A.....Company
Happy New Year A.....Company, Mark, Roger, Mimi
Maureen, Joanne, Angel, Collins
Voice Mail #3.....Mrs. Cohen
Voice Mail #4.....Alexi Darling, Mark
Happy New Year B.....Mark, Roger, Mimi, Maureen, Joanne
Angel, Collins, Benny
Valentine's Day Crossover.....Mark, Joanne, Maureen
Take Me or Leave Me.....Maureen, Joanne
Seasons of Love B.....Company
Without You.....Mimi, Roger, Maureen, Joanne, Collins, Angel
Voice Mail #5.....Alexi Darling
Contact.....Company
I'll Cover You (Reprise).....Company
Halloween.....Mark
Goodbye Love.....Mark, Roger, Mimi, Maureen, Joanne
Collins, Benny, Pastor
What You Own.....Mark, Collins, Benny, Roger, Pastor
Voice Mail #6.....Roger's Mom, Mimi's Mom
Mr. Jefferson, Mrs. Cohen
Finale A.....Mark, Roger, Collins, Mimi, Maureen, Joanne
Homeless People
Your Eyes.....Roger
Finale B.....Company

Acknowledgements:

City of Stevens Point for the street light donation

Salon Envy for the beautiful work coloring and
applying extensions to the cast's hair

Sara Utech for her wonderful work cutting and coloring the cast's hair

Patty Kern for acquiring all of the folding chairs in the show

Kara Schmelz with her help creating the video

Tom Zrostlik for the tables

1 year
4 seasons
12 months
52 weeks
365 days
1095 meals
8760 hours
525,600 minutes
31,536,000 seconds

thoughts
ideas dreams
breaths
memories

Moments that count
how long is a moment
what makes an event memorable
awareness

Larson's notes for "Seasons of Love"

Meet the Company

Aplin, Mercer (*Sound Technician*) Junior BFA Design Technology Major from Madison, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Design Technology and Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Regional Award for Design Excellence in Sound Design.

Ballweg, Jessica (*Assistant Choreographer/Dance Captain*) Senior BA Dance Major from Lodi, WI. Recipient of the Kathryn Bukolt Dance Award.

Bevan, Thomas (*House Manager*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre Major and Dance Minor from Waconia, MN. Recipient of the Backstage Musical Theatre Scholarship, Anne Gilfrey Schierl Outstanding Freshman in Musical Theatre Award and the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman Scholarship.

Broomell, Andy (*Scenic Designer*) Junior BFA Design Technology Major from Wittenberg, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Design Technology, the James Vorland Technical Theatre Scholarship and the Sentry Academic Excellence Scholarship and the Kennedy Center American College Regional Theatre Festival Award for Outstanding Media Design.

Buck, Candace Marie (*Mrs. Jefferson/Blanket Person*) Freshman BFA Acting Major from Frederic, WI.

Campbell, Jasmine (*Scenic Charge*) Senior BFA Design Technology Major from Sheboygan, WI.

Cooke, Matt (*Mr. Grey/Pastor/Thug #2/Homeless #4*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Germantown, WI. Recipient of the First Nighters Scholarship.

Debs, Katie Alicia (*Pam/Vendor #2/Backup Singer #2/Homeless #7*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Middleton, WI.

Dombrowski, Anna (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Senior BFA Design Technology Major from Oconomowoc, WI.

Endres, Matthew (*Percussion*) Senior BM Jazz Studies-Performance Major from Sauk City, WI. Recipient of the Robert Worth Percussion Scholarship and the Robert and Marilyn Worth Jazz Ensemble Scholarship.

Meet the Company (continued)

- Figurin, Erica** (*Maureen Understudy/Mrs. Cohen/Coal Vendor/Police Officer #1*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Rockford, IL.
- Freberg, Nathan** (*Assistant Lighting Designer*) Sophomore BFA Design Technology Major from Menomonie, WI.
- Frost, Scott** (*Stage Manager*) Junior BFA Design Technology Major and Music Minor from Kenosha, WI. Recipient of the Baruch Bridgeman Award for Outstanding Achievement as a Player, Kassie Dallman Memorial Scholarship and the Vorland Family Fund Technical Theatre Intern.
- Garry, Evan** (*Angel*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Lodi, WI.
- Gastaldi, Michael** (*Benny Understudy/Mr. Jefferson/The Man*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Kenosha, WI.
- Glaser, Ginny** (*Mimi*) Freshman BFA Musical Theatre Major from Fargo, ND. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Musical Theatre.
- Hansen, James** (*Angel Understudy/Gordon/Vendor #3*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Waunakee, WI. Recipient of the Ruth O. Petersen Scholarship.
- Hansen, Stephanie** (*Joanne Understudy/Ali/Vendor #1/Backup Singer #1/Tango Dancer*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major and Dance Minor from Hartford, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine Arts Award in Musical Theatre.
- Hart, Britni** (*Assistant Lighting Designer*) Freshman BFA Design Technology Major from Oshkosh, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Design Technology.
- Hart, Justun** (*Tom Collins*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Oshkosh, WI.
- Horstmeier, Jacob S.** (*Benny*) Sophomore BFA Acting Major and Dance Minor from Random Lake, WI.
- Joanis, Lizzy** (*Properties Technician*) Sophomore BA Drama Major from Oshkosh, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine Arts Award in Drama.

Meet the Company (continued)

Kern, Ben (*Assistant Director*) Junior BFA Design Technology Major from Kaukauna, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine Arts Award in Design Technology and the Isabelle Prize in Student Directing.

Kinnamon, Kyla (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Freshman BFA Design Technology Major from DeForest, WI.

Klish, Jenilee (*Electric Bass*) UWSP Music Major graduate from Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

Kliss, Michael (*House Manager*) Freshman BFA Acting Major from Eagle River, WI.

Lamar, Cortez (*Thug #1/Junkie #3/Police #3/Homeless #5*) Junior Sociology Major (Communications Emphasis).

Langemo, Sadie (*Alexi Darling/Homeless Person #3/Backup Singer #4*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Minneapolis, MN. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Musical Theatre.

Mace, Alexander (*House Manager*) Senior BFA Acting Major from Shawano, WI.

McMonagle, Elizabeth (*Maureen*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre Major and Business Minor from De Pere, WI. Recipient of the Festival of the Arts Scholarship and the James Mueller Scholarship.

Michels, Jesse (*Mark Understudy/Paul/Restaurant Man/Police #2/Tango Dancer*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Inver Grove Heights, MN.

Morton, Zakary (*Collins Understudy/Homeless Man #1/Tango Dancer*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from Cedar Rapids, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Musical Theatre.

Prestly, Derek (*Mark*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Minnetonka, MN.

Reising, Nicholas (*Assistant Scenic & Projections Designer*) Freshman BFA Design Technology Major from Potosi, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in Design Technology and the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine Arts Award in Design Technology.

Meet the Company (continued)

- Ringelstetter, Luke** (*Electric/Acoustic Guitar*) Senior BM Jazz Studies-
Performance Major from Prairie du Sac, WI.
- Schmitz, Kelsey** (*Mimi Understudy/Seasons of Love Soloist/Mimi's Mom/
Junkie #2/Tango Dancer*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre
Major from Green Bay, WI. Recipient of the UWSP Theatre &
Dance Scholarship in Musical Theatre.
- Scravi, Creg** (*Roger Understudy/Seasons of Love Soloist/Steve/Squeegee
Man*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Fond du Lac, WI.
- Smyth, Philip** (*Electric/Acoustic Guitar*) Junior BM Music Education-
Instrumental Major from Custer, WI.
- Stadstad, Libby** (*Costume Designer*) Senior BFA Design Technology
Major from Inver Grove Heights, MN. Recipient of the Mary
Lou Holls Costume Scholarship.
- Ulrich, Kyle** (*House Manager*) Senior BA Drama Major from Rudolph, WI.
- Utech, Meggan** (*Joanne*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre Major from
Hartford, WI. Recipient of the Backstage Musical Theatre
Scholarship and the UWSP Theatre & Dance Scholarship in
Musical Theatre.
- Vannarom, Leanna** (*Properties Technician*) Freshman BFA Design
Technology Major from Sussex, WI.
- Wells, Meagan** (*Sue/Roger's Mom/Junkie #1/Backup Singer #3/Tango
Dancer*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Middleton, WI.
Recipient of the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine Arts Award in Musical
Theatre.
- Wilson, Jennifer** (*Properties Designer*) Senior BFA Design Technology
Major and Spanish Major from Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
Recipient of the Isabelle Stelmohoske London Scholarship and
the Vorland Family Fund Technical Theatre Intern.
- Woods, Zach** (*Roger*) Sophomore BFA Acting Major from
Oconomowoc, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfrey Schierl Fine
Arts Award in Acting and the UWSP Academic Scholarship.

BACKSTAGE

The Department of Theatre & Dance welcomes support for our educational and artistic activities through a variety of programs, including existing scholarships and endowments, special projects support, bequests and planned gifts. For more information about contributing to the Department of Theatre & Dance, please refer to the enclosed Backstage envelope, or contact CJ Robinson, the COFAC Director of Development, at 715-346-3056.

A special thank you to our 2009-2010 Backstage supporters
Donations received December 2008 - November 2009

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Backstage (continued)

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Phylis Makhholm	Douglas & Sandie Warner
Donald & Mary Mayek	Allan & Margaret Weber
Roy & Margaret Menzel	Jeffrey A. Wonders
Kurt Meyer	

one song
glory
one song
before I go
glory
one song to leave behind

find one song
one last refrain
glory
~~from~~ the pretty boy front man
who wanted opportunity

one song
we had a world at his feet
in ~~the~~ ^{along} the eyes of the young girls
the young girls

find
glory
toward the cheap colored lights
one song
before the sun sets
glory
on another empty life

fire flies
fire dies

glory
one blaze of glory
one blaze of glory
glory

Larson's notes for
"One Song Glory"