

March 12 – March 14
ONLINE STREAMING EVENT

MUSIC THEATRE AND OPERA

PRESENTS

runaways

Books, Lyrics, and Music by
Elizabeth Swados

Director
TOBY YATSO

Music Director
MARIO YNIGUEZ

Choreographer
**HANNAH VICTORIA
THOMAS**

Technical Director
ALFREDO ESCARCEGA

Scenic Designer
TIANA TORRILHON

Lighting, Media, Streaming
Designer
KRISTEN PETERSON

Lighting/Sound Supervisor
GERALD WILLOW

Costume Designer
MACI HOSLER

Hair/Makeup Designer
SHARON JONES

ASL Interpreter
LISA SCHULMAN

Assistant Stage Manager
MAX PLATA

Production Stage Manager
KATE LEONARD

Runaways is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

NOTES

Runaways is a Tony®-nominated Broadway musical from 1978, devised by Elizabeth Swados through workshops with young people who had lived on the streets of New York City. A collage of songs, dances and spoken word pieces about running away from something – perhaps a home, a parent, a partner, a predator, themselves – this musical is fueled by the energy and resilience of young people. With a mold-breaking, multicultural folk, jazz, pop and rock score, *Runaways* explores the substitutes we find to deal with the loss of family, however effective or self-destructive they may be.

“I made my debut as a director of musicals with *Runaways* twelve years ago. It was a life-affirming and personally profound experience then, and now. With everything that the year 2020 required us to face, endure, and adapt to, I knew this musical was an ideal project for ASU artists this season. To bring the stories of these young adults to life in the times of our current global pandemic, we created this virtual theatre streaming experience through new rehearsal and production procedures that aligned with all CDC and ASU health guidelines and restrictions. Protocol included: remote auditions via video submissions, regular testing for all team members, rehearsals held remotely on Zoom or in person outdoors on our loading dock (which was converted into a performance space), temperature checks and social distancing for all onsite rehearsals and recording sessions, the self-taping of several scenes by the cast members themselves in personally-chosen safe locations, and the wearing of face coverings at all times - except for the approved safely-distanced final live performances captured on video and in sanitized recording studios. The resulting one-of-a-kind theatrical experience proved to be a fulfilling and inspiring challenge to both overcome and embrace, akin to the original spirit of *Runaways* itself, and we are honored and excited to share the experience with you.”

Toby Yatso, director

“I had no script, no songs, no storyline — just an idea, and an intuition about the potential of adolescents and how they have been grossly underestimated. I wanted to make a collage about...the substitutes people find to deal with the loss of family and how these substitutes are sometimes effective and sometimes self-destructive. I wanted to tap the energy of young people. [...] One of the most important things we all learned is that the imagination can take you out of your own spiritual ghetto. Their way of speaking, their rhythms, the look in their eyes; they influenced me. I'd ask them questions and they would tell me stories. [...] The songs in this show are the folk music of a very special tribe called the *Runaways*. This is their music. There is no plot or story line in *Runaways*. It's a collage of speeches and songs for their rituals. The way I work music, there's no difference between the music and the words. I think you can make songs of how people talk.”

Elizabeth Swados (1951-2016), creator of *Runaways*

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Setting: your city, 1978

ACT I

"You Don't Understand"	Greg, Daniel
"I Had to Go"	Xingyu, Jasmine, Bruno, Taryn
"Faster! Faster! Help!"	Wesley, Elise, Frenki
"Where Do People Go"	Ensemble
"This Is Very Serious"	Brianna
"Footsteps"	Frenki
"Argument"	Jasmine, Bruno
"Current Events"	Thomas
"Every Now and Then"	Xingyu, Hannah, Liuyi, McKaylee, Chris
"Out on the Street"	Greg, Daniel
"Minnesota Strip"	Evening, Chris, Hannah, Bruno
"Song of a Child Prostitute"	Brianna
"Christmas Puppies"	Frenki
"Así Quieres Ser Una Puta"	Jasmine, Frenki, Brianna
"Heroes"	Wesley
"Find Me a Hero"	Xingyu, McKaylee, Anna, Wesley, Elise, Brianna
"The Undiscovered Son"	Taryn, Jasmine, Daniel, Anna
"Scynatchkielooaw"	Frenki
"I Went Back Home"	Liuyi, McKaylee, Evening
"This Is What I Do"	Xingyu, Frenki
"The Basketball Song"	Chris, Elise, Liuyi, Hannah
"Spoons"	Chris, Bruno, Jasmine
"Lullaby for Louie"	Bruno, Jasmine, Evening, Frenki, Daniel, Wesley, Taryn
"Goodnight Mommy"	Taryn
"We Are Not Strangers"	Anna, Greg, Thomas, Elise, Hannah, Daniel, Liuyi

ACT II

"In the Line"	Xingyu, Evening, Brianna, Wesley, Thomas, Jasmine, Bruno, Greg, Daniel
"Lullaby from Baby to Baby"	Anna, Jasmine, Brianna, Wesley, McKaylee
"Ready, Aim, Fire"	Greg, Wesley
"The Revenge Song"	Xingyu, Anna, Taryn, Wesley, Thomas, McKaylee, Liuyi, Daniel
"Enterprise"	Elise, Hannah, Chris, Evening, Jasmine
"Sometimes"	Evening, Bruno, Taryn, Liuyi, Chris, Wesley
"Clothes"	Liuyi
"We Are Not Strangers II"	Hannah, Chris, Thomas, Elise, Daniel, Frenki
"Graffiti"	Hannah
"Where Are Those People Who Did Hair"	Wesley, Elise, Taryn, McKaylee, Xingyu, Anna
"The Untrue Pigeon Speech"	Frenki, Jasmine, Evening
"The Untrue Pigeon Song"	Frenki, Jasmine, Evening
"We Have to Die?"	Elise
"Appendectomy"	Brianna, Anna
"Let Me Be a Kid"	Anna, Xingyu, Jasmine, Evening, Thomas, Brianna, Liuyi
"To the Dead of Family Wars"	Elise, McKaylee, Daniel, Thomas, Taryn
"Problem After Problem"	Greg, Daniel
"Lonesome of the Road"	Ensemble
"Let Me Be a Kid (Reprise)"	Ensemble

ORCHESTRA

Music Director, Guitarist, Producer, Engineer.....MARIO YNIGUEZ
Producer, Engineer.....JONATHON SHELDON
Drums, Auxiliary Percussion.....MATTHEW STORTO
Bass.....ZACHARY BUSH
Trumpets.....JOEL ULIASSI, TAYLOR HUBBARD
Reeds.....KRISTEN ZELENAK, PATRICK FEHER
Piano.....JOHN SOLARI

CAST OF CHARACTERS



EVENING CALABRESE



XINGYU WANG



LIUYI JIANG



MCKAYLEE TODD



THOMAS SMITH



WESLEY BRADSTREET



CHRIS ELLIOT



BRIANNA MCCLURE



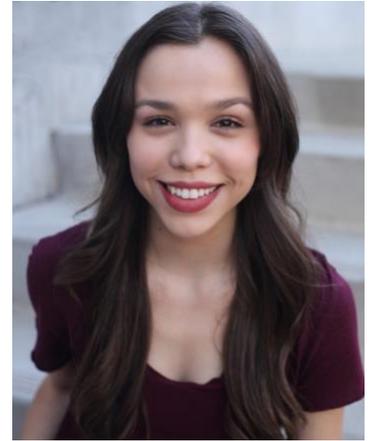
TARYN LANDIS



ANNA SERA



JASMINE RODRIGUEZ



HANNAH BRUDNOCK



BRUNO STRECK RODRIGUES



DANIEL BARGEN



ELISE DANIELLS



FRENKI HYKOLLARI



GREGORY OXLEY

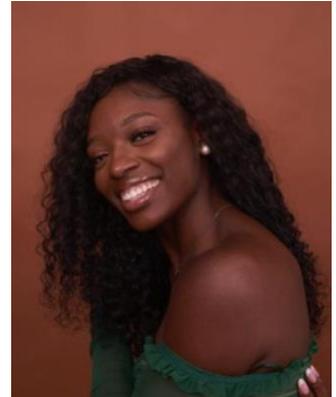
CREATIVE TEAM



TOBY YATSO



MARIO YNIGUEZ



HANNAH VICTORIA THOMAS



KATE LEONARD



MAX PLATA

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

EVENING CALABRESE is incredibly excited to be performing in Arizona State University's production of *Runaways!* She is a Musical Theatre Performance major, continuing her Sophomore year at ASU. Her favorite roles include Beth in *Little Women*, Miss Flannery in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and Bridget in *Bring it On*. She would like to thank her family, friends, voice teacher, and the entire cast and production team for making this show possible during these crazy times!

XINGYU WANG is a fourth-year Bachelor of Music candidate in the musical theatre program. His favorite ASU on-stage credits include Dater #17 (Simon) from *Speed Dating Tonight*, Male Ensemble from *The Light in the Piazza*, Boy 2 from the student lab production *Trouble in Tahiti*, Male Dancer from *Kiss me Kate*. He has had some acting experiences in

China, while favorite projects include Agwe from *Once On this Island*, and Rooster from *Annie* the musical. He would like to thank his parents who support him during his studies abroad. He hopes all of his friends will come to see this show!

LIUYI JIANG is a senior Bachelor of Music candidate in the musical theatre and a student of Andrea Pitman Will. She got the voice and acting training before college and this is her last year of college. She was last seen with New Work Reading as Guerilla Girl in *Well-Behaved Women*, Dater #45 in *Speed Dating Tonight*. Her favorite roles include Kim in *Miss Saigon*, Liz in *If/Then*. She cherished every single opportunity. This will be a wonderful chance to have a real and practical experience. She would like to thank her family and friends who are always

with her and give support during her studies abroad.

MCKAYLEE TODD is an interdisciplinary artist from Roswell, NM. When it came to pursuing music, it was a challenge growing up in a small town known primarily for UFOs and green chile. Nevertheless, McKaylee placed singing at the center of her gaze. She is pursuing her M.M. in Opera Performance, but also enjoys singing various styles including folk-rock, pop, and jazz. McKaylee is delighted to have been in *Runaways* and looks forward to her next production, *The Impresario*. In whatever she performs, McKaylee strives to share stories that frame the human experience, spread laughter, and showcase fearless expression.

THOMAS SMITH is so excited to be working on such an incredibly poignant piece of theatre with such a talented and kind group of people. He is a senior Music Theatre major studying under Nathan De'Shon Myers. His favorite shows at ASU have been *Triassic Parq*, *Fly by Night*, and *Kiss me Kate*. He hopes you all have been staying safe and happy, and hopes you enjoy watching the show as much as he did helping make it!

WESLEY BRADSTREET is a junior Bachelor of Music candidate in both Music Theatre Performance and Music Learning and Teaching. He is a student of Dr. Amanda DeMaris. *Runaways* marks Wesley's seventh production with MTO. He most recently played Dater #22 in *Speed Dating Tonight!* last fall. Hailing from Prescott, AZ, some of his favorite roles include Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* and Gremio in *Kiss Me Kate*. He is so grateful for the opportunity to tell this story! Many thanks to his family, friends, and teachers for their unending support and love. @wesleybradstreet on Instagram!!

CHRIS ELLIOT is excited and honored to be cast in *Runaways* at ASU. Chris is a first-year graduate student pursuing his Master of Music in Music Theatre: Voice. This will be his second feature in an ASU production. He's performed in a variety of venues including Hale Center Theater, Goucher College: Opera & Musical Theatre Workshop, Stage Craft Studios, and many more. Some of his favorite roles include Sparky from *Forever Plaid*, Riff Raff in *The Rocky Horror Show*, and Teen Angel in *Grease*. Special thanks to his family, friends, cast and crew, for their endless love and support!

BRIANNA MCCLURE is finishing her last semester at ASU before graduating with her Bachelor's in Music for Musical Theatre Performance. Favorite credits: Woman 1 in *35mm*, Mime-a-saurus in *Triassic Parq* (Zoni Nomination), Olive Ostrovsky in *25th Annual...Spelling Bee*, and Minnie Fay in *Hello, Dolly!*. In her free time, she likes working in her garden, camping, playing with her dogs, and traveling whenever she can! She feels very grateful to be making art during

this time, and wants to thank her family, friends and mentors for their love and support. Follow her on Instagram @brianna_mcclure15

TARYN LANDIS is so excited to be working on this production of *Runaways* in their final semester of their Performance and Movement degree at ASU! Over the past four years at ASU, they have participated in numerous productions across the valley. Some of their most recent favorite roles include Gherardino in *Gianni Schicchi*, Baddie in *She Kills Monsters*, and Romaine in *The Laramie Project*. They are radiating love for everyone who has supported them through this wild ride of life!

ANNA SERA is thrilled to be in her fifth production with ASU MTO and her first ever filmed musical. Anna is a third-year Musical Theatre Major. Some of her favorite roles include Jenny Hildebrand in *Street Scene*, Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*, and Sandra Bloom in *Big Fish*, which earned her the ASU Musical Theatre Award for Best Vocalist. Along with performing, Anna is a writer and will be premiering her second play in April 2021. Anna would like to thank her parents, younger sister, and the entire cast and crew of *Runaways* for all of their support and encouragement.

JASMINE RODRIGUEZ is a second year Opera Performance major at ASU under the voice instruction of Stephanie Weiss. Jasmine received her bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from Chapman University in Orange, CA. Roles performed include Rose (*Street Scene*), Dew Fairy (*Hansel and Gretel*), Miss Wordsworth (*Albert Herring*), and Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*). She's attended the Taos Opera Institute and the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. Next summer she will be attending Seagle Music Colony, performing the roles of Laetitia (*The Old Maid and the Thief*) and covering the title role for the world premier of *Harmony*. Thanks to Toby, Mario, Hannah, Kate, Max, and Kristen for putting this masterpiece together. @jasmine_soprano

HANNAH BRUDNOCK is a third-year Musical Theatre student at ASU! She is very grateful and proud to have had

the opportunity to work on *Runaways* with such an amazing cast and creative team! Some of her favorite roles include The Narrator in the student lab production of *Fly By Night*, Waitress in *Speed Dating Tonight!*, Violin Girl in *Street Scene*, and The Baker's Wife in *Into The Woods*. Huge thanks to her family for all the love and support this past year!

BRUNO STRECK RODRIGUES is a Queer Latino immigrant from Brazil, a performing artist, director, activist, researcher, and educator. Bruno's thrilled to be telling a story so close to his heart and playing a character of a similar cultural background as his. Bruno graduates in May with his MM in Performance (Music Theatre). Favorite past roles include Brazilian Dancer in ASU's *Speed Dating Tonight!*, and Wreck in *Wonderful Town*, Bobby in *Cabaret*, and Shere Khan in *Jungle Book* at Grand Valley State University. IG: @brunostreckrodrigues.

DANIEL BARGEN is thrilled to be a part of Arizona State University's *Runways*! Daniel is a sophomore musical theatre major at ASU. Some of his favorite credits include *Newsies*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *A Chorus Line* and more. Daniel would like to thank the entire cast and crew of *Runaways* for a truly wonderful experience! @danieldearest

ELISE DANIELLS is passionate about stories that reveal the dualities of the Human experience and finding common ground. Born in London, England, Elise moved to Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 7 years old. She grew up in an artistic household; between her mother's career in musical theatre and her father's professional ballroom dance career, Elise has always had her eyes on the stage. Being of biracial heritage, Elise felt a natural dualism in her identity and realizes that nothing in this world is mutually exclusive. This knowledge encouraged her to pursue her love of both opera and musical theatre, without the pressure of constricting herself to one style. Her most recent roles include Deloris Van Cartier in *Sister Act*, Maya Angelou in *Well-Behaved Women*, Kaylee the Coordinator from *Speed Dating*

Tonight (a One Act Opera), and *Rose* (cover) in *Street Scene*.

FRENKI HYKOLLARI is a third-year Music Theatre Performance major, studying under Gordon Hawkins. She was most recently seen as Donkey in MET's *Shrek*. Other favorite roles include Sophie in *Mamma Mia* at FHT and Daphne in *Fly By Night* at ASU. She is deeply thankful for the opportunity to make art in times like these, and thankful for people like you who give

artists an audience to continue creating. She would like to thank her family and her partner for their unconditional love. @frenki.hykollari

GREGORY OXLEY is a junior pursuing a BS degree in Technological Entrepreneurship and Management. He has been involved with theatre since 2013, starting as Gremio in *The Taming of the Shrew* and Smokey in *Damn Yankees* at the Rochester Institute of Technology in NY.

Runways is his first musical performed virtually, at a distance from Seattle, WA. He enjoys spreading the awareness of American Sign Language (ASL) to audiences, showing how ASL is an amazing way of expressing oneself. He is very passionate about astronomy, Star Trek, and Doctor Who, and he is thankful to Toby and Lisa Schulman for working with him to be involved with this show.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CREATIVE TEAM

TOBY YATSO (Director) is part of the music theatre performance faculty at the ASU School of Music, Dance and Theatre, where he teaches acting and performance. He is also artist-in-residence with The Phoenix Theatre Company and a member of Actors' Equity. Directing credits at ASU include *Triassic Park*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Smile*, and *Bat Boy: The Musical*, and around the Valley of the Sun he has directed productions of *The Santaland Diaries*, *How to Succeed...*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Oedipus for Kids*, *Devil Boys from Beyond*, *The 25th...Spelling Bee*, and numerous musical theatre showcases. On stage, Toby is best known for playing Patrick in *American Psycho: The Musical*, Buddy in *Elf*, Princeton/Rod in *Avenue Q*, Alex in *Buyer and Cellar*, Bert in *Mary Poppins*, and Shakespeare in *Something Rotten*. *Runaways* would not be possible without the hard work of Mario Yniguez, Hannah Victoria Thomas, all *Runaways* designers, and the entire MTO team - thank you all!

KATE LEONARD (Production Stage Manager) This is Kate's 9th season with ASU Music Theatre and Opera! Favorite shows include *35mm*, *Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*, *Grey Gardens*, *Reefer Madness*, and *A New Brain*. She graduated from ASU in 2016 with a BA in Theatre. Thanks to the lovely cast and production team, the oh-so-fabulous MTO faculty and staff, her incredible friends and family, and YOU for supporting local theatre!

MARIO YNIGUEZ (Music Director) is a composer, performer, instrumentalist, and conductor who graduated from Arizona State University (2019) with a BMus in Vocal Performance at ASU. He scored Orange Theater's award-winning, *Ida* (2017) and music-directed/composed for Southwest Shakespeare's production of *Twelfth Night* (2018). He MD'd Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In The Heights* at Desert Foothills Theater (2018) and most recently composed a new work with librettist and composer, Vaibu Mohan, called *Adi Antham* (2020), and produced a new song-cycle *Nayika* (2021). For the past 7 years he has performed with his psychedelic-rock band, *Harrison Fjord*. He is elated and humbled to have music-directed, produced, played guitar and engineered ASU's production of *Runaways*. A huge, loving thank you to those who believed he was the right one for this beautiful project!

HANNAH VICTORIA THOMAS (Choreographer) is a dance faculty associate at Arizona State University. She holds a Master of Fine Arts dance degree from Arizona State University where she premiered her first evening-length work *Her Brown Body Is Glory*. She is honored to work as lead choreographer with the dedicated cast and creative team of *Runaways* at ASU. She has also choreographed *AJAX* for Arizona State University and *A Streetcar Named Desire* for Georgia College. She would like to thank God for the gift and Toby Yatso for the opportunity to showcase and empower artists of color in these times.

MAX PLATA (Assistant Stage Manager) is a student of Barrett, the Honors College studying Theatre Writing. His previous experience with Music Theatre & Opera includes Stage Manager for *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* and ASM for *The Light in the Piazza*; current projects with MTO include the first official *Color Cabaret* upcoming in February. Max would like to thank the production team for their hard work in creating art under challenging circumstances. He's enjoyed working in the frigid winter air and carrying set pieces ten miles uphill in the snow each day.

FACULTY

Brian DeMaris.....Artistic Director
Dale Dreyfoos.....Associate Artistic Director
Robert Mills.....Vocal Coach
Toby Yatso*.....Musical Theatre Coordinator
Robert Kolby Harper*.....Musical Theatre, Acting
Molly Lajoie.....Musical Theatre, Dance

*denotes The Phoenix Theatre Company affiliate

STAFF

Linda Bennett.....Program Coordinator
Alfredo Escarcega.....Technical Director
Sharon Jones.....Costume Coordinator, Hair and Makeup
Kate Leonard.....Production Stage Manager
Gerald Willow.....Master Electrician

STUDENT WORKERS

Randi Ellen Rudolph.....Graduate Assistant
Kevin White.....Graduate Assistant
Max Plata.....Assistant Stage Manager
Ellie Barrett.....Office Assistant

VOICE FACULTY

Amanda DeMaris	Nathan De'Shon Myers
Carole FitzPatrick	Andrea Pitman Will
Gordon Hawkins	Stephanie Weiss

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Arizona Opera.....Joseph Specter, President and General
Director The Phoenix Theatre Company.....Michael Barnard, Producing Artistic Director