## **USC** School of Dramatic Arts

**PRESENTS** 

# Anyone Can Whistle

### Book by Arthur Laurents Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Orchestrations by Don Walker

CAST (in alphabetical order)

Mackenzie Currie\*
She/Her | BFA Musical
Theatre Junior

Josh Adam Davis He/Him | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Selma Elbalalesy
She/Her | BFA Musical
Theatre Junior

Sienna Gruss
She/Her | BFA Musical
Theatre Junior

Mae Hawkins
She/Her | BFA Musical
Theatre Junior
Theatre Junior

Amelia Hoffman They/Them | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Harmony Ishikawa She/Her | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Cole Kenyon He/Him | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Vero López She/Her | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Drew Margolis He/Him | BFA Musical Theatre Junior

Sabina Martín She/Her | BFA Musical Theatre Junior

Parker Simon He/Him | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Myles Williamson He/Him | BFA Musical Theatre Junior Calista Zajac She/Her | BFA Musical Theatre Junior

SCENIC DESIGN
Meredith Ziegler
She/Her | BFA Theatrical Design Sophmore

Maya Reddy She/Her | BA Theatre Emphasis in Design Senior

COSTUME DESIGN

LIGHTING DESIGN
Sam LeRoy
She/Her | BFA Theatrical Design Sophmore

SOUND DESIGN
Mitchell Jung
He/Him| BA Theatre Junior

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
Karina Cruz
She/Her | BFA Stage Management Sophomore

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Cameron Murphy
He/Him | MFA in Acting Alumnus

Music Direction by Anthony Lucca Choreography by Melissa Miles

Directed by Randy Blair

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Please be advised that this production contains outdated depictions of mental illness and incarceration, abuse of power, racism, smoking, kidnapping, and adult themes.

Anyone Can Whistle is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. <a href="https://www.mtishows.com">www.mtishows.com</a>.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

\*Appears by permission of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States



Mackenzie Currie Baby Joan



Josh Adam Davis Police Chief Magruder



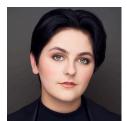
Selma Elbalalesy Cora Hoover Hooper



Sienna Gruss Velma, Drunk Nurse



Mae Hawkins French Translator, Telegraph Boy



Amelia Hoffman Dr. Detmold, John



Harmony Ishikawa French Translator, Jane Borden Osgood



Cole Kenyon Comptroller Schub



Vero López Mrs. Schroeder



Drew Margolis J. Bowden Hapgood



Sabina Martín Nurse Fay Apple



Parker Simon George



Myles Williamson Treasurer Cooley



Calista Zajac June

#### ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

Costume Coordinator Ann Closs-Farley & Samantha Jones | Production Manager Megan Crockett
Technical Theatre Manager Michael Latimer | Technical Director Duncan Mahoney | Properties Manager Brittany White
Intimacy Coordinator Jaclyn Chantel | Fight Choreographer Edgar Landa | Dialect Coach Kathleen S Dunn
Scenic Design Mentor Tom Buderwitz | Stage Management Mentor Jennifer Franco | Lighting Design Mentor Elizabeth Harper
Sound Design Mentor Phil Allen | Crew Kelly Hong, Rebecca Sumaquial, Myles Johnson, Thomas Wilmer, Emme Sibulkin,
Piper Clurman, Mara Sheldon, Samantha Vides, Sandy Luo

#### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Stephen Sondheim was (and remains) the William Shakespeare of the American musical. Like Shakespeare, his canon contains both eternal masterpieces (Into the Woods, Sweeney Todd) and noble, troubled experiments (Road Show, The Frogs). How much less we'd understand Shakespeare if we only ever staged Hamlet or A Midsummer Night's Dream! The true measure of an artist lies not just in the perfect works that endure, but in the ones that reveal a brilliant mind courageously risking imperfection.

This is a long-winded way of saying that Anyone Can Whistle famously does not work. Closing on Broadway after only nine performances, it has rarely been seen since. Yet within its absurdist chaos lives a narrative that feels startlingly contemporary: a society obsessed with control, power, and image, penalizing voices outside of the status quo, and losing its capacity for wonder and hope.

While we cannot solve this show's narrative puzzles, the exploration of its creative preoccupations is a more-than-worthwhile endeavor. In doing so, we've tried to honor the bold experimentation that pulses through the musical's joyous heart, and hopefully found our courage to proudly, unashamedly whistle.

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

USC is built on the unceded land of the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people. We at SDA acknowledge and honor the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people/communities and wish to amplify that they are still here. We encourage everyone to find out whose ancestral land you live on and commit to our shared responsibility to be agents of change, and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization and allyship.