



# Theatre presents

Taking the Stage  
**SINCE 1969**  
Mizzou's  
Larry D. Clark  
Summer Repertory Theatre

**BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON, ROBERT FALLS,  
DAVID HENRY HWANG**

## **ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE'S**

Directed by  
**Scott Koonce**

Featuring  
**Symonne Sparks**  
as Aida

Choreography by  
**Keith Tyrone  
Williams**

Music Direction by  
**Christine  
Jarquio Nichols**



# **AIDA**

**THE TIMELESS LOVE STORY**

© Disney

Rhynsburger Theatre,  
505 Hitt St. Columbia MO

**7:30 pm:** June 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, July 1, 2

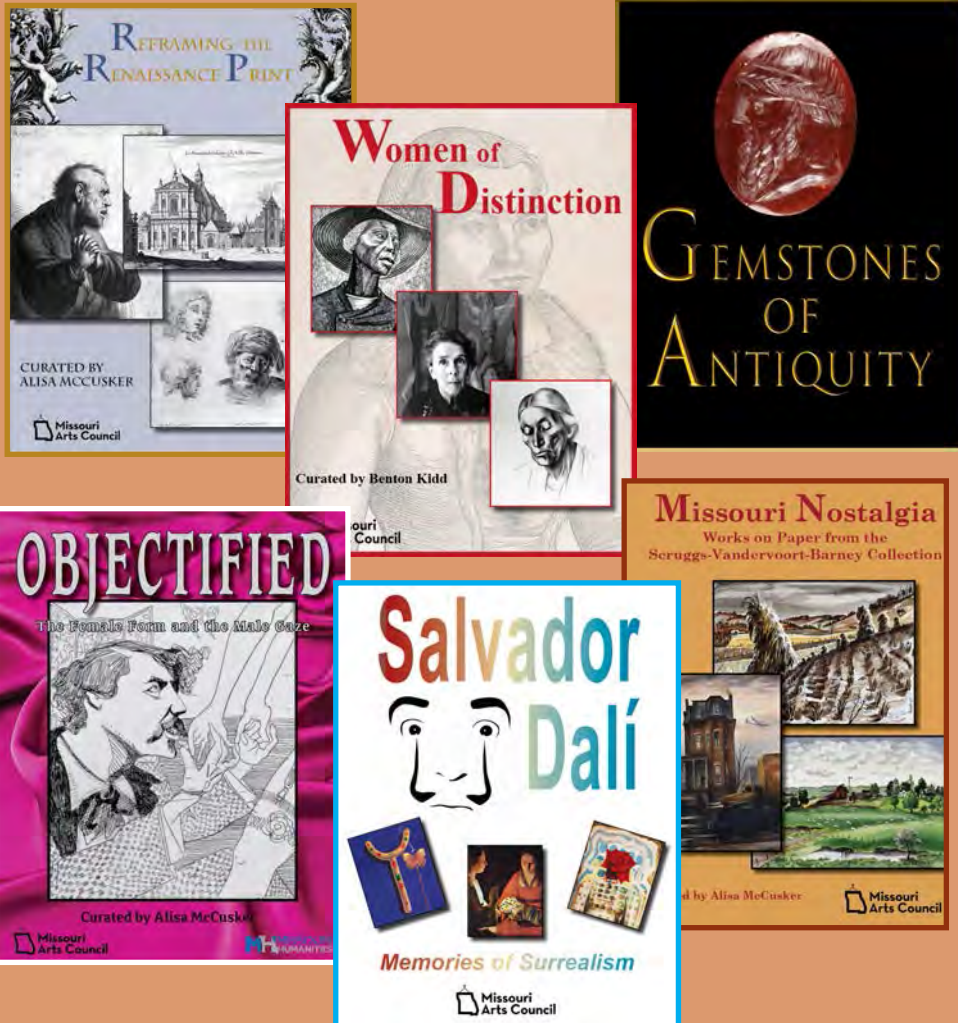
**2:00 pm:** June 26, July 3



# MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

## The Museum is on the MOVE!

While the galleries are CLOSED as the Museum moves to its new location in the lower east level of Ellis Library, explore online exhibitions as well as the collections portal, which offers information and images of every object in the Museum's collection.



## ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE'S **AIDA** THE TIMELESS LOVE STORY

Welcome to our 53rd season of Mizzou's Larry D. Clark Summer Repertory Theatre! We are deeply proud of the accomplishments of all our students, faculty, staff, and visiting artists. What an incredible summer celebration we have for you!

We began the summer with our hilarious family-friendly show *Cat in the Hat*, directed by doctoral student Kasey Lynch. In addition to six sold out shows in Studio 4, we hosted two complimentary performances for community youth groups, including a show for families at the Thompson Center. It was a very special beginning to our season.

Tonight we are thrilled to present *Aida*, directed by Scott Koonce with musical direction by Christine Jarquio Nichols. With the leadership of LCSRT artistic director Dr. Joy Powell and Director of Production and Incoming Chair Dr. Mimi Hedges, our team of performers, designers, musicians, coaches, technical crew, dramaturgy, music direction and choreographer have created tonight's dazzling production. This is the exciting work of summer academic and professional theatre that Dr. Clark envisioned.

Thank you for coming! We are so pleased that you have chosen to attend live theatre—a magical reality that will continue long into the future.

Please enjoy the show!

*M. Heather Carver*

M. Heather Carver,  
Artistic Director and Chair



**BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON,  
ROBERT FALLS, DAVID HENRY HWANG**

DIRECTOR  
SCOTT KOONCE

---

ASSOCIATE CHOREOGRAPHER/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
BRANDON RILEY

---

MUSIC DIRECTOR  
CHRISTINE JARQUIO  
NICHOLS

CHOREOGRAPHER  
KEITH TYRONE  
WILLIAMS

---

COSTUME DESIGNER  
JENNIFER VANBUSKIRK

SCENIC DESIGNER  
MIMI HEDGES

---

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
VINCENTE WILLIAMS

SOUND ENGINEER  
ELIZA BROOKS

---

DRAMATURG  
LES GRAY

STAGE MANAGER  
EMILYN CREAMER

---

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS  
TRICIA CARVER-HORNER, AUSTIN HULTZ

**Elton John and Tim Rice's *AIDA* is presented through special  
arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)**

### **Cast in order of appearance**

*Amneris*.....Brittani O'Connell  
*Radames*.....Caleb Jared  
*Aida*.....Symonne Sparks  
*Mereb*.....Reginald L. Coleman II  
*Zoser*.....Ryan Kenny  
*Pharaoh*.....David A. Crespy  
*Nehebka*.....Raynesha Green  
*Amonasro*.....Lawrence Chiteri  
*Ensemble*.....Peyton Boudouris, Derrick Enyard,  
Evan Gagliardo, Kaylah Janssen,  
Cayla Johnson, Aailah Jones,  
Jermon Lambert, Gabriel Levi, Brandon V. Riley,  
Dacia Slater, Tia Spears, Jack Taylor,  
Payton Woodruff

**Intermission:** There will be a 15-minute intermission.

**Special Thanks:** Rock Bridge High School, Melissa Bohon,  
Shannah Rae, Larry Pry, Audra Sergal, Brett Kristofferson,  
Dr. Claire Syler, Kasey Lynch

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## Song List

### Act 1:

“Every Story Is a Love Story” .....Amneris  
“Fortune Favors the Brave” .....Radames, Soldiers  
“The Past Is Another Land” .....Aida  
“Another Pyramid” .....Zoser, Ministers  
“How I Know You” .....Mereb, Aida  
“My Strongest Suit” .....Amneris, Women of the Palace  
“Fortune Favors the Brave (Reprise)” .....Radames  
“Enchantment Passing Through” .....Radames, Aida  
“My Strongest Suit (Reprise)” .....Amneris, Aida  
“Dance of the Robe” .....Aida, Nehebka, Nubians  
“Not Me” .....Radames, Mereb, Aida, Amneris  
“Elaborate Lives” .....Radames, Aida  
“The Gods Love Nubia” .....Aida, Nehebka, Nubians

### Act 2:

“A Step Too Far” .....Amneris, Radames, Aida  
“Easy As Live” .....Aida  
“Like Father Like Son” .....Zoser, Radames, Ministers  
“Radames’ Letter” .....Radames  
“How I Know You (Reprise)” .....Mereb  
“Written in the Stars” .....Aida, Radames  
“I Know the Truth” .....Amneris  
“Elaborate Lives (Reprise)” .....Aida, Radames  
“Every Story Is a Love Story (Reprise)” .....Amneris

## Orchestra

Cello.....Ethan Forte  
Drums.....Connor Kespohl  
Electric Bass.....Jared Smith  
Guitar.....Jim Little  
French Horn.....Lindsey Tevebaugh  
Keyboard 1.....Christine Nichols  
Keyboard 2.....Amanda Furtick  
Percussion.....Matt Fetterly  
Reed 1 (alto flute, big bamboo flute (F & G), flute,  
small bamboo flute.....Brooksie Collins  
Reed 2 (English horn, oboe).....Kim Foley

## AIDA Production Crew

Properties Manager.....Mimi Hedges  
Associate Choreographer/  
Dance Captain/Fight Captain.....Brandon V. Riley  
Assistant Audio Engineer.....Grant Rust  
Second Audio Engineers.....Jake Price, Harlow Buntun  
Properties Crew.....Eliza Brooks Haley Frazer,  
Chris Oliver  
Light Board Operator.....Kellen Sapp  
Follow Spot Operators.....Nate Fried-Socarides,  
Ella Ilg  
Running Crew.....Harlow Buntun,  
Cyan Crockett, Jake Price,  
Ben Tatum  
Electrics Crew.....Jake Price, Kellen Sapp,  
Nate Fried-Socarides  
Master Electrician.....Kellen Sapp  
Scenic Studio Supervisor.....Vincente Williams  
Scenic Charge Artist.....Jake Price



# Stories for every side of you.



## Stay connected.

### Artistic Director's Note

Welcome to the 53rd season of the Larry D. Clark Summer Repertory Theatre. We are deeply grateful for your continued support. Even through all of the pivots and adjustments the last few years have brought us, our audience remained supportive and steadfast, and I want to let you know how grateful we are.

I also want to share my deep appreciation for Dr. Heather Carver. Dr. Carver has been the chair of the theatre department for the last 10 years. Her time as chair is ending, but she leaves a legacy that is unmatched. The success of our department in general and SRT in particular would not have happened without her unwavering support and vision. Thank you, Dr. Carver!

As we shift our focus to the amazing production you are about to see, I want you to know that a show like *Aida* is rare. The score, the characters and all the visual elements are powerful. It is an epic story, that we are excited to share with all of you. This team of folx has worked hard and I know that you will be amazed at what they have created. The story itself is one that resonates deeply. As humans we discover that life is full of challenges and choices, and we must often make impossible decisions. It is fascinating to watch these characters change because of their tumultuous circumstances, but also because of the relationships they have with one another. We see love and empathy displayed in many shapes and forms. All of this is coupled with an excellent score by Elton John and Tim Rice! I simply cannot wait for you to see it!

Thank you again for sharing your time with us.

—Dr. Joy Powell  
Artistic Director LDCSRT

## Dramaturgy

A student asked me early in rehearsal about an imaginary space where I made sense of my world: “What is your mind-palace like?” I told her that it was a Southern front porch. A site of return. A site to create distance from the public.

When I call up Ancient Egypt in my mind-palace, I am not particularly imaginative. My mind’s eye conjures pyramids and tombs of the Old Kingdom. I see those structures ordered to honor as they drained the wealth accumulated by Pharaohs. That wealth from the Egyptians’ discovered land and resources that had inconveniently already been discovered by other ancient people. People who would soon find their land and bodies seized as punishment for sustaining themselves on the resources Egyptians longed for. I digress.

We have proceeded, knowing that this play is historically fantastical. *Aida* emerged from the spectacular sights, sounds, and cultural touchstones that once found home in Elton John’s mind-palace in the late 1990’s. This was after the commercial success of the Broadway adaptation of *The Lion King* (1997) and the death of his dear friend Princess Diana; perhaps this palace took shape as a tomb gaudily decorated with Versace and the sounds of Giuseppe Verdi’s 1871 opera *Aida* echoing deep in the walls.

This is an invitation to visit your mind-palace and see what it reveals about how you imagine “The Ancient World.” Be curious about how its timeline converges with your own. Is it in identifying the Fertile Crescent as the cradle of humanity you studied in social sciences lessons? Or hearing the measures connecting Biblical Exodus from Egypt to songs in which Black American enslaved folks hid (in plain sound) quests for liberation?

As you watch *Aida*, you might find solace in these songs exploding from the souls of imagined-Nubians and Egyptians. Those symbols and signs and gods that we can read (knowing them to be language we could never truly be fluent in)

communicate common themes across continents, dynasties, and eras.

*Aida* offers us a Rosetta Stone for those truths we know in our bones that, in their simplicity, circumvent complicated translation processes. It is what moves characters to act and focuses our attention to a journey we all embark on from birth to afterlife. To be held in esteem for who we are, who we have been, and who we aspire to be.

Join us as we share the truth of how we seek and what is found in our pursuit to love fully and be fully loved, and to simply be free.

—Dr. Les Gray  
Dramaturg

## MU Department of Theatre Faculty

Kevin Brown, Associate Professor  
M. Heather Carver, Professor, Department Chair  
David Crespy, Professor  
Les Gray, Assistant Professor  
Mimi Hedges, Associate Teaching Professor  
Joy Powell, Associate Teaching Professor  
Claire Syler, Assistant Professor  
Marc W. Vital II, Assistant Professor



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## LDCSRT Technical Crew and Staff

Artistic Director.....	Heather Carver
Artistic Director of LCSRT.....	Joy Powell
Director of Production.....	Mimi Hedges
Head of Costumes.....	Jennifer VanBuskirk
Stage Managers.....	Emilyn Creamer, Tricia Carver-Horner, Austin Hultz
Lighting Design.....	Jake Price, Kellen Sapp, Vincente Williams
Technical Assistants.....	Eliza Brooks, Jake Price, Austin Hultz, Haley Frazer, Nate Fried-Socarides Cyan Crockett, Ella Ilg, Harlow Buntin, Ben Tatum, Grant Rust, Kellen Sapp
Costume Shop Staff.....	Lida Alftooney, Manda Apony-Moriarity, Mackenzie Miller
Hair and Make up Design.....	Char'nell Hickam
Academic Advisors.....	Alex Anderson, Jennifer Bloss
Front of House Director.....	Jabarbara Jennings
Box Office Staff.....	Ellie Carver-Horner, Tricia Carver-Horner, Madison Cook, Mariah Dale, Sydney Hendrickson, Kaylah Jannsen, Charles Knocke Dani Major, Kennedy Rhoades, Brandon Riley, Anna Schulte, Joe Shifrin, Primula Stonebraker
Business Affairs.....	Pat Garmon
Graphic Design.....	Dory Colbert

## Scholarship Recipients 2022-2023

Richard And Patricia Wallace Endowment For The Arts River Pich, Symonne Sparks
Donovan and Peggy Rhynsburger Scholarship Dacia Slater
Terry Perkins Comic Actress Scholarship Justice Thompson
Sol Feinstone Technical Theatre Award Hayley Frazier
John Ross Berneche Acting Scholarship Caleb Jared, Evan Gagliardo
Tom Berenger Acting Scholarship Reggie Coleman
Musical Theatre Scholarship Aaliyah Jones
Richard M. Hennessy Scholarship Gabriel Levi
George C. Scott Memorial Acting Scholarship Payton Woodruff
Dan Springer Memorial Scholarship Ayanna Taylor
Freshman Special Talent Scholarship Alyssa Russell, Ian McPherson
Jon Hamm Scholarship Brandon Riley
Dr. Marcia Berry Memorial Scholarship De'Janna Scales-Hand
Artist-Citizenship Award Eliza Brooks
Carla Waal Johns Award Irene Gasarah
Frances McCurdy Memorial Scholarship Josh Saboorizadeh





# Stories matter.

Come experience the ones we tell.

## UPCOMING 2022-2023 SEASON

Life & Literature Performance Series **September 2022**

Heather Carver, Artistic Director

Studio 4

### *Hairspray* **November 2022**

music and lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan

directed by Joy Powell

Rhynsburger Theatre

### Mizzou New Play Series **February 2023**

David Crespy Artistic Director

Studio 4

### *Luchadora!* **March 2023**

by Alvaro Saar Rios, directed by Adam Flores

Rhynsburger Theatre

### *The Wolves* **April 2023**

by Sarah DeLappe, directed by Kasey Lynch

Studio 4

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