Welcome to the Renaissance (and the Rhynsburger Theatre) and our production of *Something Rotten*. We hope this romp through Shakespeare’s works, and every musical theatre piece in our most recent past, will bring a smile to your face with some hearty laughs thrown in along the way.

Our focus on diversity and presenting stories that matter will continue in the spring semester. Plan to join us in February for the *Mizzou New Play Series* that will offer our audiences new works for each performance. In March, we will present *Radium Girls* by D.W. Gregory. Based on a true story, the play centers around the young women who worked as watch dial painters in the 1920s. These workers were poisoned by the luminescent paint they used. The play follows their struggle for justice.

In April, we are presenting a production of *Iphigenia Crash Land Falls on the Neon Shell that Was Once Her Heart (a rave fable)* by Caridad Svich. We are looking forward to having the playwright in residence to work with our students during the rehearsal period with the support of a Missouri Arts Council grant and Mizzou’s Artist in Residence program.

Thank you for your continued support of Mizzou Theatre. I would like to give a special thanks to Stephens College.

Enjoy the show!

Dr. Mimi Hedges
Chair, MU Department of Theatre
Welcome to the Rhynsburger Theatre and the hilarious musical *Something Rotten*. While a somewhat new musical, first produced on Broadway in 2015, it is quickly becoming a favorite for musical theatre aficionados and audiences alike. What I love about this show is that it is incredibly funny, but at the center of it is a story about family, siblings, marriage, art, imposter syndrome, writer’s block, creative desperation, old love, new love and true love. It’s entertaining. It’s funny and it’s full of heart. Just what the doctor ordered!

When choosing this show one goal was to bring some laughter and fun into the lives of our students but also to you, our beloved audience. So, take a break from all the chaos in the world and enjoy the antics of these flawed and funny characters.

I want to give a special shoutout to this cast, crew and production team for all their hard work. It has been a wonderful experience to have a front row seat to your process. Well done!

Thank you again for sharing your time with us! We are thrilled to bring you *Something Rotten*. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show. Remember: to thine own self be true!

Dr. Joy Powell
Despite the fabulousness of many elements of *Something Rotten*, from frills to musical numbers, my favorite thing about this show is its humble beginnings. Like the main characters, this idea for a musical was created by two brothers, Wayne and Karey Kirkpatrick. Although the show opened in 2015, the idea was first born as a joke between the siblings back in the 90s, making *Something Rotten* an inside joke of twenty plus years. As you watch the show, keep in mind the dialogue between the brothers—how effortless it was for the writers to capture the dynamic between two siblings.

This relationship is one of many things that breathe life into the show. But it’s not because the Kirkpatrick brothers, or their medieval counterparts, are geniuses—the brother relationship feels real because it is a true reflection of the people who wrote the musical. The relationships here feel honest, and they feel good because they feel honest. Along with this, you may find this show pointing you towards the theme of “to thine own self be true.” This is true in so many ways: in art, in music, in comedy, and in life.

*Something Rotten* is hilarious and timeless. It is a celebration of theatre’s past and a love letter to the lifespan of the artform. But, more than anything, it is a heartfelt story about love and honesty (with just a few dance breaks here and there). Enjoy our production of *Something Rotten*!

Kennedy Rhoads
The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts’ Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF Regional Festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
DIRECTOR
Dr. Joy Powell

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
Audra Sergel

VOCAL COACH
Symonne Sparks

CHOREOGRAPHER
Juliana Frey-Méndez

COSTUME DESIGNER
Marc W. Vital II

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Vincente Williams

SCENIC DESIGNER
Mimi Hedges

SOUND ENGINEER
Eliza Brooks

STAGE MANAGER
Ellie Hawley

DRAMATURG
Kennedy Rhoads

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Zach Alley
CAST

Nick Bottom................................................. Luca Freccia
Nigel Bottom ............................................. Zakee Branch
Shakespeare............................................... Dani Major
Bea Bottom .............................................. Kaylah Janssen
Portia .......................................................... Aaliyah Jones
Minstrel....................................................... Danni Haynes
Nostradamus............................................... Delaney Eischen
Brother Jeremiah/Shylock ......................... Trey Betler
Lady Clapham ............................................ Sarah Alley

Nick and Nigel’s Acting Troupe

Tom Snout.................................................. Max Contreras
Robin....................................................... Chance McKim
Peter Quince............................................ Jeremiah Coleman
Snug......................................................... Andy Romero-Compain
Shakespeare’s Dancers............... Sophie Campos, Ashlee Cooper,
Ensemble...................................................... Sarah Alley, Trey Butler,
                                      Sophie Campos, Cailyn Chaney,
                                      Jeremiah Coleman, Max Contreras,
                                      Ashlee Cooper, Delaney Eischen,
                                      Danni Haynes, Maggie Maher,
                                      Chance McKim, Andy Romero-Compain
                                      Ben Tatum, Shannon Windt
                                      Maggie Maher, Shannon Windt

Swings/Understudies

Male Presenting Swing................................. Chance McKim
Female Presenting Swing............................. Shannon Windt
Nick Bottom Understudy............................. Chance McKim
Nigel Bottom Understudy............................. Max Contreras
Shakespeare Understudy............................. Andy Romero-Compain
Bea Bottom Understudy.............................. Shannon Windt
Portia Understudy ..................................... Danni Haynes

SETTING: London, 1595

INTERMISSION: There will be a 10-minute intermission.

Partial funding for our productions is provided by Chrisha’s Fund, an endowment established by her parents in memory of Chrisha L. Siebert, BA, ’90.
ACT I

“Welcome to the Renaissance” Minstrel and Company
“God, I Hate Shakespeare” Nigel, and Nick & Nigel’s
Acting Troupe
“Right Hand Man” Bea and Nick
“God, I Hate Shakespeare (Reprise)” Nick
“A Musical” Nostradamus, Nick,
and Company
“The Black Death” Acting Troupe and
Black Death Dancers
“I Love the Way” Portia and Nigel
“Will Power” Shakespeare, Dancers
and Company
“Bottom’s Gonna Be on Top” Nick and Company

Act II

“Welcome to the Renaissance (Reprise)” Minstrel
“Hard to Be the Bard” Shakespeare, Dancers and Ensemble
“It’s Eggs!” Acting Troupe
“We See the Light” Portia, Nigel,
Brother Jeremiah, Nick,
and Company
“To Thine Own Self” Nigel, Nick, Shakespeare
and Acting Troupe
“Right Hand Man (Reprise)” Bea
“Something Rotten! /Make an Omelette” Company
“To Thine Own Self (Reprise)” Nick
“Finale: Welcome to America” Company
PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Stage Manager .................................................. Lily Ream
Assistant Lighting Designer ........................................... Cedric Singleton III
Dance Captain ................................................................... Chance McKim
Tap Choreographer ........................................................... Charlotte Cicero
Properties Manager ............................................................ Brayden Corniels
Properties Assistants ......................................................... Sophia Axelbaum, Aaliyah Jones
Light Board Operator .......................................................... Yada Olsen
Audio Crew ................................................................. Karsyn Helms, Ellie Utterson
                                  Jamie Yelton
Follow Spot Operators ..................................................... Elizabeth DeKunffy,
                                  Jessica Gowett
Costume Shop Assistants ...................................... Hallie Brandt, Delaney Fogel,
                                  Bryleigh Giffin, Grace C. Hall,
                                  Shaley Harper, Ellie Mejia,
                                  Kelli Monaco, Ace Roach,
                                  Julia Salzmann, Jamie Yelton,
                                  Aeryn Yonke
Wardrobe Crew .................................................. Alex Crossen, Samantha Driggers,
                                  Haley Frazer, Lydia Taylor,
                                  Cassandra Tobin
Props Run Crew Head ........................................................ Sara Wiley
Head Flyperson .................................................................. Karsyn Helms
Deck Crew Head ................................................................ Lucian DiPofi
Deck Crew ................................................................. Maggie McCormick, Clark Monroe
Electrics Crew ................................................................. Alan Chen, Ryan Cohen,
                                  Keygan Fox, Josie Glynn,
                                  Jasmine Osuji
Scenic Studio Assistants ........................................ Tyler Borgmeyer, Alan Chen,
                                  Jeremiah Coleman, Eliana Eccles,
                                  Keygan Fox, Josie Glynn,
                                  Aaliyah Jones, Janiya Jones,
                                  Maggie McCormick, Maggie Maher,
                                  Andrew Marty, Yada Olson,
                                  Jasmine Osuji, Andy Romero-Compain,
                                  Joseph Seevers, Ben Tatum,
                                  Ellie Utterson, Tony Voeller,
                                  Shannon Windt, Jamie Yelton
Scenic Artists ................................................................. Haley Frazer, Aaliyah Jones
SOMETHING ROTTEN ORCHESTRA

Woodwinds ......................................................... Enola White
Keyboard ............................................................ Brayden Besette
Guitar ................................................................. Jim Little
Percussion .......................................................... Matt Fetterly
Trumpet ............................................................. Gary Pearce
Bass ................................................................. Myra Fox
Piano .............................................................. Audra Sergel

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- Bertolt Brecht

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MU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE CREW AND STAFF

Artistic/Production Director ...........................................Mimi Hedges
Technical Director ..................................................................Zachary Alley
Scenic Studio Supervisor ..................................................Cyan Crockett
Scenic Studio Assistants .............................................Carter Davidson,
                                                              Robert Dresselhaus,
                                                              Haley Frazer,
                                                              Cedric Singleton III
Costume Shop Supervisor .............................................Manda Apony-Moriarty
Cutter/Draper .................................................................Mackenzie Miller
Costume Assistant ............................................................Lydia Taylor
Front of House Director ....................................................Jabarbara Jennings
House Manager ...............................................................Andrew Schulte
Front of House Staff .........................................................Cecil Cantrell-Harris,
                                                              Alex Drury, Delaney Eischen,
                                                              Bryleigh Giffin, Syed Ali
                                                              Hashmi, Abigail Henshaw,
                                                              Jack Kunkel,
                                                              Gabriella Lacey,
                                                              Catelynn Liniger,
                                                              Claire Russell,
                                                              Shrushti Shah, Tanishka Poal,
                                                              Sparjan Tharagaturi,
                                                              Zach Vajda
Costume Shop Assistants ............................................Shaley Harper,
                                                              Delaney Fogel, Ellie Mejia,
                                                              Julia Salzman, Aeryn Yonke,
                                                              Bryleigh Giffin, Grace C. Hall,
                                                              Kelli Monaco, Ace Roach,
                                                              Jamie Yelton
Academic Advisors ......................................................Alex Anderson,
                                                              Katie Brueggemann
Business Affairs ..............................................................Pat Garmon
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MU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE FACULTY

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

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2023-2024
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Richard + Patricia Wallace Endowment for the Arts
Zach Apony-Moriarty, Brandon Riley

Donovan and Peggy Rhynsburger Scholarship
Haley Frazer, Ariel Hall

Terry Perkins Scholarship for Comedic Acting
Delaney Eischen

Sol Feinstone Technical Theatre Scholarship
Jaeden Knehans, Cedric Singleton

John Ross Berneche Acting Scholarship
Ben Tatum

Tom Berenger Acting Scholarship
Aaliyah Jones

Musical Theatre Scholarship
Chance McKim

Richard Hennessey Scholarship
Elise Hawley

George C. Scott Memorial Acting Scholarship
Gabe Levi

Dan Springer Memorial Scholarship
Wren Miller, Kennedy Rhoades

Freshman Special Talent Scholarship
Daniel Smith

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Kennedy Rhoades
Brandon Riley
Andres Romero-Compain
Daniel Smith
Cedric Singleton
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Sara Wiley
2024 SPRING SEASON

MIZZOU New Play Series

Dr. David Crespy, Director
February 8
Studio 4

Radium Girls
BY D.V. GREGORY

Dr. Claire Syler, Director
March 13-17
Rhynsburger Theatre

IPHIGENIA
Crash Land Falls On The Neon Shell That Was Once Her Heart (A Rave Fable)

Dr. Kevin Brown, Director
April 24-28
Studio 4

SCAN FOR TIX AND SHOW INFO.

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