Stop Making Sense Program

Title Page

Based on the film by Jonathan Demme and Talking Heads.

Featuring the Artists of PHAME.

Directed by Jessica Dart and Jason Rouse.

Music Direction by Amy Faulhaber.

Choreography by JJ Ross.

Run time: Approximately 70 minutes, no intermission.

We welcome patrons with and without disabilities. Patrons who need to vocalize or move during the production are welcome to do so. The performance features bright lights and loud musical sounds. There are no strobe lights or gunshot-like sounds.

A Note from the Directors
Why Talking Heads? Why PHAME? Why now? Well, despite what the show’s title may say, some things just make sense.

We’ve been dreaming about doing this project with PHAME since early 2021—we were on our way to the coast, listening to Stop Making Sense (we love film and the soundtrack is one of our
favorite road albums), and the idea just kind of . . . happened. We started with a bunch of “what ifs,” and “wouldn’t it be cools,” like: “What if PHAME did some Talking Heads music?” and “What if PHAME did, like, ALL of Stop Making Sense?” and “Wouldn’t it be cool if JJ did the choreography?” and “What if the Video Lab class helped conceptualize some videos, and wouldn’t it be cool to put a bunch of art made by PHAME students in the videos, and what if we did the whole thing at Revolution Hall?” By the time we reached Lincoln City, we had a show. One that we weren’t sure PHAME would actually go for because it’s so different from anything else the organization has ever done. It’s big, it’s weird, it’s off the wall.

But PHAME’s Executive Director, Jenny Stadler, said yes. Immediately. We’re all here right now because of that “yes.” Part of what we love about PHAME is how the organization keeps growing into greater artistic risk-taking every year. The staff and artists continually raise the bar for what’s possible in arts education and performance. We couldn’t be happier to be part of that.

In recent years, Talking Heads founding member David Byrne has spoken of his own neurodiversity, positioning it as a vital aspect of his artistry. A prestigious musician talking openly about being on the Autism spectrum? Cool! That means the original Stop Making Sense is the direct result of the collaboration between neurotypical and neurodiverse artists, just like our adaptation of it. Once again, it just makes sense.

Let’s share the same space for a minute or two. Enjoy the show.

—Jessica Dart & Jason Rouse

The Cast
Aaron Hobson, Vocals and iPad Ensemble
Andréa Tolbert, Vocals and iPad Ensemble
Anne-Marie Plass, Vocals and iPad Ensemble
Cody McCullough, iPad Ensemble
David Hutzler, Vocals
Debby McKnight, Vocals
Jeremiah “JT” Schumacher, Dance Ensemble
Jim Augello, Dance Ensemble
JJ Ross, Dance Ensemble
Kate Ehlen, Dance Ensemble
Lea Mulligan, Vocals and iPad Ensemble
Maxwell Rochette, Vocals
Rebecca Davis, iPad Ensemble
Zander Cloud, Vocals

The Band
Alex Geffel, Drums
Alex Milsted, Keyboard
David Burrows, Bass
Mitchell Gonzales, Guitar

Guest Artists
Laura Gibson
Lost Lander (Matt Sheehy, Sarah Fennell)
Brian Koch
Stephanie Strange
Matthew Gailey
Adrianna Audoma

The Videos
“This Is Talking Heads” featuring Willie Chapman
“And She Was” featuring Ashlie Parrott, Ross Edwards, and Brian Peccia
“Butting Down the House” featuring Kylee Atchley and JJ Ross

Video Design and Development, PHAME Video Production Lab: Brian Peccia, Jeremiah “JT” Schumacher, Skyla Jones, and Zach Williams
Video Editor and Video Lab Instructor: Jason Rouse
Visual Art, Photography, Videography and Dancing: The Artists of PHAME

The Production Team
Jessica Dart & Jason Rouse, Directors and Producers
Jenny R. Stadler, Ph.D., Producer
Amy Faulhaber, Music Director
Dave Chachere, Assistant Music Director
JJ Ross, Choreographer
Linnea Solveig, Choreography Assistant
Jenny Ampersand, Costume Design
Mae Marger, Costume Assistant
Robyn Tenenbaum, Production Manager/Stage Manager
Amelia Grissom, Assistant Stage Manager
Ava Sorgman, Assistant Stage Manager
Peter Ksander, Prop Design and Space Consultation
Jess Leftault, Graphic Design
Stephanie Scelza, Vocal Coach
Matthew Gailey, Vocal Coach
Austin Landau, Production Assistant
Laura Jordan & Rob Sams, Documentarians
Jordyn Roach, Performance Videographer
Nick Blair, Performance Videographer and Photographer
Dan DeBenedetti, Video/Projections Consultant
Gilly Platt, Emily Sizemore & Lavender de Julia Cygnet, ASL Interpreters
River Malachite, Campus Coordinator

The Administrative Team:
Jenny R. Stadler, Ph.D., Executive Director
Anya Roberts-Toney, Chief Operating Officer
Rebekah Morris, Development Director
RaChelle Schmidt, Director of Performance & Partnerships
Jenne Bilbie-Alexander, Senior Manager, Finance & Operations
Alex Geffel, Enrollment & Campus Operations Manager
Laura Loy, Education Manager
Jennifer Thelander, Outreach & Engagement Manager
Erica Liebert, Development Coordinator
**Special Thanks**
Pacific Crest Community School
Jenny Osborne
Julie Dieringer
Tigerin Pierce
Rob Campbell
Shelley McLendon
Tom Rainiere
Nina Faulhaber
Backfence PDX
Modern Velocity
Connie Ross
Ted Douglass
Jae Seung Hancock
David Byrne
Tina Weymouth
Chris Frantz
Jerry Harrison

**Set List**
**Psycho Killer**
*Songwriters: David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Tina Weymouth*

**Heaven**
*Songwriters: David Byrne, Jerry Harrison*

**And She Was**
*Songwriter: David Byrne*

**Burning Down the House**
*Songwriters: David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison, Tina Weymouth*

**Life During Wartime**
*Songwriters: David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison, Tina Weymouth*
Genius of Love  
Songwriters: Adrian Belew, Chris Frantz, Steven Stanley, Tina Weymouth

Take Me to the River  
Songwriters: Al Green, Mabon “Teenie” Hodges

Road to Nowhere  
Songwriter: David Byrne

Girlfriend Is Better  
Songwriter: David Byrne

This Must Be the Place (Naive Melody)  
Songwriters: David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison, Tina Weymouth

Once in a Lifetime  
Songwriters: David Byrne, Brian Eno, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison, Tina Weymouth

Thank you, Sponsors!

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