

A PROJECT OF THE WORKHOUSE ARTS FOUNDATION

# XANADU

# Book By Douglas Carter Beane Music and Lyrics By Jeff Lynne & John Farrar

# Based on the Universal Pictures film Screenplay by Richard Danus & Marc Rubel

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Ahrens, Dan Vickery, Tara Smith/B. Swibel, Sara Murchison,/Dale Smith & Cari Smulyan

#### Cast

# (Alphabetical Order)

Caliope	Audrey Baker
Danny/Zeus	Ken Kemp, Phil Kryzwicki
Erato	Kiana King
Euterpe	Pauline Lamb
Kira	Jessica Barraclough
Melpomene.	Jolene Vettesse
Sonny	Pat Mahoney
Terpsicore	Kyle Donovan, Drew Goins
Thalia	Chris Chapin
Swings	Kyle Donovan, Kathleen West

# **Musical Numbers**

I'm AliveKira and the Muses
MagicKira
Evil WomanMelpomene, Calliope, and the Sirens
SuddenlyKira and Sonny
Whenever You're Away From MeDanny and Kira
Dancin'Danny, Sonny and the Muses
Strange MagicMelpomene, Calliope and Kira
All Over the WorldSonny, Danny and the Muses
Don't Walk AwaySonny, Danny and the Muses
FoolKira and the Muses
The FallSonny and the Muses
Suspended in TimeKira and Sonny
Have You Never Been MellowKira & the Greek Gods
"Xanadu"Kira, Sonny, Danny and the Muses

"Xanadu", "All Over the World" , "The Fall", "I'm Alive", "Evil Woman", "Don't Walk Away". and "Strange Magic" written by Jeff Lynne, published by EMI Blackwood Music Inc.

"Magic", "Suddenly", "Dancin", "Suspended in Time", "Whenever You're Away from Me", "Fool", and "Have You Never Been Mellow" written by John Farrar, published by John Farrar Music.

#### DIRECTOR



**Stefan Sittig (Director/Choreographer)** has a multi-disciplined theater background as a director, choreographer, fight director, movement coach, educator and podcast host. He has worked on 100+ productions including in New York City (Off-Broadway), internationally in Brazil, Uruguay and Canada, at various regional theatres, and in most of the major theatres in the Washington, DC area. Stefan is an Artistic Associate at MetroStage where he has directed and choreographed several productions including Poetry & Tango (featuring Broadway actor and Helen Hayes award winner Natascia Diaz), Jason Odell Williams' fast paced dramedy *Church & State*, Sheridan Morley's musical Noel & Gertie and the Terrence McNally plays Mothers & Sons and Frankie and Johnny in the *Clair de Lune*.

Stefan received the Broadway World Award for Best Director for Frankie and Johnny as well as a nomination for Best Director for Mothers & Sons. Frankie & Johnny also won the BWA for Best Play and Mothers & Sons won for Best Supporting Performer. Both plays also received nominations for Best Play of the season and the entire adult casts of both productions were nominated in their respective categories. Additional directing credits include *Trabajadores* (the World Premiere of the Spanish version of Stephen Schwartz's Working), Cole Porter's Anything Goes and Red Hot & Cole, Jerry Herman's Jerry's Girls and the 60's revue Beehive. Other DC credits include The Kennedy Center, Signature Theatre, Studio Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, 1st Stage, The Washington Savoyards, Atlas Performing Arts Center, Open Circle Theatre, Adventure Theatre, The American Century Theater and the Workhouse Arts Center, where he recently choreographed The Mystery of Edwin Drood.

Stefan is on the faculty at George Mason University's School of Theater where he teaches Musical Theatre and Stage Combat. He holds an MFA in Theatre from Virginia Commonwealth University and a BA in Drama and English Literature from The University of Virginia. He also produces and hosts the podcast American Theatre Artists Online, available on iTunes and Podbean, where he has interviewed many Tony, Emmy and Golden Globe award winners and nominees.

Stefan was raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is half-Uruguayan, and is a native Spanish and Portuguese speaker and fluent in French. His love of musical theatre, combined with his experiences growing up in Latin America have often guided his artistic work. He dedicates this production to his mother and his grandfather, both artists, who have passed down their artistic genes and inspired him to continue to create with an open heart despite all the world's challenges. **Instagram: @stefansittig and go to www.stefansittig.com for more info.** 

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR



Merissa Martignoni Driscoll is kicking off her full-time career as a musician with XANADU! She is wrapping up her seventh year as a public school music teacher and throwing all caution to the wind with selfemployment. Previous productions at the Workhouse include All Together Now, Women in Music, Carrie the Musical and Man of La Mancha. This summer she will be training young performers in a production of Newsies at Reston Community Players' Summer Intensive. Merissa is also a vocal coach and performer.

XANADU is definitely in her wheelhouse with its rock vibe, pop progressions, and mighty synth overload. You may think you hear a bass guitar, but it's actually her left hand on the keyboard. Scored for only 2 Keyboards, 1 Electric Guitar and Percussion (no bass?!), the amount of sound from this four piece ensemble is incredible. Working with these brilliant players has been an absolute joy.

#### You can follow her on instagram @2nd\_keyz

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

"In these difficult times, with a global pandemic, a war abroad, and a divided community here at home, what we need more than ever is to lift our spirits! Musical theatre, perhaps more than any art form, is engineered to help us escape our everyday woes, take us out of the present, and transport us to another world, often with laughter and wonderful music and dancing.Just like Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers and Shirley Temple helped get Americans through the Great Depression, the "musical of the box that is juke" (as Clio calls it in the show) can serve a similar purpose in our present times – provide escape and relief from our daily worries.

XANADU is a vibrant musical, full of campy good fun (and yes, roller skating) and while it certainly does help us escape, it also has a deeper message. The book of the musical, by the Tony Award nominated playwright Douglas Carter Beane (The Nance, The Little Dog Laughed and the screenplay for To Wong Foo...), has a strong central theme: Be true to yourself but don't be afraid to open up and reach out to others for help, for that is how you can become your best self. While the show is definitely irreverent, there is still a human core to Sonny and Clio (disguised throughout most of the show as Kira). They are both looking for artistic inspiration and love in the most heartfelt of ways. That is their true quest - that is their XANADU!

There is also a secondary, but just as important, message in the script – artistic creation is difficult! Just like Sonny, all who create art (or try to) struggle to find the right style, the right color, and the right method. The creative spirit lives in all of us, whether we are making a meal for our family, redesigning an old space, or painting a picture, artistic creation requires inspiration and self-reflection and lots of hard work! It is not easy being an artist, there are many challenges, and not many extrinsic rewards and inspiration can be hard to find. But we need artists, and we should work harder as a community to support them. Without them we are lost as a people. The artists' function in culture and society, particularly in difficult times, is an important one beyond just entertainment – they help us re-invent and rediscover our purpose and ourselves. Just like Clio (disguised as Kira) inspires Sonny to find his true self both as an artist and as a human being.

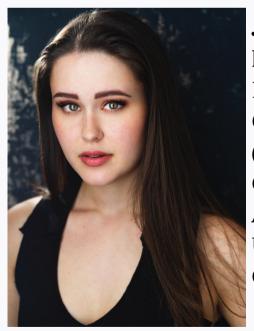
I remember being a child, dancing, singing (and yes, roller skating) down the streets of Rio de Janeiro (where I grew up), to the soundtrack of the film XANADU. It was the early 80s, a new decade full of promise and possibility. The music of that time, from Olivia Newton John to ELO, seemed to point towards optimism, excitement, artistic reinvention, and the hope for a better tomorrow. The music and its message reached across the globe inspiring us all. While the rest of the 80s may not have lived up to the heady promise of those first few years, its music is still a reminder for us to find strength and optimism in creation. Even more so now, as we find ourselves in the first years of a new turbulent decade, perhaps a bit weary, it's a reminder we should remain hopeful for better times.

with optimism to recapture some of the "magic" of the early 80s. I believe it's possible...I hope you do too. As Kira sings in the show:

You have to believe we are Magic Nothing can stand in our way You have to believe we are Magic Don't let your aim ever stray -Stefan Sittig



**Audrey Baker (Caliope)** is thrilled to make her Workhouse debut with the talented cast of Xanadu! You may have seen her recently in LTA's Bright Star (Lucy), St. Mark's Players' The Drowsy Chaperone (Kitty), and LTA's A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Miss Evangeline Barley). A San Francisco native, Audrey performed in regional theater throughout the Bay Area, favorite roles including Kate Monster/Lucy Avenue Q and Muriel in On a Clear Day You Can See Forever.



Jessica Barraclough (Kira) is thrilled to be making her Workhouse Performing Arts debut in Xanadu! Her credits include: DC Area: Sizzlin' Summer Nights Cabaret (Signature Theatre). EDUCATIONAL: Rags (Rebecca Hershkowitz); Runaways (Alex/Dance Captain); The Gondoliers (Gianetta), Merrily We Roll Along (Meg Kincaid). EDUCATION: George Mason University, BFA Musical Theatre; Signature Theatre Overtures (2019). IG: @jess.barraclough



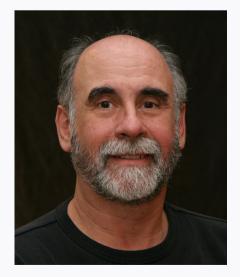
**Chris Chapin (Thalia/Sonny US)** is from Vienna, VA and is making his Workhouse Arts Center debut. He has a BA from Christopher Newport University and soon will earn his teaching certificate for theater from George Mason University. Performing credits include Ferguson Center for the Arts: We Aren't Kids Anymore (Workshop Premiere); Christopher Newport University: The Drowsy Chaperone, Pencil the Date, Oklahoma!, Single Girls Guide, Time Flies & Working (2012 version); Little Theatre of Alexandria: Legally Blonde & West Side Story. Chris wants to thank everyone for their support, especially his family for always believing in him.



**Kyle Donovan (Terpsicore)** graduated from George Mason University with a BA in Music and a Minor in Theater. He has studied various vocal styles such as Classical, Jazz and Musical Theater with professors John Aler, Darden Purcell and Jim Van Slyke. Performance experience includes StageCoach Theater's production of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare as well as Workhouse's production of The Mystery of Edwin Drood as Deputy. He has also performed in George Mason's production of 35mm as Alex and Big River as Tom Sawyer. In the future Kyle plans to continue performing in the DC area, and devoting more time to songwriting and music production.



**"Tara" Taracheia Fleming (Euterpe)** Born and raised in the DMV. Graduate of Fashion Institute of Technology has studied both performance theater and technical theater (costumes). She has designed and costumed several productions in NY as well as been an actress in productions such as For colored girls, When the Rainbow Just isn't Enough (the rewrite working directly with N'Tozake Sange), The Widest Woman Wins, etc. She is also a professional skate instructor for Rollaway Productions.



**Ken Kemp (Danny Maguire) -** is making his Workhouse debut. He can currently be seen in HBO's We Own This City, and some of his favorite theatre credits include John Adams in 1776, Harold Hill in The Music Man, Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady, Sir Evelyn Oakley and Moonface Martin in Anything Goes, the Stage Manager in Our Town, and George in Same Time, Next Year. He has also worked at Ford's Theatre, Olney Theatre Centre, and Annapolis Shakespeare Company. Additional television credits include Discovery Health, Investigation Discovery, and production work with CBS and The Golf Channel.



**Kiana King (Erato/Kira US/Dance Captain)** is thrilled to be making her professional theatre debut in the DMV area with Workhouse Theatre Arts! As a Bay Area, California native who found her love and passion for musicals produced by her high school show choir, she went on to receive her B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from CSU Fullerton in 2019. Her most recent and favorite credits include You're A Good Man Charlie Brown (Lucy), Cry-Baby (Pepper Walker), and In the Heights (Nina).



Philip Krzywicki (Danny/Zeus) is absolutely thrilled to be back at the Workhouse Arts stage following his recent role this season as Rev. Crisparkle in the musical, The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He retired last summer from The United States Air Force Band after serving 26 years as a French hornist. When he wasn't "tooting his own horn," he occasionally acted, sang and danced in productions of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Children of Eden and The Wizard of Oz where he courageously took on the role of the Cowardly Lion. In 2015, he was cast as Manolo Costazuela in Neil Simon's The Odd Couple (Female Version) at The Little Theater of Alexandria. Right after retirement, he went to work in Rooftop Production's Sweeney Todd as a policeman/ensemble. Enormous thanks to the Workhouse Arts Center and to Stefan Sittig for this wonderful opportunity to perform with this amazing cast/crew. He is grateful to them and to his family/friends for their support!



**Pat Mahoney (Sonny)** is a human who wears many hats. As a parent, actor, musician, and personal trainer, he fully commits to everything he does. He has lent his voice to several video games and audiobooks, composing music for both genres. This will be Pat's debut with Workhouse; and after undertaking several dramatic roles including 'Bob Cratchit' in LTA's A *Christmas Carol*, and 'Hal Carter' in *Picnic*, he is thrilled to take on a far more fun and whimsical role. Above all, Pat is grateful to be part of such a talented cast and crew.



**Brandon J Morris (Swing, He/Him)** – Brandon is thrilled to be joining the company of Xanadu! Currently working towards a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from George Mason University. He has recently been seen in such productions as: The Boy Detective Fails, In a Sentimental Mood, and Footloose. Brandon would like to thank Stefan and Workhouse Arts Center for bringing him along for the ride!



Jolene Vettese (Melpomene) has been involved with professional and community theater as a performer, director, and choreographer for 30+ years, ever since her Mom signed her up for a theater class in her hometown in MI. She attended Syracuse University, interning at the Barter Theatre in Abingdon, VA during her summers, attending Syracuse University in London for a semester, and graduating with a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Jolene has performed with Smithsonian's Discovery Theater, NextStop Theatre Company, the Workhouse Arts Center, as well as numerous community theaters in the area. Favorite roles include Amalia in She Loves Me, (The Arlington Players), Diana in Next to Normal and Fiona in Shrek the Musical (Reston Community Players) and Violet in 9 to 5 The Musical (Prince William Little Theater). She would like to thank her amazing family (David, Eli, Joey, and Mom, K.C.) for their never ending love and support of her theater addiction.



Kathleen West (Swing) is a performer and teaching artist from Fredericksburg, VA. Kathleen is returning to the Workhouse stage after her performance of Annie Brooks in Art of Murder and Beatrice in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Kathleen loves to share her passion for the arts offstage in her role as the Director of After School Programming for Acting for Young People, where she also works as a Senior Teaching Artist, Acting Coach, and Vocal Director. Kathleen is a graduate of George Mason University's musical theatre program, where she was seen as Polly Peachum in The Threepenny Opera, #25 in The Wolves, and many more productions. She recently performed in Signature Theatre's Overtures program, and also hosted the world-wide broadcast of Amazon's "Girls Tech Day," promoting women in STEAM. Kathleen would like to extend a special thanks to her parents, Tyler, & Mary for their endless support.

**Kim Booker (Roller-skate Coach)** have been an Actor in the DMV area since the early 2000's. Having since retired I have begun following another passion, Roller Skating! (ranked 1st at my most recent Artistic Roller Skating competition.) It has been an absolute pleasure working on the roller skate choreography with this amazing cast and crew. Kim would like to thank (WAT) and Stefan Sittig for trusting her with this opportunity. She would also like the thank this AMAZING cast for trusting her enough to give it their absolute all! You are all rockstars!



**Marty Bernier (Run Crew, He/Him)** is a Spring 2022 Graduate from George Mason University with a Theater BA with concentrations in Performance and Design and Technical Theater, and a minor in Event Technical Production. Marty is excited to be a part of his first Workhouse Arts Center Production! He was last seen as the director of the Mason Players' production of Eurydice, and the assistant director of Alpha Psi Omega, AZY's 24 Hour Theater Project; Mug. Marty was also last seen as the Props Designer for the Mason Player's Production of Love's Labors and Props Designer for Westfield Summer Stage's Mamma Mia! Marty would like to thank his friends and family for the continuous support, and Workhouse Arts Center for letting him be involved!"



**Jim Hofmann (Percussion)** played his first professional theater gig at age 16 while studying under renowned percussion educator and composer, William J. Schinstine. Most recently, he was the percussionist for The Mystery of Edwin Drood here at Workhouse. Locally, he has played professionally with Creative Cauldron (Caroline or Change, Once on this Island, Always... Patsy Kline), 1st Stage (Fly By Night, Bat Boy, Altar Boyz) and Constellation Theater (Wild Party, Little Shop of Horrors). He also supports local schools, community theater and performer cabarets. In his non-musical work life, he retired from the Naval Research Laboratory in 2017 where he worked as a research engineer and project manager for 33 years.



**Erika Kennedy (Musician)** is excited to be making her debut with the Workhouse Arts Center. A Centrevillebased pianist with an affinity for musical theatre, Erika's past production credits include *Carrie*, *Legally Blonde*, *Into the Woods*, and *Urinetown*. She would like to thank her parents, sister, and partner for their endless support and tolerating her car show tunes.



**Paige Rammelkamp (Musician)** is thrilled to be back at Workhouse after music directing *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* earlier this year! This summer, you can catch her music directing *Cinderella* with Silhouette Stages in Columbia, MD (opening June 3rd), and *Bright Star* at Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre (opening June 30th). While she primarily music directs, she has plenty of favorite pit memories, most notably: *Legally Blonde* at Keegan Theatre, *Matilda* at NextStop Theatre Co, and Heathers at Rockville Musical Theatre.



**Robert Taylor (Musician)** is "a simple man who enjoys complicated music. Recent musical theater credits include *Cinderella*, *Always*, *Shrek*, and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. Trained in guitar and piano from Shenandoah University, Robbie enjoys yelling about Vikings in his acoustic metal trio "Metallifun".

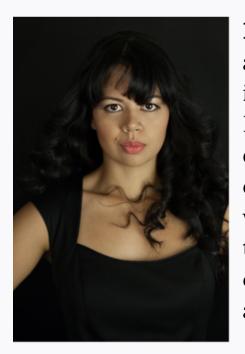


Annette Garrido has been involved in theatrical costume design for over twenty years, although her love of sewing stretches back much further. She has designed costumes for such local community productions as: *Mame*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Into the Woods and The Nutcracker*. In addition to custom designs for competitive dancers and ice skaters, she has recently ventured into designing costumes for the participants of Ren Faires, comic and anime cons.

#### Jeanette Haughton (Costume Design)



**Matt Liptak (Set Design)**XANADU is Liptak's first set design at Workhouse Art Center. He has designed, painted, and dressed sets across the DMV for the last six years at LTA, RCP, and DS. Recent productions include Brights Star, Fences, The Revolutionists and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder. Notable shows include Harvey (WATCH Nominee), Dracula (WATCH Award Winner), Steel Magnolias (WATCH Award Winner), and Last summer at Bluefish Cove (WATCH Nominee). Liptak thanks everyone who worked tirelessly to make this show happen and thanks Kieran for his constant support.



**Rachael Norberg (Special Costume Design)** is an award-winning costume designer, model, and actor in Northern Virginia. She is the creative force behind Lokelicious Cosplay and serves on the board of directors for DC Cosplay Photo Shoots and is currently the Director of Public Affairs. Rachael has worked with the Workhouse Arts Center for over two years in various capacities, including summer camp instructor, scare actor, costume designer, and arts educator.





Larissa Norris has been active in a variety of roles both on and off-stage in the DMV theatre scene for the past 13 years. She has won two WATCH awards for her makeup designs for *The Producers* (LTA) and *Time Stands Still* (RCP). Other makeup nominations for Steel Magnolias (LTA), Dreamgirls (DS), 9 to 5 (TAP), Dracula (LTA) and for her bloody special effects makeup for Bug (DS), and hair nominations for the retro styling for A *Streetcar Named Desire* (LTA). Larissa is a makeup artist in the area, check out Larissa Norris Makeup on Instagram to see her work. Larissa is excited to work with this creative team and with this fabulous cast!

Priscilla Stapula (Costume Design) is thrilled to be back at the Workhouse Arts Center after costuming The Mystery of Edwin Drood and Little Shop of Horrors. Priscilla has costumed over 15 shows for MPAT, worked with costumers at the Roadside Theater in Heidelberg, Germany, and was a dance mom at MSA! Favorite show credits: Mrs. Fezziwig in Christmas Carol (Roadside Theater), MPAT: Honk, Female Version of the Odd Couple, Flight of the Lawn Chair Man and Seussical. Priscilla recently retired after 34 years of service as an Army Civilian in Human Resources Information Systems. She would like to thank her family, Jeanette, Annette, Rachel, Larissa, Kathy, Juli, Kime, Liz, Caitie and Michaela for being the most amazing group of people who jumped in to perform costume magic and provide love and support. Thank you to Stefan, Joey and Lizzy for the opportunity to be creative. Break a leg to the cast and crew!



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workhousearts.org/onstage for more information

#### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!



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The 2021/22 Performing Arts Season is made possible in part through a grant from the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program.

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Joseph Wallen, Director of Performing Arts

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Brian Bachrach, Connor Barto, Martin Bernier, Rob Cork, Michael Doyle, Farrah Elam, Jacob Grice, Lucas Rahman, and Matthew Ratz

#### **Special Thanks**

Christ Church, Dan Stapula, Gabi Stapula, Lizzy Stapula, Noemi Stapula, Kathy Howard, Kime Howard, Juli DeFore, Liz Holliday, Caitie Holliday, Michaela Holliday Bouchard, and our wonderful patrons!