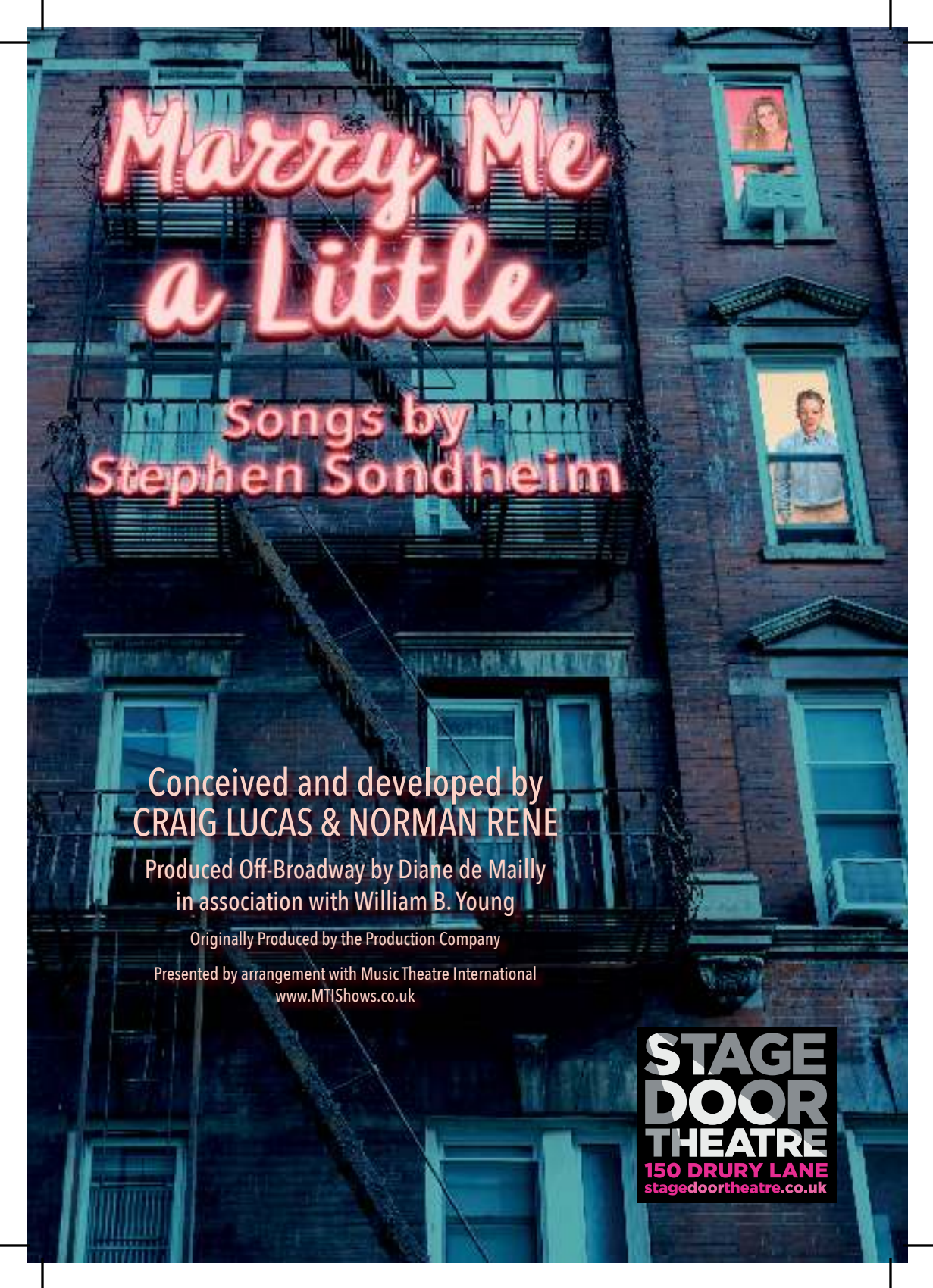




Marry Me a Little

Songs by
Stephen Sondheim

Conceived and developed by
CRAIG LUCAS & NORMAN RENE

Produced Off-Broadway by Diane de Mailly
in association with William B. Young

Originally Produced by the Production Company

Presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
www.MTIShows.co.uk

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A message from the producer

Marry Me a Little

We're thrilled you've come and thank you for supporting live theatre. Without your patronage we could not be here at the Stage Door Theatre. We hope that you'll enjoy watching this show. Please tell your family and friends that we're here and post about us on social media:

Facebook: @lambcoprods

Twitter: @lambco prods

Instagram: lambcoproductions

Lamboo Productions

LAMBCO is an independent live entertainment production company based in London.

LAMBCO has also produced *Do You Have A Secret Crush? (Sleeping with Straight Men)* (Lost Theatre); five Christmas skating events (Torquay); *Bluebirds* (Above The Stag); *Sincerely Yours* and associate producer for *Bewitchment on Black Ice* (Landor), *Boys in the Buff* and *Skin Deep*, both of which received 5 Star Reviews. *Skin Deep* then went on a National Tour and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival gaining another 5 Star Review and a Fringe Award from “Scots Gay”, *The Crumple Zone* and *Margot, Dame, the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* (King’s Head Theatre).

At the Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fest, LAMBCO produced *Boys in the Buff*, *Tickle*, *Soho Boy*, *Bette Midler and Me*, *Twinkle and Love is Blue*. Playbill chose *Boys In The Buff* as their “pick of the fringe” and the Scotsman declared *Tickle* and *Boys In The Buff*, two of the Fringe’s four sexiest musicals.

Further details about LAMBCO are at
www.lambcoproductions.co.uk

Cast

Woman Shelley Rivers
Man Markus Sodergren

Creatives

Director Robert McWhir
Musical Director Aaron Clingham
Designer David Shields
Lighting Richard Lambert
Graphic Design Steve Caplin
Production Photography Peter Davies
Press Kevin Wilson PR
Printing by Solopress
Ticketing by Citizen Ticket

For the Stage Door Theatre

Patron Su Pollard
Board members . . Josephine Buchan (Cultural)
 Prav MJ (Development)
 Andrew Harmer (Legal)

Acknowledgments

Many thanks to Gini Lazzoni and the staff of the Prince of Wales

Introduction

Hello, and welcome to the brand-new Stage Door Theatre in the heart of Covent Garden. You are currently sitting in the first (and only) pop up pub theatre in the West End – not only that, but you can have dinner served right where you are now, prior to the show – how about that! I’m thrilled to join Richard and LAMBCO to launch this new venture – we have worked together many, many times in various different venues, and it’s great to be back in our own space. The Stage Door Theatre provides somewhere to meet for drinks, dinner AND a show – a one-stop shop for a fantastic night out with friends.

I’m also delighted that our first musical production is a classic Sondheim. I have had the pleasure of directing a number of this iconic composer’s shows over the years... This particular one, though, is quite unique, being a collection of ‘trunk songs’ mostly culled from a number of higher profile shows and put together into a song cycle by Craig Lucas and Norman Rene. During rehearsals we had a fabulously creative time giving ‘man’ and ‘woman’ characters, backstories and journeys resulting in the performances you will see in a moment.

Up next from us here at the Stage Door Theatre is a new production of Claudio Macor’s sensational (in every sense of the word!) play *The Tailor-Made Man*, telling the true story of Hollywood heartthrob William “Billy” Haines – a popular silent screen MGM movie star who was fired by Louis B Mayer because he was gay and refused to give up his lifelong partner. As punishment, his films were removed from release and sealed in the MGM vaults never to be seen again. But Billy and Jimmy’s turbulent, passionate love affair was to survive and lasted over 50 years...

Anyway, back to *Marry Me A Little*... I really hope you will enjoy this performance as much as we enjoyed making it for you and that we’ll see you back at the Stage Door again very soon!

Robert McWhir
Artistic Director

Cast



Shelley Rivers

Training: LTA & RNCM

Theatre and TV credits include: Carlotta in *The Phantom Of The Opera* (X- Entricity Productions), *Garbo Frostbite* (LAMBCO Productions), *Adele Die Fledermaus* (Harrogate G&S Festival), *Becca Closure* (United National Theatre), *Judy Garland Starstruck* (Remarkable TV), *Fairy Iolanthe* (Carl Rosa Opera Company), Title role *Nell Gwynn* (Stoke Repertory Theatre), *Titania A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Little Morton Hall), *Coronation Street* (ITV), *Wicked Queen Snow White* (Shone Productions); *The Magical Mermaid Treasure Island* (Shone Productions)

Instagram: @shelleyannerivers



Markus Sodergren

Training: ArtsEd, London

Theatre credits: Preppy Stud, cover Ram, Kurt and Veronica's Dad in *Heathers - the Musical* (UK & Ireland Tour), *Beauty and the Beast* (Garrick Theatre)

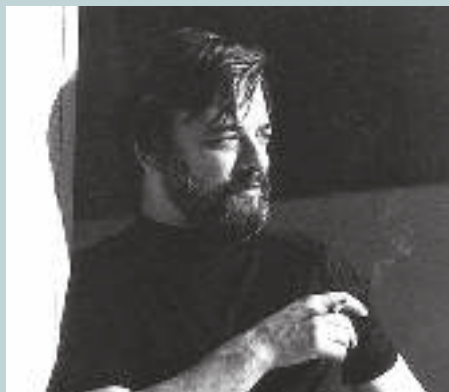
Credits whilst training: Mike in *Disney's Freaky Friday*, Dewey & Dance Captain in *Legally Blonde*.

Concert Credits: *Roles We'll Never Play* (Apollo Theatre, West End), *West Side Story* (BBC Proms), *On The Town* (BBC Proms) and *Let's Face The Music* (Royal Albert Hall).

Markus is honoured to get to perform songs created by Stephen Sondheim, one of history's songwriting titans. He would like to thank his Father for his unconditional love and support. Markus would also like to thank his partner and his agents at Cowley, Knox & Guy for their continued support.

Instagram: markussodergren

Authors



Stephen Sondheim wrote the music and lyrics for *Saturday Night* (1954), *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* (1962), *Anyone Can Whistle* (1964), *Company* (1970), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *The Frogs* (1974), *Pacific Overtures* (1976), *Sweeney Todd* (1979), *Merrily We Roll Along* (1981), *Sunday In The Park With George* (1984), *Into The Woods* (1987), *Assassins* (1991), *Passion* (1994) and *Road Show* (2008) as well as lyrics for *West Side Story* (1957), *Gypsy* (1959) and *Do I Hear A Waltz?* (1965) and additional lyrics for *Candide* (1973).

Anthologies of his work include *Side By Side By Sondheim* (1976), *Marry Me A Little* (1981), *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow* (1983), *Putting It Together* (1993/99) and *Sondheim On Sondheim* (2010). He composed the scores of the films *Stavisky* (1974) and *Reds* (1981) and songs for *Dick Tracy* (1990) and the television production *Evening Primrose* (1966).

His collected lyrics with attendant essays have been published in two volumes: *Finishing the Hat* (2010) and *Look, I Made A Hat* (2011).

In 2010 Broadway's Henry Miller's Theatre was renamed The Stephen Sondheim Theatre in his honour; in 2019, London's Queens Theatre was also renamed the Sondheim.

Craig Lucas

In the last year, he won the Obie for Best American Play for *Small Tragedy* and the New York Film Critics Award for Best Screenplay for *The Secret Lives of Dentists*. His plays include *Reckless*, *Blue Window*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, *God's Heart*, *The Dying Gaul*, *Missing Persons* and *Stranger*.

He wrote the screenplay for *Longtime Companion*, *Prelude to a Kiss* and *Reckless*, and has just completed filming *The Dying Gaul*, which he also directed. In 2001 he received an Obie for his direction of Harry Kondoleon's *Saved or Destroyed*. Lucas wrote the book for the musical *The Light in the Piazza*, music and lyrics by Adam Guettel; the musical play *Three Postcards* with music and lyrics by Craig Carnelia; the opera libretti for *Orpheus in Love* for composer Gerald Busby; and he co-authored *This Thing of Darkness* with playwright David Schulner.

His awards include the Excellence in Literature Award from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the PEN/Laura Pels mid-career achievement award, the Outer Critics, L.A. Drama Critics, Drama Logue and LAAMBDA Literary Awards; he has also received a Tony nomination, fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, the NEA and the PEW Charitable Trust and has been a Pulitzer Finalist.

He is the Associate Artistic Director at Intiman, a member of the Dramatists Guild, the ACLU, PEN, and serves on the board of Planned Parenthood. He divides his time between New York and Seattle.

Norman Rene

Productions: *Prelude To A Kiss* (Original, Play, Romantic Comedy) – Director: May 1, 1990 - May 19, 1991 and *Precious Sons* (Original, Play) Director – (Mar 20, 1986 – May 10, 1986).

Creatives

Robert McWhir Director



As a Director:

2023 | *Dreamcoat Stars* (National Tour), *The Small Hours*, *Boeing Boeing* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Tinderella* (Union Theatre),

Sleeping Beauty (Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple).

2022 | *How The Other Half Loves* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Jack & The Beanstalk* (Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple).

2021 | *Sailor Beware!* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth)

2020 | *Change Of Heart* (St James' Theatre), *Next Thing You Know*, *Frostbite (Who Pinched My Muff!)* (Garden Theatre, Vauxhall).

2019 | *Beauty & The Beast* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *Tickle, the musical* (Kings Head), *Double Death* and *The Kingfisher* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *The King's Speech* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Queerereia TV*, *Goodbye Norma Jean*, [title of show] (Above The Stag).

2018 | *Cinderella* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *The Crumple Zone* (Kings Head), *The Musical of Musicals*, *the Musical* (Above The Stag), *Strictly Murder* (Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *The Dresser* and *Lloyd George Knew My Father* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Mousetrap Projects 21st Birthday Gala* (Prince of Wales Theatre).

2017 | *Beauty & The Beast* (Watersmeet, Rickmansworth), *House Guest* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *He Shoots! He Scores!* (Above The Stag), *The Crumple Zone* (Pleasance), *Jonathan D. Ellis & The 20th Century Foxes* (Brasserie Zedel).

2016 | *Sleeping Beauty* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *An Evening With Webborn & Finn* (St James' Theatre), *The Ladykillers* (Theatre Royal, Windsor & Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth), *Grand*

Central (Charing Cross Theatre), *Get 'Em Off!* the musical and *Torsten, The Beautiful Libertine* (Above The Stag).

2015 | *Dick Whittington* (Ferneham Hall, Fareham), *The Rhythm Of Life* (St James' Theatre), *Personals*, *Romance Romance* and *The Clockmaker's Daughter* (Landor Theatre), *The World According To Nancy Dell'Olio* (Hippodrome Casino), *Rent Boy, the musical* and *The Bus* (Above The Stag).

Before going freelance, Robert was Artistic Director of the Landor Theatre for 16 years where productions were too numerous (and brief) to mention, but notably included *She Loves Me*, *The Man Inside*, *Meet Me In St Louis*, *A Class Act*, *Curtains*, *Ragtime*, *Tomorrow Morning*, *Into The Woods*, *I Love You Because* and *Follies*.

Aaron Clingham Musical Director



Aaron has received ten Off-West End Award Nominations for Best Musical Director and was nominated for a Broadway World Award for *The Apple*

Tree (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre).

Favourite credits as Musical Director

include: *Into the Woods* (The Cockpit); *Betty Blue Eyes* (Union Theatre); *Romance Romance*, *Fanny & Stella*, [title of show] and *Grindr The Opera* (Above The Stag Theatre); *Metropolis*, *The Kissing Dance*, *Wonderful Town* and *A Little Night Music* (Ye Olde Rose and Crown Theatre); *Faking Bad* (Turbine Theatre); *Sleeping Beauty* (Charing Cross Theatre); *My Land's Shore* (Theatr Soar); *It's a Bird... It's A Plane...It's Superman* (Leicester Square Theatre); *The Ripper's Five* (Theatro Technis); *Naked Boys Singing* (King's Head

Theatre and Garden Theatre); *Sondheim by Sondheim* (Roundhouse); *Next Thing You Know* (Garden Theatre); *Dorian: Son Of Love and Death* (The Other Palace); *Soho Boy, Boys In the Buff* and *Tickle* (Drayton Arms Theatre) and *Cinderella* (White Rock Theatre).

Credits as Orchestrator include: *Romance Romance*, *Grindr The Opera*, *Metropolis*, *Into The Woods*, *110 In The Shade* and *My Land's Shore*.

Cabaret credits include: *Mountains – A Musical Journey* (St. James Studio and Jermyn Street Theatre), *An Evening of Sondheim* (Lauderdale House), *Don't Ask the Lady!* and *Dorothy and Friends* (Crazy Coqs) and *Tim McArthur and Friends* (Hippodrome Casino).

Recording credits include: *Grindr The Opera* and *The Pleasure Garden* (Jay Records).
@aaronclingham

David Shields Set and costume designer

David has designed the sets and costumes for plays, musicals and other spectacles at venues of every scale from International arena tours to studio theatres via prominent international and regional producing houses and the West End. Some of his many credits include *Strictly Come Dancing The Professionals* (UK Tour), *Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway on Tour*, (UK Arena tour), *The Last five Years*, Associate designer, *The Other Palace*, (directed by Jason Robert Brown).

National Touring productions of *End of the Rainbow*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Our House. Hair in Concert* (London Palladium), *Pippin* (Charing Cross Theatre), *Heathers The Musical*, (Theatre Royal Haymarket, National tours and The Other Palace), *The Pleasure Garden* (Offie 2021 Award winner, best set design), *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* (Wimbledon Studio Theatre), *But I'm A Cheerleader* (Turbine

Theatre), *Oh, And Another Thing*, an evening with Su Pollard (Tour), *Rose* starring Dame Maureen Lipman (Ambassadors Theatre).

Richard Lambert Lighting Designer



Boys in the Buff (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *Twinkle, Tickle, Boys in the Buff*, *Love is Blue* (Drayton Arms Theatre and Ed Fringe 2023); *Soho Boy* (Drayton

Arms Theatre and Ed Fest 2022); *Bette Midler & Me* (Garden Theatre, Ed Fest 2022, Town and Gown, Drayton Arms Theatre); *Frostbite*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Pippin*, *Fanny & Stella* (Garden Theatre); *Undetectable* (Best lighting design OFFIE Nomination); *The Crumple Zone* (King's Head Theatre); *Skin Deep* (Ed Fest 2018 and UK Tour); *Marry Me A Little*, *Muscles the Musical*, *Alvaro's Balcony*, *Discotivity*, *Stand Tall*, *Vincent River*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Get Aladdin*, *A Class Act*, *Next Thing You Know*, *Nunsense*, *Bakewell Bakeoff*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *The Man Inside*, *Damn Yankees* (OFFIE award nomination), *She Loves Me*, *In the Dead of Night*, *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, *Sincerely Yours*, *Personals*, *Romance Romance*, *Devilish the musical* (Landor Theatre); *Margot*, *Dame*, *the Most Famous Ballerina in the World* and *Boys in the Buff*, both at the King's Head Theatre.

Other credits: Luseil Stadium (FIFA World Cup 2022); Erasmus Bridge (Rotterdam); *Disney on Ice* (7 continents, Tokyo Budokan, New Orleans Super Dome, Toronto Sky Dome, NYC Radio City Music Hall), Royal Wedding Dress Exhibition (Kensington Palace), *#Hashtag Lightie* (Arcola Theatre), *Cirque Enchantment* (UK Tour) and Jazz Dance Company UK Tour (8th year). *Do you Have a Secret Crush (Sleeping with Straight Men)?* (LOST Theatre).

Website: lambcolighting.co.uk





Songs

If you can find me, I'm here *Evening Primrose*

Saturday night *Saturday night*

Can that boy foxtrot *Follies*

Bring on the girls *Follies*

All things bright and beautiful/Bang/All things bright and beautiful part 2 *Follies*

The girls of summer *The girls of summer*

Ah, but underneath *Follies*

Who could be blue?/

Little white house *Follies*

So many people *Saturday night*

Your eyes are blue *A funny thing happened on the way to the forum*

A moment with you *Saturday night*

Happily ever after *Company*

Marry me a little *Company*

Silly people *A little night music*

There won't be trumpets *Anyone can whistle*

It wasn't meant to happen *Follies*

Rainbows *Into the woods*

Take me to the world *Evening Primrose*





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