



Millersville University Theatre *presents*



VANYA

AND

SONIA



AND

MASHA



AND

Spike



BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG

DIRECTED BY Jonathan Strayer

April 3-5 & 10-12 at 7 p.m.

April 6 at 2 p.m.

Rafters Theatre



Millersville University Theatre *presents*

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE

by Christopher Durang

Directed by Jonathan Strayer

Associate Direction by Nathaniel Hawley II

SCENIC DESIGN

Andrue Morgan

STAGE MANAGER

T.J. Faulkner

LIGHTING DESIGN

Adam Boyer

PROPERTIES DESIGN

Kyleigh Black

COSTUME DESIGN

Travis M. Grant

AUDIO DESIGN

Austin Barrick

ASSISTANT AUDIO DESIGN

Jack S. Reilly

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Harry Schueren IV

ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGN

Nicholas Rivera

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Dustin Schneider

Sound design and original music by Mark Bennett

Originally produced on Broadway by:

Joey Parnes, Larry Hirschhorn, Joan Raffae/Jhett Tolentino, Martin Platt & David Elliot, Pat Flicker Addiss, Catherine Adler, John O'Boyle, Joshua Goodman, Jamie deRoy/Richard Winkler, Cricket Hooper, Jiranek/Michael Palitz, Mark S. Golub & David S. Golub, Radio Mouse Entertainment, Shawdowncatcher Entertainment, Mary Cossette/Barbara Manocherian, Megan Savage/Meredith Lynsey Schade, Hugh Hysell/Richard Jordan, Cheryl Wiesenfeld/Ron Simons, S.D. Wagner, John Johnson in association with McCarter Theatre Center and Lincoln Center Theater

Originally commissioned and produced by McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, N.J.

Emily Mann, Artistic Director; Timothy J. Shields, Managing Director;
Mara Isaacs, Producing Director;

and produced by Lincoln Center Theater, New York City
under the direction of André Bishop and Bernard Gersten in 2012.

"Here Comes the Sun"

Written by George Harrison

Published by Harrisongs, Ltd. (ASCAP)

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VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.
(www.dramatists.com)

University Theatre

“It’s as if I took characters and themes from Chekhov and put them in a blender.”

Christopher Durang, *playwright*

A Note from the Director:

Welcome to our production of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike!* Christopher Durang’s hilarious and heartfelt homage to playwright Anton Chekhov is a love letter to theater, family, and the fast-changing world around us. This story resonates with questions of identity – how we define ourselves in relation to our past, our friends and family, and our dreams (or regrets).

Set in a relatively quiet farmhouse in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, this play explores the tension between nostalgia and progress, the contrast between solitude and connection, and the oh-so-relatable absurdity of family dynamics. Drawing inspiration from Chekhovian characters, Durang masterfully blends comedy and drama, creating a cast that is larger than life yet deeply human. Whether it’s Vanya’s lament for a simpler past, Sonia’s longing for recognition, Masha’s desperate grip on youth, or Spike’s desire to just walk around in his underwear, we may find glimpses of ourselves in their stories.

We invite you to laugh, reflect, and maybe even recognize a bit of yourself in these wonderfully eccentric characters. Thank you for joining us and we hope you enjoy the show!

Jonathan Strayer, *Director*

Cast of Characters

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Vanya..... | Charlie Duvall |
| Sonia..... | MJ Music |
| Masha..... | Christianna Harchuska |
| Spike..... | Alexander Coar |
| Nina..... | Julia Arianne Davis |
| Cassandra..... | Moira Shott |

About University Theatre

Millersville University Theatre produces two main stage shows a year which are professionally staffed and directed and open to all MU students to audition and work behind the scenes. University Theatre also provides Communication/Theatre students and all students a place to learn, grow and experience theatre.

MU Land Acknowledgement

We would like to recognize the Native peoples of the lower Susquehanna River basin, those known and those unknown to us, who have stewarded the land, upon which Millersville University sits, for thousands of years.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather, study, and work is the ancestral land of the Conestogas, Susquehannocks, Shawnee, and others. One group, the Shenks Ferry people, had a village adjacent to the campus.

We pay our respects to the traditional occupants and caretakers of this land.

Cast Biographies



Alexander Coar, *Spike*, is thrilled to take on the role of Spike! Alex is a senior on track to graduate with a bachelor's in psychology this May. He made his on stage debut in Citamard's *The Twelve Huntsmen* last semester and has been active in Millersville's improv group, *Improv Molotov* since it was brought back this year. Alex thanks his friends, family, and directors for encouraging him to try his hardest, and especially his partner for all the incredible support over the years.

Julia Arienne Davis, *Nina*, is absolutely delighted to make her University Theater debut. She was Cesario in Citamard's production of *The Twelve Huntsmen*, and a member of last semester's *Improv Molotov* troupe. She'd like to thank her friends and family for their continued encouragement. Cherish you all dearly!



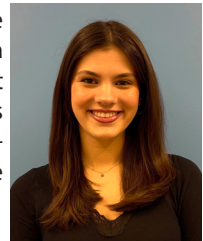
Charlie Duvall, *Vanya*, is very excited to portray Vanya in this show for you. Previously, Charlie has performed in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged, Revised, Again)* both at MU and at KCACTF Region II Conference #57 and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* at MU. He would like to thank his mom, sister, and his entire family for the endless love and support. Lastly, Charlie would like to send a special thanks to Macey, his love, and Louis Duvall, his hero, both of which Charlie dedicates his performances to.

Christianna Harchuska, *Masha*, is excited to take on this role! Last semester, she was an ASM for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. She has also performed as Siobhan in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and Lady Macduff in *Macbeth*, earning an Irene Ryan Scholarship nomination. Christianna was an Irene Ryan Alternate for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised] [again]*, performing it again at the Region 2 KCACTF in Pittsburgh. She thanks her family, friends, boyfriend, and directors for the constant support



MJ Music, *Sonia*, is excited to be performing in her first University Theatre show! Recent credits include *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* – Media Manager, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* – Scenic Painter & Touring Media Manager. She is also the social media manager for the Entertainment Technology and Theatre department.

Moira Shott, *Cassandra*, is a sophomore at Millersville University, and she is thrilled to be making her debut in the University Theatre program. Moira is excited to contribute her energy and creativity to her first production at Millersville. She looks forward to continuing to grow as a performer and is eager to embrace the collaborative spirit of the theater. Moira thanks her family, friends, and the Millersville Theater Community for their support as she embarks on this exciting new chapter.



Production Biographies



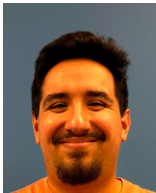
Jonathan Strayer, *Director*, is the Director of Dramatics and an Assistant Professor here at Millersville University. He holds an MFA in Directing, additional degrees in Theatre, Education, and Communications, and has taught, trained, and performed internationally. Jonathan has worked on over 90 professional, regional, and academic productions and is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. The career scope of his work ranges from directing and acting, to collaborative creation and stage combat, to design and technical direction.

Harry Schueren IV, *Production Manager/Technical Director*, is currently in his second year at Millersville University. With a rich background in the performing arts, he has experience as an actor, dancer, singer, and technician. Harry has had the privilege of performing with ensembles such as the New York Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. His stage credits include performances with Julie Andrews, Andrea Bocelli, & Christopher Plummer.



Adam Boyer, *Lighting Designer*, is a Lancaster native who earned his BA in Theatre from Indian University of Pennsylvania and his MFA in Theatre Arts from the University of Iowa. He moved back to Lancaster in 2015, and before joining Millersville University, was the House Lighting Designer & Electrician at the Appell Center for the Performing Arts. He also free-lanced in the area as a Lighting Designer, Production Manager, and Entertainment Technician. Before relocating, Adam travelled extensively as a Head Electrician with large touring theatrical productions in North America and internationally.

Nathaniel James Hawley, *Associate Director*, is a Communications in Theater major at Millersville. He was Assistant Director for UT's production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] [Again]* in which he also performed, at Millersville and at the KCACTF Region 2 Festival in 2025. Notable performances include Macbeth in *Macbeth*, Cedric/Mr. Voldy in *Puffs* and Mysterious Stagehand, in the premier performance of *Her Sister* by Kendra Phillips. Nathaniel thanks his parents, each one of his siblings, Francesca, and Giancarlo, for their undying support.



TJ Faulkner, *Stage Manager*, is a senior Theatre major / Music minor. He has worked on the last 10 MU Theatre shows, his favorites including *Puffs* (Wayne), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Roger), and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (percussion), TJ also drums with multiple Lancaster bands/artists, including The Other Girls, Wobblingong, and Ana Santiago. TJ would like to thank his family and friends for their constant love and support. He would also like to thank Professor Strayer and MU Theatre for five incredible years.

Dustin Schneider, *Assistant Stage Manager*, is thrilled to be ASMing again for University Theatre. Previously, he performed as Christopher in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and as himself in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised] [again]*. You could have also seen Dustin performing with the Lancaster Shakespeare Theatre in *Love Labors Lost* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Dustin wants to thank all of his friends and family who have supported along the way.



Austin Barrick, *Sound Designer*, This is Austin's second time designing a show for University Theatre, after designing *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (revised)* last term. He has been involved in four other productions as a member of the sound team including *Macbeth* and *The Curious Incident...* where he was Assistant Sound Designer. Outside of UT Austin has designed and mixed shows for EPAC and Donegal Junior High. His favorites include *Phantom of the Opera*, *Rock Of Ages*, and *Chicken and Biscuits*. He would like to thank his family for always believing in him and supporting him along his journey.

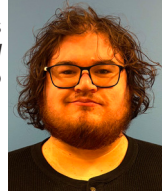
Kyleigh Black, *Properties Designer*, is excited to be entering her final show with University Theatre! Recent credits include *Legally Blonde: The Musical*- Props Designer, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*- Props Designer, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*- Lead Props & Touring Props Manager, *Macbeth*- Assistant Props, and *Carrie: The Musical*- Scenic Painter. She did her internship at Stagemakers Youth Theater. She also wants to thank everyone in the University Theatre department for the last four years of enjoyable shows.



Production Biographies



Rachel McFadden, *Assistant Technical Director*, has been involved in University Theatre since 2021, building from carpenter and technician in *Her Sister*, *Puffs*, and *Macbeth* to lead carpenter and scenic head for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* and finally as the Scenic Designer for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. She worked as Master Carpenter for Utah Festival Opera and Music Theater this past summer. As she goes into her senior year she is proud to take on leadership roles for her final shows on campus.



Jack Reilly, *Assistant Audio Designer*, is excited to join *Vanya and Sonja and Masha and Spike* as Assistant Audio Designer. He has helped Millersville theater as Audio Head for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and as a member of the audio team previously for *Macbeth*. He would like to thank Millersville University Theatre for giving him such a great opportunity.



Nick Rivera, *Assistant Lighting Designer*, was a lighting technician for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* last Spring and for three other UT productions in Rafter Theatre. He is currently interning at 4Wall at Rock Litz and plans to pursue a career in lighting design.



Emma Wesnoski, *Props Head & Co-Scenic Charge*, is a first-year Entertainment Technology major at Millersville University. She previously worked as a stagehand during last semester's production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and contributed as a touring scenic artist for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] [Again]* at the KCACTF Region 2 festival this past January. Emma would like to thank her sister and parents for their unwavering support and encouragement.

Technical Staff

Production

Technical Director.....Harry Schueren IV
 Assistant Technical Director.....Rachel McFadden
 Dramaturg.....Julia Arianne Davis
 SM Mentor.....Alison Peoples

Electrics

Head Electrician.....Tess Kasztejna

Properties

Properties Lead.....Emma Wesnoski

Audio

Audio Head.....Shelby Hedrick
 Audio Consultant.....AJ Robbins

Scenic

Head Carpenter.....Patrick Rock
 Scenic Charge..... Tess Kasztejna & Emma Wesnoski

Technicians

Austin M. Barrick, William T. Bedford, Ayla R. Bressler, Cooper W. Bryant, Benjamin R. Bucher,
 Maurice D. Davis, James A. Donahue, Michael S. Eisenberger, Shelby M. Hedrick,
 William M. Higgins-Benz, Tess Kasztejna, Tessa A. Light, Apollo D. Loose,
 Logan D. Mahler, Rachel L. McFadden, Jacqueline R. Pento, Hannah A. Peterman,
 Jack S. Reilly, Patrick Rock, Kimberly Rosario, Katherine E. Sadowsky,
 Joshua Skolyszewski, Gabriel F. Strauss, Emma C. Wesnoski,
 Gabe Wolford, Joshua C. Zietak, Megan A. Zimmerman

Food, Drink and Smoking are not allowed in the theatre.

As a courtesy to your fellow patrons, please turn off all cellular phones and gaming devices prior to the show.

Entertainment Technology & Theatre Program

Adam Boyer

Program Coordinator

Jonathan Strayer

Director of Dramatics

Harry Schueren IV

Production Manager

ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY & THEATRE PROGRAM

FACULTY

Assistant Professor.....Jonathan Strayer, MFA, MEd
Assistant Professor.....Adam Boyer, MFA
Adjunct Professor.....Harry Schueren IV, MA
Adjunct Professor.....Chenelle Foster, MA

PRODUCTION

Technical Director.....Harry Schueren IV
Assistant Technical Director.....Rachel McFadden
Shop Supervisor.....Olivia Foster
Head Carpenter.....Patrick Rock
Winter Head Electrician.....Austin Barrick
Dutcher Head Electrician.....Tess Kasztejna
Winter Audio Engineer.....Tony Taylor
Dutcher Audio Engineer.....Austin Barrick
Costume Shop Manager.....Priscilla Kaufhold
Properties.....Kyleigh Black, Katherine Sadowsky
Flyman.....Rachel McFadden
Resident Stage Manager.....Rachel Jones
Student Production Coordinators.....Nathaniel Hawley,
Katherine Sadowsky
Winter Center Intern.....Jack Reilly

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Office Manager.....Olivia Foster
Ticketing Services.....M.U. Ticket Office
House Manager.....Rachel McFadden
Housekeeping.....Cheri Underwood
Production Assistants.....Rachel Jones, Nathaniel Hawley,
Nathan Thompson

MARKETING

Social Media Manager.....MJ Music
Season Art Design.....Stacey Andreleczyk
Production Photographer.....Victoria Pappas

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Harry Schueren IV, *Production Manager*

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Dr. Lowery Woodall III, *Department Chair*

Megan Echterling, *Department Secretary*



**The
Kennedy
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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.

Special Thanks:

Dr. Daniel A Wubah
15th President of Millersville University

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for their generous support and assistance with our 2025 KCACTF Performance