FOOTHILL MUSIC THEATRE

PRESENTS -

MODS WOODS

Music and Lyrics by

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Originally Directed on Broadway by JAMES LAPINE

Directed by
MILISSA CAREY

Music Direction by
MICHAEL HORSLEY

Book by

JAMES LAPINE

Orchestrations by

JONATHAN TUNICK

MARCH 2 – 19 Lohman Theatre, Los Altos Hills





- Stephen Sondheim



Into The Woods

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine
Originally Directed on Broadway James Lapine
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Cast

Narrator/Mysterious Man	
Jack	
Milky White	Mateo Urquidez
Baker	James Schott
Baker's Wife	Alicia Teeter
Cinderella's Stepmother	Rachel Michelberg
Florinda	Rebecca Euchler
Lucinda	Julia Wright
Jack's Mother	Kama Belloni
Little Red Ridinghood	Mai Abe
Witch	Caitlin Gjerdrum
Cinderella's Mother	Mrigendra Steiner
Wolf/Cinderella's Prince	Nick Mandracchia
Rapunzel	Jessica Ellithorpe
Rapunzel's Prince	
Steward/Cinderella's Father	Leo Lopez
Granny/Giant	Leigh Trautman
Snow White	
Sleeping Beauty	Kathleen Hornbacker

Understudies

Baker's Wife	Morgan Cross
Witch/Steward	Claire Freeman
Cinderella	Rebecca Euchler
Jack	Mateo Urquidez
Little Red Ridinghood	Julia Wright
Wolf	Arturo Montes
Mysterious Man	
Jack's Mother	Leigh Trautman
Rapunzel, Florinda	Kathleen Hornbacker
Lucinda	Catherine Porter
Cinderella's Stepmother	Mrigendra Steiner
Milky White	Meaghan Anderson

Presented with special arrangement with Music Theatre International, MTI

The Lohman Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 650-949-7360 • www.foothill.edu/theatre • theatreboxoffice@fhda.edu

The performance lasts approximately two hours and forty minutes. There is one intermission.

No Photography or Video of any kind permitted. Masks required inside theatre at all times.

The Cast



Mai Abe



Meaghan Anderson



Kama Belloni



Morgan Cross



Jessica Ellithorpe



Rebecca Euchler



Claire Freeman



Caitlin Gjerdrum



Michael Paul Hirsch Kathleen Hornbacker





Ryan Liu



Leo Lopez



Nick Mandracchia



Rachel Michelberg



Sam Mills



Arturo Montes



Catherine Porter





Mrigendra Steiner



Alicia Teeter



Leigh Trautman



Mateo Urquidez



Julia Wright

Biographies

Mai Abe, she/her (Little Red) is full of gratitude to be performing in her first Foothill Music Theatre production. A relative newcomer to the theatre world, recent credits include Bird/Lizard in A Year with Frog and Toad at Bay Area Children's Theatre and Peggy Maruyama/Kei Kimura (u/s) in Allegiance at Palo Alto Players. During the day she is a board-certified music therapist and founder of Creative Vibes Music Therapy. Up next Mai will be performing as Natalie in Next to Normal at Sunnyvale Community Players. Love and gratitude to my sweet babe. @maiabemtbc

Meaghan Anderson (Assistant Director/ Milky White u/s) is excited to be back working on another FMT show. She last was (not) seen working as assistant director on Violet with FMT over the summer, and last seen onstage in The Mystery of Edwin Drood with FMT last year. Meaghan graduated this past June from Foothill College with a degree in both Theatre Arts and Communications. She is also thrilled to mention that she got her dream job a few months after graduating and is now the Education Director at The Pear Theatre in Mountain View. She pretty much eats, sleeps, and breathes theatre now, and she loves every moment of it. When she's not doing something theatre related, Meaghan is most likely at a hockey game or sleeping! She would like to thank her mom and dad for always supporting her

Kama Belloni (Jack's Mother) is back at Foothill after loving her time with fellow Into The Woods castmates in FTM's The Sound of Music as a nun and (very affectionate!) Valkyrie-donning Salzburg festival contestant. Having played Gooch in Mame (SBMT), Kama adds Jack's Mother to her growing list of quirky female roles. Other special stage time includes The Bridges of Madison County (SBMT) and the all-female production of 1776 at Tabard. A former elementary music and drama teacher of 15 years, Kama has also vocal directed at local high school theatre programs and now works part-time as SBMT's Development & Patron Manager. For you, mom. #459loveyoubunches

Morgan Collazo Cross (Baker's Wife U/S) – Morgan is delighted to be a part of her first production with Foothill Music Theatre, backing a bucket list role in her personal favorite Sondheim show. Mentionable roles and shows include Rona Lisa Peretti in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee with Pacifica Spindrift Players, The Wardrobe in Beauty & the Beast with Pacific Coast Rep, The Witch in Into the Woods with San Mateo Theater, RENT with Pacific Coast Rep, The Secret

Garden with Ray of Light Theatre, as well as West Coast Regional Premieres of Parade and The Light in the Piazza with Palo Alto Players. She is thankful for another wonderful opportunity to share her love of theater with others, and is especially grateful to her husband, Mike, and daughter, Charlotte, for supporting her craft.

Jessica Ellithorpe (Rapunzel) is excited to return to FMT in one of her all time favorite shows in the princess role of princess roles! You may remember her from The Mystery of Edwin Drood, or you may not... she was unfortunately unable to participate in the post pandemic shutdown revival, but she thoroughly enjoyed cheering on her friends and former cast mates from the audience. Some past favorite roles include Hope in Urinetown and Sally in Cabaret (SCP), Nikki in Curtains (SBMT), Alice in The Addams Family (Cabrillo Stage), Silly Girl 1 in Beauty and the Beast (CMTSJ), Doralee in 9 to 5 and Sugar in Sugar (WVLO), and Nina in A Day in Hollywood/ A Night in the Ukraine (PAP). Many thanks to her family and friends for all their love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show and live happily ever after

Rebecca Euchler (Florinda, Cinderella u/s) is delighted to join the FMT family for this production of *Into the Woods*. She has been acting since 2006, when she was thrown headlong into musical theater and never looked back. She studied theater at Sacramento State, the British-American Drama Academy, and worked as an artistic apprentice at TheatreWorks. Some of her credits include Rose Lennox in *The Secret Garden* at Los Altos Stage Company, Little Sally in *Urinetown* at Sunnyvale Community Players, Florence in *Bright Star* at Palo Alto Players, Chick Boyle in *Crimes of the Heart* at Chanticleers Theater, and Rosie in *Cabaret* at Sunnyvale Community Players. Love to Sheila, her family, Chris, and the dogs.

Claire Freeman (Witch, Steward u/s) is thrilled to be back at FMT after appearing in last summer's production of Violet. Recently, she performed Sob Sister in FTC's Radium Girls. Favorite prior shows include playing the Beggar Woman in Sweeney Todd, Elizabeth in Young Frankenstein, as well as Spring Awakening, Beauty and the Beast, Thoroughly Modern Millie, and Bring It On. She would like to thank everyone for their hard work in creating a beautiful show in a pandemic!

Caitlin Gjerdrum (she/her) (The Witch) is elated to be back at FMT after last summer's

production of *Violet*. Other recent regional credits include Logan in *The Thanksgiving Play* at City Lights, Betsy/Lindsey in *Clybourne Park* at Hillbarn, Feste in Palo Alto Players' *Twelfth Night*, and a puppeteer in *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* at the Palo Alto Children's Theatre. She feels so fortunate to get to wake up every morning and do what she loves with these amazing people and this beautiful community.

Michael Paul Hirsch (he/him) (Narrator/ Mysterious Man) has performed at several Bay Area theaters, some recents include SBMT's A Gentleman's Guide To Love And Murder (The D'Ysquith Family), WVLO's The Will Rogers Follies (Will Rogers) and SCP's Big Fish (Edward Bloom). He has worked as a product manager for several internet companies, is a husband, father, kendo black belt shodan, an avid board gamer and board chair for South Bay Musical Theatre. Follow me at michaelpaulhirsch.com.

Kathleen Hornbacker (Sleeping Beauty, Stepsister and Rapunzel u/s) is ecstatic to be in her second show at FoothillMusic Theatre! She has recently been in Something Rotten (Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre), Sister Act (Stage 1 Theatre), Urinetown (Sunnyvale Community Players), The Sound of Music (Foothill Music Theatre), and Beauty and the Beast (Davis Musical Theatre Company). She would like to thank her mom, dad, and sister for their love and support.

Ryan Liu (Jack) is excited to be back at FMT in the role of Jack. His last FMT show was **You're a Good Man Charlie Brown** as the Charlie Brown understudy. He most recently performed as Man 2 in **Songs for a New World** and Freddy the delivery boy in **Working**, both at Sunnyvale Community Players. During the day, Ryan works as a software engineer at a startup in San Francisco. Outside of work and theater, Ryan enjoys playing the piano and solving puzzles.

Leo Lopez (The Steward, Mysterious Man u/s) is excited to return to FMT after playing Neville Landless in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Recent productions include Kinky Boots with RCCT and Big Fish at SCP after an 8 year hiatus from theatre. Previous roles in Miami and NYC include Max in Lend Me A Tenor, John Smith in Run for Your Wife, Benny Southstreet in Guys & Dolls, Marcellus in Music Man, George in Drowsy Chaperone, Christopher Belling in Curtains, Joe Cable in South Pacific, and Curly in Oklahoma. When not performing or taking hip hop dance classes, Leo is a pediatric cardiologist and serves as the Medical Director of Echocardiography at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford.

Nick Mandracchia (Cinderella's Prince/ The Wolf) is returning to Foothill Music Theatre for his 4th production which include playing Cheech in Bullets Over Broadway. Little Shop of horrors, and She Loves Me and played Regional credits include Meet John Doe at San Jose Stage, Meadows in Loot at Aurora Theatre, as himself in The Complete Works of William **Shakespeare Abridged** at Plethos Productions / 6th Street Playhouse, The Beard of Avon at Santa Cruz Shakespeare, The Three Musketeers and Pericles at Marin Shakespeare Company. Cabaret, The Merchant of Venice, Coney Island Christmas, Amadeus, The Elephant Man, and Frankenstein at City Lights Theatre Company, Insignificance at the Dragon Theatre, A Civil War Christmas at Town Hall Theatre Company, and The Little Mermaid at Palo Alto Players. http://www.nickmandracchia.com

Rachel Michelberg (Stepmother) - is excited to be back at FMT where she played Marian in The Music Man, Anna in The King and I and most recently Mother Abbess in The **Sound of Music**. She has performed leading roles with Palo Alto Players, Opera San Jose, West Bay Opera, TheatreWorks, and the SF Pocket Opera. Favorites include the title role in Carmen, Rosina in The Barber of Seville, Eliza in My Fair Lady, and Mrs. Van Daan in The Diary of Anne Frank. Ms. Michelberg maintains a private voice and piano studio and runs a chamber music concert series, Music in the Hills. Her memoir Crash: How I Became a Reluctant Caregiver was published in 2021 by She Writes Press. https:// rachelmichelbergauthor.com

Sam Mills (Cinderella) is honored to be a part of her first FMT production working alongside a hardworking cast and crew. Recent regional credits include Little Shop of Horrors (Swing: performed Crystal) with TheatreWorks Silicon Valley and West Side Story (Teresita/ Anita cover) with Opera San Jose. Previous roles include Belle in Beauty and The Beast (Palo Alto Players), Maria in West Side Story, and Ti Moune in Once On This Island (Sunnyvale Players). Sam is currently pursuing two Associate Degrees in Communication Studies and Theatre Arts. She would like to thank her friends, family, and most importantly, God for their overwhelming support and love.

Arturo Montes (Rapunzel's Prince, Wolf U/S) is excited to make his Foothill Musical Theater debut. A San Jose native, he is currently an actor in training at San Jose State university, pursuing a B.A. in Theater Arts. Performances of his include Fun Home at City Lights Theater, Beauty and the Beast at Palo Alto Players and Alone Together at

San Jose State University. A proud first-generation university student, he is grateful to be given the opportunity to pursue his dreams and take advantage of the opportunities in the Bay Area theater scene! @Arturomontesofficial

Catherine Porter (Snow White, Stepsisters u/s) is delighted to be making her Foothill Music Theatre debut. Catherine's past credits include Nicola in *Kinky Boots* (Redwood City Community Theatre, Ray of Light Theatre u/s) and various ensemble roles in *Urinetown* (Sunnyvale Community Players). She has also performed as a vocalist in a series of Pear Pressure Cabarets at the Pear Theatre. By day, Catherine works as an Electrical Engineer at Intuitive (maker of the da Vinci surgical system).

James Schott (The Baker) returns to FMT, after appearing in FMT's Violet as the Preacher, et al. No stranger to the stage, James has had the privilege of performing with companies all over the Bay Area; Bay Area Musicals, Alameda Civic Light Opera, Sunnyvale Community Theater, Broadway by the Bay, 42nd Street Moon, & Los Altos Stage Company (to name a few). Some of James' favorite shows/roles have included: Guys and Dolls (Nathan Detroit), The Full Monty (Jerry Lukowski)- twice!), Jekyll & Hyde (Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde), She Loves Me (George Nowack) and now Into the Woods (The Baker)! When James is not doing theater, he enjoys a plethora of boardgames, the occasional Dungeons & Dragons, his wife, Carly, and their puppy, Wally who is a very good boi. Enjoy the show. More info & Additional Credits @www.jamesschott.com

Mrigendra Steiner (Cinderella's Mother, u/s Stepmother) is thrilled to return to FMT where she was last seen in Sound of Music (Nun), She Loves Me (Ensemble), Merrily We Roll Along (Ensemble), and Allegro (Grandma Taylor). Ms. Steiner has numerous local credits to her name and most recently appeared in 1776 (Joseph Hewes) with TTC, Secret Garden (Ayah/Mrs. Winthrop) with TW, Carousel (Nettie Fowler) with LT, and Ain't Misbehavin' (Armelia) with SBMT. Ms. Steiner lived and performed as a soloist in Austria for ten years. A highlight was her one-woman show of Broadway hits, The Sound of Musicals.

Alicia Teeter (Baker's Wife) is pleased to return to Foothill Music Theater after last performing in the Lohman as Georgia Hendricks in Curtains. Recent local performances include The Will Rogers Follies (Betty Blake) at WVLO, My Fair Lady (Eliza) at Woodside Community Theater, The Last 5 Years (Cathy) at Limelight Actor's Theater, The Bridges of Madison County (Francesa) at SBMT, and The Music Man (Marian Paroo) at Lyric

Theater. Other favorite roles include A Little Night Music (Countess Charlotte) and Chicago (Roxie Hart) at Hillbarn Theatre; The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Olive), Pippin (Catherine,) and Urinetown (Hope) at Foothill Music Theater; and Parade (Lucille Frank) at Palo Alto Players. Alicia has performed as a soloist for the Las Vegas Master Singers and the Las Vegas Philharmonic. She is a licensed Speech Language Pathologist, and the mother of three lively and marvelous boys.

Leigh Trautman (Granny, Giant, Jack's mother u/s) is excited to be returning to FMT after last appearing as a nun in their production of *The Sound of Music*. She was last on stage in *WORKING* with SCP. Other past productions include *Mamma Mia!* (ensemble) with WVLO, *Sister Act* (Sister Mary Irene) with WVLO, *La Cage Aux Folles* (pit singer) with SCP, and *Showtune* (cast) with he Presentation Players. She sings with one of the area worship bands and loves to be outdoors from the coast to the mountains.

Mateo Urquidez (Milky White, Jack u/s) is ecstatic to be performing in his first Foothill Music Theatre production. Recently, he was seen in Aristophanes' *The Birds*, portraying a singer/songwriter. Mateo has been in musical theater for a good chunk of his life. When not performing on stage, you can find him on campus, or hit up your local In-N-Out for a mean double-double! Much love to my family and friends! @mateourquidez

Julia Wright, she/her (Lucinda, Little Red u/s) is excited to be making her Foothill Music Theatre debut in this Sondheim masterpiece! She was most recently seen as Betsy Tanaka in Allegiance (Palo Alto Players), as Wednesday in The Addams Family (WVLO Musical Theatre) and as Piggie in Elephant & Piggie's 'We're in a Play!' (Plethos Productions). When not doing theatre, Julia can be found traveling around Alameda County in her day job as a bookmobile librarian. Much love to Gabe for his endless support. She hopes you enjoy your moment in the woods! @little.hapa.librarian

Milissa Carey (Director) joined the Foothill faculty in 2003 and teaches in both the Theatre and Music Departments. Directing this production of the Sondheim classic Into The Woods is one of many shows she has directed for Foothill Music Theatre. A few of those productions include the new adaptation of Cinderella, Violet, Sunday In The Park With George, Shrek!, Spring Awakening, Little Shop of Horrors, South Pacific, Sunday in the Park with George, Side Show, All Shook Up, The Sound of Music, Working, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, She Loves Me, 9 to 5 The Musical, and The Sound of Music, Bullets Over Broadway The Musical and

the intrepid production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Carey has directed projects at RADA (The Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London), the American Conservatory Theater M.F.A. Program, and many Bay Area companies. An AEA actor, she has performed principal roles with many Bay Area companies including TheatreWorks, Center Repertory Theatre of Walnut Creek, San Jose Repertory Theatre, American Musical Theatre of San Jose, CentralWorks, and 42nd Street Moon. She was in the cast of the 25th Anniversary Broadway National Tour of *Evita* under the direction of Hal Prince.

Michael Horsley (Musical Director) is pleased to return to Foothill Music Theatre where he music directed The Mystery Of Edwin Drood. He is music supervisor for the St Louis Muny, America's largest outdoor theatre and on staff as music director for the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera/Music Theatre department. Broadway shows, Chicago, Seussical. His national tours include White Christmas, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Chicago with Chita Rivera and Ben Vereen, 42nd Street, Seven Brides For Seven

Brothers, and Cinderella. Solo concerts for Lee Roy Reams, Judy Kaye, Luci Arnaz, Shirley Jones, Karen Mason, and Tovah Feldshuh. Vocal direction: Christmas Concert Series for the Detroit Symphony, National Symphony, and Birmingham Symphony Orchestras. Select Regional: Roman Holiday (Guthrie Theatre), White Christmas (Boston's Wang Theatre, Detroit's Fox Theatre and Toronto's Sony Center), Fiddler on the Roof (American Musical Theatre of San Jose), A Chorus Line (Pioneer Theatre) and The Full Monty (North Carolina Theatre).

Kayvon Kordestani (Choreographer) returns to FMT after choreographing the pre-pandemic production of *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood*. She is tickled to be working on this show with so many of her theater friends and to be working one again with the fabulous Milissa Carey. When not working on or performing in shows, Kayvon can be found at Disneyland, Nordstrom, or hosting her Crumbl Cookie tasting group, The Crumbl Cookie Connoisseurs. Next she will be playing "Hold Me, Touch Me" in Hillbarn's production of *The Producers*.

Donors

\$1,000 +

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Nina Perry

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> Rita Lucas Sheila Mohan

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Milissa Carey
Emily Rose Levine
Marilyn Mangelsdorf
Richard Morasci
Mike and Miriam Morgan
Thomas Riordan
Roberta Saxon
Robert Showen
Mrigendra Steiner

Graceann Stewart

Hung Wei

Special Thanks to the Foothill Commission for their incredible fundraising efforts over the years.

Foothill Commission: Gerri Acers, Kathy Adams, Ike'Adeyemi, Elaine Andersen (Co-Chair), Diane Doolittle, Jan Fenwick, Asha Guha, Janet Harding, Ray Klinke (Co-Chair), Penelope Midlock, Eliane Neukermans, Ann Rando, Carla Stevenson

On March 12, 2023, the Foothill Commission is hosting another exclusive Winter Musical event to bring in additional funds to the Theatre.

We are incredibly grateful to the community support!

Production Staff Director......Milissa Carey

Music Director

Michael Horsley

Music Director	Michael Horsley
Scenic Designer	Yusuke Soi
Costume Designer	
Lighting Designer	Pamila Grey
Sound Designer	Andy Heller
Choreographer	
New Orchestrations	Brian Allan Hobbs
Milky White Design	
& Construction	Yusuke Soi
Production Manager	Leigh Henderson
Stage Manager	Quentin Tepliuk
Assistant Stage Managers	Adam Hogsett
	Laura Merrill
	Aidan Shahin
Assistant Director	Meaghan Anderson
Rehearsal Pianists	
	Dara Phung
Lighting Board Op	Osmanthus Lynch
Follow Spot Ops	
	Arthur Garcia
Paint Charge	Alexandra Bloom
Wardrobe Crew	
Carpenters, Electricians,	
Painters	Fnu Baigali
	Bees Baldwin
	Brayan Becerra
	Alexandra Bloom
	Arthur Garcia
	Adam Hogsett
Mai	ria Jose Alvarez Iriarte
	Amber Liu
	Osmanthus Lynch
	Laura Merrill
	Ashley Mosher
	Olivia Pliam
	Aidan Shahin
	Mateo Urquidez
	Alvina Xu
Wardrobe Supervisor	
Production Assistant	Sydney Harmon
Graphic Designer	
Social Media & Publicity	
Social Media & Lusheny	Whisty Web wen
Special ThanksThe	Foothill Commission
Special ThanksThe	Sherherazade Arasnia
	Ron Herman
	Christy Moore
	Tom Gough
	Lori Scheper-Kesel
	Alex Deveaux
	Frank Niccoli
	Bruce McLeod
	Custodial Services
C11mmv	
Sunnyva	le Community Players
	Opera San José

Mission Statement

Since its founding in 1980, Foothill Music Theatre (FMT) has earned its reputation for exceptional quality productions. From classic to contemporary musicals, FMT offers fully-produced shows with live orchestra each winter and summer in the Lohman and Smithwick theaters, which have been recognized by numerous awards from the San Francisco Bay Area, and others. FMT auditions are open to the public as well as students. Its reputation draws superb talent from around the Bay, allowing students to work in collaboration with highly experienced performing arts professionals.

Land Acknowledgment

Foothill College recognizes that it is located on the ethnohistoric territory of the ancestral and traditional land of the Puichon Thámien Ohlonespeaking People, and the successors of the historic sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County, presently identified as the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area. This land was and continues to be of great importance to the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe and other familial descendants of the Verona Band. We recognize that every member of the greater Foothill College/ Los Altos Hills community has, and continues to benefit from, the use and occupation of this land, since the institution's founding in 1957. Consistent with our values of community, inclusion, and diversity, we have a responsibility to acknowledge and make known through various enterprises Foothill College's relationship to Native peoples. As members of the Foothill College/Los Altos Hills community, it is vitally important that we not only recognize the history of the land on which we live, work, and learn, but also, we recognize that the previously federally recognized Muwekma Ohlone Tribal People are alive and flourishing members of the Foothill College/Los Altos Hills and broader Bay Area communities today. Aho!



Infinite Black Suitcouse by EM Lewis

directed by Sinjin Jones

MAY 26-JUNE 11