

SPRING AWAKENING



MUSIC BY DUNCAN SHEIK

BOOK & LYRICS BY STEVEN SATER

BASED ON THE PLAY BY FRANK WEDEKIND

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2021

Show: 7:30pm • Doors: 7:15pm

Canisius College: Marie Maday Theatre

BellissimaProductions.com • bellissimaproductions1@gmail.com • 716-218-8530

Bellissima
PRODUCTIONS

Content Warning:

Simulated/Inferred Sexual Acts,
Verbal/Sexual/Physical Parental
Abuse, Physical Abuse/Assault, Rape,
Teen Pregnancy, Abortion, Death,
Suicide, Weapons, Strong Language

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SPRING AWAKENING



November 18-20, 2021

Directed by Nicolette Navarro

Produced by Bellissima Productions

Spring Awakening is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

ABOUT THE SHOW

It is Germany, 1891, a world where the grown-ups hold all the cards. The beautiful young Wendla explores the mysteries of her body and wonders aloud where babies come from... until Mama tells her to shut it and put on a proper dress. Elsewhere, the brilliant and fearless young Melchior interrupts a mind-numbing Latin drill to defend his buddy, Moritz – a boy so traumatized by puberty that he can't concentrate on anything. One afternoon, in a private place in the woods, Melchior and Wendla meet by accident and soon find within themselves a desire, unlike anything they've ever felt.

Join this group of late nineteenth-century German students on their passage as they navigate teenage self-discovery and coming of age anxiety in a powerful celebration of youth and rebellion in the daring, remarkable **Spring Awakening**.



Produced on Broadway by, IRA PITTELMAN, TOM HULCE, JEFFREY RICHARDS, JERRY FRANKEL, ATLANTIC THEATER COMPANY, Jeffrey Sine, Freddy DeMann, Max Cooper, Mort Swinsky/Cindy and Jay Gutterman/Joe McGinnis/Judith Ann Abrams, ZenDog Productions/CarJac Productions, Aron Bergson Productions/Jennifer Manocherian/Ted Snowdon, Harold Thau/Terry E. Schnuck/Cold Spring Productions, Amanda Dubois/Elizabeth Eynon Wetherell, Jennifer Maloney/Tamara Tunic/Joe Cilibrasi.

The world premiere of "SPRING AWAKENING" was produced by the Atlantic Theater Company by special arrangement with Tom Hulce & Ira Pittelman.

CAST

Melchior.....	Jackson DiGiacomo
Wendla.....	Emily DiMartino
Moritz.....	Aaron Gabriel Saldana
Ilse.....	Timiyah Love
Hanschen.....	Jacob Ducoli
Ernst.....	Michael Wells
Martha.....	Alex Montesano
Otto.....	Jules Lee
Georg.....	Korey Martineau
Thea.....	Claire Bingaman
Anna.....	Callie Keavey
Adult Woman.....	Danielle Glynn
Adult Man.....	Nathanial Higgins



PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....	Nicolette Navarro
Assistant Director.....	Devon Bradley
Orchestrations.....	Duncan Sheik
Vocal Arrangements.....	AnnMarie Milazzo
String Orchestrations.....	Simon Hale
Music Directors.....	Nicolette Navarro, Danielle Glynn Nathanial Higgins, Tyler Madell, Emily DiMartino
Intimacy Director.....	Nicolette Navarro
Choreographer.....	Claire Bingaman
Fight Choreographer.....	Callie Keavey
Sound Designer.....	Callie Keavey
Sound Operation.....	Tyler Rahner
Light Designer.....	Katie Gaisser
Lighting Assistants.....	Jared Westhoven Callie Keavey
Light Operation.....	Kira-Jade Lewis
Costume Designer.....	Claire Bingaman Callie Keavey
Sets and Props.....	Callie Keavey
Photography.....	Callie Keavey
Posters and Program.....	Emily DiMartino



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

Mama Who Bore Me

Mama Who Bore Me (Reprise)

All That's Known

The Bitch of Living

My Junk

Touch Me

The Word of Your Body

The Dark I Know Well

The Word of Your Body (Reprise 1)

And Then There Were None

The Mirror-Blue Night

I Believe

Act 2

The Guilty Ones

Don't Do Sadness

Blue Wind

Don't Do Sadness / Blue Wind

Left Behind

Totally Fucked

The Word of Your Body (Reprise 2)

Whispering

Those You've Known

The Song of Purple Summer



CAST BIOS

Claire Bingaman (Thea) is honored to return with Bellissima but this time on stage and not screen! She was previously seen in Bellissima's Love/Sick. Her credits include Significant Other, Cul de Sac, Black Comedy, and The Wedding Singer with Canisius College Little Theatre. Her favorite part of working on this show is dancing regularly, laughing with friends, and wondering why Thea is such an airhead. Claire is a Cat Lounge Manager at the Purrfect Cafe and Gallery and literally loves it so come visit. She would like to thank Nicolette for being the best director as always, Korey for being her line to her kite, and her family for supporting her endlessly.

Jackson DiGiacomo (Melchior) was last seen with Bellissima in 35 MM: A Musical Exhibition. His previous credits include Hair (Claude) with Aurora Players, The Outsiders (Bob) with TOY, Mousetrap (Giles Ralston) at the Lancaster Opera House, and Footloose (Chuck Cranston) at the Lockport Palace Theatre. Jackson is a 2018 Canisius College Broadcast Journalism graduate. Jackson loves that he was able to revisit this show and put it on stage, where it's meant to be. He would like to thank his friends and family for their constant support and thanks to the audience for coming to see this show!

Emily DiMartino (Wendla) was previously seen with Bellissima Productions as Wendla in Spring Awakening and 35mm: A Musical Exhibition. She has also worked with Rocking Horse, Aurora Players, Buffalo Opera Unlimited, and Nickel City Opera. By day, Emily is an elementary education teacher and a staff singer at Calvary Episcopal Church. Her favorite part of working on this show is collaborating with her Bellissima besties. Emily would like to shout out her boys, Dominic, the fiancé, Charlie, the hedgehog, and Remy, the cat, for supporting her theatrical endeavors.

Jacob Ducoli (Hanschen) has recently been seen with Bellissima Productions as Greg in Cruel Intentions: the 90s Musical. Gerald in Meteor Shower and as multiple characters in Tick, Tick...BOOM! He loves being able to perform "The Bitch of Living" choreography again. He is currently a Contract Coordinator for a software company. Jacob would like to thank everyone for the continuous support of Bellissima, and Emily for being so beautiful.

Danielle Glynn (Adult Woman) is making her Bellissima Productions debut! Her previous credits include Bright Star (Fiddler Player) with Aurora Players, Drowsy Chaperone (Janet van de Graaf) with Lake Plains Players, Blithe Spirit (Edith) with the Lockport Palace Theatre, 25th Annual Putnam County

Spelling Bee (Marcy Park) with the Lake Plains Players. She has loved working with new people in a new space! Danielle is an Assistant Medical Librarian and Archivist at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. She would like to thank Eric for always supporting her in her theatrical endeavours, her teenage stepkids for unknowingly helping her prepare for this role, and all the Bellissima folks for being so inviting, and special thanks to Nicolette for inviting her to be a part of this production.

Nathanial Higgins (Adult Man) is excited to make his Bellissima Productions debut with this great show. He has been seen performing for venues such as Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Desiderio Dinner Theatre, Lancaster Opera House, and Shakesperience Productions, Inc. Upcoming productions include Puffs (Narrator) at O'Connell & Co. and A Midsummer Night's Dream (Quince) at Shakespeare in Delaware Park. His previous tours include Julius Caesar, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Jungle Book and on TV with Mansion of Mystery.

Callie Keavey (Anna) is excited to be making her live Bellissima debut! She was previously seen with Bellissima as Sarah & Liz in Love/Sick, and in last year's production of Spring Awakening, and later this season as Judy in Small Mouth Sounds. Her favorite part of working on this show is reimagining the production for the stage, instead of the screen. Callie is a graduate student in education and a substitute teacher. She would like to thank the cast and crew for working tirelessly to remount this production and her new friends at CHP for reminding her how fun theatre can be.

Jules Lee (Otto) is making her Bellissima Productions and musical debut! She was most recently seen in Little Theatre's production of Clue! as Mrs. White. Jules is a senior at Canisius College with a major in Biology and minors in Music and Philosophy. She would like to thank her friends at Canisius and her family for their support of her musical endeavors!

Timiyah Love (Ilse) is making her Bellissima debut! Her previous credits include Sister Act at the Lancaster Opera House, and Pipeline and Everybody at UB. Timiyah is currently working on her MA in theatre and performance at University at Buffalo. She has adored after over a year of not being able to step into an actual theatre and perform with people getting to sing with this amazing cast and the opportunity to have her teenage angsty dreams fully realized each night. Timiyah would like to thank her wonderful family for their endless love and support. She would also like to thank her amazing boyfriend for always pushing her to be her very best, and her girls who are always there to give advice and support to her during every win and loss.

Korey J. Martineau (Georg) is making his Bellissima debut! His previous credits include Significant Other (Jordan) with Canisius College and Little Shop of Horrors. Korey works at Just For Kids. His favorite part of working on this production has been showing off to the cast and making friends! Korey would like to thank his mom and sister for introducing him to Spring Awakening.

Alex Montesano (Martha) is very excited to be back on the Bellissima stage! She was most recently seen in their production of Cruel Intentions as Annette Hargrove. Recently, she appeared in the Cabaret in the Cloud. Some of her favorite credits include 42nd Street (Anytime Annie) with NRTC, Sweet Charity (Charity Hope Valentine), and Cabaret! (Sally Bowles). When she is not onstage, she loves teaching high school physics. She would like to thank Nicolette for this amazing opportunity and her friends and family for their endless support.

Aaron Gabriel Saldana (Moritz) has recently been seen with Bellissima Productions in Love/Sick and Spring Awakening. His previous credits include Hair with Aurora Players, She Loves Me with Aurora Players, Next to Normal with Paired Down Productions, Bright Star with Aurora Player, and vocals in his band Tri State Area. His favorite part of working on this show has been rediscovering the intimacy of the show with new and old friends. Aaron would like to thank his mom.

Michael Wells (Ernst) is making his Bellissima Productions debut! His previous credits include The Art of Walking, a theatrical and visual experience that celebrated Artpark's history, unique landscape and ecology, art, and more, Guys and Dolls (Nathan Detroit) at UB, The Threepenny Opera (Jimmy Retail) at UB, and A Chorus Line (Frank) at O'Connell & Co. Michael recently graduated from the University at Buffalo's Music Theatre BFA program. He would like to thank his family, and friends for their constant support in everything he does.



Steven Sater (Book and Lyrics) was awarded the 2007 Tony Awards for Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score for *Spring Awakening* along with the Drama Desk and Outer Critic Circle Awards for Best Lyrics. With alt-rockers Duncan Sheik, he received the 2007 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album for *Spring Awakening*. In addition, the two received The Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Award, the Outer Critics Circle, the Drama Desk, the Lucille Lortel, New York Drama Critics' Circle, and Drama League Awards for Best Musical. Steven is the author of numerous plays, including the long-running *Carbondale Dreams*, *Perfect for You*, *Doll* (the Rosenthal Prize, Cincinnati Playhouse); *Umbrage* (Steppenwolf New Play Prize); *A Footnote to the Iliad* (New York Stage and Film, The Miniature Theatre of Chester); *Asylum* (Naked Angels); *Murder at the Gates* (commissioned by Eye of the Storm); *In Search of Lost Wings* (Sanford Meisner Theater) and a re-conceived version of Shakespeare's *Tempest*, with music by Laurie Anderson, which played London's Lyric Hammersmith and toured throughout Great Britain. In addition to *Spring Awakening*, Sater has collaborated with Sheik on the NY premiere of *Umbrage* (HERE), *Nero* (The Magic Theatre, workshopped at the New York Shakespeare Festival and New York Stage & Film), and *The Nightingale* (workshopped at the O'Neill Musical Theatre Conference, La Jolla Playhouse, A.C.T., and New York Theater Workshop). He is also hard at work with System of a Down's Serj Tankian on a musical version of *Prometheus Bound*, to be directed by Diane Paulus at the American Repertory Theater. Sater is the lyricist for Sheik's critically acclaimed album *Phantom Moon* (Nonesuch), and together the two wrote the songs for Michael Mayer's feature film *A Home at the End of the World* (Warner Classics) as well as the independent features *Brother's Shadow* and Mary Stuart Masterson's *The Cake Eaters*. Sater is also co-creator and executive producer, with Paul Reiser, of recent pilots for both NBC and Sony/FX, and has developed two projects for HBO, and another for Showtime (with Reiser). He is also at work, with Jessie Nelson, on a feature film and is creating an original movie musical for producer Larry Mark. In addition, Steven works as a lyricist with various composers in the pop/rock world – recently writing songs with Burt Bacharach, Johnny Mandel, Andreas Carlsson, and William Joseph.

Duncan Sheik (Music) In addition to writing the music for *Spring Awakening* (2007 Tony Awards for "Best Orchestrations" and "Best Original Score", 2008 Grammy Award for "Best Musical Show Album"), Sheik's other theater credits include: *Nero* (Another Golden Rome) (currently in development), *The Nightingale* (currently in development), *Whisper House* (currently in development). Recorded works include: *Whisper House* (Sony/Victor 2009), *White Limousine* (Rounder 2006), *Daylight* (Atlantic Records 2002), *Phantom*

Moon (Nonesuch 2001), Humming (Atlantic Records 1998), Duncan Sheik (Grammy Nomination “Best Male Vocal”) (Atlantic Records 1996). Film Scores include: DARE (2009), Little Spirit: Christmas in New York (2008), Capers (2007) and The Cake Eaters (2007). Producer Credits include: Holly Brook (forthcoming CD 2009), Micah Green (2008), Spring Awakening Original Cast Album (Universal 2007) and Chris Garneau (2006).

AnnMarie Milazzo. (Vocal Arrangements) Composer/lyricist: Pretty Dead Girl, Sundance Film Festival. Vocal arranger: Broadway productions of Spring Awakening and Next To Normal. Bright Lights, Big City at The New York Theater Workshop, and the Paramount feature film, The Marc Pease Experience. AnnMarie is a Grammy nominated singer from The East Village Opera Company on Universal/Decca.

Simon Hale (String Orchestrations) After graduating from the University of London with an honors degree in composition, Simon Hale’s acclaimed solo album, East Fifteen, led to recordings with many artists, including George Benson, Simply Red, Jamiroquai and Björk. In 1996 he orchestrated Duncan Sheik’s first album, and their musical collaboration has continued ever since. Simon’s involvement with Spring Awakening marked his Broadway debut and the Tony Award for Best Orchestrations in 2007. He continues to work with Steven Sater and Duncan Sheik on other projects. For more information please visit www.simonhale.co.uk.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Thank you so much for coming to Bellissima Productions' Spring Awakening, and continuing to support the arts! I was first introduced to this show when I was in middle school and fell in love with the music. From then on, Spring Awakening has become one of my favorite musicals. The score and lyrics are incredible, and the themes of being denied a voice, not fitting into the norm, and going through young adolescence are still applicable today. The show is about wanting to be understood and having a community behind you. Currently, we are living in a world where cultures, individuals, and beliefs are suppressed and marginalized. People are not accepted for who they are if they are not cis, white, or straight. Incest, rape, abuse, and teenage pregnancy still occur, and especially during the past few years, communication and information is withheld, and the truth is perceived as a threat. However, even though these are problems we still face today, we gain wisdom by reflecting on our past and get through these difficult times by hoping for a better and brighter future where, as Melchior says, "one day all will know."

I want to thank everyone who has been a part of this production both virtually last year and in person this year. I love this show so much, and I have enjoyed putting this show up on its feet in many different variations. I want to thank this incredible cast for all their hard work and dedication to this show. Thank you Callie and Claire, for problem-solving, choreographing, and doing all production elements for the show. You two are always the MVPs. Thank you to our wonderful production crew! Shout out to Devon for being my emotional support person during every production! Thank you to my family and friends who are always supportive regardless of the many things I take on or ask of them.

Finally, thank you to our audience for coming to see this production or any production from Bellissima. Everyone who put this show together is passionate about theatre and each other, and we appreciate you supporting new artists. So without further ado, enjoy Spring Awakening!



THANK YOU!

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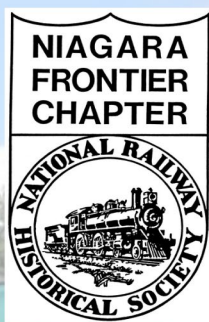




LITTLE THEATRE

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“Dead Man’s Cell Phone” by Sarah Ruhl
Directed by Eileen Dugan
December 2, 3, & 4, 2021



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SMALL MOUTH SOUNDS

By Bess Wohl

FEBRUARY 4, 5, 11, & 12, 2022



Dogfight



by Pasek and Paul

JUNE 17-19 & 24-26, 2022