Viterbo University Theatre Department presents

CHESS

Music by
BENNY ANDERSSON
BJORN ULVAEUS

Lyrics by
TIM RICE

Based on an idea by
TIM RICE

Book by
RICHARD NELSON
CHESS

NOTE: This performance will make use of theatrical fog, theatrical smoke, and will include actors smoking on the stage.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. New York City.

ACT ONE

PROLOGUE .................................................. Budapest, Hungary, 1956
Scene 1 .......................................................... The Hilton Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, 1983
Scene 2 .......................................................... A hotel hallway and Anatoly’s suite, later
Scene 3 .......................................................... Freddie’s suite
Scene 4 .......................................................... A convention hall in the hotel
Scene 5 .......................................................... The arena, elevators, and the arbiter’s office
Scene 6 .......................................................... Freddie’s suite
Scene 7 .......................................................... The streets of Bangkok
Scene 8 .......................................................... The Generous Sole restaurant.
Scene 9 .......................................................... The arena and Florence’s room
Scene 10 .......................................................... Underground parking below the arena
Scene 11 .......................................................... Don Mueang International Airport, Bangkok

Intermission

ACT TWO

PROLOGUE II .................................................. JFK Airport, New York, two months later
Scene 1 .......................................................... Budapest, Hungary
Scene 2 .......................................................... The chapel of a large cathedral
Scene 3 .......................................................... Freddie’s suite in the Budapest Hilton Hotel
Scene 4 .......................................................... Along the Danube River
Scene 5 .......................................................... A small hotel room in another part of Budapest
Scene 6 .......................................................... Outside the arena building
Scene 7 .......................................................... Lobby of the arena
Scene 8 .......................................................... An elegant restaurant and a terrace outside the restaurant
Scene 9 .......................................................... Freddie’s suite
Scene 10 .......................................................... Along the Danube River to a basement room in a deserted building.
Scene 11 .......................................................... Anatoly’s dressing room and the arena
Scene 12 .......................................................... Budapest Airport, a room and a hangar
Cast

Alphabetical order, order of appearance, order in script

Florence ............................................................. Jill Iverson
Gregor Vasy ......................................................... Ian Kane
Young Florence ..................................................... Isabella Finch
Freddie ............................................................. Mark Sopchyk
Anatoly ............................................................ Charlie Ward
Molokov ............................................................ Ryan Claussen
Nickolai ............................................................. Skyler Erickson
Walter ............................................................... Matt Barnett
Arbiter ............................................................... Brian Pekol
Svetlana ............................................................ Sarah Larson
Ensemble ............................................................ Laura Bien, Annie Deutsch, Paige Hauer,
                                                     Brianna Herber, Nicky Hilsen, Abi Johnson,
                                                     Lindsay Krautkramer, Karissa Lade, Jamaica Kaercher,
                                                     Mary Erin Mueller, Alyssa Champa, Katie Reischl, Elli Ritscher,
                                                     Courtney Toepel, Mike Birr, Marty Craft, John Dobbratz,
                                                     Jimmy Erickson, Erik Harvey, Michael Anderson,
                                                     William Leonard, Cameron Mellicke, Tim Metzler,
                                                     Joey Miller, Travis Paul, Bryce Turgeon

Orchestra

Conductor .......................................................... Holly Saunders
Keyboard 1 .......................................................... Diane Foust
Keyboard 2 .......................................................... Carol McCombs
Keyboard 3 .......................................................... Kaye Lehrman
Violins ............................................................ David Phipps, Amy Scarborough, Margit Severson
Cello ............................................................... Derek Clark
Bass ................................................................. Paul Leithold
Guitar .............................................................. Laun Brathwaite
Reed 1 .............................................................. Karla Hughes
Reed 2 .............................................................. Mary Beth Hensel
Reed 3 .............................................................. Jimi Skaleski
Reed 4 .............................................................. Jeff Copp
Trumpet ........................................................... Jeff Krauklis
Trombone ........................................................ James Wheat
Horn ............................................................... Jon Cowan
Percussion ......................................................... Christine Pielka
Drums ............................................................. Tammy Fisher
Production Team

Stage Director ................................................................. Ken Risch
Music Director ............................................................... Holly Saunders
Choreographer ................................................................. Nikki Balsamo
Scenic Designer .............................................................. Frank Ludwig
Costume Designer ............................................................ Lisa Ludwig
Guest Lighting Designer .................................................. James H. Gage
Sound Designer .............................................................. Ross Bradley
Properties Master ............................................................ Sadie Ward
Hair and Makeup Design .................................................. James Nardulli
Stage Manager ............................................................... Chad Kolbe
Technical Director ........................................................... Paul Meier
Guest Dialect Specialist .................................................... Weston G. Wetzel
Assistant Scenic Designer ................................................... Tonya Laws
Assistant Costume Designer ................................................. Kerri Peters
Assistant Lighting Designer ................................................. Calissa McCoy
Assistant Stage Manager .................................................... Jessica Rohde, Emily Matthees
Assistant Technical Director .............................................. John Houtler
Assistant Choreographer ................................................... Jimmy Erickson
Publicity Coordinator ......................................................... Janet McLean
Costume Shop Supervisor .................................................. Sandy Harvey
Properties Supervisor ....................................................... Jen Brown
Master Electrician ............................................................ Calissa McCoy
Assistant Master Electrician ............................................... Paul Ludwig, Rachel Wahl
Lead Painter ................................................................. Alton Everett

Special Thanks

Sister Marie Leon LaCroix
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School of Fine Arts Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Fine Arts at Viterbo University is to prepare our students to be artists, creative and critical thinkers, successful scholars, active participants, and advocates for the fine arts through excellence in teaching and in production within the liberal arts framework.
Crew

Light Board Operator ................................................. Kerri Peters
Sound Engineer .......................................................... Joe Holdman
Hair/Makeup/Wardrobe Crew ........................................ Rene Fuller, Anna Troy, Matthew Springer
Set Crew .............................................................. Steven Frankenfield, Katharine Bakalars
Properties Crew ......................................................... Scott Gibson-Uebele, Alyssa Perau
Paint Crew ......................................................... Marty Craft, Skylar Erickson, David Klitzke,
                                      JoAnn Odekirk, Courtney Toepel
Deck Sound/ SFX OP .................................................. Molly Pach
Follow Spot ............................................................. Emily Creaser, Kathryn Knutson, Lance Newton
Projectionist ............................................................. Tonya Laws
Deck Electrician .......................................................... Mark Bettencourt
Scenic Construction .................................................... Ross Bradley, John Dobbratz, Samantha Goessner,
                                      Nicky Hilsen, Charlie Ward, Jessica Rohde, Will Leonard,
                                      Calissa McCoy, Nancy Gilles, Katie Bakalars, Katlyn Koester,
                                      Brianna Herber, John Houtler, Creshelle Smith, Travis Paul, Tonya Laws
Costume Construction .............................................. Sarah Polson, Creshelle Smith, Sadie Ward,
                                      Samantha Pauly, James Nardulli, Jillian Bell, Erik Harvey,
                                      Annie Linder, Ma Ojong Arrey, Bryce Turgeon, Rachel Wahl
Properties Construction ............................................ Michael Birn, Laura Cheyne, Ian Kane, Cara Klauer,
                                      Chelsea McMannimon-Moe, Charlotte Parker, Charlie Ward,
                                      Creshelle Smith, Calissa McCoy, Rachel Wahl
Publicity .............................................................. Laura Bien, Ryan Claussen, Bryce Turgeon, Helen Schutkoske,
                                      Lauren Ann Rehrauer, Lindsay Kraftkramer, Anna Troy
Electricians ............................................................. Brianna Herber, Charina Dorothy, Marie Freese,
                                      Alex Kent, Cameron Meilicke, Joseph Miller,
                                      Travis Paul, Anna Troy, Erik Harvey, Joe Holdman

Viterbo University School of Fine Arts
Dean of Fine Arts: Ken Risch                                             Administrative Assistant: Sue Hauser

Faculty and Staff

ART: Sherri Lisota*, Will Ault Brinker, Marilyn Fernandes, Joseph Miller, Ryan Myers, Lisa Schoenfielder
MUSIC: Timothy Schorr*, Nancy Allen, Diane Foust, Elizabeth Fox, Mary Ellen Haupert, Daniel
        Johnson-Wilmot, Carol Rhodes, Jean Saladino, Ann Schoenecker, Judy Staafslien
THEATRE/MUSIC THEATRE: Rick Walters*, Nikki Balsamo, Jen Brown, Anne Dekkrahn, David
                     Gardiner, Erin Goldnik, Sandy Harvey, Karla Hughes, Chad Kolbe, Beth Lakmann, Frank
                     Ludwig, Dana McConnell, Janet McLean, Gary Moss, Michael Ranscht, Holly Saunders, Jen
                     Severson Debeest, Jeffrey Stolz, Carey Thaldorf
PREPARATORY: Judy Staafslien*, Lynn Biddick, Jessica Kalember, Bussy Lugovier, Dustin Oldenburg,
                    Polly Pappadopoulos, Carol Rhodes, Holly Saunders, S. Marcella Steffes
"Each game of chess means there’s one less variation left to be played. Each day got through means one or two less mistakes remain to be made..."

The ARBITER

There are a handful of musicals from the past few decades that have received such faithful following from the writers and audiences, in spite of mixed critical response and failed productions, that they have been given several opportunities for new life. *Chess* is one of those musicals. The history of *Chess* dates back to the 1970s when Tim Rice was inspired to develop the idea by the events surrounding the 1972 Fischer/Spassky world chess championship. Its journey from concept album to live concert tour to fully produced musical without spoken dialogue, to musical with spoken dialogue, and back to staged concert (each version slightly or significantly revised), is as interesting as the musical itself.

"You see how one little move, it affects many people’s lives. Hurts so many people."

IVAN MOLOKOV

The events and characters in this intelligent and emotionally-charged musical are based on those I personally remember well. Some say that *Chess* is now a period piece. That statement is somewhat true if one focuses on the specific political environment created by the Cold War that provides the setting of the musical play. But if, as the director of the first two productions, Trevor Nunn, puts it, "...the irony is that a game invented as a substitute for bloodshed has come in imagery to represent that most alarming of all human capabilities, the habit of mind that is prepared to sacrifice human life in the cause of political advantage," then the musical is as relevant today as it was twenty-five years ago.

"Where’s there’s truth, there will be lies."

FLORENCE and ANATOLY

I have always been attracted to stories about people who find the courage to overcome adversity. Their struggle gives me hope for a better world. The most respected works in the musical theatre also explore this human virtue. Rodgers and Hammerstein knew that a love story cannot fully engage an audience unless the romantic couple is forced to overcome a major obstacle that tests the depth of their love and commitment. *Chess* follows that model, but plays it out on a much larger political stage (not unlike the complex world Nellie Forbush and Emile DeBeque have to struggle with in South Pacific). *Chess* explores new territory in a highly unlikely subject for musical treatment, but the passions behind the characters are familiar to us all and the power of the story and the score is undeniable.

"I look advantage of an opportunity. This is how things happen. We move, they move. Some trust gets built up."

WALTER ANDERSON
Guest Artists

James H. Gage, Lighting Designer

Mr. Gage is the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) MFA and BFA Lighting Design Head where he is in his twenty-third season. His regional theatre credits include the Yale Repertory Theatre, Boston's Loeb Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse, Buffalo Studio Theatre and The New York Shakespeare Festival. He has designed the World Premieres of Edward Albee's *Fragments*, Lee Blessing's *The Rights*, Brad Fraser's *Poor Superman*, and Michael Weller's *Help* for the Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati. Designs for dance include The Connecticut Ballet, The Cincinnati Ballet, The Wisconsin Ballet, ODC San Francisco, and The Connecticut Dance Festival. He is a four-time USITT Peggy Ezekiel Award winner for outstanding lighting design, and is a member of United Scenic Artists of America-829. He is the lead consultant with Visions in Light (www.viccreations.com). His consultations include The Aronoff Center in Cincinnati, The Venn Riffe Center in Columbus, The Cincinnati Children’s Museum, recently the lighting design for the international display of *PETRA*, *The Lost City Stone*, at the Cincinnati Art Museum and Glass Mural designs for Hunt Oil International Headquarters in Dallas, Texas.

Paul Meier, Dialect Designer and Coach

Mr. Meier has been a dialect coach for film and theatre (close to two hundred plays and musicals in more than a dozen countries) for over 25 years, and a voice-over artist with many commercials and audio books to his credit. During his membership in the famous BBC Drama Repertory Company, Paul acted in over 100 radio dramas, working alongside such colleagues as Richard Burton, Derek Jacobi, and Paul Scofield. He has taught at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA), The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), Webber Douglas, and North Carolina School of the Arts. He is currently full professor and head of voice in the Theatre and Film Department at the University of Kansas, specializing in voice, speech, dialect, and heightened text, as well as assisting clients with accent reduction and English as a second language (ESL). Paul Meier Dialect Services has been a leading presence through the internet since 1998, attracting thousands of clients with its dialect books and CDs, and “show-specific” dialect designs. Mr. Meier is founder and director of the International Dialects of English Archive (IDEA). www.paulmeier.com
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