

# **DIASPORA Theatricals**

**Plays and Musicals  
of the Jewish Experience**



## **2022/2023 Catalog Listings**

www.diasporatheatricals.com

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We are always looking for interested parties as Editors, Partners, Investors.  
Please contact us, if you are interested.

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- DT carries plays for Professional, Educational and Amateur theatrical markets.
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- MOST of our scripts and scores are available only through e-publishing format. Everything is in a PDF file: Scripts, Piano-vocal Scores, Vocal Books, Orchestrations (except for some perusal materials like CDs. PerformanceTraks CDs will be sent through the mail.) *A few scripts in PRINT VERSION are available (see the website)*
- Have questions, or wish to place an Order: **[editor@diasporatheatricals.com](mailto:editor@diasporatheatricals.com)**

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**PERUSAL SCRIPTS** may be downloaded from the website. These downloads are approximately one half of the full script. Demo songs may also be played from the site.

**ROYALTIES** are extra and, for musicals, sometimes need to be quoted on a per show basis, based on your ticket prices, number of performances and the seating capacity of your theatre. Professional and Amateur royalties differ, also. Please check the webpage for current status and restrictions of availability.

**ZOOM/STREAMING** — most of our plays are available to be ZOOMED/STREAMED for an additional license fee. See the website for current information.

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**Dear Playwrights** — Diaspora Theatricals is a new company, and is in need of new plays that speak expressly and also universally of the Jewish Experience.

Please email us ([editor@diasporatheatricals.com](mailto:editor@diasporatheatricals.com)) with queries about the plays you have written so that we can find great plays to be shared throughout the Jewish Community and beyond.

Your query should include:

- About the Author
- Short synopsis of the play, or a logline
- Production history, if any
- Short sample of the play itself (5-10 pages)

Sincerely,  
C. Michael Perry,  
Managing Editor

**NEW ADDITIONS IN 2021-2022****NEW MUSICALS**

**EAST OF THE SUN, WEST OF THE MOON** A Family Musical by Jeff Combe, Cameron Combe, Emily Combe & J. Omar Hansen About 2 hours. (COMING SOON) (See website for details)

**MERLIN'S APPRENTICE** Book by Susan Kim, Lyrics by Stephen Cole, Music by Matthew Ward. 1g, 3f, 1m, 1either, (playing multiple roles) About 60 minutes. Fantasy and Modern Day sets and costumes. Trying to fit into a new home and struggling with school, 11-year old Abigail yearns for magic... and accidentally falls into the underground kingdom of Subterra. She is sent on a hilarious quest by the duplicitous Morgan Le Fay; and as she and a hapless Merlin are joined by a singing harp, a talking dog, and others, Abigail finds she needs cleverness and science to save the day – and restore kindness and reason to Subterra. Commissioned by Walden Media, this delightful tale of magic and growing up was a big hit at the Walden Family Playhouse in Colorado. Welcome to the Magic! **Order # 3282**

**RAPUNZARELLA WHITE: A Fairly Fractured Tale** — Book and Lyrics by June Rachelson-Ospa Music by Daniel Neiden. TYA Musical. 6f 6m 1either (4f, 4m with doubling) Simple Set. Fairy Tale Costumes. 60 Minutes. The setup for this fractured tale is told by – wait for it – Herschel, the Fairy “Tailor,” complete with Yiddish accent. RAPUNZARELLA WHITE follows three baby triplets, Rapunzel, Cinderella, and Snow White, who are cursed, stolen and made miserable by their mother’s angry sister. When the Witch casts an evil spell, each sister is catapulted into her own fractured fairytale—Rapunzel craves junk food, Cinderella has self-esteem issues, Snow White is allergic to apples, and each dreams of being rescued by a handsome Prince. Beau, Barry, and Burly-Bob may be a little more bashful and bumbling than bright, but with the help of the Fairy Tailor and a little magic, they all live happily ever after! The narrator conducts the Bullwinkle-style 70-minute family musical for 8-18 actors. It can be performed to existing orchestrated tracks or a fully arranged score for a pit band. **ORDER #3342**

**SATURDAY NIGHT AT GROSSINGER’S** Book and Lyrics by Stephen Cole, Music by Claibe Richardson, Additional Lyrics by Ronny Graham. (based on an original idea by Rita Lakin and Doris Silverton) 4m 2f. About 90-100 minutes. The early 1960's. Saturday Night. The Catskills. It's a snowy winter Saturday night and the stars who are booked — Judy Garland, Alan King and the Nicholas Brothers — are stuck in a snowdrift. When the stars do not show up to entertain the packed house at the brand new nightclub at the greatest hotel in the Jewish Alps, the owner and founder, Jennie Grossinger enlists her family to tell the story of how it all happened. A hilarious, tuneful and ultimately moving 6 character musical about the rise of the Borscht Belt and the hotel that came to symbolize it all: Grossinger's! An on the personal side, author Stephen Cole said, "Jennie decides to put on a show about how she made Grossinger's the great resort it was. As the improvised musical progresses, Jennie learns some hard truths about herself." "A joyful evening of entertainment, with a borscht aroma and schmaltz flavor and multiple opportunities for performers to shine." — **Brian Vintero**. Two Versions available: The Original and the Family version. **Order #3034.1 (Original) or 3034.2 (Family) SERVERS** by Mahonri Stewart and Nathaniel Drew. 2 hours. 13 (8 f, 5 m), plus small chorus of customers. The humor and the pathos of the lives of servers at a Mexican restaurant are explored as they strive, dream, love, and are simply trying “to get by.” **ORDER # 3324 (FUTURE AVAILABILITY)**

**NEW SHORT MUSICALS**

**EAST OF THE SUN, WEST OF THE MOON (TYA)** by George and Gayanne Ramsden & C. Michael Perry

**STUPID WIG** by June Rachelson-Ospa and Daniel Neiden, based on the true-to-life short story "Stupid Wig" by Shirley K. Larkin-Spurgeon. What happens when STAR WARS helps a 4th Grader fight her WAR against Leukemia? 3f 1m 4either. Several simple settings. Contemporary costumes. Our heroic ten year old starfighter, Shirley, battles against monsters more terrifying than Darth Vader: Leukemia! Fear! Alienation! And a very scaaary, eeevil, STUPID WIG. Responding "as Princess Leia would," Shirley is armed only with her out-of-this-galaxy imagination, and her boundless love for her grandfather. "My Han Solo. My Tata." A true love story for any galaxy. "The hard subject of Leukemia made beautiful and accessible for the whole family." — **Peter Filichia, Broadway Radio. ORDER #3347**

**S.W.A.K (Sealed with a Kiss)** Book and Lyrics by June Rachelson-Ospa Music by Phil Goodbody 6f, 4m, 4flex (doubles to 6 performers - 3f, 3m) Fairy Tale Costumes (well, sort of). Simple Settings. Running time: 55 minutes. Okay, so this is NOT your usual fairytale of a Princess kissing a frog. The Frog Prince hops off on a journey to find a Princesses' kiss to break a Witch's spell and turn him back into a Prince. Instead when the Frog kisses Princesses, they are turned into frogs! This twist on the classic puts a fun-filled spin on the story. Along the way we encounter Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, a Dragon and of course, the Evil Witch. Your audience will be enthralled and "bewitched". SWAK has a catchy POP score. "SWAK--it's a total delight!" —**Mary McCormack, Tony Award-winning actress from Broadway's Boeing, Boeing**. "SWAK is an unabashed joy!" — **Bruce Kluger, Contributing Editor, Parenting Magazine**. "SWAK is a revelation...indeed, a magic kiss to parents." — **Judith Newman, Allure Magazine**. "SWAK IS SWELL!" -- by **Alexa Garcia on Words4Culture Blog, July 28, 2018. Order #3348**

**THE TRUE COLORS OF WEEDLE** — a musical by June Rachelson-Ospa and Allison Brewster. 4m, 2f, 11either m or f (some roles can be doubled & any role can be played by any gender). Several fanciful locations. Contemporary/Fantasy Costumes. TYA. About an hour. *The True Colors of Weedle* is a fun musical about a boy, born colorless. As such, he has been bullied, because everyone else around him has lots of colors. Ostracized, Weedle sets out to find a companion/soul-mate, Marvello Maxumo Marmaduke (who ends up having three heads) after he receives a sympathetic letter from him. Like Weedle, Marmaduke has been forced into seclusion by the Falafarinians of Falifarinum, so together they hatch a

plan for revenge on those who hurt have them. Weedle then must decide if he will take revenge on those who have wronged him, or if he will live his life in peace. After choosing to take revenge, Weedle feels so bad that he cries. Then, to everyone's amazement, his tears are full of vibrant colors, proving that he had it within himself all the time... Bullying has become an epidemic, causing many children pain. Our story confronts this issue in a fun-filled way, without shying away from the issue at hand. Perhaps, this show is needed now more than ever! It is the hope of the authors that the producers will utilize actors of all genders, abilities/disabilities, and special needs, aiming to entertain and teach an important life lesson to kids: that anything is possible with the right outlook. Teaching children and families to accept people for who they are, no matter what they look like... is vital, especially when the outcome includes forgiveness. **ORDER #3345**

**WELCOME TO TOURETTAVILLE (TYA)** by *June Rachelson-Ospa, Jonathan Ospa, and Daniel Neiden*. 2f 3m. **RUNNING TIME:** About 35 mins. Simple setting, if any. Contemporary and fun costumes. *WELCOME TO TOURETTAVILLE* is a story about a boy named Mark Brayne, (a fictional twin for Jonathan), who discovers he has Tourette Syndrome. Mark travels to the planet Tourettaville, where he comes face to face with aliens Tick, Blinky, Screamer and their leader, the Big Bleeper. The aliens befriend Mark, inspiring him to self-acceptance and a new self-confidence, and sing, "One Of A Kind You." **NOTE:** Fast forward to 2012. Jon is attending his third year at a wonderful college. He's studying film, is a great guitar player and an award-winning writer of plays, and short stories. TS didn't stop Jon from pursuing his dreams and becoming a successful, wonderful young man. And he never did turn into an alien. **Order #3341.**

## **NEW ONE ACTS (35 minutes and under)**

**REFLECTION** by *Mahonri Stewart*. **RUN TIME:** 20-30 minutes. **CAST SIZE:** 2 (1f, 1m) In this tragic retelling of the story of Medusa, Medusa's traumatic backstory is revealed and her traditional role as a villain and a monster is challenged. An intentional companion piece for another of Mahonri Stewart's one-acts, "The Death of Eurydice." **ORDER #3322**

**RIVER.SWAMP.CAVE.MOUNTAIN.** by Elaine Jarvik 1f 1m *or* 1m1f4either [running time 30 minutes] This is the story of five-year-old JJ (who has lots of questions) and eight-year-old Izzy (a know-it-all who doesn't know it all), siblings who have recently lost their grandmother. They embark on a funny and touching hero's journey to try to make sense of loss, grief, death and life. Exploring this timely topic with humor and heart, everyone learns of resiliency and "sticky" emotions, while being able to see themselves reflected in these characters and draw support and strength from their experience with the play. **ORDER #3251**

## **NEW TEN-MINUTE PLAYS**

**ADAM and EVE** by *Davey Morrison*. 1m 1f. Simple Setting. Simple Costumes. After the expulsion from the garden, our first parents wonder what they left behind, what they face in front of them, and if it was all worth it. And all in 10 minutes. Premiered by The New Play Project in 2008. **ORDER #2104**

**THE ILLEGAL ALIEN** by Lyvia Martinez 1m, 1f, 1 either. Contemporary costumes, Simple setting. When Lois Lane and Clark Kent want to get married, they find out the one thing his super powers can't do: prove he's a legal citizen of the United States. **ORDER #2110**

# **REGULAR CATALOG**

## **MUSICALS (70 minutes or longer – in alphabetical order)**

**AND THE RAINS CAME ... AND CAME** Adapted from the Biblical story of Noah. Book and Lyrics by R. Rex Stephenson. Music by Gary Evans. (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational, Community and Church Groups*) About 90 mins. Cast of 17 + children (6 male roles, 2 female roles + ensemble + children) Rex originally wrote the play when the world was entering a new millennium. He thought that the story best typified the 'new beginning' that the world was facing; a story filled with both good and evil, trust and mistrust, obedience and disobedience, and with believing and disbelieving. But the appeal goes beyond any millennium and gets right down to what makes us tick. This Intergenerational Theatre Piece uses multi-age casting to achieve its objective: bringing its message to a broad, family audience. The score is fun and moves the show along. Also included in the evening are moments of great poignancy, such as the surprise ending of the play. There is a Resource Guide included in the script. **ORDER #3023.**

**THE ANOINTED** An epic musical drama. *Book by Thomas F. Rogers. Lyrics by Thomas F. Rogers and C. Michael Perry. Music by C. Michael Perry.* 39M 3W +chorus. (Doubling of roles is recommended). Unit Set. 2hrs. (*For community and College/University groups, with doubling professional groups could perform this show.*) A musical spanning and contrasting the years from Saul's Kingship, when David slew Goliath, through

to Solomon's building of the temple in Jerusalem. A gripping musical drama. **ORDER #2001**

**DANIEL!** (A Hilariously Moving Evening for the Family) A Musical based on the Bible Story (as you've never seen it before!) Book and Lyrics by R. Rex Stephenson. Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational and Community Groups.*) 9M 5F + ensemble and children. Some male roles may be played by females. Unit Setting. About 2 hours. The story of the faithfulness of Daniel and his "brothers" has inspired generations. While this is a comedy at heart, it is filled with faith and hope and inspiration as we see the examples of dedication to God. We see the change of heart as a King unburdens himself to the Most High God. We witness the writing on the wall, we visit the Fiery Furnace and the Den of Lions with the cutest little lions ever. The music covers a wide range of styles and will help this show entertain any family audience. Songs include: HOW GREAT THE WONDERS, PLOTTING, WE AIN'T HEARD NOTHIN' YET!, THE DREAM, INTO THE FIRE!, THIS IS MY NEW ADMINISTRATION, WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME?, and others. **ORDER #3020**

**ESTHER** a musical by Mark Ogden. 7M 7W + soldiers, Jewish refugees, courtiers and visitors. About two hours. Various locations. (*Performable by Church, Educational, Professional and Community Groups*) YOU'VE READ THE BOOK -- NOW DO THE MUSICAL! The Biblical story of staying true to yourself and finding courage. From the pages of the best-seller in history -- the epic story of Persia's legendary Queen now comes to the stage! Esther is the newly crowned Queen of Persia, wife of Xerxes, and she is Jewish -- a refugee from one of Xerxes' father's campaigns. No one knows that she is Jewish, or that she is the daughter of the highest ranking Jewish man in the land of Persia. Then the Jews are all condemned to die by Haman, the Prime Minister. Will Esther find the courage and the means to thwart Haman? **ORDER #2070.**

**ESTHER: The Musical Schpiel** by Lori Jacobs 5M 2W 1 either m or f, plus ensemble of 6m 6f. About 2 hours. Various settings. (*Performable by Educational, Professional and Community Groups*) The classic Biblical story with a twist. With a score made up of original songs based on Kletzmer Songs, Rap, Showtunes and even a little Country and Pop, this show is a rapid, surefire, farcical, tongue-in-cheek-retelling of the rise of Esther and her salvation of the Jews in Persia. Come join the party! **ORDER #3103**

**THE FANNY BRICE STORY** *Written and Arranged by Chip Deffaa.* 27 Characters (Can be doubled to 9 actresses and 6 actors) plus singing and dancing chorus. (+ a dog) About 2 hours. (*Suitable for professional, amateur and educational groups.*) This musical is inspired by the life of Fanny Brice (1891-1951), who rose from modest beginnings to become the highest-paid American singing comedienne of her day--for many years a famed star of the Ziegfeld Follies. The show begins with Emmie, a 16 year old girl in 1950, interviewing the then 60-year-old Fanny Brice. As Fanny reminisces the show unfolds onstage. Featuring 35 songs from the era of Fanny Brice, and characters who are larger than life, (Eddie Cantor, Flo Ziegfeld, W.C. Fields, George M. Cohan and Nicky Arnstein) this show was a hit in its premiere in New Jersey. This unique, family-friendly celebration of legendary entertainer Fanny Brice includes stories and songs (such as "Becky is Back in the Ballet," "Lovin' Sam," and "Always Leave 'Em Laughing") found in no other shows. This full-scale musical comedy features plenty of ensemble numbers, and is G-rated. **ORDER #3070**

**IRVING BERLIN: IN PERSON** *Written and Arranged by Chip Deffaa.* Music and Lyrics by Irving Berlin. 1 M, 1 Piano Player. About 90 mins. Open Stage with props and furniture. (*For professional, college/university, community production*) Berlin was a small boy when his family--with little more than the clothes they were wearing--fled Russia to escape religious persecution. He never had much formal education. He never learned to read or write down music. But he gave the world songs that will live forever. This is the first--and only, as of this date--one-man show ever to be written and published about Irving Berlin. For a strong triple-threat performer, it's a wonderful showcase. Berlin made more money and wrote more hits than any of his so-called competitors. This dynamic solo show includes 40 Berlin songs--some famous, some rarities and rediscoveries; all irresistible. **ORDER #3115.**

**IRVING BERLIN RAGTIME REVUE** *Written and Arranged by Chip Deffaa.* This song-driven show, written for 10 performers of varying ages--five male, five female--presents some 40 spirited musical numbers (plus commentary) from the first dozen or so years of Berlin's long career and is a lively celebration of Irving Berlin (1888-1989), focusing on the early years of his career, when he was known as "the King of Ragtime." The most successful individual songwriter in American history, Berlin wrote about 1500 songs. This revue includes the terrific songs that first put Irving Berlin on the map. Occasional short commentary serves as connecting material to the songs. **ORDER #3144**

**THE IRVING BERLIN STORY** by *Chip Deffaa* Music by *Irving Berlin, Chip Deffaa* and others (*For regional theater, community theater, college, or secondary school.*) (23M 22W 5TB 2TG 2B 1G + CHORUS) The over 50 roles, big and small, can be doubled by 20 performers. Settings can be simple or elaborate. About 2 hours. The name of Irving Berlin conjures musical magic in the hearts and minds of theatre-goers and of the general populace. To those who listened and watched on Broadway, to dance bands, to singers in concert and on the radio, and on film, Irving Berlin, at one point in our history, was popular music. He wrote them all and we listened. *The Irving Berlin Story* is the first and only full-scale musical biography of Irving Berlin. In his lifetime, Berlin blocked every effort by others to dramatize his life, saying he insisted on maintaining his privacy; he said people could dramatize his life after he died. And now ASCAP award-winner Chip Deffaa has done just that. *The Irving Berlin Story* is a big, bold two-act musical comedy, with some 50-odd characters. This is a perfect musical for any theater with the space, personnel, and budget to mount a really big musical that is chock-filled with great songs! Berlin's story is a quintessential American success story. An immigrant raised in utter poverty, with little formal education, Berlin rose to be the most popular individual songwriter in the world. He could neither read nor write music. A musical secretary had to transcribe numbers he played, hummed, or sang. But the songs he created have delighted listeners for over a century. **ORDER #3060**

**IT'S UP TO ME** A Musical Revue by Mark Ogden. 1M 2W 7boys 10girls 1dog(played by either gender) about 90 minutes. Unit setting with many locations suggested by props and furniture, contemporary costumes. (**Perfect for Middle Schools, Junior High Schools, High Schools, Youth groups**) Based on Dr. Abraham Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs", this is a fun approach to a serious subject. Welcome to the typical American neighborhood where eighteen kids of all ages -- kids of all kinds -- are learning to identify their needs and taking responsibility for filling them. Well, they're supposed to be taking responsibility, but a few of them are dodging it at every turn. Some are trying to escape completely! Their quest for self-discovery has been stifled by the discovery of drugs -- and other distractions. But they're not your kids! Or are they? We encourage families to see this show together for an educational, enjoyable way to help create a happier, healthier world! **ORDER #3165**

**misFITTING IN** Book and Lyrics by Jamie Young Music and Lyrics by Rick Rea An original, anti-bullying musical about a boy, Ben, who is new at school and is trying to find his place to fit in with the other kids. As he struggles to make new friends, he is faced with a difficult choice of following the crowd or being true to himself. This show is an excellent story that presents powerful messages in an amusing, creative way that will keep both kids and adults entertained until the very end. **ORDER #3151**

**ONE NIGHT WITH FANNY BRICE** by Chip Deffaa. (*For production by Professionals, College/Universities and Community Groups*) One-woman show. Simple unit set. 90 minutes. Fanny Brice worked her way up from singing on street corners for pennies as a kid, to burlesque, to Broadway... to becoming America's highest-paid singing comedienne. She fell for a dashing confidence man, Nicky Arnstein—and when she introduced her immortal “My Man,” the whole country knew she was singing about him. There's no better showcase to be found anywhere for a strong triple-threat actress than “One Night with Fanny Brice.” The score mixes fierce torch songs (like “My Man,” “After You've Gone,” “Baby Won't You Please Come Home”) with irresistible comedy numbers (“Second-Hand Rose,” “Oh, How I Hate that Fellow Nathan”), ragtime (“That Mysterious Rag”) and vintage pop (“Lovie Joe,” “Rose of Washington Square”). The actress gets to sing, to dance; to go from laughs to pathos, triumphs to heartbreaks... and back again. The show was originally produced Off-Broadway in New York at St. Luke's Theater; it has subsequently been revived twice in New York by The 13<sup>th</sup> Street Repertory Company. It has been equally well-received in productions at the American Century Theater, Arlington, Virginia; the Rosen Theater, Wayne, New Jersey; and at the Phoenix Stage, Naugatuck, Connecticut. It has been produced at the Open-Eye Theater, Margaretville, New York. Everyone loves a good rags-to-riches story. One small section of the play has a repetition of coarse language. **ORDER #3078**

**THE SIDESHOW** a musical about young people (and the grown-ups who teach them.) by Mark Ogden 2M 1W 3B 3G + optional ensemble. About 90 minutes. *Perfect show for Middle Schools, Junior Highs, High Schools and Youth Groups using age-appropriate casting, or for College & University, Community and Professional Groups where older actors can play the younger roles, or casting can be age-appropriate.* WHAT ABOUT JOE AVERAGE? WHERE DOES HE FIT IN? Joel Barker, looking back on his childhood, when he was just Joe Average, interacts with the memories of his past. Younger Joey was competent, fun, and talented in ways that don't regularly stand out. His father was the principal of The Institute for Gifted Children, and after a divorce, young Joey goes to live with his dad and go to school there. He meets the other kids of varying ages, who are all genius at something. He doesn't fit in. He wonders why his mom sent him and his dad pushed him into this school. But then, a gifted, young teacher, Liz, with more vision than her principal, whom she used to be sweet on, shows him that the things that make Joey ordinary begin to make him stand out, and he soon finds a place, and even more important, acceptance, into this weird and wacky club of Gifted Misfits. The "Dream/Nightmare" sequence roasts the dark side of special programs for any student or group of students: that our educational system -- and its administrators -- tend to exploit our gifted youth for their own gain and betterment -- and the dollars that are out there to be had in grant money. A totally terrific score fuels this musical with a message that says “it's ok to be ordinary, for ordinary people always find their place ... and run the world.” Orchestrations are available for: *Clarinet/Alto Sax, Trumpet, Guitar, Banjo, Drums, Bass.* **ORDER #3158.**

## PREMIERE MUSICALS (90 minutes or longer – in alphabetical order)

What is a PREMIERE MUSICAL?

The scripts in this section have not been performed in their current versions. They are quality musicals that just need a little fixing, trying, testing — poking, prodding — in front of an audience.

The royalties are lower for any producer and the opportunity to work with the authors in presenting a World Premiere is exciting.

Every show has to start somewhere — it might as well be with your theatre group or production company.

Right now these shows have PIANO accompaniment. But orchestrations or small combo arrangements could be created for your production.

**THE ANOINTED** An epic musical drama. *Book by Thomas F. Rogers. Lyrics by Thomas F. Rogers and C. Michael Perry. Music by C. Michael Perry.* 39M 3W +chorus. (Doubling of roles is recommended). Unit Set. 2hrs. (*For community and College/University groups, with doubling professional groups could perform this show.*) A musical spanning and contrasting the years from Saul's Kingship, when David slew Goliath, through to Solomon's building of the temple in Jerusalem. A gripping musical drama. **ORDER #2001**

**STAR OF ISRAEL: The Musical Story of Esther** *Book and Lyrics by George King and Gayanne Ramsden King, Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry.* 3f, 3m, 5 either + ensemble. About 100 minutes. *Stylized period costumes, Stylized flexible setting.* A dramatic and sometimes comic musical romp through the story of Queen Esther in Babylon, during the Jewish Captivity. Three Chamberlins, drivers of the plot, set the stage and deliver the story of love, betrayal, politics and faith in an ancient world. Chosen by God, yet unsure of her own abilities, Esther learns and grows to be a savior of her people in Ancient Persia. Her power of the truth in believing eventually overpowers the self-important and godless, Haman. The Jews needed to be saved and protected and Esther was The Chosen One. **ORDER #3333**

**SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS** or **THE TEMPEST MUSICAL** (An adaptation of Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST) Book by Neil K. Newell. Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry and Neil K. Newell (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational and Community Groups*) 8 characters: 4M 4W + small ensemble. Space Setting. 120minutes You thought you knew “The Tempest”? Well, get ready for this version. We start

before Shakespeare begins. We see Prospero and Miranda arrive. We see Ariel deposit Sycorax and Caliban on the isle. We see Ariel impaled in the 'oak' and we see Prospero defeat Sycorax. We then see Sycorax come to life again through the intervention of Caliban and the strangers deposited on the island by Prospero's tempest. As in the original, goodness prevails but only after valuable lessons have been learned by all. This story now involves the conflict between Sycorax/Caliban and Prospero. It is no longer an epic but a taught, musical drama with a lively and modern score. "Don't Just Sip The Water", "I Looked At The Moon", "Such Stuff As Dreams", "That's Love", "Brave New World", "Have No Pity—Rule A City", are among the songs that fill this score with inventive music and singable lyrics. *ORCHESTRATIONS TO BE AVAILABLE INCLUDE: Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Horn, Percussion, Synthesizer (Piano), 2Violin, Bass.* **ORDER #3009**

## PLAYS (70 minutes and longer – in alphabetical order, including TYA)

**AMERICAN DREAMS: Immigration Stories** by Linda Britt. 18Females 12 Males. Doubling possible, but not recommended. About 90 minutes. Simple set, costumes. (*Ideal for Professional, Amateur and Educational theatrical productions groups.*) A powerful, moving, and timely monologue play about immigration, with stories that are sometimes funny, occasionally ironic, and too often heartbreaking. The Iranian student afraid to return to her country, the mother who misses her homeland, the Afghan translator who fears for his comrades, the migrant worker who hasn't known any other life, the Canadian who just wanted to get away from the cold, the Russian mother of a newborn American citizen, the Polish scientist who thought he had done everything right... each a unique perspective, and together they make up America's immigration story. 30 monologues, adapted with permission from interviews with immigrants to the U.S., are ordered in a fluid construct, easily adaptable to available performers as far as age, gender and ethnicity. See the website for very flexible royalty terms. **ORDER #3331**

**EMPEROR WOLF** by Mahonri Stewart. CAST of 8 (4 f, 3 m, 1 non-gender specific) Run Time: 2 hours. TYA. Fantasy costumes. Abstract or representational setting. This post-apocalyptic fairy tale unfolds in a future earth torn apart by division and war, where mythical creatures have become the new ruling class. In this new world of sphinxes, griffins, fairies, and goddesses, none is more fearsome than the Emperor Wolf. When Madeline and her blind mother, Ebony, meet the orphaned Shasta, they are pulled into a hero's quest in which they confront this frightening new order and the Dark Being that has claimed the world. **ORDER #3304**

**GEEKS AND GANGSTERS** by Rob. Lauer. 8 TeenMales(appearing 16-25) 5 Teen Females(appearing 16-25) 14M 5W (Doubling to a cast of 22 Possible) **Inspired by the true story of the Cleveland teenagers—Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster—who created Superman.** (*Great for High Schools, Colleges and all other groups.*) Jerry and Joe were typical high school Geeks: the popular kids ignored them, the jocks picked on them and the girls didn't know they were alive. Brought together by their love of pulp magazines and science fiction (then called scienti-fiction), they funneled their frustrations as high school outcasts into creating comic characters they dreamed would one day make them famous as comic strip artists. And it was while they were still in high school that they created a character that would become a cultural icon—and the most universally recognized fictional character of the 20th century: Superman! Inspired by the true story of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster—the creators of Superman, award-winning playwright Rob. Lauer has created a comic fable about growing up. The frustration of being an outsider, the excitement of connecting with someone who "gets you," the thrill of creating something new, and the pain of losing what you've created—all of this is brought to life in "Geeks & Gangsters." **ORDER #3065**

**THE ICE FRONT** by Eric Fielding 4f 5m Interior Setting of a theatre, using props and furniture. Costumes of 1943. About 110 minutes. *It takes courage to pretend to be someone you are not in order to be who you are.* The traitorous takeover of Norway by the Nazis during WW2 was not well received by the vast majority of the Norwegians; especially the acting community. The actors of the Norwegian National Theatre find themselves in an uneasy truce with Nazi cultural authorities during the German occupation. Distrust rises to defiance when they are forced to perform a Nazi propaganda piece, conscience comes face-to-face with The Final Solution. Several of the actors were murdered. The remainder were either imprisoned, or forced to flee to neutral Sweden, where they waited out the war. After the war, laws were changed in Norway to allow the execution of traitors. Those responsible for the invasion and the betrayals paid with their lives. THE ICE FRONT honors the heroism of and dangers faced by the trilogy of Nazi victims – Jews, Roma, and Homosexuals – by questioning what it means to be an artist, to be a patriot, to be human. Premiered by Plan-B Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, Utah in 2017. **ORDER #3273**

**THE JUNGLE BOOK** *Adapted by R. Rex Stephenson* from the Kipling stories. (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational, Community and Children's Theatre Groups.* TYA) 90 mins. 11 Male roles(some of the typically male roles may be played by a female), 4 Female roles, 1 of either gender + extras (many of the extras can be children) The play is a masterly example of drama to entertain the whole family, while getting the audience hooked on the pleasures of digging into a classic book and participating in the storytelling process. Like Kipling's original two volumes of *The Jungle Books*, the play contains a collection of short stories and poems. The many generations of readers who have ranked Kipling's books among their favorite stories will appreciate Stephenson's fidelity to the original text. Scenes from the Mowgli stories are arranged in episodes that form a coherent account of Mowgli's young life. The fantasy of talking animals raising an abandoned man-cub makes this play particularly appealing to young children, while both children and adults identify with Mowgli's struggle to find his place in the world. As he is adopted and then cast out by communities of animals and humans, he experiences love as well as rejection. There is a Resource Guide included in the script. **ORDER #3025.**

**MANIFEST** by Mahonri Stewart 1m,1f, + additional performers, if desired. About 90 minutes. Use of puppets also encouraged. One multi-use setting. Contemporary, non-descript costumes as well as Fantasy/Period costumes. Man and Woman are lost and confused in a dark and terrifying

world full of danger, so to comfort each other they tell each other stories. The Golem, The Snow Queen, Maui/Coyote/Loki/Anansi, Li Chi (China), Dushyanta and Sakuntala, Eurydice, Isis/Set/Osiris/Anubis. These stories are taken from mythology and fairy tales from across the world that together form the powerfully meaningful life of humankind. **ORDER #3319**

**ESTHER: QUEEN OF COURAGE** a One-woman play by Myrth Elizabeth Burr. Esther knew that she must approach the King as always with confidence and grace. She stood, for a time, in the outer court of the King's house. She moved from column to column, slowly, dreading each step she must take. She eased into the inner court with all the courage she could muster. She was going before the King to plead for her life and the lives of her people. **ORDER #2090**

**RUTH and NAOMI** (a One-woman play) by Myrth Elizabeth Burr 1W A Story of love filled with heartache, strife and drama. Many believe that Ruth gleaning in the fields for Naomi is the importance of this story. While this is true, I find of more importance is the fact that Ruth was teachable and listened to Naomi who said, "Ruth wouldst thou present thyself in marriage to Boaz that you might have children, raise up a family, and keep our name alive in Israel?" By so doing, Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David of the house of David, therefore the ancestral mother of Jesus Christ. **ORDER #2008**

## ***PREMIERE PLAYS — have had readings but not full productions***

**A.I., TOO** by Mahonri Stewart. 3f, 2m, One simple setting. Modern/Futuristic costumes. About an hour. What is Artificial Intelligence? Like other scientific 'breakthroughs' will this one be misinterpreted? Will the users and creators of this science not explore all the possible ramifications of employing this technology prior to its implementation? *A.I., TOO*, presents a married couple of the near future, recently having purchased an AI unit. Then she/it begins to malfunction. Or is the unit merely becoming self-aware; capable creating a new life for itself, free from that of its creators? How will that self-awareness effect those creators? Sometimes, we forget to think that just because we can do something, doesn't mean that we should. The spiritual implications of Artificial Intelligence are explored when the two married professors accidentally spur identity in their robot and have to deal with the fallout of the new A.I.'s search for meaning. Inspired by a quote from Langston Hughes, "I, Too..." for so a title is derived. **ORDER #3321.**

**LAND OF OZ** Adapted by J. D. Newman (from the L. Frank Baum classic) 5 f, 3 m, 3 either plus 2puppets (doubling possible). 2 interior, 2 exterior settings, simple or elaborate, fantasy costumes. About 50 minutes. (*Perfect for Professional, College/University, Community, High School, Middle School, and other Youth Theatre Groups*) The farmgirl Tip lives in the north of Oz with the scheming witch, Old Mombi. When the witch tries to turn her into a statue, Tip runs away with the help of the pumpkin-man and sawhorse she has brought to life. Tip helps the Scarecrow King escape from the Emerald City after it is conquered by the Army of Revolt. Can Tip find the lost Princess Ozma and bring peace to the Land of Oz? This 50-minute tour-de-force is an ideal school touring show for university and professional theatres. **ORDER #3147**

## ***SHORT PLAYS (Between 35 minutes and 65 minutes long, includes TYA)(in alphabetical order)***

**ALEXANDER AND THE UNITED SNAKES OF AMERICA** by Donald Lewis. One simple setting. 4M 2F 1B 1 either male or female. 1 hour. (*Suitable for ALL groups, TYA*) Homeless Alexander and his dad board a boxcar and head west, in search of a new life. Unfortunately, they share the boxcar with a group of snakes on their way to the United Snakes of America Convention, organized to develop a national strategy for survival. Humans and snakes must overcome differences and find common ground -- or bite the big one! Over the course of the play the two groups are forced to challenge their fears and misconceptions. The play presents vital messages on environmental issues and tolerance. However, it does not deal with the issues of governmental snakes. A physically challenging play for actors. **ORDER #3104**

**CARAVAN** A Happy Journey through the Wisdom Tales of Judaism, Christianity and Islam by Carol Lynn Pearson. Minimum of 8 performers of either gender. Minimal set and costumes. About 45 mins. "An enemy is someone whose story you do not know." This play is a celebration of three cultures that often live in distrust and misunderstanding, but that have much in common and indeed have much to be learned from each other. The framework in which the tales of wisdom are told is that of a Caravan whose sole purpose is to select the next Sultan from the current Sultan's two sons. The trick is that they are seeking the answer to a riddle: *What is the most powerful force in the world?* The wisest answer given upon their return from a year-long quest will become the Sultan. Through dramatic and comic moments the wisdom of Faith in its many faces and aspects is shown; and we find that all Faith stems from the same basic wisdom. **ORDER #3155.**

**DIFFERENT=AMAZING** by Matthew Ivan Bennett. TYA (*For production by Professional, College/University, Community, Church, or High School group performing for young people*) 1M 1W. 40 mins. Simple prop setting. Different does not have to mean weird or bad. In a great many cases, "Different=Amazing." The subject matter of this new play is drawn from real-life bullying experiences of elementary students, including current Salt Lake and Davis County students in Utah. The goal is to provide students with the tools to identify, address, cope and hopefully prevent bullying in their own schools, neighborhoods and lives. Each short piece shows a different dimension of bullying to help students understand the painful effects of bullying and the role they can play in addressing bullying behavior. *Inspired by the 2010 event of the same name.* The original production featured Tyson Baker and Latoya Rhodes, and was directed by Jerry Rapier for Plan-B Theatre in Salt Lake City. **ORDER #3077**

## 2022-2023 *Diaspora* Theatricals Catalog

**INTERSECTION** by Eric Samuelsen 9f About an hour *INTERSECTION* is a snapshot of today's world, a quick glance at troubled friendships, broken families, and domestic violence. Nine young women negotiate a space where evil threatens and violence looms. Premiered as a Plan-B Theatre/Theatre Arts Conservatory co-production in 2009 **Order # 3250**

**INVERSION** a play by Eric Samuelsen. 6f 3m. About 60 minutes. One interior setting. Contemporary costumes. Seven young people find themselves desperately lost in an unexpected fog in the mountains. Taking refuge in a shelter house, they soon realize finding their way out may be more difficult than any of them could have imagined. When a couple of them try to leave, they come back beaten and bloody. When the kids look in the mirror, they go haywire. A horror story told onstage, "Inversion" will keep you on the edge of your seat. Horror? Mystery? Psycho-drama? That is for you and your audience to figure out! Premiered as a Plan-B Theatre/Theatre Arts Conservatory co-production in Salt Lake City at the Rose Wagner Theatre in 2008. Especially designed to be performed by teen actors, aged 14 and up. Some mild language. **Order #3208**

**JUST SO STORIES** (*Tales from the Fractured Side Series*) by E. Gray Simons III • 5 performers, any gender, play 29 characters. **TYA** So, just how do you suppose the leopard got his spots? Why is the elephant's nose so long? Where did the armadillo come from? From the author of *The Jungle Book* comes *Just So Stories*, providing whimsical and witty answers to these questions and more, and offering a new perspective on nature's mysteries. **Order #3180**

**RUFF!** by Jenifer Nii (*For grades K-3 performed by Teens through Adults for Child Audiences*) **1M1F** Anthropomorphic costumes, or simple suggestion. Simple setting. About 35 minutes. **RUFF!** is a metaphorical "tail" of two shelter dogs. Axel and Buddy. Together they discover what's possible when dogs and their people learn to see past stereotypes and summon the courage to be the best they can be. It explores the issues of self-confidence, prejudice, and overcoming fear. **RUFF!** received its world premiere in 2015 as part of Plan-B's third annual Free Elementary School Tour. A Plan-B Theatre Company Play. **Order #3203**

**SLAYING THE GREEBLE** by Eric Samuelsen. **TYA**. 4f, 1m voice. Interior Setting: teen bedroom +several other simple areas. Contemporary costumes. About 40 minutes. We hear it all the time. "I met him on the internet." That simple statement that sends shockwaves through parents and other adults. So why do young people keep quiet about it? They've heard the stories. They know there are dangers out there. But they also know that nothing like that could ever happen to them. This play will show the errors in that way of thinking. Two best friends on the same soccer team meet The Greeble in a soccer chat room. One is afraid, one is intrigued... And it deteriorates from there. Premiered at the WDA Workshop at Brigham Young University, 2001. **ORDER #3270**

## ***ONE-ACTS (Under 35 minutes long, includes TYA)(in alphabetical order)[10-Minute Plays follow in their own category.]***

**DEATH OF EURYDICE** by Mahonri Stewart Run Time: 20 mins. Cast Size: 2 (1f, 1m) Setting is suggested to employ multi-media screens but the play can be performed without them, if desired. In this successful and beautiful short play that has been performed in theater festivals in Los Angeles and Switzerland, a woman find herself on a boat with a mysterious stranger. It's not long before she discovers that she's in the Underworld, struggling to find meaning and purpose in her life and death. This is also included as a segment of the full length play *Manifest*. Premiered by the FEATS Theatre Festival in Switzerland, 2011. **ORDER #3314**

**DO I LOOK LIKE ANYONE?** A short play by Sheila Rinear. 2W. 20 minutes. Meeting your Birth Mother? Important, but not the most important moment in your life. Getting to see the long-lost child you had to give up, for whatever reason? Important, but... How can these moments compare to the moment when you realize that the parents who have lavished their love and concern over you are not your real mother and father? That is the moment of sunning silence for the child. And for the Birth Mother? The moment when you wish you had not given up your child. What comes between these two moments? Lives lived through wishing/remembering; by hopes and regret; by longing to see... These are the moments that fill this short mono-play. How does it end? That is up to you, because we never see them meet, but we will each bring our own perspective to the events portrayed and their probable, for us, outcome. This is strong, vital theatre that leaves us with necessary questions. For through this play we will have examined our lives a little; relived our dreams, hopes, demons; visited the memories of our own families. This docu-drama is perfect for live or online presentation. Easy to stage or capture as an online event. **Order#3188**

**FLORA MEETS A BEE** by Morag Shepherd **TYA** 1 Latina (age 8), 1 either gender (can be played by teens/adults) About 30 minutes. Eight-year-old Flora has lived in six foster homes since the age of five. One day Flora meets Bee and their budding friendship changes everything. A humorous and heartwarming tale of foster care, the importance of the hive, and the power of friendship. *For grades K-3* **Order #3252**

**THE GIRL WHO FOUND FEAR** by Genevieve Aichele. **TYA** 3f, 1m, 9 either. Ethnic or modern Costumes. Simple Settings in 5 locations. About 25 minutes. Fear. We all know about it, have even experienced it in our lives. But we have never really gong looking for it — or have we? This story from Turkey follows a young girl on her quest to find fear. The problem is that she was never afraid — of anything. Demons are a great place to discover fear, but how about the places deep inside of us, where maybe we have not even dared to look? Part of the **TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD SERIES**. **ORDER #3138**

**REFLECTION** by Mahonri Stewart. **RUN TIME:** 20-30 minutes. **CAST SIZE:** 2 (1 f, 1m) In this tragic retelling of the story of Medusa, Medusa's

traumatic backstory is revealed and her traditional role as a villain and a monster is challenged. An intentional companion piece for another of Mahonri Stewart's one-acts, "The Death of Eurydice." **ORDER #3322**

**RIVER.SWAMP.CAVE.MOUNTAIN.** by Elaine Jarvik TYA 1f 1m or 1m1f4either [running time 30 minutes] This is the story of five-year-old JJ (who has lots of questions) and eight-year-old Izzy (a know-it-all who doesn't know it all), siblings who have recently lost their grandmother. They embark on a funny and touching hero's journey to try to make sense of loss, grief, death and life. Exploring this timely topic with humor and heart, everyone learns of resiliency and "sticky" emotions, while being able to see themselves reflected in these characters and draw support and strength from their experience with the play. **ORDER #3251**

## **TEN-MINUTE PLAYS**

**ALL THE WRONG MOVES** by Patricia Mew 2m 2f 1either. 1 interior. Two millennial couples meeting at a restaurant for an evening out encounter difficulties communicating with one another, producing hilarious results. The physicality of this 10 minute play is reminiscent of Samuel Beckett's only slightly longer, "Act Without Words"; but this show is funny! **Order #3148**

**SPOILED CHEESE** a 10-minute play by Eric Samuelsen. 1f 1m 1either. Picture a post-apocalyptic scenario, with an Adam and Eve, now ejected from a Garden, ruefully remembering various cheeses they recall having eaten. Intriguing? Well, as usual, Asproft puts his/her two-cents worth into the mix. Premiered by Plan-B Theatre Company as part of their SLAM 2005. **ORDER # 3260**

## **THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES [TYA] (by any age performer)**

### **TYA MUSICALS:**

**AND THE RAINS CAME ... AND CAME** Adapted from the Biblical story of Noah. Book and Lyrics by R. Rex Stephenson. Music by Gary Evans. (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational, Community and Church Groups*) About 90 mins. Cast of 17 + children (6 male roles, 2 female roles + ensemble + children) Rex originally wrote the play when the world was entering a new millennium. He thought that the story best typified the 'new beginning' that the world was facing; a story filled with both good and evil, trust and mistrust, obedience and disobedience, and with believing and disbelieving. But the appeal goes beyond any millennium and gets right down to what makes us tick. This Intergenerational Theatre Piece uses multi-age casting to achieve its objective: bringing its message to a broad, family audience. The score is fun and moves the show along. Also included in the evening are moments of great poignancy, such as the surprise ending of the play. There is a Resource Guide included in the script. **ORDER #3023.**

**DANIEL!** (A Hilariously Moving Evening for the Family) A Musical based on the Bible Story (as you've never seen it before!) Book and Lyrics by R. Rex Stephenson. Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry (*Suitable for Professional, College/University, Educational and Community Groups.*) 9M 5F + ensemble and children. Some male roles may be played by females. Unit Setting. About 2 hours. The story of the faithfulness of Daniel and his "brothers" has inspired generations. While this is a comedy at heart, it is filled with faith and hope and inspiration as we see the examples of dedication to God. We see the change of heart as a King unburdens himself to the Most High God. We witness the writing on the wall, we visit the Fiery Furnace and the Den of Lions with the cutest little lions ever. The music covers a wide range of styles and will help this show entertain any family audience. Songs include: HOW GREAT THE WONDERS, PLOTTING, WE AIN'T HEARD NOTHIN' YET!, THE DREAM, INTO THE FIRE!, THIS IS MY NEW ADMINISTRATION, WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME?, and others. **ORDER #3020**

**IT'S UP TO ME** A Musical Revue by Mark Ogden. 1M 2W 7boys 10girls 1dog(played by either gender) about 90 minutes. Unit setting with many locations suggested by props and furniture, contemporary costumes. (**Perfect for Middle Schools, Junior High Schools, High Schools, Youth groups**) Based on Dr. Abraham Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs", this is a fun approach to a serious subject. Welcome to the typical American neighborhood where eighteen kids of all ages – kids of all kinds – are learning to identify their needs and taking responsibility for filling them. Well, they're supposed to be taking responsibility, but a few of them are dodging it at every turn. Some are trying to escape completely! Their quest for self-discovery has been stifled by the discovery of drugs – and other distractions. But they're not your kids! Or are they? We encourage families to see this show together for an educational, enjoyable way to help create a happier, healthier world! **ORDER #3165**

**MERLIN'S APPRENTICE** Book by *Susan Kim*, Lyrics by *Stephen Cole*, Music by *Matthew Ward*. 1g, 3f, 1m, 1either, (playing multiple roles) About 60 minutes. Fantasy and Modern Day sets and costumes. Trying to fit into a new home and struggling with school, 11-year old Abigail yearns for magic... and accidentally falls into the underground kingdom of Subterra. She is sent on a hilarious quest by the duplicitous Morgan Le Fay; and as she and a hapless Merlin are joined by a singing harp, a talking dog, and others, Abigail finds she needs cleverness and science to save the day – and restore kindness and reason to Subterra. Commissioned by Walden Media, this delightful tale of magic and growing up was a big hit at the Walden Family Playhouse in Colorado. Welcome to the Magic! **Order # 3282**

**misFITTING IN** Book and Lyrics by Jamie Young Music and Lyrics by Rick Rea An original, anti-bullying musical about a boy, Ben, who is new at

school and is trying to find his place to fit in with the other kids. As he struggles to make new friends, he is faced with a difficult choice of following the crowd or being true to himself. This show is an excellent story that presents powerful messages in an amusing, creative way that will keep both kids and adults entertained until the very end. **ORDER #3151**

**RAPUNZARELLA WHITE: A Fairly Fractured Tale** — Book and Lyrics by June Rachelson-Ospa Music by Daniel Neiden. TYA Musical. 6f 6m leither (4f, 4m with doubling) Simple Set. Fairy Tale Costumes. 60 Minutes. The setup for this fractured tale is told by – wait for it – Herschel, the Fairy “Tailor,” complete with Yiddish accent. RAPUNZARELLA WHITE follows three baby triplets, Rapunzel, Cinderella, and Snow White, who are cursed, stolen and made miserable by their mother’s angry sister. When the Witch casts an evil spell, each sister is catapulted into her own fractured fairytale—Rapunzel craves junk food, Cinderella has self-esteem issues, Snow White is allergic to apples, and each dreams of being rescued by a handsome Prince. Beau, Barry, and Burly-Bob may be a little more bashful and bumbling than bright, but with the help of the Fairy Tailor and a little magic, they all live happily ever after! The narrator conducts the Bullwinkle-style 70-minute family musical for 8-18 actors. It can be performed to existing orchestrated tracks or a fully arranged score for a pit band. **ORDER #3342**

**THE SIDESHOW** a musical about young people (and the grown-ups who teach them.) by Mark Ogden 2M 1W 3B 3G + optional ensemble. About 90 minutes. *Perfect show for Middle Schools, Junior Highs, High Schools and Youth Groups using age-appropriate casting, or for College & University, Community and Professional Groups where older actors can play the younger roles, or casting can be age-appropriate.* WHAT ABOUT JOE AVERAGE? WHERE DOES HE FIT IN? Joel Barker, looking back on his childhood, when he was just Joe Average, interacts with the memories of his past. Younger Joey was competent, fun, and talented in ways that don’t regularly stand out. His father was the principal of The Institute for Gifted Children, and after a divorce, young Joey goes to live with his dad and go to school there. He meets the other kids of varying ages, who are all genius at something. He doesn’t fit in. He wonders why his mom sent him and his dad pushed him into this school. But then, a gifted, young teacher, Liz, with more vision than her principal, whom she used to be sweet on, shows him that the things that make Joey ordinary begin to make him stand out, and he soon finds a place, and even more important, acceptance, into this weird and wacky club of Gifted Misfits. The "Dream/Nightmare" sequence roasts the dark side of special programs for any student or group of students: that our educational system -- and its administrators -- tend to exploit our gifted youth for their own gain and betterment -- and the dollars that are out there to be had in grant money. A totally terrific score fuels this musical with a message that says “it’s ok to be ordinary, for ordinary people always find their place ... and run the world.” Orchestrations are available for: *Clarinet/Alto Sax, Trumpet, Guitar, Banjo, Drums, Bass.* **ORDER #3158.**

## TYA SHORT MUSICALS:

**WELCOME TO TOURETTAVILLE** by June Rachelson-Ospa, Jonathan Ospa, and Daniel Neiden. 2f 3m. RUNNING TIME: About 35 mins. Simple setting, if any. Contemporary and fun costumes. *WELCOME TO TOURETTAVILLE* is a story about a boy named Mark Brayne, (a fictional twin for Jonathan), who discovers he has TS. Mark travels to the planet Tourettaville, where he comes face to face with aliens Tick, Blinky, Screamer and their leader, the Big Bleeper. The aliens befriend Mark, inspiring him to self-acceptance and a new self-confidence, and sing, "One Of A Kind You." NOTE: Fast forward to 2012. Jon is attending his third year at a wonderful college. He's studying film, is a great guitar player and an award-winning writer of plays, and short stories. TS didn't stop Jon from pursuing his dreams and becoming a successful, wonderful young man. And he never did turn into an alien. **Order #3341.**

## TYA PLAYS: (Over 70 minutes)

**AMERICAN DREAMS: Immigration Stories** by Linda Britt. 18Females 12 Males. Doubling possible, but not recommended. About 90 minutes. Simple set, costumes. *(Ideal for Professional, Amateur and Educational theatrical productions groups.)* A powerful, moving, and timely monologue play about immigration, with stories that are sometimes funny, occasionally ironic, and too often heartbreaking. The Iranian student afraid to return to her country, the mother who misses her homeland, the Afghan translator who fears for his comrades, the migrant worker who hasn’t known any other life, the Canadian who just wanted to get away from the cold, the Russian mother of a newborn American citizen, the Polish scientist who thought he had done everything right... each a unique perspective, and together they make up America’s immigration story. 30 monologues, adapted with permission from interviews with immigrants to the U.S., are ordered in a fluid construct, easily adaptable to available performers as far as age, gender and ethnicity. See the website for very flexible royalty terms. **ORDER #3331**

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## ***TYA PLAYS: (Under 70 minutes)***

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**DO I LOOK LIKE ANYONE?** A short play by Sheila Rinear. 2W. 20 minutes. Meeting your Birth Mother? Important, but not the most important moment in your life. Getting to see the long-lost child you had to give up, for whatever reason? Important, but... How can these moments compare to the moment when you realize that the parents who have lavished their love and concern over you are not your real mother and father? That is the moment of sunning silence for the child. And for the Birth Mother? The moment when you wish you had not given up your child. What comes between these two moments? Lives lived through wishing/remembering; by hopes and regret; by longing to see... These are the moments that fill this short mono-play. How does it end? That is up to you, because we never see them meet, but we will each bring our own perspective to the events portrayed and their probable, for us, outcome. This is strong, vital theatre that leaves us with necessary questions. For through this play we will have examined our lives a little; relived our dreams, hopes, demons; visited the memories of our own families. This docu-drama is perfect for live or online presentation. Easy to stage or capture as an online event. **Order#3188**

**INTERSECTION** by Eric Samuelsen 9f About an hour *INTERSECTION* is a snapshot of today's world, a quick glance at troubled friendships, broken families, and domestic violence. Nine young women negotiate a space where evil threatens and violence looms. Premiered as a Plan-B Theatre/Theatre Arts Conservatory co-production in 2009 **Order # 3250**

**INVERSION** a play by Eric Samuelsen. 6f 3m. About 60 minutes. One interior setting. Contemporary costumes. Seven young people find themselves desperately lost in an unexpected fog in the mountains. Taking refuge in a shelter house, they soon realize finding their way out may be more difficult than any of them could have imagined. When a couple of them try to leave, they come back beaten and bloody. When the kids look in the mirror, they go haywire. A horror story told onstage, “Inversion” will keep you on the edge of your seat. Horror? Mystery? Psycho-drama? That is for you and your audience to figure out! Premiered as a Plan-B Theatre/Theatre Arts Conservatory co-production in Salt Lake City at the Rose Wagner Theatre in 2008. Especially designed to be performed by teen actors, aged 14 and up. Some mild language. **Order #3208**

**JUST SO STORIES** (*Tales from the Fractured Side Series*) by E. Gray Simons III • 5 performers, any gender, play 29 characters. *TYA* So, just how do you suppose the leopard got his spots? Why is the elephant’s nose so long? Where did the armadillo come from? From the author of *The Jungle Book* comes *Just So Stories*, providing whimsical and witty answers to these questions and more, and offering a new perspective on nature’s mysteries. **Order #318**

**REFLECTION** by Mahonri Stewart. RUN TIME: 20-30 minutes. CAST SIZE: 2 (1f, 1m) In this tragic retelling of the story of Medusa, Medusa’s traumatic backstory is revealed and her traditional role as a villain and a monster is challenged. An intentional companion piece for another of Mahonri Stewart’s one-acts, “The Death of Eurydice.” **ORDER #3322**

**RIVER.SWAMP.CAVE.MOUNTAIN.** by Elaine Jarvik 1f 1m or 1m1f4either [running time 30 minutes] This is the story of five-year-old JJ (who has lots of questions) and eight-year-old Izzy (a know-it-all who doesn’t know it all), siblings who have recently lost their grandmother. They embark on a funny and touching hero’s journey to try to make sense of loss, grief, death and life. Exploring this timely topic with humor and heart, everyone learns of resiliency and “sticky” emotions, while being able to see themselves reflected in these characters and draw support and strength from their experience with the play. **ORDER #3251**

**RUFF!** by Jenifer Nii (*For grades K-3 performed by Teens through Adults for Child Audiences*) **1M1F** Anthropomorphic costumes, or simple suggestion. Simple setting. About 35 minutes. RUFF! is a metaphorical “tail” of two shelter dogs. Axel and Buddy. Together they discover what’s possible when dogs and their people learn to see past stereotypes and summon the courage to be the best they can be. It explores the issues of self-confidence, prejudice, and overcoming fear. RUFF! received its world premiere in 2015 as part of Plan-B’s third annual Free Elementary School Tour. A Plan-B Theatre Company Play. **Order #3203**

**SLAYING THE GREEBLE** by Eric Samuelsen. TYA. 4f, 1m voice. Interior Setting: teen bedroom +several other simple areas. Contemporary costumes. About 40 minutes. We hear it all the time. “I met him on the internet.” That simple statement that sends shockwaves through parents and other adults. So why do young people keep quiet about it? They’ve heard the stories. They know there are dangers out there. But they also know that nothing like that could ever happen to them. This play will show the errors in that way of thinking. Two best friends on the same soccer team meet The Greeble in a soccer chat room. One is afraid, one is intrigued... And it deteriorates from there. Premiered at the WDA Workshop at Brigham Young University, 2001. **ORDER #3270**

## SOLO PERFORMANCE PIECES

**AMERICAN DREAMS: Immigration Stories** by Linda Britt. 18Females 12 Males. Doubling possible, but not recommended. About 90 minutes. Simple set, costumes. (*Ideal for Professional, Amateur and Educational theatrical productions groups.*) A powerful, moving, and timely monologue play about immigration, with stories that are sometimes funny, occasionally ironic, and too often heartbreaking. The Iranian student afraid to return to her country, the mother who misses her homeland, the Afghan translator who fears for his comrades, the migrant worker who hasn't known any other life, the Canadian who just wanted to get away from the cold, the Russian mother of a newborn American citizen, the Polish scientist who thought he had done everything right... each a unique perspective, and together they make up America's immigration story. 30 monologues, adapted with permission from interviews with immigrants to the U.S., are ordered in a fluid construct, easily adaptable to available performers as far as age, gender and ethnicity. See the website for very flexible royalty terms. **ORDER #3331**

**IRVING BERLIN: IN PERSON** Written and Arranged by Chip Deffaa. Music and Lyrics by Irving Berlin. 1 M, 1 Piano Player. About 90 mins. Open Stage with props and furniture. (*For professional, college/university, community production*) Berlin was a small boy when his family--with little more than the clothes they were wearing--fled Russia to escape religious persecution. He never had much formal education. He never learned to read or write down music. But he gave the world songs that will live forever. This is the first--and only, as of this date--one-man show ever to be written and published about Irving Berlin. For a strong triple-threat performer, it's a wonderful showcase. Berlin made more money and wrote more hits than any of his so-called competitors. This dynamic solo show includes 40 Berlin songs--some famous, some rarities and rediscoveries; all irresistible. **ORDER #3115.**

**ONE NIGHT WITH FANNY BRICE** by Chip Deffaa. (*For production by Professionals, College/Universities and Community Groups*) One-woman show. Simple unit set. 90 minutes. Fanny Brice worked her way up from singing on street corners for pennies as a kid, to burlesque, to Broadway... to becoming America's highest-paid singing comedienne. She fell for a dashing confidence man, Nicky Arnstein--and when she introduced her immortal "My Man," the whole country knew she was singing about him. There's no better showcase to be found anywhere for a strong triple-threat actress than "One Night with Fanny Brice." The score mixes fierce torch songs (like "My Man," "After You've Gone," "Baby Won't You Please Come Home") with irresistible comedy numbers ("Second-Hand Rose," "Oh, How I Hate that Fellow Nathan"), ragtime ("That Mysterious Rag") and vintage pop ("Lovie Joe," "Rose of Washington Square"). The actress gets to sing, to dance; to go from laughs to pathos, triumphs to heartbreaks... and back again. The show was originally produced Off-Broadway in New York at St. Luke's Theater; it has subsequently been revived twice in New York by The 13<sup>th</sup> Street Repertory Company. It has been equally well-received in productions at the American Century Theater, Arlington, Virginia; the Rosen Theater, Wayne, New Jersey; and at the Phoenix Stage, Naugatuck, Connecticut. It has been produced at the Open-Eye Theater, Margaretville, New York. Everyone loves a good rags-to-riches story. One small section of the play has a repetition of coarse language. **ORDER #3078**

**ESTHER: QUEEN OF COURAGE** a One-woman play by Myrth Elizabeth Burr. Esther knew that she must approach the King as always with confidence and grace. She stood, for a time, in the outer court of the King's house. She moved from column to column, slowly, dreading each step she must take. She eased into the inner court with all the courage she could muster. She was going before the King to plead for her life and the lives of her people. **ORDER #2090**

**RUTH and NAOMI** (a One-woman play) by Myrth Elizabeth Burr 1W A Story of love filled with heartache, strife and drama. Many believe that Ruth gleaning in the fields for Naomi is the importance of this story. While this is true, I find of more importance is the fact that Ruth was teachable and listened to Naomi who said, "Ruth wouldst thou present thyself in marriage to Boaz that you might have children, raise up a family, and keep our name alive in Israel?" By so doing, Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David of the house of David, therefore the ancestral mother of Jesus Christ. **ORDER #2008**

## ORIGINAL CAST ALBUMS AND DVDs

- **Esther-A Musical Schpiel** -- Original Cast CD
- **Irving Berlin: In Person** -- Concept CD • NYC Production
- **Irving Berlin: In Person** -- Original Cast CD (soon) • NYC Production
- **The Irving Berlin Ragtime Revue** -- Cast CD (soon)
- **The Magician's Apprentice** — Original Cast Album • Walden Family Theatre
- **One Night With Fanny Brice** -- Original Cast CD
- **One Night With Fanny Brice** -- New York Cast CD • NYC Production
- **Whatever: The Story of Abraham** -- Original Live Cast CD

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