

 DalekoArts

Presents

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APRIL 28
- MAY 14
2017

7:30PM ON FRIDAYS
& SATURDAYS
2PM ON SUNDAYS

FOR TIX: 952-314-9077 OR
VISIT DALEKOARTS.COM

BOOK BY TERENCE MCNALLY
MUSIC BY JOHN KANDER
LYRICS BY FRED EBB
DIRECTED BY MATT MCNABB



HI THERE, AND THANKS FOR JOINING US AT *THE RINK!*

I hope you remembered your skates. And some change for the pay phone.
And... well, your bell bottoms.

At first glance, the Venn diagram of “things that happen in *The Rink*” and “things that happen here in New Prague” shows almost no crossover. The people you’re about to spend a couple hours with are largely from some loud, crass, Italian immigrant families living on the Atlantic seaboard in the 1970s — think old-school “Jersey Shore.” They run carnival attractions for a living, they scream at each other a lot, they wear their emotions on their sleeves, they make lewd hand gestures whenever the mood strikes. Also... they sing the most glorious songs.

If you change up some of the cultural references, some of the idiosyncrasies, then the Antonelli, Pegedis, and Desantis families may start to feel a little bit like our families who live here, on this “boardwalk”... or on any boardwalk. They know too much about each other’s business, they gossip about each other freely but they just dare you to say a word about any of their own. They reminisce about the “old days,” they wish things were like they used to be... kids these days. The best times were the times when they were growing up, whether they’re 25 or 85 — if you ask them, it’s all gone downhill from there. They love each other fiercely in both destructive and healthy ways. They are not always kind to each other, not always generous about each other’s motives.

They also want nothing more than to spend their lives with each other, their blood and chosen families, living out both the familiar and the brand new. The characters you’ll meet in *The Rink* may sing about it on cue, but that’s the only real difference; they live out their lives in search of the same meaning, acceptance, and love that we seek out here in our little North Country community.

In the middle of Act I, we find the prodigal daughter, Angel, telling her mother what she misses about home. She has returned to the rink after years of wandering the country in search of something. Angel sings: “Our lives are filled with strings, connected to familiar things, and all of mine are here...” No matter where home is, the old saying must be true — for better or worse, it’s where the heart is. We’re proud that the cast of *The Rink* has called the Prague Theatre home and heart for a few weeks, and we’re grateful to share it with you. Bentornato a casa!

Enjoy the show,

Ben, Amanda, and the DalekoArts team



book by TERRANCE MCNALLY
music by JOHN KANDER | lyrics by FRED EBB
directed by MATT MCNABB
music direction by ANTHONY J SOFIE | choreography by LAURI KRAFT

TIME: Late 1970s | **PLACE:** Atlantic seaboard

CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

ANGEL	Amanda White*
LITTLE GIRL	Madeline Sundheim
WRECKER/PAPA ANTONELLI	Tom Karki*
WRECKER/DINO	Bobby Gardner*
WRECKER/BOBBY PERILLO	Ryan Lee
WRECKER/LENNY	Ben Thietje*
WRECKER/DANNY	Armando Harlow Ronconi
ANNA	Karen Weber

PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER	Callie Meiners
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Trevor Muller-Hegel
SCENIC DESIGNER	Jane Raine
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Adam Raine
COSTUME DESIGNER	Sara Wilcox
SOUND DESIGNER	Kevin Springer
PROPS DESIGNER	Sarah Salisbury
SCENIC PAINTER	Ellie Ricci
DIALECT COACH	Keely Wolter

BAND

KEYBOARD	Anthony J Sofie*
PERCUSSION	Jack Pirner

* denotes company member



DalekoArts (pronounced DELL-uh-koh) works with professional artists to create ensemble-based live performance centered in and around New Prague, Minnesota. We are committed to being a positive force for high-quality theatrical performance and arts education. We train and work under a great and spirited legacy: the rich artistic heritage of the Midwest.

OUR VISION

DalekoArts will be a known destination for quality performing arts and education in New Prague and the surrounding southern metropolitan communities.

OUR STORY

DalekoArts was founded in 2012 by theatre artists Ben Thietje and Amanda White as a way to help decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota.

New Prague was chosen as the company's home due to the community's extraordinary interest in theatre, the regional growth and development it has experienced in the last decade, its relative proximity to the Twin Cities, and its close ties to the founders.

"Daleko"—a Czech word meaning "far away"—reflects New Prague's strong bohemian roots, its spatial relationship to the cultural hub that is the Twin Cities, and the ensemble's desire to step back and examine the world from a new point of view.

DalekoArts is a proud member of Theatre Communications Group and the Network of Ensemble Theaters.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

BOBBY GARDNER (WRECKER/DINO)

Bobby is a local actor/improviser/educator and DalekoArts Company member. He was seen this season in *Adventures in Mating* and *Snowed Inn*, and has also appeared in *Forever Plaid*, and *Proof* (season one). He's performed with other local theatre companies like the Chanhassen Dinner Theater, Troupe America, and Flip Theatre. Bobby also works for the Brave New Workshop comedy theatre in Minneapolis. Bobby has a degree in theatre from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Big love to "Jar Jar Binks," who is his favorite Star Wars character of all time.

TOM KARKI (WRECKER/PAPA ANTONELLI)

Tom is thrilled to be returning for his fifth season with DalekoArts. A graduate of the University of Minnesota—Duluth, he has performed numerous theatre and opera roles across the country. His favorites include: Norbert in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, Baker in *Into the Woods*, Melania in *I Love Trump! the Musical*, Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*, Anatoly in *Chess*, and Tad in *Bright Lights, Big City*. Tom would like to thank his family and friends for their constant love and support; especially his wife, Chris, and his awesome son, Deven!

LAURI KRAFT (CHOREOGRAPHER)

Lauri is a Twin Cities-based performer and choreographer. Choreography credits include *Shrek the Musical* (Lyric Arts); *La Cage Aux Folles* (Chicago area); *COMPANY* (Shoot the Glass Theater); and *Anything Goes* (Lyric Arts, July 2017). Lauri was also choreographer for DalekoArts' *Stones in His Pockets*. Local performing credits include Theatre Latté Da, Minnesota Opera, Minnesota Orchestra, Skylark Opera, Artistry and Lyric Arts. Previously, she performed in Washington, D.C. and Chicago, and toured nationally in *A Chorus Line*.

RYAN LEE (WRECKER/BOBBY PERILLO)

Alongside acting, Ryan has been writing, recording, and performing music as an original singer/songwriter for the past 15 years. He performs regularly, has toured nationally and released five albums as an independent artist. Favorite productions as an actor include *A Christmas Carole Petersen*, *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, *Arcadia*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *1940's Radio Hour*, *Lost in Yonkers*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This is his first production with DalekoArts and he is absolutely thrilled to be part of this wonderful team!

MATT MCNABB (DIRECTOR)

Matt is honored to work with the wonderful people at DalekoArts! He previously designed lights for *The Odd Couple*, *Almost, Maine*, *Proof*, and *Urinetown*. He also directed *Always...*

Patsy Cline. Matt is an active director, lighting designer, and actor throughout the Twin Cities. In 2013, he was named a resident director at Lyric Arts Company of Anoka. Many thanks to this wonderful group of actors, musicians, and designers! Enjoy the show!

CALLIE MEINERS (STAGE MANAGER)

Callie is a theatre artist based out of Minneapolis. She primarily works as a director, and was fortunately coaxed into coming out of stage management retirement to work with Daleko. Callie has previously stage managed for Walking Shadow Theater Company, BOOM Theater, and Hope Theater Company. Thanks to her amazing friends and family for their support, and to Ben and Amanda for this amazing opportunity.

JACK PIRNER (PERCUSSION)

Jack is studying biology at the University of Minnesota, where he is involved in the jazz program. He is thrilled to be playing his fourth show with DalekoArts; the first three were *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, and *Urinetown*.

ADAM RAINE (LIGHTING DESIGNER)

Adam received his MFA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2015 and has been working around the Twin Cities for the past three years. This is his second production with DalekoArts (*The Shape of Things*), and he is very excited to be working on this project. For more information, visit adamsrainedesigns.com.

JANE RAINE (SCENIC DESIGNER)

Jane is a freelance Scenic Designer & Scenic Artist based in the Twin Cities. Some of her favorite designs include *Wait Until Dark* for DalekoArts, *Frankie & Johnny...* for Casting Spells Productions, *Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)* for Lakeshore Players Theater, and *Christmas in the Airwaves* for LyricArts. Jane is glad to be joining DalekoArts for a second season and excited to help bring this story to life. She'd like to thank her husband Adam for his unending support. JaneRaineDesigns.com

ARMANDO HARLOW RONCONI (WRECKER/DANNY)

Armando is thrilled to be making his DalekoArts debut as one of the Wreckers in *The Rink*. He received his BA in Theatre Arts and minor in dance at Marquette University. He is a founding member of The Summit Players, a traveling ensemble dedicated to providing free Shakespearean workshops and shows throughout the Wisconsin state parks during the summer. Since moving to the Twin Cities in 2015, he has worked with Chameleon, Gaddy, Freshwater, and

CLIMB Theatre. You can see Armando next in Lyric Arts' Anything Goes from July 14–August 6!

SARAH SALISBURY (PROPS DESIGNER)

Sarah is thrilled to be back for her second show with Daleko (*Stones in His Pockets*)! Sarah also does props for Illusion Theater, Walking Shadow Theater Company, and Hennepin Theater Trust. Besides that, Sarah stage manages for Rhythmically Speaking, Eclectic Edge Ensemble, and Alternative Motion Project. She also is the Production Manager of Illusion Theater, as well as the Haunted Basement.

ANTHONY J SOFIE (MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

Anthony is excited to return to DalekoArts, where he has music directed *Urinetown*, *Forever Plaid*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Always...Patsy Cline*, as well as taking the stage as “Dino” in the Main Street Holiday shows. Anthony is active in the Twin Cities metro area as a music director, accompanist, vocal coach, conductor and dialect coach. As a singer and actor, he has performed with the Dale Warland Singers, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale, Minnesota Opera, Minneapolis Musical Theatre and Chameleon Theatre Circle. He currently serves as music director at St. Anne’s Episcopal Church and music director and accompanist for Park Center High School in Brooklyn Park.

KEVIN SPRINGER (SOUND DESIGNER)

Kevin was born and raised in Litchfield, Minnesota and is a recent graduate of the Theatre Design and Technology program at the University of Minnesota. Recent work includes the sound design for *Dutchman* and *The Owl Answers* for Penumbra Theatre Company, *A Christmas Carole Petersen* with Theater Latté Da, and *Dinner at Eight* with Minnesota Opera.

MADELINE SUNDHEIM (LITTLE GIRL)

Madeline is delighted to making her DalekoArts debut! Madeline’s recent theater credits include *Cinderella* (Children’s Theatre Company); *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical* (Ordway); *Fiddler On The Roof* (Bielke, Artistry); *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Lucy Pevensie, Open Window Theatre); *Disney’s Mary Poppins* (Jane Banks, St. Anthony Community Theater); *Annie* (July, Lakeshore Players); *Joseph...Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Black Dirt Theater). Madeline has danced with Ballet Royale MN, Twin Cities Ballet and Studio Vibe. Thanks to God, family, friends, and the cast for their love and support.

BEN THIETJE (WRECKER/LENNY)

Ben has been working as a professional theatre artist and educator in the Twin Cities metro area for fifteen years. He teaches and directs

THE artists

theatre at New Prague High School, and holds a degree in Theatre Arts from Minnesota State University, Mankato. In addition to being Daleko's Co-Artistic Director, he's appeared in the company's productions of *The Odd Couple*; *Forever Plaid*; *Almost, Maine*; *Rancho Mirage*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Love Letters*; *Urinetown*; and *Stones in His Pockets* in addition to serving as director for this season's *Snowed Inn*.

KAREN WEBER (ANNA)

Karen is very happy to be making her DalekoArts debut with the talented cast and crew of *The Rink*. Thanks to all for this wonderful opportunity. Representative Theater — The History Theatre, The Ordway Center, Park Square Theatre, Minneapolis Musical Theatre, Bloomington Civic Theatre, The Plymouth Playhouse, Troupe America, Actors Theater of MN, Theater Latte Da, Theatre in the Round, Gremlin Theatre, The Playwrights' Center, Illusion Theater, The Empty Space Collective and Nautilus Music-Theater. Favorite roles include Charlotte (*A Little Night Music*), Margaret (*The Light in the Piazza*), Diana (*Next To Normal*) Lucy (*Jekyll and Hyde*), Eva Peron (*Evita*), Phyllis (*Follies*), the Witch (*Into the Woods*), Suzy (*Wait Until Dark*), Fiona (*How the Other Half Loves*), Nellie Bly (*FireBall*), Rosa (*Burning Patience*), Jessica (*Communicating Doors*), Meredith (*Bat Boy, the Musical*), Rosie (*Simpatico*), The Beggar Woman (*Sweeney Todd*), and Maureen (*To All Men Named Jackson*).

AMANDA WHITE (ANGEL)

Amanda is so proud to be a part of this talented cast. She has directed *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Barefoot in the Park*, and *The Odd Couple* for DalekoArts. On the DA stage, she's played Dorothy in *Main Street Holiday*, Tracy Lord in *The Philadelphia Story*, Pam Caldwell in *Rancho Mirage*, Catherine in *Proof*, and Miranda in *Adventures in Mating*. Amanda was also recently in Artistry MN's production of *Doubt*, directed by Daleko favorite Joshua James Campbell. Amanda is honored to be on the team at Normandale Community College, where she is teaching in the Performance track. She has trained at Columbia University's Program in Arts Administration, MSU Mankato, Truman State University, and the School at Steppenwolf.

SARA WILCOX (COSTUME DESIGNER)

Sara is pleased to work with DalekoArts again, having previously costumed *Proof* for the company. Sara regularly designs costumes for Old Log Theater, most recently *Savannah Sipping Society*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, and *Reluctant Dragon*. She has also costumed productions of *The River*, *The Christians*, *The Coward*, and *Gabriel* at Walking Shadow Theatre, as well as shows at DeLaSalle

High School, Sidekick Theater, Actors Theater of MN, Stages Theatre, Hennepin Stages, Eye of the Storm, and various other Twin Cities theaters. Sara holds a BFA in Costume Design from DePaul University.

KEELY WOLTER (DIALECT COACH)

Keely holds an MA in Voice Studies from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. She has served as a voice and accent coach with HBO, the University of Minnesota/Guthrie BFA Actor Training Program, Jungle Theater, Children's Theater Company, Old Log Theater, Walking Shadow Theater Company, Torch Theater, St. Olaf College, Lyric Arts Main Street Stage, and many others. Keely is also a member of VASTA, and a regular contributor to the VASTA Voice publication. This is Keely's second production with DalekoArts (*Stones in His Pockets*).

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