

# PIPPIN

*A musical comedy by  
Roger O. Hirson*

*Music & Lyrics by  
Stephen Schwartz*

*presented by*

**Mill City Productions**

**Friday  
June 15  
8 pm**

**Saturday  
June 16  
8 pm**

**Sunday  
June 17  
2 pm**

**Friday  
June 22  
8 pm**

**Saturday  
June 23  
8 pm**



Pippin is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by  
MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Tel.: (212)541-4684 Fax: (212)397-4684 [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

# **The Creative Team**

**Directed by  
Kate Merrigan and Marissa Carlson**

**Musical Direction by Marissa Carlson**

**Choreography by Liz Urban  
Choreography for With You pt.III by Alicia Ascevich**

**Set Design by Seth Allshouse**

**Lighting Design by Jon King**

---

## *Director's Note*

I first saw *Pippin* at Williams College when I was 15. At that time, I took it to be a play about getting as much as you can out of life, a sort of paean to hedonism and romance. Now, in my late twenties, I re-approached it and realized I'd had it all wrong; it's obviously a play about how although no one thing is completely perfect, many things we can experience in life are still quite wonderful. After a few months of rehearsal, I'm not so sure that's it either. Here's the thing: the reason I love this material is that there are so many points of entry for understanding the play, so many ways this story, these songs, can hit you close to home. And that might be what *Pippin* is about after all. Like life, you see it a little differently every time you look; every angle you turn it reveals new meaning, unexpected challenges, and joyous surprises.

--Kate Merrigan

On a slightly different note, the directors would like to extend heartfelt thanks to an energetic, courageous, and dedicated cast and crew. This show was an exciting learning and production stretch for all of us at MCP that would not have been possible without a great deal of rewarding collaboration. We are proud to be able to offer you a truly community-based production with an all-ages cast, materials borrowed/begged/and handmade, and a lot of hard work from people both new to and familiar with the theater. Thank you all.

--Kate Merrigan, Marissa Carlson, and Liz Urban

## **The Cast**

**Leading Player.....Brooke Mead**  
**Pippin.....Joshua Sprague**  
**Charles.....Ed Morandi**  
**Fastrada.....Diane Sprague**  
**Lewis.....Matthew Snyder**  
**Berthe.....Rachel Branch**  
**Gatherine.....Lauren Skiffington**  
**Theo.....Jake Daugherty**

## **The Players**

**Alicia Ascevich**  
**Jackie DeGiorgis**  
**Staci Downey**  
**Jaye Fox**  
**Mike Grogan**  
**Michael Hitchcock**  
**Evan Marshall**  
**Melody Rivera**  
**Samantha Therrien**  
**Liz Urban**

## **The Musicians**

**Conductor & Piano.....Michael Roy**  
**Flute.....Steve Wheelock**  
**Bass Guitar.....Tim Mangun**  
**Drums.....Bobby Marshall**

## **The Crew**

**Stage Manager.....Josh Bishoff**  
**Assistant Stage Manager.....Anna Sabastino**  
**Lighting Assistant.....Trevor Flagg**  
**Lighting Assistant.....Matthew Snyder**  
**Stage Crew.....Dylan Waterhouse**  
**Poster Design .....Tim Mangun**  
**Programs.....Tim Mangun & Liz Urban**  
**Magic Consultants.....Rick Lanoue & Dan Lennon**  
**Set Construction.....Seth Allshouse, Josh Bishoff**  
**Marissa Carlson, Dan Cellana, Trevor Flagg**  
**Michael Hitchcock, Jon King, Tim Mangun, Kate**  
**Merrigan, Meghan Merrigan, Cynthia Saunders**  
**Matthew Snyder, Samantha Therrien, Liz Urban**

# *Musical Numbers*

## *Act 1*

**Magic To Do.....Leading Player & Ensemble**  
**Corner of the Sky.....Pippin**  
**Welcome Home.....Charles and Pippin**  
**War is a Science.....Charles, Pippin and Players**  
**Glory.....Leading Player and Players**  
**Victory Underscore.....Players**  
**Corner of the Sky (Reprise).....Pippin**  
**Simple Joys.....Leading Player**  
**No Time At All.....Berthe and the Boys**  
**With You.....Pippin**  
**Spread a Little Sunshine.....Fastrada**  
**Morning Glow.....Pippin and Players**  
**Finale Act 1 .....Leading Player and Players**

## *Act 2*

**Right Track.....Leading Player and Pippin**  
**There He Was.....Catherine**  
**Kind of Woman.....Catherine and the Girls**  
**Extraordinary.....Pippin**  
**Prayer for a Duck.....Pippin and Theo**  
**Love Song.....Pippin and Catherine**  
**Corner of the Sky (Last Reprise).....Pippin**  
**I Guess I'll Miss the Man.....Catherine**  
**Finale.....The Cast**

The videotaping or other video or audio recording  
of this production is strictly prohibited.

# Biographies

**Alicia Asevich** (Player) has been a dancer and choreographer for Williams College as well as a summer dancer at Jacob's Pillow. This is Alicia's first production with MCP. Some of her favorite past roles include, Tina & choreographer in *Tony and Tina's Wedding* (Adams PNA), Fiedka and choreographer in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Miss Hall's School) and The Boyfriend and choreographer in *The Boyfriend* (Miss Hall's School). Alicia would like to thank, "My mother for teaching me to dance and giving me endless artistic opportunities. Thanks to Melody, friends and family who have given me support along the way."

**Rachel Branch** (Berthe) just turned 65 on April 18<sup>th</sup> and thinks it's a real treat to play Berthe! The last time she sang solo on the Drury stage was when she was in high school. Rachel has been a member of Serendipity Chorale for over 20 years and performed with Andy Williams in 1986 and Pete Seeger in 2005. She is a piano player and performs in concerts, receptions, private parties, weddings, memorial services, in clubs and as a guest musician for area churches. Rachel would like to express her "joyous gratitude for inspiration, encouragement and musical influence to my piano playing father, George M. Flood; Jazz Legend Clark Terry; Gigi Van Dyke, Director, Serendipity Chorale; Civil Rights Activist and Folk Singer Pete Seeger; and Ralph U. Domin, Minister of Music, Congregational Church, NA, my piano teacher."

**Marissa Carlson** (Producer/Musical Director) works in the Admissions Office at Hillcrest Educational Center. She has a B.A. from Pomona College in Claremont, CA and spent 5 years performing with the LA- based "Young Americans", including 2 national tours. Marissa has directed *Baby with the Bathwater*, *The Bald Soprano* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* for MCP. She played Sr. Mary Leo in *Nonsense* (Ghent Playhouse). Marissa would like to thank, "Kate & Liz for being the best creative partners and friends I could ask for! Our fabulous musicians, and our dedicated & energetic cast."

**Jake Daugherty** (Theo) loves Spiderman more than he loves Superman. He also loves rap. This is Jake's second production with MCP. His favorite past roles include, a munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz* (DDT), a frog in *Honk!* (MCP) and the son in *Tough Titty* (WTF). Jake would like to thank "Josh and the other cast members."

**Jackie DeGiorgis** (Player) is a Science teacher at Drury High School. She is also a grandmother and a Boston Red Sox and New York Jets fan. Some of Jackie's favorite past roles include, Nanny in *Baby with the Bathwater* (MCP), Inez in *No Exit* (MCP) and Mrs. Haviland in *Wildwood Park* (MSS). Jackie would like to thank, "My husband, Butch for his patience and support, my daughter, Sam for introducing me to acting, and all my students for my gray hair!"

## Biographies—cont'd

**Staci Downey** (Player) is a Music teacher at Conte Middle School where she tries to shape the lives of young musicians. Some of Staci's favorite past roles include, co-producer, director and performer in *Pure Imagination*, Sally in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and Queenie and Maureen in *Honk!* (all MCP). Staci would like to thank, "Mom, Dad, Kellyn, Mike and Lulu (Yes, Candy, that's right, Lulu)."

**Jaye Fox** (Player) paints and has two pieces in "The Natural" at Main Street Antiques in North Adams. She encourages anyone in the market for a small, affordable landscape to stop by. Some of Jaye's favorite past roles include, the Wicked Witch in the *Wizard of Oz* and Girl Baby and Janet in *Free to Be You and Me*. This is her second Stephen Schwartz production, as she was also in the chorus of *Godspell*. Jaye is "supremely grateful to the folks at MCP for casting her in *Pippin*, her favorite musical, which is what she sings along with in the car when nobody is around. Any complaints about her performance should be directed to her family, who bear full blame for her fanatical adoration of musical theater."

**Mike Grogan** (Player) would like to become a major soap star on *Days of Our Lives* once his community theatre career fizzles out. Some of his favorite past roles include, Alex in *Baby with the Bathwater* (MCP), Billis in *South Pacific* (BCC) and an Ensemble Member in *Pure Imagination* (MCP). Mike would like to thank, "Kate, Marissa and Liz as well as the cast!"

**Michael Hitchcock** (Player) has been kicked by an emu. Some of his favorite theatrical experiences include, the Voice in *Baby with the Bathwater* (MCP), a guard and prisoner in *Fidelo* (Opera Theatre Company, Dublin) and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare-Abridged* (BCC). Mike would like to thank, "Kate Merrigan. She's more uplifting than helium, more beguiling than wine. She, more than anyone else, has helped me with my repatriation. The amount of love and support she gives me is beyond all expectation and belief."

**Evan Marshall** (Player) just moved to North Adams this February from Michigan. He spends his days as a Controls Engineer at NSK Steering in Bennington, VT. He also loves to karaoke and is an avid homebrewer. Some of his favorite past roles include, John Smith in *Run For Your Wife*, Dick Shalit in *Drop Dead* and Junior Turpin in *Dearly Departed* (all Battle Creek Civic Theatre). Evan would like to thank, "My wife, Cynamon, and daughter Sydney."

**Brooke Mead** (Leading Player) majored in theatre at USC, but it seems her true career calling is working with immigrants. Brooke is thrilled to have found MCP and a way to keep acting. Some of her favorite past roles include, Annie in *Annie* (MGRHS), Bee Bee in *Suburbia* (Edinburgh Theatre Festival) and Mrs. Smith in *The Bald Soprano* (MCP). Brooke would like to thank, "All my family and friends, but especially, Duffy, Alex, Mom, Dad, Holly, Kerri and my crazy and suicidal dogs."

## Biographies—cont'd

**Kate Hanley Merrigan** (Producer/Director) doesn't enjoy acting, but she would play Clairee opposite Kate Bernard's Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias* in a heartbeat. Kate wrote and directed *Forrest Gardner: Intimate Portrait* (Marlboro College) and directed *Wanda's Visit* (MCP). Kate would like to thank, "Marissa & Liz for an awesome collaboration, Hitchcock & my family for their love and support, Mary for letting me talk about the show incessantly, and coffee. Thank you, coffee, for all that you do for me."

**Ed Morandi** (Charles) sings with the Aladdins and volunteers at the North Adams Museum of History and Science. This is his first theatrical experience. Ed would like to thank, "Joan, Dee, Marc, Deb, Zac and Cody."

**Melody Rivera** (Player) has a passion for music and singing as well as musicals, movies and dancing. This is her acting/musical debut. Melody would like to thank, "My mom for giving her her talent of singing and Alicia for always encouraging me to use it!"

**Lauren Skiffington** (Catherine) is a recent graduate of Drury High School. Some of her favorite past roles include, The Tinman in *The Wizard of Oz*, Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Abigail in *The Crucible* (DDT) and The Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* (BTF). Lauren would like to thank, "My techie, coffee boy and part-time boyfriend, Trevor for his full-time support and love."

**Matthew Snyder** (Lewis) once ate a bug at a concert for a free CD. His favorite past roles include, Ensemble in *Once Upon a Mattress* (Wilbraham United Players), Ensemble in *Godspell* (Exit 7 Players) and Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* in East Longmeadow. Matthew would like to thank, "The LaFamilia, especially Grama, Grampa and my Nonni."

**Diane Sprague** (Fastrada) was active in speech and drama in high school and a part of community theatre before getting married and having three wonderful boys. The last production she was in was *Pheiffer's People*. She is a 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Literature/Language Arts teacher at Abbott Memorial in Florida, MA. She would like to thank, "My husband, Shaun, and my sons, Josh, Aaron and Nate for all their support and encouragement to pursue my dreams."

**Joshua Sprague** (Pippin) was last seen as Daisy in *Baby with the Bathwater*. He co-directed last year's cabaret, *Pure Imagination*. Some of Joshua's favorite past roles include, Snoopy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, Ugly in *Honk!*, Gus in *The Dumb Waiter* and Ronald Adams in *The Hitchhiker*. Joshua "is very happy to have the opportunity to act along side his mother, Diane."

## *Biographies—cont'd*

**Samantha Therrien** (Player) is a recent 007 graduate of Drury High School. Some of her favorite past roles include, Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* and Chiffon in *Little Shop of Horrors* (DDT). Sam likes singing in the car to Fiona Apple and watching Family Guy on TV. Sam will be attending Framingham State College in the fall for fashion design/retailing.

**Liz Urban** (Choreographer & Player) has a Bachelor's degree in Theatre from Skidmore College where she was also very active in the dance department. She serves as the President of MCP as well as the Project Manager for the Williamstown Theatre Festival's Greylock Theatre Project. Some of Liz's favorite past roles include, Marsha in *Wanda's Visit*, Betty in *Sure Thing*, Estelle in *No Exit*, Cynthia in *Baby with the Bathwater* (MCP) and Mrs. Soames in *Our Town* (Homemade Theatre, Saratoga Springs, NY). For MCP, Liz has directed *The Dumb Waiter*, *Sorry, Wrong Number* and *The Hitchhiker*. *Pippin* is the 10<sup>th</sup> show she's done choreography for. Liz would like to thank, "Kate and Marissa for introducing me to *Pippin* and letting me be a part of their amazing creative team! Much love to Tim, Casco and Shelby for being smiling faces every time I come home from rehearsal, no matter how late!"

## *Thanks!*

*Pippin* would not have been possible without the help of many people. MCP and the creative team behind *Pippin* would like to thank, the First Congregational Church of North Adams for providing us with a rehearsal space. Dr. Len Radin, Amy Meehan, everyone at Drury, and the North Adams School Committee for making it possible for us perform at Drury High School. Many thanks to Seth Allshouse for going above and beyond our expectations on the set, as well as Dan Cellana, Kristin Blacker, Ben Shiner and Meghan Merrigan for their invaluable help with the set construction. Thank you to Rachel Tassone for her wonderful artwork on the banners, as well as the folks at Crafty Creations and Papyri Books for assisting us by selling tickets. We would also like to thank Dan Lennon and Rick Lanoue for sharing their magic expertise with us, Patrick Gray for lending us his bass guitar and Linda Blair for the arrows. Thanks to Scott Bailey for recording rehearsal CDs for us. Lastly, a huge thanks to the whole community for embracing and supporting MCP over the years. We couldn't be doing this without you!

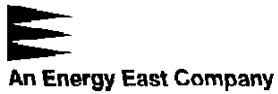


**NO TEACHER  
CAN BE  
PROUDER OF  
HIS ALUMNI.**

**WELCOME  
HOME!**

**DOC**

**Energy You Can Count On.<sup>®</sup>  
People You Can Trust.**



**Synergy  
Therapeutic  
Massage<sup>®</sup>**

99 Church St. #3  
North Adams, MA  
01247

413.662.2761

Alicia Ascevich  
Owner

[alicia.ascevich@gmail.com](mailto:alicia.ascevich@gmail.com)

*"The Healing Art of Touch."*





**Stephen Schwartz** was born in New York City on March 6, 1948. He studied piano and composition at the Juilliard School of Music while in high school and graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in 1968 with a B.F.A. in Drama. In 1971, he wrote the music and new lyrics for GODSPELL, for which he won several awards including two Grammys. The following year, he wrote the music and lyrics for PIPPIN and two years later, THE MAGIC SHOW. At one point, GODSPELL, PIPPIN, and THE MAGIC SHOW were all running on Broadway simultaneously.

Schwartz has worked on numerous films, collaborating with composer Alan Menken on the scores for the Disney animated features POCAHONTAS, for which he received two Academy Awards and another Grammy, and THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME. He also provided songs for DreamWorks' first animated feature, THE PRINCE OF EGYPT, for which he won another Academy Award for the song "When You Believe".

Mr. Schwartz's most recent musical, WICKED, opened in the fall of 2003 and is currently running on Broadway.

Under the auspices of the ASCAP Foundation, he runs musical theatre workshops in New York and Los Angeles, and serves on the ASCAP board; he is also a member of the Council of the Dramatists' Guild.

---

Reno Maselli

Aldo Sartori

Tom Leonesio

**The fladdins**

Over 20 years volunteering music  
To the community

Ed Morandi

Shep Girardi

Mary Rosasco

# *Join us!*

Mill City Productions is always looking for members of the community who want to get involved in acting, directing, building, promoting, producing, lighting, organizing or simply morally supporting our next production!

If you'd like to become involved with MCP, email  
**contactmcp@yahoo.com**

# *Donate!*

Please consider making a donation to  
Mill City Productions.  
Your sponsorship will enable us to continue working  
within the community to produce more exciting  
theatrical experiences.

Sponsorship levels are the following:

*Stage Crew (\$5)*

*Stage Manager (\$10)*

*Supporting Role (\$25)*

*Lead Actor (\$50)*

*Director (\$75)*

*Producer (\$100 & over)*

*Sponsorship forms are available in the lobby.*



visit our website at  
[www.millicityproductions.org](http://www.millicityproductions.org)