WILLIAMS THEATRE DEPARTMENT AND
SONDHEIM@90@WILLIAMS PRESENT

OUR TIME: A PLAY ABOUT WILLIAMS

DEVISED BY ILYA KHODOSH ’08
& OMAR SANGARE

THU & SAT | MAR 5 & 7 | 7:30PM
THU–SAT | MAR 12–14 | 7:30PM

ADAMS MEMORIAL THEATRE
Williams Theatre Department and
Sondheim@90@Williams present

Our Time
A Play about Williams

Devised by
Ilya Khodosh '08 and
Omar Sangare

Scenic Designer
David Gürçay-Morris
Costume Designer
Barbara A. Bell

Lighting Designer
Coby Chasman-Beck
Sound Designer
Stephen Simalchik '13

Performers
Chinonso Anokwute '21, Stephen Kletscher '22, Justin Kugel '20, Michael Medvedev '22, Ivana Mensah-Agyekum '23, Jules Öberg '22, True Pham '23, Aagat Sapkota '23, Coleston Smith '22, Alexander Szrol '21, Peter Tamasi '21, William Titus '23, Andrea Treviño '20, Tristan Whalen '22

Production Stage Manager
Nicolle Mac Williams '22

Assistant Lighting Designer
Erin Meadors '20
Assistant Sound Designer
Brandon Hilfer '20
Props Master
Katie Polebaum

Assistant Costume Designer
Lucia Sher ‘23
Assistant Stage Manager
Tristan Whalen '22
Production Manager
Ann Marie Dorr

There is no intermission. The performance runs 60 minutes.
FESTIVAL

Our Time is a new stage work, set at Williams College when Mr. Sondheim was an undergraduate, which explores the history, mythology, and identity of this institution. The play, devised by Ilya Khodosh ’08 and Omar Sangare, dramatizes pivotal moments through which Williams became itself; how it both evolves and remains constant; and how it has represented the promise of a liberal arts education and the American dream.

Sondheim@90@Williams celebrates renowned lyricist and composer Stephen Sondheim, known for the remarkable range of musicals he has created, from West Side Story to Sweeney Todd to Into the Woods. A Class of 1950 alumnus of Williams College, Mr. Sondheim has inspired generations throughout the world—including countless Williams students—and the impact of his contributions to musical theater is immeasurable.

SETTING


PROGRAM NOTE

For this production, students were asked to select material from the Williams Record archives that they found personally meaningful, and to create characters, relationships and scenarios based on that material. The resulting scenes tell the story of an old American institution looking inward and changing with the times. By reckoning with our history, we move with greater clarity and resolve toward our future.

—Ilya Khodosh

BIOS

Omar Sangare (Co-Creator & Director) graduated from the National Academy of Dramatic Art in Warsaw, Poland, where he studied with the Oscar-winning director, Andrzej Wajda. He was awarded a scholarship to The British American Drama Academy in Oxford, England. While there, he worked with Derek Jacobi, Alan Rickman, Michael Kahn, and Jeremy Irons. Dr. Sangare holds many film, television, and radio credits. For his one-man drama True Theater Critic, he was voted The Best in Acting by The New York International Fringe Festival. The New York press acclaimed his lead part in the Arena Players Repertory Theater production of Othello. Barbara Delatiner wrote for The New York Times—“Omar Sangare was born to play Othello!” His published literary work includes two books of poetry Landscape of the Soul and Postscriptum; collections of bestselling short stories titled Tales for Old Horse, Tales for Black Sheep, Tales for Decent Man; as well as the most recent book “Othello. Pale from Envy” and many essays and articles for various magazines and newspapers. Accompanied by great American writers such as Robert Pinsky and Susan Sontag, he promoted Polish literature in the United States. In 2011, he was selected by the U.S. Department of State for a video project that appeared as part of President Obama’s trip to Poland. In 2012, he was named “Person of the Year” by NYTheatre.com for “a significant contribution to the NYC theater landscape.” In 2013, Sangare performed alongside John Guare in Atlantic Theatre Company’s Three Kinds of Exile, in a role that Guare wrote especially for him. Dr. Sangare is a founder and artistic director of UNITED SOLO, the world’s largest solo theatre festival, a resident company at Theatre Row on 42nd Street in New York City.
Ilya Khodosh '08 (Co-Creator & Playwright) teaches dramatic writing at Williams College. Like Stephen Sondheim, Ilya was the recipient of a Hutchinson Fellowship upon graduation from Williams. He holds a D.F.A. from the Yale School of Drama.

Chinonso Anokwute '20.5 is from Hawthorne, CA and is a Political Science major. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Barbara A. Bell (Costume Designer) Designs include: Juilliard School, Irish Repertory Theatre, Westport Playhouse, Peccadillo Theatre, Peterborough Players, 43 shows at Pearl Theatre & Recipient of Princess Grace Award for her Pearl designs, Dorset Theatre Festival, TACT Theatre, Capital Repertory, Northern Stage, Barrington Stage, Weston Playhouse. For Williamstheatre: Cabaret, Eurydice, Trojan Women


David Gürçay-Morris (Scenic Designer) makes scenographic environments and original performance work. Past collaborators include Young Jean Lee, Taylor Mac, Target Margin, Kristin Marting, Clubbed Thumb and Les Freres Corbusier. He has received a Princess Grace Fellowship, a Hewes Design Award nomination, and had his designs included in the Prague Quadrennial.

Brandon Hilfer '20 (Assistant Sound Designer) is a Music and Political Science double major. He has done many productions at Williams, as a designer, actor, and writer.

Stephen Kletscher '22 is from Woodbury, MN and is a prospective Economics and Mathematics major. He is a member of the Williams Varsity Football team and Williams Insight. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Justin Kugel '20 is from London, UK and is a Philosophy major. He is President of the Williams Rugby team and V.P. of the Class of 2020. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Nicolle Mac Williams '21.5 (Production Stage Manager) is a Theatre and Art (History and Studio) double major. She has participated in a variety of productions on campus for both the Theatre Department and Cap & Bells, for which she is the General Manager.
Erin Meadors '20 (Assistant Lighting Designer) is from Albuquerque, NM and is an Astronomy Major. She designed and choreographed STIX, a solo dance performance, and choreographed for the 2018 Purple Valley Plays Festival.

Michael Medvedev '22 is from Albertson, Long Island New York and is a prospective Economics and Statistics major. He is a member of the Williams tennis team. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Ivana Mensah-Agyekum '23 is a prospective Art Studio major. This is her first Williams theatre production.

Jules Öberg '22 is from Stockholm, Sweden and is a prospective Political Science major. He is a member of the Williams Men's Soccer team. This is his first Williams theatre production. He discovered his love for theater with Professor Sangare this past fall.

Aagat Sapkota '23 is a freshman. He grew up in Nepal but lives in Cambodia right now. He is a prospective Philosophy and Economics double major. Aagat is a board member for South Asian Students Association, Storytime, and is involved in rugby.

Lucia Sher '23 (Assistant Costume Designer) is from New York City and is a prospective Art History and French double major. She is a member of the Accidentals. This is her first Williams Theatre Production.

Stephen Simalchik '13 (Sound Designer) is a songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and sonic designer based in Chicago, Il. He has collaborated with Omar Sangare on numerous projects including August: Osage County, Princess Ivona, and The Crucible. His indie-folk band Fiddlingsteve released its debut EP “Caroline” in 2018. www.fiddlingsteve.com

Coleston Smith '22 is from Ridgewood, NJ and is a prospective Political Science major. He is a member of the Williams Football team and is the co-host of WCFM’s EphStreet Radio show. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Alex Szrol '21 is from Naples, FL and is an Economics major. He is a member of the Williams Rugby team and has served as a class representative in College Council. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Katie Polebaum-Freeman (Props Master) is a theater artist living and working in Williamstown, MA.

True Pham '23 is from Austin, Texas and is a prospective Political Economy major. He is a member of College Council and the CC Task Force. This is his first Williams theatre production.

Peter Tamasi '21 is from Winchester, MA and is a prospective Economics major. He is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America Club. Peter has been a part of a few small productions of his previous acting classes here at Williams.

Will Titus '23 is from Hopewell, New Jersey. He runs cross country and track at Williams and is a volunteer firefighter with the Williamstown fire department. This is his first theatre production.
Andrea Selena Treviño ’20 is an Anthropology and Latino/a Studies double major. This is her first Williams theatre production.

Tristan Whalen ’22 is from Amherst, Massachusetts studying Theatre, English, and Philosophy. In the summer of 2017, he attended the Iowa Young Writer’s Studio where his experimentations in writing for the stage began. On campus, Tristan co-hosts a radio show called Silver Moments. This is his first production as an assistant stage manager.

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Special Thanks

We wish to thank the contributors to the Williams Record 1946-1950, who wrote most of the words spoken in this production; Sylvia Kennick Brown, for her invaluable guidance through the college archives; Steven Clar, for his kind help with logistics;

and

Stephen Sondheim, for his decades of masterpieces.

Featured Upcoming Event:

CENTER.SERIES IN COLLABORATION WITH WILLIAMS COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART PRESENT

JAMES & JEROME

INK: A PIECE FOR MUSEUMS

THU–SAT | APR 16–18 | 7PM
PRODUCTION CREW

Videographer .................................................. Keith Forman
Master Electrician ........................................... Cosmo Catalano
Light Board Operator ........................................ Tali Natter ’23
Sound Board Operator ...................................... Rebecca Dodgson ’22
Wardrobe Crew ............................................... Kayla Swift ’23
Run Crew ...................................................... Jacob Chen ’23,
                                                    Sophia Clement ’22, Elliot Wolf ’23
Overhire Crew ............................................... Jim Burkholder, Dylan Girouard,
                                                    Megan Lang, Daniel O’Connell,
                                                    Clara Patterson

THEATRE DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF

Sound and Media Supervisor ................................ Jim Abdou
Professor of Theatre ........................................ Robert Baker-White
Costume Shop Manager ..................................... Barbara A. Bell
Administrative Coordinator ................................ Laurie Booth
Costume Director and Lecturer in Theatre ............ Deborah A. Brothers
Patron and Visiting Artist Services Manager .......... Corissa Bryant
William Dwight Whitney Professor of
Arts and Theatre, Emeritus ................................... Jean-Bernard Bucky
House Manager ............................................... Britney Danials
Interim Production Manager .............................. Ann Marie Dorr
Theater Technician ............................................ Ethan Eldred
Professor of Theatre, Emeritus ............................ David Eppel
Visiting Artist Producer and Outreach Manager ...... Randal Fippinger
Chair and Associate Professor of Theatre ............. David Gürçay-Morris
Professor of Theatre ......................................... Amy Holzapfel
Visiting Lecturer in Theatre ................................ Ilya Khodosh
Career Program Director and Mentor, Studio’62 Artistic Program Director .......... Kevin O’Rourke
Assistant Costume Shop Manager ....................... Samantha E. Patterson
Senior Lecturer in English and Theatre ................ James Pethica
Assistant Professor of Theatre ............................. Shanti Pillai
Technical Director of the Theatre Department ....... Maia Robbins-Zust
Professor of Theatre ......................................... Omar Sangare
House Manager ............................................... Emma Whittum
Operations Manager, Dance Technical Director, and Presenting Production Manager .......... Nathaniel T. Wiessner

Costume Shop: Liv Behrens, Emma Egan, Kayla Gilman, Nicolle MacWilliams, Carolyn Mielke, Jacob Rhode,
Kayla Swift

Scene Shop Crew: Peyton Beeli, Ruth Bristol, Jatin Dasgupta, Jack Ellert-Beck, Dara Etienne, Trudy Fadding,
Scott Fineberg, Miriam Harshberger, Carolyn Jordan, Heather Kurtz, Anna Leedy, Peter Matsumoto, John Murphy,
Ben Mygatt, Roman Ruiz, Nick Sommer, Sophia Throop.

Events Assistants: Maria Avrantini, Veronica Berger, Yasmina Cabrera, Sophia Clement, Maia Czaikowski,
Caroline Fairweather, Charlotte Hanson, Brandon Hilfer, Woogie Jung, Margaux Kanamori, Charles Kerzner,
JinYoung Kim, Elise Kuwaye, Emily Kuwaye, Allison Li, April Li, Raquel Livingston, Abigail Murray-Stark, Curtis
Nyanjom, Baladine Pierce, Mira Sneirson, Ricardo Torres-Garzon, Christopher Van Liew