

THE BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Chair

presents

THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA

IN THE PIAZZA

Book by CRAIG LUCAS

Music and Lyrics by ADAM GUETTEL

Produced by arrangement with Turner Entertainment Co.

Owner of the original motion picture "Light In The Piazza" Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Spencer

Original Broadway Production by Lincoln Center Theater, New York City, 2005

The World Premiere of The Light In The Piazza was produced by

The Intiman Theater, Seattle, Washington Opening Night: June 14, 2003

Bartlett Sher, Artistic Director Laura Penn, Managing Director

And the Goodman Theatre, Chicago, Illinois Opening Night: January 20, 2004

Robert Falls, Artistic Director Roche Shulfer, Executive Director

Developed with the Assistance of the Sundance Institute Theatre Laboratory

THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA is presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals: www.rnh.com

Thursday - Saturday, March 3-5, 2011

7:30 p.m.

Belhaven University Center for the Arts

Blackbox Theatre

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department seeks to produce transformational leaders in the musical arts who will have profound influence in homes, churches, private studios, educational institutions, and on the concert stage. While developing the God-bestowed musical talents of music majors, minors, and elective students, we seek to provide an integrative understanding of the musical arts from a Christian world and life view in order to equip students to influence the world of ideas. The music major degree program is designed to prepare students for graduate study while equipping them for vocational roles in performance, church music, and education. The Belhaven University Music Department exists to multiply Christian leaders who demonstrate unquestionable excellence in the musical arts and apply timeless truths in every aspect of their artistic discipline.

The Music Department would like to thank our many community partners for their support of Christian Arts Education at Belhaven University through their advertising in "Arts Ablaze 2010-2011." It is through these and other wonderful relationships in the greater Jackson community that makes many of our concerts possible at Belhaven. We praise God for our friends and are truly thankful for their generosity. Please mention The Arts at Belhaven University when you visit our community partners.

If you would like to receive email news-concert updates from the Belhaven University Music Department, please add your name and email address to the sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer. It would be our pleasure to keep you informed regarding the recitals/concerts to be presented by the Music Department during the 2010-2011 Academic Year.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, March 5, 2:30pm, Concert Hall

Tuesday, March 8, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Friday, March 11, 3:00pm, Concert Hall

Friday, April 8, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Saturday, April 9, 3:00pm, Concert Hall

Saturday, April 9, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Saturday, April 16, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Tuesday, April 19, 7:30pm, Concert Hall

Ellie Honea Senior Piano Recital

Collaborative Arts Concert

Erin Desmond Senior Piano Recital

Orchestras & Strings Concert

All State Strings Concert

Guitar Ensemble Concert

BU & Jackson Community Symphonic Band,

Jazz Ensemble & Percussion Ensemble Concert

Choral Concert - "Iberian Romance"

Best of Belhaven II

Please refrain from the use of all flash and still photography during the performance.

Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

“What do you think about *The Light in the Piazza*?”

This question was asked to me last July. To be honest, I was thinking about a million other shows at the time. Gulp. *The Light in the Piazza*?

Like any good theatre person, I was pretty current in my musical knowledge. I knew the year the show premiered; I remembered the performance on the Tony’s. But what did I really know about it? I scrambled to get the script, find the soundtrack, and watched everything online that I could as soon as possible. I was obsessed with getting as much information as I possibly could. I was also surprised with what I found.

I loved it. I loved the story, the situation, the fact that it is far beyond what expectations are for a typical musical. There were layers of beauty and emotion in these amazingly written characters. There were layers of love, heartache, and passion flowing from the page. There were layers of deep profound thoughts and decisions in the story. This isn’t your average musical fluff. This is a musical to get excited about.

Yes, I got excited. To say the least, I got really excited. Fortunately for me, I was surrounded by other excited people who fell in love with the script as much as I did. From the early planning meetings to this week’s dress rehearsals, there has been a level of excitement in everyone who has been involved with this production. Yes, you can get excited too, if you’d like.

I can’t convey to you how amazing it has been to work on this show. Not only is the story spectacular, but I have gotten to work with an amazing cast, crew, and Musical Director. All people who really committed to understanding these characters and their journey. Never have I seen such a group so eager, hardworking, or so enthusiastic to work on a production like this. We’re glad you are here and hope you take away a little of our excitement with you tonight. We hope you come to love this show as we have.

Welcome to *The Light in the Piazza*.

FROM THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR

“Why choose *The Light in the Piazza*?”

It is a beautiful and insightful story of love and acceptance. Its message is timeless and universal. And it creates a world where people have real flaws and limitations—humanity to which we all can relate. No make-believe fable world in this story. It is the “least of them” in the eyes of the world that shows them all “the beauty of life.”

Combine these themes with the sweeping, cinematic score by Adam Guettal and the historical connection to Belhaven alumni, Elizabeth Spencer, author of the original 1960 novel, and you can understand why it seemed the perfect choice for a musical with dramatic bite.

Our young cast (majority are lowerclassmen) have worked so hard at what is truly an ambitious, challenging score. It has been a labor of love to teach and guide them on this journey. Seeing their growth and development and watching a cohesive artistic vision emerge has been a great blessing.

I am so excited to bring this work to Mississippi. I hope you leave tonight having gained something through your presence here. Love and be loved.

And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love. I Corinthians 13:13



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Statues and Stories – Margaret Johnson,
Clara Johnson, and Company
The Beauty Is – Clara
Il Mondo Era Vuoto – Fabrizio Naccarelli
Passeggiata – Fabrizio and Clara
The Joy You Feel – Franca Naccarelli
Dividing Day – Margaret
Hysteria – Clara and Margaret
Say It Somehow – Clara and Fabrizio

ACT II

Aiutami – The Naccarelli Family
The Light in the Piazza – Clara
Octet Part 1 – Company
Clara's Tirade – Clara
Octet Part 2 – Company
The Beauty Is (Reprise) – Margaret
Let's Walk – Signor Naccarelli and Margaret
Clara's Interlude – Clara
Love to Me – Fabrizio
Fable – Margaret

CAST

Margaret Johnson – Lauren Pratt
Fabrizio Naccarelli – Andrew James Craig
Signora Naccarelli – Blakeney Hatcliff
Giuseppe Naccarelli – Chadwick Harman
Maid – Alyssa Aycock
Maid – Abby Wiggins

Clara Johnson – Ellen Wise
Signor Naccarelli – John Mathieu
Franca Naccarelli – Brooke Edwards
Roy Johnson – Eric Hartzog
Tour Guide – Rachel Gorman
Waitress—Sarah Marie Bravo

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Alyssa Aycock

Alyssa Aycock (Maid) is a freshman Musical Theatre major from Brandon, MS. She is thrilled to be making her Belhaven University musical mainstage debut in *The Light in the Piazza* and was also seen in last semester's musical revue. Alyssa was an honorary member of the International Thespian Society and president of her high school choir. She is glad to be continuing in her love of musical theatre at Belhaven. Alyssa would like to thank her lovely directors, her family, and her heavenly father for blessing her so wonderfully. Let's go columns!



Sarah Marie Bravo

Sarah Marie Bravo (Waitress) grew up in a small Mountain community in Southern California. She has performed in two Musical Revues at Belhaven University and had the honor to Stage Manage *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* last Spring. She has had a wonderful experience working with this cast of lively people. She would like to thank her friends, family, cast members, and directors for being the swell people they are.



Andrew James Craig

Andrew James Craig (Fabrizio) is a music education major from Chicagoland. Notable characters: Jack and the Beanstalk in *Into the Woods*, Dale Jackson in *The Medal of Honor Rag*, Willie Lowman in *Death of a Salesman*, Charlie in *Marvin's Room*. At Belhaven, Andrew appeared as Schroeder in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, as well as being the Music Director for last semester's "*Show People*". Andrew has enjoyed the challenge of playing Fabrizio. He could not have done it without Anne and Amy and their constant direction. He would like to thank Ellie for being such a pro and putting up with high notes being sung in her face, as well as Lauren and Blakeney for all the much needed encouragement.



Brooke Edwards (Franca) is originally from Vancouver Island, Canada. Her family has lived all over and now currently resides in Pelahatchie, MS. Brooke has been involved in theatre, dance, and vocals in her church, CHEB Homeschool, as well as YWAM. One of her favorite things about *The Light in the Piazza* has been, “Spending time with people who share the same talents and interests as I do and being able to learn and grow with them.”



Rachel Gorman (Tour Guide) grew up in Kansas City, Kansas, and first started performing in musicals at age six. At age eleven, Rachel began performing with Christian Youth Theatre. Her roles there include Anita in *West Side Story*, Shulie in *Schoolhouse Rock, Live!* and Penny in *Hairspray*. Rachel attended Manhattan High School where she played Rosie in *Bye Bye Birdie* and Millie in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (which was the first show from MHS chosen to perform at Kansas State Thespian Conference). Rachel would like to thank her Belhaven girls for being awesome, especially her roommate, but most of all she wants to acknowledge Jesus Christ for being her everything.



Chadwick Harman (Giuseppe) is the son of Anthony and Melissa Harman. Chadwick was born in Warsaw Indiana and moved to Newnan Georgia shortly after, where he was exposed to acting through his father who directed plays. After moving from Georgia to Alabama he started performing in many different school (and church) plays and fell in love with acting from then on out. After moving to Mississippi a few years later he began acting in community theatre through Meridian Little Theatre. Favorite performances: Dennis in *Smoke on the Mountain*, The Professor in *South Pacific*, Grandpa Joe in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and a Chorus Member in *Les Misérables*.



Eric Hartzog (Roy) was born and raised in Terry, MS. Eric started getting into music at the age of eight years old. He spent three years at MS Gulf Coast Community College and just transferred to Belhaven this last year as a Jazz Guitar Performance major. When not practicing, Eric enjoys kickboxing, Jiu Jitsu, playing with his band, and working out. After graduation, he plans to either pursue his Masters’ degree at Belmont or go to seminary.



Blakeney Hatcliff (Signora) is a Senior, Music Ministries Major from Jackson, MS. She has been in music and theater for most of her life, enjoying roles such as Lady Jane in *The Prince and the Pauper*, Maria in *The Sound of Music*, Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof* and in the chorus of *Annie*. At Belhaven, Blakeney has been seen in *The Gondoliers* and the fall musical revue *Show People*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their undying support and unconditional love, Amy and Ms. Gray for the opportunity to do what she loves and grow from it, her fellow cast members for always being encouraging and understanding and most importantly her Savior, for giving her the love and gift of music and performance as well as His constant patience and faithfulness.



John Mathieu (Signor) is a sophomore from Brewton, Alabama. Previous roles include Bob in *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, Johnny Casino in *Grease*, and an Ensemble Member in *Carmina Burana*, as well as in *Carmen*. John has enjoyed finding the humor in *The Light in the Piazza* and has found learning the Italian for the show challenging but fun.



Lauren Pratt (Margaret) was raised in Southwest Florida, and attended Edison Park Elementary, School of the Creative and Expressive Arts where she first performed in minor roles in several musicals and plays. Despite being painfully shy when it came to performing, Lauren started her musical journey on violin, but soon moved on to piano, clarinet, and guitar. It was the songwriting for guitar that interested her in pursuing singing via choir during her freshman year at Fort Myers High School. By junior year, Lauren was fully involved in music as Secretary of the Choral Department, and during senior year, became a member of the Florida Gulf Coast University Honor Chorale, where she performed with the Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus. She is currently studying as a double emphasis in Music Composition and Vocal Performance at Belhaven University, where she serves as the President of the Choral Department. She is thankful to Jesus for the gifts He has bestowed to her, for the loving parents that have enabled her to chase after dreams, and for the blessing it has been to be cast in such a heart-warming musical with a fantastic company.



Abby Wiggins (Maid) is a senior Musical Theatre major and fully enjoying every minute of it. She has performed as Marion in *The Music Man*, as well as in several musical revues and numerous concerts. Abby has had a passion for musical theatre for a long time. She is so thankful for Amy Smith and her direction and guidance. Ms. Gray has also been a great source of encouragement to her. Abby hopes to move to Orlando after graduation to seek a professional singing role with Walt Disney World.



Ellen Wise (Clara) is a Musical Theatre major at Belhaven University. In high school, Ellen performed in *The Wedding Singer* and was also the assistant choreographer and was Spritzta in *The Fiddler on the Roof*. In middle school, she performed in *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Into the Woods* both in the chorus where she believes the most important roles lay. She has been in choir for what feels like forever (but probably is more like her whole life) and has loved every second of it. With these choirs, she has had the opportunity to travel to Brazil and the British Isles. She wants to thank Rachel Gorman for making her double over with laughter and also for helping her learn her lines. She couldn't have asked for a better roommate. Also, thanks to her lovely parents for the wonderful care packages and notes of love they sent to her from afar. Ellen is deeply thankful for their overflowing faith and love.

PRODUCTION

Producer – Dr. Stephen Sachs
Director – Amy E.M. Smith
Musical Director – Anne Gray
Stage Manager – Jesse Emling
Temperance Jones – Assistant Stage
Manager Technical Director – Drew Lamb
Accompanist – Maggie McLinden
Accompanist – Nicole Harwell
Lighting Designer – David Jacobs
Costume Designer – Aimee Rankin
House Manager – Amanda Hester

Ushers –
Lydia Moore
Matthew Forester
Megan van der Bijl
Keeyonia Tyler
Shellie Brown
Gina Condly
Valerie Tate
Emmberly Jefferson
Elisabeth Saeli
Daniel Bravo

Light Board Operator – Stephen Fairchild Sound
Board Operator- Roddrick Merritt

Italian Lyrics for "Il Mondo Era Vuoto" by Judith Blazer
Italian Translation by Judith Blazer and Maria Vèrnole Blazer

Very Special Thanks to: Sarah Bannerman: Bannerman Photography, New Stage Theatre, Jerry Farley, Richard Lawrence, Lesley Raybon, Belhaven University Theatre Department, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Daisy a Day Flower Shop (Tom & Nancy McIntyre)

Amy E.M. Smith (Director) is very happy to return to Belhaven to direct *The Light in the Piazza*. After studying Theatre Performance at Belhaven, Amy turned to Stage Managing for a spell, working shows such as *Die Fledermaus* for MS Opera, *Almost, Maine* for New Stage's Unframed Series, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Rabbit Hole* (Winner at both Mississippi Theatre Association and the Southeastern Theatre Conference in 2010). While at Belhaven, some of Amy's favorite roles were Sonya in *Uncle Vanya*, Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Amelia Earhart in the one woman show *The Girl in Brown Who Walks Alone*. Amy has spoken at early childcare conferences in the area, including Jackson Association for Children Under Six and Rankin County Director's Association, about the importance of integrating theatre in the early childcare classroom. She currently works at New Stage Theatre as Box Office Manager and hopes that you continue to support your local theaters. Amy wishes to thank Anne Gray for her encouragement, professionalism, and for her wonderful partnership throughout this entire process. She wants to thank her amazingly dedicated crew and her insanely talented cast for all of their hard work and enthusiasm! And a very special thanks to her sidekick, Jesse, for helping make their fifth show working together a success. Amy is a certified barista, has two weimaraners, loves her very supportive mother, and because of this cast, has a newfound appreciation for elbows.

Anne Gray (Musical Director) is an active performer in recitals, oratorio, and opera. Most recently she was the Soprano soloist for The Mississippi Chorus production of David Fanshawe's African Sanctus. She also was a featured soloist in productions of Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Handel's Messiah, and with Mississippi Opera. Some of her major operatic roles include Dorabella in *Così fan Tutti*, Greta Fiorentino in *Street Scenes*, Ciesca in *Gianni Schicci*, Isabella in *The Face on the Barroom Floor*, Mrs. Herring in *Albert Herring*, and The Queen in the world premiere of *The Moonsinger* by David Liptak. Ms. Gray holds bachelor's degrees in vocal performance, music education, and mathematics from Delta State University. Further studies include a master's degree in vocal performance and doctoral studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she worked with opera director William Shomas and Metropolitan Opera singer Ariel Bybee. She also was selected from singers throughout the US to be a member of the Janiec Opera Company of the Brevard Music Center in Brevard, NC. While there she had the opportunity to work with David Effron, John Greer, David Holly, and Mark Oswald. Anne also enjoys musical theater, big band, and jazz music. She has been a performer or director for over 15 musicals. As an Adjunct Instructor in Voice at Belhaven University, she is dedicated not only to teaching a sound vocal technique but also helping students develop a dynamic stage presentation. Other areas of teaching experience include choral music, studio voice, vocal pedagogy, theatrical directing, musical theater history and literature, diction, and aural theory.

Jesse Emling (Stage Manager) is a junior education major from Clinton, MS. Most recently, Jesse has been Assistant Stage Manager for MS Opera's *Die Fledermaus* at Thalia Mara Hall and also for *Almost, Maine* for New Stage Theatre's UnFramed series. Some of Jesse's technical talents were developed in the Belhaven University's Theatre Department where he worked on shows such as: *Paper Wings*, *A Doll's House*, *As it is in Heaven*, *All You Need is Love*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Ecclesiastes*. Jesse has enjoyed being a part of *The Light in the Piazza* and wishes to especially thank Amy for dragging him into yet another show.

Temperance Jones (Assistant Stage Manager), a native of Birmingham, AL, is a sophomore at Belhaven University. She has worked with different productions in Birmingham; from casting assistant to being a part of shows. She has worked with film as well. So far at Belhaven she has been in Victoria J. Swilley's Senior Recital, *I Can't Do it Alone* and *Show People*, a musical review. "Shout out to Ellie Wise! No one else can be Clara!!"

Maggie McLinden (Accompanist) a sophomore at Belhaven, was very excited to be asked to be the show's accompanist! Maggie is no stranger to this role – since she began piano lessons 11 years ago, she has accompanied a multitude of recitals, choirs, and performances in her hometown of Colorado Springs, including the musical *Oliver!* She is having a blast as a piano performance major, and despite the many hours per week on a piano bench, she's finding time to enjoy some other activities such as SMF, RUF, cheering at various sports events, and playing some epic soccer and Ultimate Frisbee! Maggie would like to thank her parents and her best friend, Bekah, for their encouragement, support, and unfailing love, as well as her Lord and Savior who has not and will not ever let her down.

Nicole Harwell (Accompanist) serves as the Staff Accompanist in the Music Department at Belhaven University, accompanying vocalists, instrumentalists, choir and musical theater productions. She previously played piano for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, The Telephone, The Old Maid and the Thief* and several Musical Revues performed at Belhaven. Nicole graduated from Belhaven as a piano major in 2009. She is delighted to be a part of *The Light in the Piazza*.

Drew Lamb (Technical Director) is a senior Business Administration major. Drew has been running light and sound boards for thirteen years. During this time he has worked tech for music concerts, visiting groups to Belhaven, a theater event, and musical theater shows. Drew has been the tech director for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and last semester's *Show People*. Drew wants to thank all those who have worked with him over the years and for all the fun it has been to do tech here at Belhaven University!

Aimee Rankin (Costume Designer) has always enjoyed the theater, but only recently, she found that she has a passion for costume design. Two years ago, began sewing and making her own clothes. Last fall, she volunteered at the costume department at New Stage Theatre with their annual production of *A Christmas Carol*. Aimee plans on making a career out of being a costume designer, and she is glad to have this wonderful production as part of her experience!

David Jacobs (Lighting Designer) was born in Ocean Springs, MS. He studied at MS Gulf Coast Community College and graduated in 2009 with his Associates in Arts. David is currently earning his B.F.A in Dance with an emphasis in Choreography at Belhaven. He has worked with Biloxi Little Theatre and while at Belhaven, designed lights for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *Show People*.

Amanda Hester (House Manager) is a sophomore at Belhaven University seeking a degree in Arts Administration. Between playing the piano and working shows and concerts, she has been very involved in both Belhaven's Music and the Theatre departments. She has performed live backstage for two of the Belhaven Theatre Department's productions including their latest, *The Three Sisters* by Anton Chekov. She was the House Manager for the Music Department's last production, *Show People*, and loves working in the Music office.

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Stephen Sachs, pianist, chair; Dr. Paxton Girtmon, director of bands, woodwind specialist; Dr. Andrew Sauerwein, composer, theorist; Dr. Christopher Shelt, coordinator of vocal activities, director of choral ensembles, Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles; Nancy Bateman, cello adjunct; Dennis Bonds, jazz guitar adjunct; Richard Brown, string bass adjunct; Melvin Champ, assistant band director adjunct; Sybil Cheesman, flute adjunct; Dr. Dennis Cranford, music theory adjunct; Mark Davis, low brass adjunct; Ken Graves, clarinet adjunct; Carol Durham, organ adjunct; Gena Everitt, vocal adjunct; Dr. Rebecca Geihlsler, vocal adjunct; Recca Girtmon, drill team instructor adjunct; Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct; Anne Gray, vocal adjunct; Amy Houghton, classical guitar adjunct, director of guitar ensembles; Paul Heindl, percussion adjunct, director of percussion ensembles; Andrew Lewis, piano adjunct, Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct; Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano adjunct, Elizabeth Richardson, vocal adjunct; Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct, Singing Christmas Tree director; Nicole Harwell, staff accompanist; Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct; Valerie Tate, administrative assistant

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR MUSIC MAJORS!

Alyssa Aycock, Michael Baker, Bethany Basham, Jacqueline Bateman, Sarah Bravo, Skyler Bready, Jimmy Brown, Shellie Brown, Chris Carlson, Nicole Colyer, Gina Condly, Clay Coward, Andrew Craig, Hannah Cross, Anna Cullnane, Eleana Davis, Erin Desmond, Rachel Eason, Brooke Edwards, Stephen Fairchild, John Farrar, Levi Foreman, Matthew Forester, Rachel Gorman, Cory Gray, Curtis Harris, Joshua Harton, Eric Hartzog, Blakeney Hatcliff, Amanda Hester, Daniel Hicks, Ellie Honea, Emmberly Jefferson, Sam Johnson, Abigail Johnston, Daniel Johnston, Temperance Jones, Jensen Kelley, Alicia Kleeves, Malcom LaTour, Joshua Lee, John Mathieu, Joseph McCullough, Maggie McLinden, Roddy Merritt, Lydia Moore, Joey Nelms, Joshua Nichols, Alex Nitzberg, William Anthony Peacock, Lauren Pratt, Libby Roberts, Morgan Robertson, Kaitlin Rowan, Rebekah Saks, Michael Shofner, Zachary Stafford, Stefanie Stoll, Hannah Thomas, Marie Tolliver, Keeyonia Tyler, Megan van der Bijl, Travis White, Abby Wiggins, Ellen Wise, Jocelyn Zhu, Robert Wesley Zickau

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, DECEMBER 2010 GRADUATES!

Micheal Hall, Ann Howard, Victoria Senete, Victoria Swilley