UMD School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies presents

THE HEIDI CHRONICLES

By Wendy Wasserstein
Directed by Scot Reese

May 4 – May 11, 2019
KOGOD THEATRE

at The Clarice
SCHOOL OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES
Leigh Wilson Smiley, Producing Director

THE HEIDI CHRONICLES
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THE HEIDI CHRONICLES is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Director .......................................................................................................... Scot Reese
Scenic Designer ............................................................................................. Yunpu Hu (胡云溥)
Costume Designer ......................................................................................... Madison Booth
Lighting Designer ........................................................................................... Michael Winston
Projection Designer ....................................................................................... Jeremy Bennett
Sound Design ................................................................................................ Justin Schmitz
Dramaturg ..................................................................................................... Maria Claudia Viera
Stage Manager ............................................................................................... Michelle Janota

Playwrights Horizons, New York City, first produced THE HEIDI CHRONICLES Off-Broadway in 1988 following a workshop production by the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

Produced on Broadway by the Shubert Organization, Suntory International Corp., and James Walsh in association with Playwrights Horizons.

This performance will last approximately 2 hours with a 15-minute intermission.

The sound designer in this production is represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

This production uses the Artist Engagement Services of the University Resident Theatre Association.

VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Heidi - Amber Smithers
Susan - Erin Valade
Chris/Mark/TV Attendant/Waiter/Ray - Evan Thanicatt
Peter - Koki Belikow
Scoop - Anthony Kiser
Jill/Debbie/Lisa - Maia Cayrus
Fran/April/Molly/Betsy - Lauren Alberg
Becky/Clara/Denise - Dion Denisse Penaflor

UNDERSTUDIES

Heidi - Miranda Hall
Susan - Gabrielle Allen
Chris/Mark - Elijah Williams
Peter - Philippos Sourvinos
Scoop - Chase Stouter
Jill/Debbie/Lisa - Kelsey Diggs
Fran/April/Molly/Betsy - Taylor Stokes
Becky/Clara/Denise - Star Patkus
TV Attendant/Waiter/Ray - Jake Walker

TIME AND SETTING

ACT ONE

Prologue: A Lecture Hall, New York, 1989
Scene 1: High School Dance, Chicago, 1965
Scene 2: Eugene McCarthy Dance, New Hampshire, 1968
Scene 3: Church Basement, Ann Arbor, MI, 1970
Scene 4: Outside Art Institute of Chicago, 1974
Scene 5: Anteroom, Pierre Hotel, NY, 1977

ACT TWO

All scenes take place in New York.
Prologue: A Lecture Hall, Columbia University, 1989
Scene 1: Scoop and Lisa’s Apartment, 1980
Scene 2: TV Studio, 1982
Scene 3: A Restaurant, 1984
Scene 4: Plaza Hotel Banquet Room, NY 1986
Scene 5: Children’s Ward, Hospital, 1987
Scene 6: Heidi’s Apartment, 1989
Progress: A Fight for True Believers

What price are you willing to pay for self-expression? In the search for identity, do we sometimes lose key aspects of ourselves? When do we reach true happiness, or is happiness merely a concept that we have fabricated as a means of motivation? Do we find true fulfillment in our careers? Our families? Our salaries? Is it possible to strike a balance?

These questions of self-identity were applicable in the late 1960s during Heidi’s school dance and remain relevant in today’s political climate. Although The Heidi Chronicles takes place over thirty years ago, its characters and their struggles continue to resonate with modern audiences. We present Heidi’s story to a particularly relevant audience – college students – currently in the thick a “search for self.” As college students we are constantly trying to figure out who we are, where we fit in, and where we want to go. Will our major land us our dream job? Will that dream job take us away from our loved ones, and are we willing to make that sacrifice? Will our parents accept our career choice, friend group, or sexual orientation?

Our title character, Heidi, is an art historian, professor, women’s right advocate, and a woman – a fearlessly independent woman who is driven by her career and serves as an example to other young women. Yet, at the end of the day, she still longs for things that society portrays as strictly feminine. Is it acceptable that society has created a construct that makes women choose either their career or motherhood? Why are women not allowed to strike a balance? Why do so many companies still lack maternity leave policies? Does a desire for romance, love, and a family mean that a woman cannot reach her full professional potential? Today, more and more women are taking on being full time moms while holding full time jobs, yet society continues to impose hindering stereotypes on gender roles.

Furthermore, within Heidi’s story, we are presented with two very different men who are also on the search for their identity. Peter, a successful doctor who may be denied full happiness given society’s biases, and Scoop, a man who seems to have it all – the career, the money, the woman, the perfect family – yet asks: “What is it all for?” We study, we work, we make money, but when we are looking back on our lives, what is it all for? Do we work to leave a legacy for ourselves? Or for our children? Perhaps both?

In 1974, Heidi defends women in art at the Chicago Women’s Art Coalition outside of the Chicago Art Institute. Over forty years later, we continue to fight similar battles. Heidi and Susan demand gender equality at an art museum. Today we gather in major cities to defend women’s voice, science, and different sexual orientations. We ask for protection of our identity. We have won some fights, such as the legalization of gay marriage. However, changing laws is simply one step in an indefinitely long process. Adversity, stereotypes, biases, and differences in values and beliefs will always hinder advancements. Therefore, we cannot risk taking steps backwards. As we continue to face struggles like those of Heidi and search for our own identity and self-fulfillment, we need to continue to be true believers and fight for progress.

Maria Claudia Viera, dramaturg
Lauren Alberg (Fran/April/Molly/Betsy) sophomore theatre performance major. Mulitz-Gudelsky Family Scholarship in Theatre recipient. Outside credits: Urinetown (Pennywise), Cry-baby (Lenora), Parade (Lucile Frank).

Gabrielle Allen (Susan u/s) sophomore theatre performance major. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival 2018 and 2019 (Charlene, Catherine). Outside credits: Fiddler on the Roof (Golde), Father of the Bride (Ms. Bellamy), Hello Dolly (ensemble).

Katie Arnold (assistant director) third-year theatre major. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (assistant director of 3 plays), UMoves: Undergraduate Dance Concert (assistant stage manager). Outside credits: Catch Me If You Can (assistant director).

Koki Belikow (Peter) first-year theatre and film major. Presidential Scholar. This is his first UMD production. Outside credits: Breaking Point (Avery), Pretty Much Legal (Leo), The Handmaid’s Tale (background actor).

Jeremy Bennett (projection design) first-year MFA candidate in projection design. UMD credits: Spring MFA Dance Thesis Concert 2019: Tides and ‘s (Apostrophe s) (projection design), Citizen: An American Lyric (assistant projection design). Outside credits: Meet the Beatles, The Weathervane Theatre Company (projection design).

Madison Booth (costume design) first-year MFA candidate in costume design. Outside design credits: Merrily We Roll Along (2018), 42nd Street (2018), A Chorus Line (2018), Meet Me in St. Louis (2017), Blood Brothers (2017), Weathervane Playhouse, Newark, OH. Madison has previously worked with Studio Theatre.


Kelsey Diggs (Jill/Debbie/Lisa u/s) freshman theatre performance major. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (performer). Outside credits: Little Shop of Horrors (Audrey), Transformations (Character 2/Anne Sexton), and Urinetown! the musical (stage manager) at Studio 39.

Miranda Hall (Heidi u/s) junior theatre performance major with a minor in Spanish. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (performer). Outside credits: Twelfth Night (Lady Olivia), Eurydice (Orpheus), The Marriage of Figaro (Suzanne), and Mary Stuart (Elizabeth Tudor).

Yunpu Hu (胡云溥) (scenic designer) second-year MFA candidate in scenic design. This is his UMD debut. He is originally from Beijing, China. He holds a BFA in theatre in stage design from Central Academy of Drama.

Michelle Janota (stage manager) senior theatre and environmental science double degree. Stage manager credits: Fearless New Play Festival (UMD), Landscapes of the Soul (Word Dance Theatre), Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Montgomery College). Assistant stage manager credits: Dialogues Des Carmelites (UMD School of Music), The Schooling of Bento Bonchev (UMD).

Anthony Kiser (Scoop) senior English major. Pre-law. Studied acting in Los Angeles. This is his first UMD production. Outside credits: Blood Relations (Dr. Patrick), The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Freud), The Runner Stumbles (Father Rivard).

Peter Leibold VI (assistant lighting designer) Peter has worked across the US, including Sierra Repertory, Andy’s Summer Playhouse, The Kennedy Center, Signature in the Schools, Great American Melodrama, and more. Recent designs include Street Scene, Little Shop of Horrors, and How to Catch a Star. www.PeterLeibold.com.

Jasmine Abigail Mitchell (assistant director) junior theatre major. UMD credits: Babel, Fall MFA Dance Thesis Concert 2018: Hamlet, Hell is a Bubble Tea Shop (director), Kreativity Diversity Troupe. Upcoming: directing Breath, Boom and Soundtrack by Diallo Adams. KCACTF Stage Director and Choreographer Competition Finalist. Phil. 4:6-7.


Dion Denisse Penaflor (Becky/Clara/Denise) third-year theatre major. Artistic director of Kreativity Diversity Troupe. UMD credits: Eurydice (Big Stone u/s), Second Season’s Dust of the Earth (Gabriel) and Breaking Point (Daughter), The Muses’ Original Works Project: The Number Prophet (Lady Byron). Instagram: @dion.denisse.
Scot Reese (director) Professional theatre credits include productions from Los Angeles to New York. Television credits include daytime dramas, situation comedies, variety specials, commercials, and an Emmy Award in performance. Recent credits include world premieres of *Oliver du Brasil*, *A Cricket in Times Square*, and *Blues Journey* at the Kennedy Center, and the Waiter at Arena Stage. Additional recent credits include the opera *Dr. of Alcantara* at Strathmore Music Center, *Once on This Island* at the Round House Theatre, *Pretty Fire* for the African Continuum Theatre Company, and *Barefoot in the Park* (with Laura Linney and Eric Stoltz) at LA Theatre Works.


Philippos Sourvinos (Peter u/s) second-year theatre and public policy double degree. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. Honors Humanities program, TDPS representative for Dean’s Advisory Board. UMD credits: *Little Shop of Horrors* (ensemble). Outside credits: *Into the Woods*, Highwood Theater (Baker).

Taylor Stokes (Fran/April/Molly/Betsy u/s) junior theatre and English double major. The Muses board member. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (performer), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chiffon), *Clove* (light board operator), The Weekday Players’ *The Melancholy Play* (Joan), Second Season’s *The Breaking Point* (Friend A).

Chase Stouter (Scoop u/s) theatre major. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (performer: *Ceasefire*, *Standardization*, and *It’s a Queer Thing*), *Little Shop of Horrors* (scenic build), *The Vagina Monologues* (performer). Outside credits: *Chicago* (Sergeant Fogerty; ensemble), Sketch Comedy (ensemble).

Evan Thanicatt (Chris/Mark/TV Attendant/Waiter/Ray) freshman theatre major. College Park Scholars Arts Program. Kreativity Diversity Troupe. This is his UMD debut.

Dylan Uremovich (assistant projection designer) is in his final year in the MFA Design program, specializing in lighting and projection design. Recent UMD credits: *Hamlet Replayed* and *Citizen: An American Lyric* (projection design), *Clove* (lighting design), Spring MFA Dance Thesis Concert 2018: *Equinox and Solstice* (projection design), and *Love and Information* (lighting design). Recent outside credits: *Analog II* (SJ Ewing and Dancers) at Dance Place and *Bhoomi* (Kalanidhi Dance) at the Kennedy Center. You can view his work at UremovichDesign.com.


Maria Claudia Viera (dramaturg) senior theatre and marketing double degree. UMD credits: Fearless New Play Festival (stage manager), *Little Shop of Horrors* (assistant stage manager), *Eurydice* (assistant stage manager), *Antigone* (Girl & Chorus), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Jack u/s), *New Visions/New Voices* (Jinks), Second Season: *Hapa* and *Fuse* (stage manager), *Another Side of You* and *Akwantuo: The Journey* (assistant stage manager).


Kate Wander (assistant stage manager) first-year theatre major. Creative and Performing Arts Scholar. UMD credits: *Hapa* and *Fuse* (assistant stage manager), *Hell is a Bubble Tea Shop* (assistant stage manager), *Lost Sons* and *Rockfish* (sound board operator), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Q-lab operator).
B. Benjamin Weigel (assistant costume designer) Previous designs include Little Shop of Horrors, Eurydice and The Schooling of Bento Bonchev (TDPS), Zauberrecht, Mahagonny Songspiel and Dialogues of the Carmelites (Maryland Opera Studio). Outside designs include Macbeth and Dinner (4615 Theatre), Glory Denied (Opera Idaho), A Midsummer Night’s Dream and This Mortal’s Mosaic (Ballet Idaho).

Elijah Williams (Chris u/s) second-year theater major. UMD credit: Fearless New Play Festival. Member of Kreativity Diversity Troupe.


ASSISTANT DIRECTORS, DESIGNERS, AND STAGE MANAGERS
Assistant Directors Katie Arnold, Jasmine Abigail Mitchell
Assistant Costume Designer B. Benjamin Weigel
Assistant Lighting Designer Peter Leibold VI
Assistant Projection Designer Dylan Uremovich
Assistant Stage Managers Ilana Simon-Rusinowitz, Kate Wander

COSTUMES
First Hand Amy VanderStaay
Wardrobe Supervisor Jasmine Gibbs
Graduate Assistants Michele Currenti, Jazmine Owalia
Costume Shop Assistants Elizabeth Beers, Viola Costen, Sydney Lemelin, Anu Odusanya, Katie Park
Stitchers Lauren Alberg, Erica Chanaud, Chloé Costello, Gabriela Grant, Madison Minesinger, Nina Parekh, Madalinei Valikhovskaya

TECHNOLOGY
Technology Graduate Assistants Jacob Hughes, Michael Winston
Lighting Supervisors James Newman, Cody Petenbrink
Electricians Samuel Bluk, Molly Klezer, Harsh Patel
Production Technology Student Crew Sergio Bastos, Bayardo "B" Martinez Cruz, Darien Djourabtchi, Billy Griffis

PROPERTIES
Properties Shop Assistant Andrea Ball
Prop Shop Graduate Assistant Rochele Mac
Prop Shop Student Workers Mary Beckle, Zavar Blackledge, Morgan Fitrell, Madison Freedman, Georgina Gabbidon, Isabel Kayton, Lydia Mohamed, Dion Denisse Penafior, Deanna Stephen
Properties Student Crew Zavar Blackledge, Trayonna Hutchins, Ben Panah

PAINTS
Scenic Artists Chrissy Curtis, Winnie Dong, Molly Hall
Graduate Assistant Sarah Beth Hall
Student Scenic Painters Katie Arnold, Ghazal Bazargan, Maia Cayrús, Alyiah Jackson, Elizabeth Prideaux

SCENIC
Set Construction Crew Earl Browne, Ryan Coia, Kaitlin Graham, Annemarie Gray, Devin Kohn, Rachel Lobel, Eric Rhodes, Everett Richmond, Alexander Shiryaev, Shira Liezel Werner, Charlie Youngmann
Student Set Construction Crew Noa Bass, Ivan Carlo, Merissa Collins, Ben Fish, Sophia Mattison, Jake Walker

SHOW CREW
Dressers Abigail Olshin, Gabryś Wronka, Zachary Van Grack
Light Board Operator Margaret Hansen
Sound and Projection Board Operator Jennifer Kasnadi
Run Crew Zoe Thomas, Trayonna Hutchins
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