

WEST VALLEY
ARTS presents

Sleepy Hollow

THE MUSICAL



Book and Lyrics by JIM CHRISTIAN

Music by TOM EDWARD CLARK

OCTOBER 5 - 30

WEST VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Presented by special arrangement with Stage Rights (www.stagerights.com)

WEST VALLEY
ARTS is proud to be



Salt City
BEST
of the Great Salt Valley



WEST VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
A West Valley City Venue

 WEST VALLEY
ARTS presents

Sleepy Hollow

THE MUSICAL

Book and Lyrics by JIM CHRISTIAN

Music by TOM EDWARD CLARK

Based on the short story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving
Orchestrations by David Blackburn

**SLEEPY HOLLOW CAST: CAROLINE ANDERSON, JOSEPH PAUL BRANCA,
SAVANNAH BROWN ROPP, MERSEDEZ CLIFFORD, CORA DUNCAN, EMILY DUNCAN,
JAMES DUNCAN, LUKE ELZEY, MORGAN FENNER, MASON GATES, BRYAN JOHNSON,
JORDON LeBARON, JENNILENE NESS, SOFIA PAREDES-KENRICK, RICKY PARKINSON,
LARISSA PEARSON, SOREN RAY, LIO RIVER, EMMA ROBERTS, CAMERON ROPP,
LAUREN SLAGOWSKI, TAYLOR SMITH, MATTHEW TRIPP, BRITTNEY WALLACE**

DIRECTED BY JIM CHRISTIAN

**THE VIDEOTAPING OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING
OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

Presented by special arrangement with Stage Rights (www.stagerights.com)

Musical recording provided by The MT Pit L.L.C. www.themtpit.com

www.WVCArts.org

CAST

ICHABOD CRANE.....	RICKY PARKINSON
ABRAHAM "BROM" VANBRON.....	JORDON LeBARON
FAAS BRINKERHOFF/DAREDEVIL.....	JOSEPH PAUL BRANCA
ROSALIE BRINKERHOFF	MORGAN FENNER
ZANDER DeGROOT.....	JAMES DUNCAN
BASTIAN ONDERDONK/GUNPOWDER/ICHABOD U/S.....	MASON GATES
BALTHUS VAN TASSEL.....	BRYAN JOHNSON
KATRINA VAN TASSEL.....	EMMA ROBERTS
HANS VAN RIPPER.....	TAYLOR SMITH
ARABELLA VAN RIPPER.....	CAROLINE ANDERSON
DIRK VAN RIPPER.....	LUKE ELZEY
MINA VAN RIPPER.....	SOFIA PAREDES-KENRICK
SABINE VEDDER.....	LAUREN SLAGOWSKI
GUSTA TENBROOK.....	EMILY DUNCAN
DORINE TENBROOK.....	MERSEDEZ CLIFFORD
WILLEM TENBROOK.....	SOREN RAY
ANIKA TENBROOK.....	CORA DUNCAN
DAEMON.....	JENNILENE NESS
THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN.....	LIO RIVER
BROM/ZANDER/HANS SWING.....	CAMERON ROPP
GUSTA/ARABELLA/SABINE SWING.....	BRITTNEY WALLACE
KATRINA/ROSALIE/DAEMON SWING.....	LARISSA PEARSON
FAAS/DIRK/BASTIAN/HORSEMAN SWING.....	MATTHEW TRIPP
MINA/DORINESWING.....	SAVANNAHBROWNROPP

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER.....	JIM CHRISTIAN
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....	KARIN GITTINS
ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR.....	JARED LESA
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.....	JEFF OLSEN
MANAGING PRODUCER.....	VANESSA OLSON
ARTISTIC PRODUCER.....	JOHN SWEENEY
CO-PRODUCER.....	CONLON BONNER
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....	ADAM FLITTON
SET DESIGNER.....	BRAD SHELTON
LIGHTING DESIGNER.....	RYAN FALLIS
COSTUME DESIGNER.....	KELSEY NICHOLS
WIG/MAKEUP DESIGN.....	SAVANNA FINLEY
SOUND DESIGNER.....	GRACE HEINZ
PROPERTIES.....	MARILYN MONTGOMERY
STAGE MANAGER.....	KAI SADAWSKI
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....	COLTER LINCOLN
ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....	JONAH "DUCKY" GARLICK
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT.....	BETHANY TEAMES
AUDIO ENGINEER.....	GRACE HEINZ
LIGHT BOARD.....	RYAN FALLIS
A2.....	BETHANY TEAMES
BOX OFFICE SUPERVISOR.....	CYPRESS STEVENS
FRONT OF HOUSE SUPERVISOR.....	ESTEPHANY PASILLAS
LEAD DECK.....	COLTER LINCOLN
DECK CREW.....	AYDEN DAVIS
DECK CREW.....	CONNER VINCENT
DECK CREW.....	LOGAN BLACK
COSTUME ASSISTANT.....	ALICIA KONDRICK
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR.....	ALICIA KONDRICK
WIG BUILD.....	SHAYLIA JOHNSON
WIG BUILD.....	EMMA STRINGHAM
WIG BUILD.....	LEXI MELTON
WIG BUILD.....	KRISSA LENT
WIG BUILD.....	CANDICE CRONIN
DRESSER.....	SAVANNAH GARLICK
DRESSER.....	HEIDI FRANK
WIGS/MAKEUP.....	EMMA STRINGHAM
WIGS/MAKEUP.....	JENNILENE NESS
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR.....	SAVANNA FINLEY
SCENIC PAINTER.....	COLTON HATTA BAUGH
SET BUILD.....	JASON SULLIVAN

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The journey to "Sleepy Hollow" began in childhood when I first became acquainted with the tale created by Washington Irving.

There I was...sitting in the weekly Saturday children's movie matinee at the Murray Theatre, popcorn and soda in hand, and my young imagination at the ready. As Walt Disney's "The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad" played on the screen, I was immediately captivated by the characters, suspense and lure of the supernatural. In the years since, I have read and seen countless versions but never found one that fully employed the element of music to bring the story to life. (There was a very short-lived version that ran on Broadway for a mere 12 performances in 1948, but critics and audiences alike let this production quickly sink into oblivion.)

When I approached my collaborator, composer Tom Edward Clark, about the possibility of writing a stage musical of this story, he enthusiastically accepted and immediately began spinning haunting, engaging melodies and we were off on a creative quest!

The original source was Irving's 30-page short story and only included a handful of named characters: Ichabod Crane; Brom Bones; Katrina Van Tassel and her father, Balthus; Hans Van Ripper; Gunpowder, the horse; and, of course, The Headless Horseman. All other characters you will meet in this performance are unique to this version. As we explored the basic premise, many important questions began to emerge: What was the story behind the many spirits that inhabited Sleepy Hollow? Why was it so important to have a schoolmaster in the town? What was the mystical power of the bridge that connects Sleepy Hollow to the outside world? And exactly how far will Ichabod's greed, ambition, and judgmental nature take him? The answers to these questions became the foundation for how this "new" tale unfolded.

"Sleepy Hollow" premiered at Weber State University in the fall of 2009. Following its successful run, it was selected for presentation at the Region VIII Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in St. George, Utah where it was showcased alongside productions from California, Utah, Nevada and Arizona. During the festival, Tom and I were presented with the National Musical Theatre Playwriting Award from the Kennedy Center and were invited to Washington DC to receive the award.

We are both thrilled for this production here at the West Valley Performing Arts Center! This is the first time the show is being produced in the round and it has provided us with a wealth of creative opportunities and intriguing challenges. We thank the management, staff, designers, performers and the entire production team for their inspiration and support.

*It's Halloween time again...
and that's when spirits abound,
ghost tales come to life,
and The Horseman rides!*

Jim Christian
Playwright/Lyricist/Director

SONG LIST

Act One

Prologue

A Lovely Afternoon

All That We've Longed For

Never Spare the Rod

Heads or Tails

This Season of Abundance

A Conundrum

The Best Man

Beyond the Hollow

Ichabod Redux

Upon...

Act Two

This is the Day

Your Heart with Mine

Rosalie

Zander's Lament

Unraveling

Vanished

Make It Mine

The Final Tale

SYNOPSIS

Act I

Prologue: The play opens as the most recent schoolmaster of the town of Sleepy Hollow, Bastian Onderdonk, is attempting to leave and cross the bridge that links the village to the outside world ("Prologue"). Despite their protestations, he departs, declaiming their madness and the supernatural forces at work in the town. As he crosses the bridge, it retracts leaving the citizens of Sleepy Hollow isolated and trapped.

Abraham "Brom" Van Bron, the town carpenter of Sleepy Hollow, is busily at work repairing a rocking horse for Mina Van Ripper, who is there watching with her brother, Dirk. After a bit of teasing from Dirk, Mina runs off to tell her mother, and Brom and Dirk discuss the impending arrival of a new schoolmaster. Katrina Van Tassel, daughter of the town's wealthiest farmer, enters and overhears them as they talk about how all of the single women will be chasing after the new teacher. Brom finishes the rocking horse and gives it to Dirk, who leaves. Once alone, Brom and Katrina begin to flirt with one another, and it is revealed that they are secretly betrothed ("A Lovely Afternoon"). Various other citizens stroll by, including widow Gusta Tenbrook and her three children, Dorine, Willem, and Anika, followed by Sabine Vedder, the town spinster. Just as Brom and Katrina are about to steal a kiss, their best friends, brother and sister Faas (the town cobbler) and Rosalie Brinkerhoff, arrive and tease them playfully. As they exit, Zander DeGroot, farmhand of Katrina's father, passes by, after which Brom and Katrina finally get their kiss. The Tenbrook children return and talk to Katrina about getting ready to meet the new schoolmaster, as well as the many legends surrounding Sleepy Hollow, including "the curse." Suddenly, Willem spots the new teacher approaching in the distance. As the various citizens of the town (including Dirk and Mina's parents, Hans and Arabella Von Ripper) gather on the green to meet him, we see that Gusta, Sabine, Rosalie, and Arabella have all baked items for the schoolmaster to welcome him ("All That We've Longed For"). At the conclusion of the song, Ichabod Crane, the new schoolmaster, arrives. He is impressed by their greeting and accepts the baked goods with relish, particularly Rosalie's gingerbread. After introductions, he announces that school will begin promptly in the morning and, horrified to learn that there is no church choir, declares himself the new choirmaster and schedules a rehearsal the next night. Hans, the local stable master, informs Ichabod that he will be living with his family and prepares to take him to their home. Before he does, Ichabod mentions that he ran into Bastian Onderdonk, his old university rival, who despite their previous friction had told Ichabod that he thought he'd be a perfect fit for Sleepy Hollow. During this speech, unseen by Ichabod, a pair of shoes slung over Faas's shoulder levitate and drift away. The villagers keep Ichabod distracted from this situation and it goes unnoticed.

Ichabod enters to find the schoolroom in disarray, quickly tidies things up, and begins writing on the chalkboard. The Tenbrook and Von Ripper children noisily arrive and Ichabod silences them with a large brass bell and they take their seats. After the children introduce themselves, Ichabod lays down his strict rules and demanding expectations ("Never Spare the Rod"). The children are horrified at his brutal attitude and begin planning a revolt. As they begin their reading assignment, several books on the shelf behind Ichabod mysteriously slide to one side all by themselves. When asked what happened, the children seem unruffled and explain that it must have been poltergeists. Ichabod dismisses that notion as rubbish, but a moment later a pile of books crashes to the floor. Ichabod, now on edge, demands an explanation, and the children tell him about the curse on Sleepy Hollow ("Heads or Tails"). Ichabod declares blasphemy and begins brandishing a book decrying the evils of witchcraft. As he does so, more books tumble from the shelves, the pen on his desk rises and begins writing by itself, and the blackboard begins to spin. Ichabod dismisses school, and they all flee the classroom, the children laughing and Ichabod shrieking in fear.

As the townspeople arrive for choir practice, Dorine is regaling Gusta, Sabine, Arabella, and Hans with an account of what happened that morning at the school. Faas, Rosalie and Katrina enter as Faas recounts seeing Ichabod running from the school in hysterics and begins imitating him just as Ichabod walks in. Ichabod quickly assumes control and begins warming up the choir. As he does so, a disembodied voice echoes from somewhere within the church. After several occurrences, Ichabod demands an explanation, which the villagers try to dismiss as the natural acoustics of the building. Brom and Zander then enter late, much to Ichabod's chagrin, and rehearsal begins with

Dorine playing the organ ("This Season of Abundance"). During the song, Ichabod begins moving from woman to woman, touching them in an effort to coach their singing. The men take strong offense to this and grow increasingly irritated as the song reaches a climax. Ichabod dismisses the rehearsal and pulls Katrina aside to introduce himself and praise her singing. Brom inserts himself into their conversation. Katrina, seeing the rivalry that has developed, laughingly excuses herself and exits with Rosalie, leaving Brom and Ichabod alone for a moment of verbal sparring before Brom departs.

The Village Green - The children and adults gradually gather, comparing stories of Ichabod's actions in the schoolroom, church, and village. It soon becomes clear that the town is becoming divided in their opinion of the schoolmaster with Sabine, Arabella, Gusta, and Katrina coming to his defense while the others berate him ("A Conundrum"). At one point, Ichabod passes by reading a book, and the townsfolk all fall silent until he has leaves. After the song, Faas and Rosalie tease Katrina about her engagement and, seeing that Ichabod is returning, Katrina quickly exits with Zander to return home. Ichabod enters looking for Katrina and is informed that he just missed her. As everyone disperses, Ichabod retains Anika and asks her to give a sealed note to Katrina. After hinting that her mother has told her that she has to be nice to Ichabod so he won't leave and the curse will be lifted, she agrees to take the letter and, as she is leaving, sees Brom approaching and asks him to pass the note from Mr. Crane along to Katrina. Brom accepts it willingly and glares at Ichabod. Brom opens the letter and reads it in front of Ichabod, fuming at its cloying and aggressively romantic contents. As Ichabod tries to leave, Brom bars his path and the two have a verbal showdown, each declaring their own intentions for Katrina ("The Best Man").

The Exterior of the Van Tassel Estate - As Ichabod approaches the Van Tassel house, he encounters Zander laboring in the garden where a large scarecrow stands guard. He inquires as to whether Katrina is at home and is rebuffed and warned that if he continues to pursue Katrina, Brom will take action. Zander leaves and Ichabod knocks on the door and is greeted by Balthus Van Tassel, Katrina's father. Balthus greets him warmly and refers to the challenge they've had replacing Diedrich Knickerbocker, their longtime schoolmaster. He also invites Ichabod to join them at his estate for the town's annual Halloween party. Ichabod notices the expansiveness of the Van Tassel estate and begins to investigate its full breadth. As Balthus regales him with details about his abundant livestock, acreage, produce, and beautifully appointed mansion, Ichabod's inherent greed begins to rise within him and his intentions for Katrina's hand become rabid. Katrina returns home and, despite her protestations, is left alone with Ichabod by her father so that she and Ichabod can become better acquainted. Ichabod unexpectedly begins proposing to her, and as she resists, he informs her that he has become aware of the curse and threatens Katrina, telling her that he will only remain if she marries him. She explains the true nature of the curse and its accompanying riddle. As Ichabod becomes increasingly aggressive, she threatens to call for her father, but Ichabod issues a harsh warning. She asks him to leave and he obliges. Left alone, she reflects on her dilemma and what her personal sacrifice in marrying Ichabod could mean for the ultimate fate of Sleepy Hollow ("Beyond the Hollow").

In an attempt to encourage Ichabod to stay in Sleepy Hollow, Hans offers him the use of one of his horses. Ichabod expresses his appreciation but is vexed when he is presented with Gunpowder, a broken down old nag. Despite his protestations, Hans assures him that it's a good horse and leaves. Alone, Ichabod acknowledges the shoddy treatment he is being given by the town and vows to take matters into his own hands ("Ichabod Redux").

The entire village has gathered for their annual Halloween party and, prior to Ichabod's arrival, Balthus reminds them of the importance of treating the schoolmaster to a wonderful evening. As Ichabod enters, everyone begins a spirited dance during which partners are changed and Ichabod and Brom are in constant competition for Katrina. This continues after the dance with Ichabod making further threats to Brom. Sabine makes a play for Ichabod's attentions but is rebuffed. Hans calls for everyone's attention and everyone assembles for the annual telling of the town's "Halloween Tales" making Ichabod the guest of honor and target of their stories ("Upon..."). They recount incidents that include: a scarecrow coming to life and wreaking havoc on the town, a young girl having a fit of madness and floating off into the night sky, fiery demons bursting from a family's hearth, a parson who vanished from the steeple of his church during a lightning storm, and a young bridal couple who were attacked when the bride's twin sister, a suspected witch, blocked them from leaving Sleepy Hollow on their wedding night. The following morning, the bride awoke

to find herself beside the body of her headless groom. As the song concludes, Ichabod berates the villagers for trying to scare him with their nonsensical superstitions. He becomes increasingly insulting until Balthus snaps and angrily tells him that they are not legends but the actual history of their town. They explain how all of the victims were members of their various families and, although he tries to apologize and remind them of how much they need him to break the curse, they expel him from the party and their town. The action segues to the exterior where Ichabod mounts Gunpowder and prepares to depart once and for all. As they ride deeper into the woods, Ichabod becomes increasingly unnerved until suddenly the Headless Horseman appears, brandishing a long sword. A chase begins until they pass one another and Ichabod knocks the Horseman from his steed with his book on witchcraft that he had been using as a shield. As the Horseman, topples to the ground, his disguise falls away, revealing Brom as the perpetrator of the charade. Ichabod picks up Brom's sword and is about to strike when the real Headless Horseman appears wielding a glowing Jack-o-lantern. Ichabod and Brom quickly remount their horses and the chase resumes in greater desperation and earnest. At last, Ichabod and Gunpowder gallop across the bridge but the Horseman hurls his pumpkin after them which bursts into flame. As the bridge retreats and silence falls, Brom and the Horseman regard one another. The Horseman bows and gallops off into the night as the curtain falls.

Act II

It is Brom and Katrina's wedding day, and the two are being attended by Faas and Zander, and Arabella and Rosalie, respectively ("This is the Day"). The women sing with joyful anticipation of the event as Faas and Zander jibe Brom about the gloom and doom ahead. They segue to the village green, where Balthus awaits to perform the ceremony. Brom and Katrina speak their vows ("Your Heart With Mine"), and a wedding dance ensues, during which Rosalie suddenly becomes disoriented and begins launching verbal attacks on everyone ("Rosalie"). Faas and Zander subdue her and lead her off toward home. As the townspeople try to make sense of what just happened, they realize that Rosalie had been eating gingerbread which none of them had brought to the wedding.

The wedding couple and guests have arrived for a celebratory feast, and congratulatory wishes are being offered. Several of the children gather and talk about how Rosalie had acted just like the girl who flew away in the Halloween tale. Faas enters with a somewhat shaken Rosalie, and the adults prepare to drink a toast to Brom and Katrina with a special wine. Dirk begs to have some but is told to wait until he is older. He indicates that there is an extra glass, causing everyone to realize that Zander is missing. As everyone exits to search for him, Dirk lingers behind and samples the wine. As he does so, the scarecrow in Van Tassel's garden begins to twitch and moan. Dirk cries out for his parents who return with the other guests. When he tells them about the scarecrow, they suspect that he has drunk some of the wine and is having a reaction, but the scarecrow suddenly lurches. Brom runs to the scarecrow and removes its hat and head, revealing a groggy Zander. He is helped down with the aid of Hans and Faas and struggles to tell everyone about how he was hit from behind, given something to drink, and been left hanging in the garden for hours ("Zander's Lament"). The villagers try to make sense of what is going on when suddenly Willem suggest that perhaps Ichabod has returned. They realize that no one has visited the schoolhouse since his departure and that he may be hiding there. Brom, Faas, and Hans all leave to check out the school, and a few moments later, Dorine begins to smell smoke. They look off in the direction of the Von Ripper home and stables and see that the sky is turning orange. They all run off with the exception of Katrina and Sabine, who try to comfort a hysterical Rosalie.

Brom, Faas and Hans enter to find the schoolroom in disarray with all of the desks piled into a central barricade and papers strewn everywhere. The men try to determine whether or not the curses have returned or whether Ichabod is indeed behind all of this. Suddenly, Arabella, Mina, and Dirk burst in distraught because their home and stables have burned to the ground. Arabella verbally attacks Brom, saying that he and Katrina were responsible for bringing back the curse because they had defied its conditions and gotten married ("Unraveling"). As they sink against the pile of desks in despair, they suddenly come crashing to the ground, where Dirk finds Ichabod's book on witchcraft, proving that he has indeed returned. Eager to show this evidence to the others, they head for the church to ring the bell and gather the town.

The group from the schoolhouse has arrived and is trying to sort through the evidence as Katrina and Sabine rush in, followed a few moments later by Zander and Balthus. They realize that the

Tenbrooks haven't arrived, and just as Faas starts to leave, he is confronted by a silent Gusta. She is in a stupor and walks to the center of the room, where she recounts the story of how her husband, the pastor, disappeared during the storm years ago ("Vanished"). As she reveals her inner turmoil during the years since, she announces that her children have now gone missing. Enraged, Brom begins to run off in pursuit of Crane and the missing children but is stopped by Katrina, who reminds him that all of the tales have recurred except one: the headless groom. In the face of this evidence, Brom suggests that perhaps there's a solution to the situation in Ichabod's book on witchcraft, and they all crowd around to look through it. With everyone distracted by the book, Brom slips away and out of the church.

Brom dashes into the clearing with his sword drawn. He calls out for Crane then softly hears muffled cries coming from the hollow tree that stands in the center of the clearing. He reaches into the opening of the tree but is immediately caught in a snare that binds his wrists and lifts them high overhead, pinning him against the tree. As he calls for help, he hears the melody of the riddle being whistled as Ichabod slowly strolls into view from behind the tree. Brom demands to know what Ichabod has done with the Tenbrook children and is taunted by Ichabod as he reveals the details of how he subdued his various victims with extracts from plants and flowers. Brom tries to reason with him, but Ichabod seizes the opportunity to be done with Brom once and for all, grabs the sword, and prepares to strike, but is stopped by a bloodcurdling scream. Katrina, Faas, and the others rush in noisily trying to stop Ichabod from striking and begging for the location of the missing children. Ichabod silences them but they resume their protests. Katrina steps forward and subdues the crowd, and in an attempt to assuage him, offers herself to Ichabod, but he sees through her pretense and swings at Brom's throat with the sword. However, Brom grips the rope, lifts his feet, and lands them squarely into Ichabod's chest, knocking him to the ground as the sword clatters from his hands. Hans, Faas, and Zander dog-pile on Ichabod and pin him down as Katrina and Balthus rush to free Brom and Dirk picks up the fallen sword. Faas gags Ichabod with a handkerchief, and the men drag him to the tree where he is bound in the same snare that held Brom. Dirk hands the sword to Brom, encouraging him to do what Ichabod was about to do to him. Brom relents, stating that the shedding of blood, innocent or otherwise, is not the solution. As they ponder what to do with Ichabod, Sabine steps forward and decries everyone for not taking the step that could finally break the curse: offering a head to the Horseman. She picks up the sword and prepares to decapitate Ichabod. The villagers, starting with Gusta, offer themselves to be the sacrifice for the Horseman ("Make It Mine"). She is followed by Balthus, Katrina, Brom, Faas, and Rosalie, the Von Rippers, and finally Zander. As their voices rise in crescendo, Sabine takes one final swing and stops short of striking at Ichabod's throat. Out of the breathless silence, Sabine speaks and gradually begins to reveal the story of how she had been treated all of her life by the citizens of Sleepy Hollow ("The Final Tale"). Soon, the townsfolk realize that Sabine is actually Sabilla, the witch who had beheaded her twin sister's groom, Diedrich Knickerbocker. She had taken on her sister's identity after the incident and lived among them all those years, waiting for a chance to pay them back. However, with their offers of sacrifice she has had a change of heart and a change of purpose and announces that she has finally found a man to replace Diedrich—a man whose heart is as dark as hers: Ichabod. After revealing that through her witchcraft she had transformed the schoolmaster and her sister into the Horseman and his horse, she cuts Ichabod loose and envelops him with her cape. There is a burst of smoke and flame, and when Brom pulls her cape away, both she and Ichabod have vanished. Immediately, the cries of the Tenbrook children are heard, the bridge reappears, and they come running across. As they are reunited with Gusta, they recount how Ichabod had given them something that made them sleepy and carried them across the bridge.

With the curse lifted and the bridge permanently restored, the villagers consider what the future holds for them ("Finale"). The Von Rippers decide to leave and make a new life for themselves. Rosalie and Faas, eager to find romantic options, prepare to leave, encouraging Katrina and Brom to join them. However, the newlyweds determine that they will be perfectly content to stay in Sleepy Hollow and make new memories. After heartfelt good-byes, the Brinkerhoffs and Van Rippers depart. Brom and Katrina dash off to enjoy their life as husband and wife, and Balthus and Zander dutifully return to the Van Tassel estate. Left alone, the Tenbrooks decide to stay, knowing that they now have all the time in the world to learn and grow and, when the time is right, travel beyond the Hollow.

*Synopsis courtesy of StageRights.com

BIOGRAPHIES



Jim Christian

Jim Christian is an award-winning playwright, director, and choreographer whose works have been presented throughout the United States, at venues including The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Pioneer Theatre Company. He is a Professor Emeritus from Weber State University and has also served on the faculties of San Diego State University and Eastern Kentucky University.

His directing and choreographing credits include the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Pioneer Theatre Company, Utah Opera, Arizona Broadway Theatre, La Jolla Stage Company, Sierra Repertory Theatre, Lyric Repertory Theatre, and the Utah Symphony. His original works include "Pirated!," "Sleepy Hollow," "Five Carols for Christmas," "JingleJacks," and "The Plain Princess." His awards include the Michael Kanin Playwriting Award for Best Musical, Utah's Best of State (University Professor), Weber State University's Presidential Distinguished Professor Award, and the Rodney H. Brady Master Teacher Award.



Karin Gittins, Music Director

Karin is a highly sought after Music Director, Conductor, Accompanist and Vocal Coach; most notably having worked with Disney Star, International chart-smashing recording artist & 2022 Grammy award winning artist, Olivia Rodrigo (Driver's License/Good 4 U).

Her last musical direction credits with West Valley Arts: "West Side Story," "Little Shop of Horrors," and "Little Women." Other select music director credits: Utah Governor's Artist Awards on PBS, "Sound of Music," "Sweeney Todd" at Utah Shakespeare Festival, "Ragtime," "Legally Blonde," "Newsies," "Mean Girls" at Music Theatre West, "South Pacific," "RENT," "Spring Awakening," "Guys & Dolls," "Beauty & the Beast," "Pirated Penzance," "Anyone Can Whistle," "Sweet Charity," "Damn Yankees," "Joseph & the Amazing...," "Once Upon a Mattress," "The King and I," "1776," "Children of Eden," and "Forever Plaid."

A HUGE thank you to the staff and creative team of West Valley Arts! A special thanks to Jim, John, Vanessa & Jeff for the opportunity to work on this show during her favorite time of year: Spooky Season



Ricky Parkinson, Ichabod Crane

Ricky's eclectic musical endeavors have taken him from a cappella groups (BYU Vocal Point, 2006 ICCA champions) to opera (Lyrical Opera Theater & Utah Opera Chorus) to early music (5 seasons with Utopia Early Music Ensemble) to musical theater. He has performed in "The Music Man" (Olin Britt) at Pioneer Theater Company; "Forever Plaid" (Smudge) at Hale Centre Theatre Sandy; "Les Miserables" (Javert) at Hale Center Theater; and "My Fair Lady" (Henry Higgins) and "The Scarlet Pimpernel" (Chauvelin) at Centerpoint Legacy Theater. He has also been a section leader and soloist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church for many years.



Jordon LeBaron, Abraham "Brom" Van Bron

Jordon LeBaron, bass-baritone, studied voice at Utah State University where he received his bachelor of music degree in vocal performance. Since then, he has enjoyed performing in several opera, oratorio, musical theater, and jazz productions. Some of his recent credits include: "La Bohème" (Marcello), "Lamb of God" (Judas), "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (Pharoah), Rufus (Pirated!), "Pagliacci" (Silvio), "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" (Frollo), Handel's "Messiah" (Bass soloist), and "The LeBaron Singers" on YouTube. During the day, Jordon works as a Speech-Language Pathologist and specializes in treating voice and swallowing disorders. In his spare time, he enjoys making sourdough bread, watching & playing sports, and spending time with his family. He is grateful for a supportive family that encourages him to pursue his passion for performance. He is especially grateful to his beautiful and talented wife, Angela, with whom he often shares the stage. They have three amazing kids.



Joseph Paul Branca, Faas Brinkerhoff/Daredevil

Joey is thrilled to be back at West Valley Arts where he was last seen in "The Foreigner" as Charlie Baker. He has performed in many productions with revered companies across the Wasatch Front and internationally, including Salt Lake Acting Company, Hale Centre Theatre, Utah Opera, Hale Center Theater Orem, Good Company Theatre, Plan-B Theatre Company, Desert Star Playhouse, the Parker Theatre, Salt Lake Shakespeare, and The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios Japan in Osaka. He also appears regularly in film and television, including starring roles in the films "Dog Valley," "Blood of the Undying," the upcoming "One Big Happy Family," and the Emmy Award Winning "Resistance Movement." Joseph has received several awards for his work, including a Utah Film Award, a West Valley Arts Ovation Award, a Westminster Theatre Society Award for Best Actor, and two BroadwayWorld Awards for Best Actor in a Musical and in a Play for his roles in Disney's "Newsies" (Crutchie) and "The Foreigner" (Charlie Baker) respectively. Joey studied acting and vocal performance at both the University of Utah and Westminster College, and proudly works as the Director of Communications for Salt Lake Acting Company, and as a Project Manager for Hale Center Theater Orem. To Latoya, "I owe you a drink." Learn more and follow along @JosephBranca or by visiting JosephBranca.com



Morgan Fenner, Rosalie Brinkerhoff

Morgan is thrilled to be back at West Valley Arts! Some of Morgan's favorite credits include: "See How They Run" (Penelope Toop), "Lucky Stiff" (Annabel Glick), "The Mousetrap" (Mollie Ralston), "Bright Star" (Margo Crawford), "Seussical The Musical" (Mrs. Mayor), and "The Scarlet Pimpernel" (Marie Tussaud) at Hale Centre Theatre; "The Odd Couple: Female Version" (Florence Unger) and "Arsenic and Old Lace" (Elaine Harper) at West Valley Arts. She trained at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Performance from UVU. "Hey.... Love you!"



James Duncan, Zander Degroot

James is elated to be back at West Valley Arts with his theater family and family family! Having run a couple of asylums into the ground on this stage (in "Sweeney Todd" and "Beauty and the Beast") he's happy to return to his roots as a farmhand in this incredible production. Other recent credits include "Oliver!" (Mr. Bumble) at Hale Center Theater Orem, "Matilda" (Escapologist) at Centerpoint, and "Christmas Carol" (Poor Husband) at Hale Centre Theatre. Special thanks to Jim and Karin and everyone on the production team and crew that make these theater memories at West Valley Arts so beautiful. All his love to Emily and their fantastic kids and baleful bassets.



Mason Gates, Bastian Onderdonk/Gunpowder/Ichabod U/S

After a three-year hiatus, Mason couldn't be happier to return to the performing world. He holds a BM in Vocal Performance from BYU - Provo, as well as an MM in Vocal Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He sang opera professionally for over eight years, across 500+ performances and more than twenty different roles, ranging from "Pagliacci" (Beppe) and "La Boheme" (Rodolfo) to "The Flying Dutchman" (Der Steuermann) and the title role of "Albert Herring." He is excited to dip his toes into the world of Musical Theatre, and feels incredibly fortunate to share the stage with such a fantastic cast, and work with the amazing production team here at West Valley Arts. A special thanks to his wonderful wife and beautiful children, who have been so supportive of his journey.



Bryan Johnson, Balthus Van Tassel

Bryan is excited to be performing at West Valley Arts for his first time. Some recent, favorite credits include: "Beauty and the Beast" (Beast) at Timpanogos Arts, "A Christmas Carol - A One Man Show" at Covey and public libraries, "School of Rock" at Hale Centre Theatre, "The Drowsy Chaperone" (Robert Martin) at SCERA and Lehi, "The Audience" (David Cameron), and "Pride and Prejudice" (Bingley) at Creekside Theatre. By day, he works as a software developer for AncestryDNA. He'd like to thank his family for their continued love and support.



Emma Roberts, Katrina Van Tassel

Emma is thrilled to be performing on this stage for the first time as a part of this beautiful production. Recent favorite credits include "Matilda" (Miss Honey) at CenterPoint Legacy Theatre + Cottonwood Heights Arts Council, and "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" (Olive) at Sandy Arts Guild. The first play she was ever in was an adaptation of "Sleepy Hollow" when she was 12 years old – she had no lines. Emma works as a freelance copywriter and lives in Sugarhouse with her husband and two dogs.



Taylor Smith, Hans Van Ripper

Taylor is glad to be back at West Valley Arts! He was last seen as Christmas Present/Old Joe at Hale Centre Theatre Sandy. Some credits include: "Shrek the Musical" (Shrek), "A Tale of Two Cities" (Sydney Carton), "The Last 5 Years" (Jamie), and Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" (Beast). Taylor has a BFA in theatre from the University of Utah. Taylor would like to thank Amanda, Evie and Miles for letting him tell stories to let people escape a hectic world.



Caroline Anderson, Arabella Van Ripper

Caroline is thrilled to make her West Valley Arts debut! Favorite credits include "Thoroughly Modern Millie" (Millie), "Shrek" (Fiona), "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (Narrator), "Annie Get Your Gun" (Annie Oakley), and "Crazy for You" (Tess). Caroline sends endless love and gratitude to her family and friends for their unfailing support and encouragement.



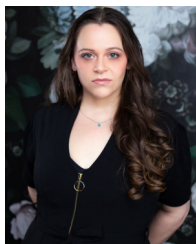
Luke Elzey, Dirk Van Ripper

Luke is thrilled to be in this production of "Sleepy Hollow, The Musical." Luke is currently a BFA student in the Actor Training Program at the University of Utah. Some past credits include: "Les Miserables" (Enjolras), "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" (Phoebus), "Newsies Jr." (Jack), "Sweeney Todd in Concert" (Sweeney Todd), "The Yellow Boat" (Father), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Demetrius), "The Addams Family" (Mal), and "My Son, Pinocchio" (Boy 2). Luke hopes you enjoy the show and have a HAPPY HOLLOWEen!



Sofia Paredes-Kenrick, Mina Van Ripper

Sofia is honored to be returning to the West Valley Arts stage for "Sleepy Hollow." They were most recently seen in West Valley Arts' production of "Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic" (Harry). While offstage, Sofia finds joy in studying classical literature, costuming, writing, and exploring the many artistic opportunities that Utah has to offer.



Lauren Slagowski, Sabine Vedder

Lauren Slagowski is thrilled to be returning to West Valley Arts for her third show. Recent credits include "The Sound of Music" (Mother Abbess) at Sundance Summer Theater, "Into the Woods" (Jack's Mother/Cinderella's Mother/Stepmother Swing) at West Valley Arts, and "The Addams Family Musical" (Alice) at Scera Performing Arts. Lauren is known for her steely voice and colorful facial expressions and is excited to be using both to portray this unique character. Lauren graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in Vocal Performance and performs both musical theater and opera when she is not hiking, traveling, or spending time with her partner. Special thanks to her partner Hung for all of the support he gives that allows her to pursue this passion and special thanks to her voice teacher Jared Lesa.



Emily Duncan, Gusta Tenbrook

Emily is thrilled to be back at West Valley Arts for another spooky show after having been in West Valley's "Sweeney Todd." This show is particularly special for her since she gets to share the stage with her real-life husband and child. Some of her favorite roles include "Into the Woods" (the Baker's Wife), "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" (Evangeline Barley), and "The Sound of Music" (Elsa Schraeder). She is currently the choir teacher at Lehi High School, a proud mother of three, and wife to one terrific tenor.



Merседez Clifford, Dorine Tenbrook

Merседez is excited to perform with the amazing cast of "Sleepy Hollow" in her first show with West Valley Arts. She attributes much of her love for singing and the arts to her mother and grandmother, who endlessly encouraged her to explore her talents in her childhood. Merседez began acting at the age of 10 in Carbon County. Her role in "The Sound of Music" (Marta) opened the door to a new world that she quickly fell in love with. Merседez became heavily involved in all of her schools' and community's choir and drama programs. She has starred in shows such as "See How They Run," "My Turn on Earth," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat," and "Harvey." After taking a break to focus on her education, Merседez recently returned to the theater world and is excited to once again bring smiles, laughter, and fun to her community.



Soren Ray, Willem Tenbrook

Soren is thrilled to make his West Valley Arts debut. Other stage credits include: "Matilda the Musical" (Bruce), "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (Child Ensemble), "Newsies" (Les) at Centerpoint Legacy Theatre and "A Christmas Story" (Ralphie) at both Pioneer Theatre and Centerpoint Legacy Theatre. He is excited to perform in this beautiful theatre and has enjoyed working with the cast and production team for "Sleepy Hollow." Soren would like to thank his family for their love and support.



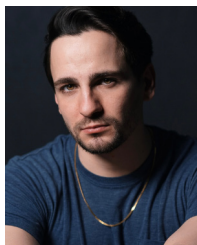
Cora Duncan, Anika Tenbrook

Cora is overjoyed to be back at West Valley Arts. Previously they were seen in West Valley Arts' production of "Beauty and the Beast" (Chip). Cora fell in love with acting during their 3rd grade play and they love every chance they get to perform. They are also thrilled to share the stage with their parents.



Jennilene Ness, Daemon

Jennilene is thrilled to be performing in this production of "Sleepy Hollow" as she makes her debut on the West Valley Arts Stage. Spooky season is her favorite time of year, and this show perfectly captures the spooky element. Some of Jennie's favorite credits include "Mamma Mia" (Sophie), "Seussical the Musical" (The Sour Kangaroo), "Matilda" (Mrs. Wormwood), and "Songs for A New World" (Soloist). She gives thanks to all of the wonderful people who have supported her in her performing journey including her family, her mentors, directing staff, and stage crew. Jennie hopes you feel inspired as you grasp the moral inside this fun and thrilling Story and take them with you to share!



Lio River, The Headless Horseman

Born and raised in São Paulo Brazil, Lio has been acting in theater and film for the past 7 years in Utah. You may have seen him in other productions at West Valley Arts, including the most recent "West Side Story," "Clue" and "In the Heights"! He is beyond thrilled to portray such an iconic character as the Headless Horseman in "Sleepy Hollow" as his first ever princess role track. It may seem easy, but just know that he can't see much under that costume. Follow him on Instagram @THELIORIVER



Cameron Ropp, Brom/Zander/Hans Swing

Cameron is beyond excited to be making his debut at West Valley Arts. He has been in love with theater his whole life and loves it almost as much as he loves his beautiful wife, Savannah, whom he is overjoyed to share the stage with in this production. He wants to extend his gratitude to his family for supporting him and all the members of this community and production team that have allowed him to continue to do what he loves.



Brittney Wallace, Gusta/Arabella/Sabine Swing

Brittney is thrilled to be making her West Valley Arts debut in the cast of "Sleepy Hollow"! She is especially excited to be working with Jim Christian on a show he wrote! Brittney studied musical theatre at Western Wyoming Community College and Weber State University. Some of her recent credits include "Junie B. Jones, The Musical" (Junie B. Jones); "Beauty and the Beast" (Babette), "Shrek" (Fiona), "How I Became A Pirate" (Swill) at SCERA; and a featured vocalist in the 5-star reviewed "Best of..." Series at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival! Brittney has six beautiful children and one amazingly supportive husband!



Larissa Pearson, Katrina/Rosalie/Daemon Swing

Larissa is so excited to get to be a part of this beautiful show on this amazing stage. She works in marketing and is a dog mom by day, and a musical theatre performer by night. Previous credits include: "Guys & Dolls" (Mimi), "Mary Poppins," and "The Wizard of Oz" at Hale Center Theatre; "The Last 5 Years" (Cathy) at OPPA!; "She Loves Me" (Ilona) at the HopeBox Theatre; "Anything Goes" (Hope Harcourt); "A Chorus Line" (Sheila); and "Holiday Inn" and "Crazy For You" at CenterPoint Theatre. Find her on social media! @larissaloupearson



Matthew Tripp, Faas/Dirk/Bastian/Horseman Swing

Matthew Tripp is so excited to be back at West Valley Arts after appearing in "Puffs" (Swing) this summer! Other recent credits include "Possessive!" (Swing) at Hart Theater Company, "A Year with Frog and Toad" (Toad) at Salt Lake Acting Company, and "A Night to Dismember" (Arty) at the Great Salt Lake Fringe. They're also excited to be entering their second year with the Story Weavers at Hale Centre Theatre. They'd like to thank their parents for being so incredibly supportive!



Savannah Brown Ropp, Mina/Dorine Swing

Savannah is overjoyed to be making her West Valley Arts debut alongside her husband Cameron. Savannah has participated in theatre throughout northern Utah and was most recently seen in "Little Women" (Beth). Aside from theatre, Savannah is a passionate Elementary Educator teaching 5th grade and mother of an adorable 3-year-old boy. She would like to express her gratitude to her family who have showed endless support, to her husband for being her partner in crime, and for Jim for giving her this opportunity.



Tom Clark

Tom is an award-winning composer from Salt Lake City, Utah. His musical "Sleepy Hollow" (written with lyricist Jim Christian) won the Michael Kanin Musical Theatre Award in 2009 from the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. His piano and choral works have been published by Sheet Music Plus and Plum Publishing.

Christian and Clark's newest musical, "The Plain Princess," premiered at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah in the Fall of 2013. It was performed in February 2014 at the American College Theatre Festival in Los Angeles, CA. The Kennedy Center gave "The Plain Princess" its award for "Distinguished Achievement in the Production of New Work" for 2014.

Tom was a music theatre fellow at the Eugene O'Neill National Musical Theatre Conference in 2010. He enjoys writing music mainly for the piano, choral works, and musical theatre. Tom is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America and ASCAP.