

ELTON JOHN AND TIM RICE'S



AIDA

LYRICS BY
TIM RICE

MUSIC BY
ELTON JOHN

BOOK BY
**LINDA WOOLVERTON
AND
ROBERT FALLS & DAVID HENRY HWANG**

JANUARY 25 — FEBRUARY 11

DIRECTED BY TIM THRELKILL
SCENIC DESIGN BY SUSAN JAUSSE
COSTUME DESIGN BY EMILIE MEVEY
LIGHTING DESIGN BY JOE FOX

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BYU Department of Theatre and Media Arts
presents

Aida

Lyrics by **Tim Rice** Music by **Elton John**

Book by **Linda Woolverton, Robert Falls,
and Henry Hwang**

Directed by **Tim Threlfall**

Music Directed by **Randy Boothe**

Choreographed by **Marin Leggat
and Pat Debenham**

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Aida	Clotile Bonner
Radames	Kevin Goertzen*
	Matthew Flynn Bellows §
Amneris	Nicole Richards*
	Kami Lynne Threlfall §
Zoser	Adam Daveline
Mereb	Jeff Stevens
Nehebka	Anya Sulimoni Young
Amonosaro	Tafadzwa S. Guramatunhu
Pharaoh	Matthew Flynn Bellows*
	Kevin Goertzen §
Female Ensemble	Michelle Boothe
	Sarah Burroughs
	Laurel Lowe
	Libby Marshall
	Chanté Sinclair
	Janique Sinclair
	Meghan Stettler
	Brittany Williams
Male Ensemble	Jarrett Burns
	John Graham
	Chris Hartman
	James Jones
	Jeff Parsons
	Tyler Wright

* Jan. 25, 27; Feb. 1, 3, 4 (evening), 8, 10

§ January 26, 28; February 2, 4 (matinee), 7, 9, 11

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Every Story Is a Love Story.....	Amneris
Fortune Favors the Brave.....	Radames and the Soldiers
The Past Is Another Land.....	Aida
Another Pyramid.....	Zoser and the Ministers
How I Know You.....	Mereb and Aida
My Strongest Suit.....	Amneris and Women of the Palace
Enchantment Passing Through.....	Radames and Aida
My Strongest Suit (Reprise).....	Amneris and Aida
Dance of the Robe.....	Aida, Nehebka, and the Nubians
Not Me.....	Radames, Mereb, Aida, and Amneris
Elaborate Lives.....	Radames and Aida
The Gods Love Nubia.....	Aida, Nehebka, and the Nubians

ACT II

A Step Too Far.....	Amneris, Radames, and Aida
Easy As Life.....	Aida
Like Father Like Son.....	Zoser, Radames, and the Ministers
Radames' Letter.....	Radames
How I Know You (Reprise).....	Mereb
Written in the Stars.....	Aida and Radames
I Know the Truth.....	Amneris
Elaborate Lives (Reprise).....	Aida and Radames
Every Story Is a Love Story (Reprise).....	Amneris

ORCHESTRA

Conductor—Michael Leavitt
Keyboards—Michael Leavitt, Stephanie Payne, Todd Schwartzmann
Drums/Percussion—Matt Nielsen
Bass—R. Ross Boothe
Guitar—Spencer Harrison
Percussion—Joel Adams
French Horn—Melissa Nielsen
Cello—Jenny Chandler
Oboe/English Horn—Benny Bidwell
Flute—Meleece Cheal

Flow

Tim Threlfall, Director

The Princess Amneris refers to the Nile River in the first musical number of *Aida*. She sings:

Egypt saw the mighty river as its very heart and soul,
source of life for all her people that only Egypt could control.

The Nile River flows through the land of Egypt and Nubia, bringing life to a thirsty desert world. This image of a nearly omnipresent river, flowing from the highlands of Nubia to the population centers of Egypt, captures the essence of our storytelling efforts in *Aida*.

Everything in this *Aida* flows. Thematically, the love flows in a classic story of star-crossed lovers. The anguish flows through Aida and her enslaved Nubian countrymen. The hope flows as those same Nubians yearn for freedom. Even the scenes themselves flow from one to another without any real stopping and sometimes without even a pause. And, of course, Elton John's music flows freely in *Aida*, including over two dozen songs in its decidedly contemporary score.

We have chosen to take this concept of flow and make it the centerpiece of our storytelling via very fluid staging choices. Our set, utilizing a large piece of fabric, flows and transforms to whatever the story demands. At one moment it is the Nile itself, and at another moment it is a tent, a banquet table, or a hallway in the palace. Theatrical conventions of all kinds flow in service of telling the story, and the acting, singing, costumes, lighting, and especially the dancing all contribute to the sense of flow.

In this retelling of the story Verdi set to music in 1871, even the time period flows. The setting for *Aida* appears to be primarily modern, yet with a distinctive Egyptian and at times African flavor that flows with no restrictions. The timelessness and universality of the love story and the human struggle are heightened by the lack of any discernable time period or precise setting and location.

Of course, our desire is that emotion will also flow from this *Aida*—emotion from the storytellers on stage flowing freely and being returned by the audience. Such a free-flowing exchange creates a shared experience that patrons long for and only the living, breathing theatre can provide. ▲



Twilight at Akasha. The Nile in the Nubian Desert.

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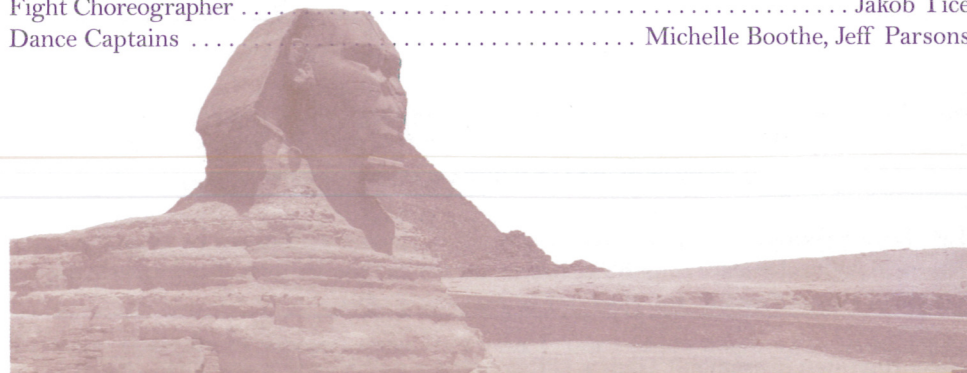
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 How To Date
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 MAGAZINE

Production Staff

Director Tim Threlfall
 Music Director Randy Boothe
 Conductor Michael Leavitt
 Choreographers Marin Elizabeth Leggat, Pat Debenham
 Dramaturg Megan Sanborn Jones
 Assistant Dramaturgs Debra Moses Bliss, Janine Michelle Sobeck
 Production Stage Manager Chelsea Lynn Cordell
 Scenic Designer Susan Jaussi
 Costume Designer Emilee McVey
 Assistant Costume Designer Erin Dinnell Bjørn
 Makeup and Hair Designer Crystal Wong
 Lighting Designer Joseph C. Fox
 Sound Designer Sam Schwendiman
 Assistant Sound Designer Liliana Corona
 Assistant Choreographers Corinne Curtis, Bryan Madsen,
 Geoff Reynolds
 Assistant Scenic Designer Jessika Watson
 Assistant Costume Designer Erin Bjorn
 Assistant Makeup and Hair Designer Erin Smith
 Assistant Lighting Designer Krista Judson
 Assistant Stage Managers Ashley C. Lane, Natalie Sommer
 Sound Engineer Nathan Webster
 Assistant Sound Engineer Matthew Georgeson
 Light Board Operator Josh Gubler
 Follow Spot Operators TMA 360 Students
 Fight Choreographer Jakob Tice
 Dance Captains Michelle Boothe, Jeff Parsons



Join us for talk-back sessions

Meet the Company: Following each Thursday performance, Jan. 26, Feb. 2, Feb. 9

University Roundtable: Following the Saturday matinee, Feb. 4

Production Forum: Thursday, Jan. 26, 11 am, Nelke Theatre

E-mail us at dramaturgy@byu.edu with your questions or comments.

The Cast

Matthew Flynn Bellows (Radames/Pharaoh), South Jordan, UT, is a junior majoring in acting. Recent credits include Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*, the Duke in *Big River*, Adam in *Handing Down the Names*, and Ham in *The Ark*. He has also appeared on the television series *Everwood* and in the feature film *Joseph: Prophet of the Restoration*.

Clotile Bonner (Aida), Las Vegas, NV, is a junior majoring in acting. Recent credits include B. J. in *Smokey Joe's Café*. For the past two years she has performed with BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

Michelle Boothe (Ensemble), Mesa, AZ, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes dance captain/ensemble member for *The Music Man* and dance captain for BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

Jarrett Burns (Ensemble), Tifton, GA, recently played Adrian in *Smokey Joe's Café* and performed with BYU's Young Ambassadors last year.

Sarah Burroughs (Ensemble), Virginia Beach, VA, is a sophomore majoring in modern dance. Recent credits include ensemble member in *Smokey Joe's Café* and *Pippin*, Liat in *South Pacific*, Judy Turner in *A Chorus Line*, and Glinda in *The Wiz*. She performed with danceEnsemble during the winter 2005 semester.

Adam Daveline (Zoser), Jacksonville, FL, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Thomas in *Savior of the World* and Carl in *Bus Stop*. He received a National Merit Scholarship in the Arts award for musical theatre.

Kevin Killian Goertzen (Radames/Pharaoh), Orem, UT, is a junior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Beast understudy in *Beauty and the Beast*, Zebulon in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Will in *Bus Stop*, and Cain in *Children of Eden*.

John L. Graham (Ensemble), Provo, UT, is a senior majoring in marriage, family, and human development. Recent credit includes Nephite/Lamanite Warrior in *The Hill Cumorah Pageant* and member of BYU's Ballroom Dance Company.

Tafadzwa Solomon Guramatunhu (Amonosaro), Harare, Zimbabwe, received his degree in political science from BYU. Recent credits include Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Neville in *Choose Freedom*, and Narrator in *Pioneers of Africa*.

Chris Hartman (Ensemble), Ogden, UT, is a junior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include the title role in *Pippin*, Ren McCormick in *Footloose*, and Britt Craig in *Parade*. He is a member of BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

James Jones (Ensemble), Philadelphia, PA, is a sophomore majoring in psychology. Recent credits include Torquemada/Cimbranos in *Fuente Ovejuna*, Armpit in *Holes*, and chorus member in *Parley P. Pratt's Great Escape*.

Laurel A. Lowe (Ensemble), Mapleton, UT, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Laurey in *Oklahoma!*, Ariel in *Footloose*, Isabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and she has performed with BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

Libby Marshall (Ensemble), Tempe, AZ, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Anytime Annie in *42nd Street*, Lucy Lockit in *The Beggar's Opera*, ensemble member in *Savior of the World*, and she has performed with BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

Jeffrey Parsons (Ensemble/Dance Captain), Willard, UT, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Mos Medford in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, ensemble member in *42nd Street*, Pat Gilbert in *State Fair*, and Charlie Dalrymple in *Brigadoon*. He has also performed with Lagoon Park Entertainment for the past two years.

Nicole Elizabeth Richards (Amneris), Parker, CO, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credits include Katherine in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Mrs. List in *She Loves Me*, Flower Girl in *My Fair Lady*, and Angel in *Savior of the World*.

Chanté Sinclair (Ensemble), Provo, UT, is a sophomore majoring in psychology. Recent credit includes Shark Dancer in *West Side Story*.

Janique Sinclair (Ensemble), Provo, UT, is a senior majoring in sociology. She has performed with BYU's The Young Ambassadors for the past two years.

Meghan Stettler (Whip Girl/Ensemble), Kaysville, UT, is a junior majoring in music dance theatre and journalism. Recent credit includes Eulalie Shinn in *The Music Man*, Marguerite St. Just in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, Ilona Ritter in *She Loves Me*, and the title role in *Honk*. She was also the assistant producer/director for LDS Homefront commercials and broadcasts.

Jeff Stevens (Mereb), Ogden, UT, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes Huck Finn in *Big River*, Barbershop Quartet Tenor in *Circle of Life*, Ambrose Wolfinger in *Cat Ballou*, and he has performed with BYU's The Young Ambassadors.

Kami Lynne Threlfall (Amneris), Provo, UT, is a senior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes Leggs Whoshee in *Cat Ballou*, as well as performances with Busch Gardens Entertainment, BYU's The Young Ambassadors, and Lagoon Park Entertainment.

Brittany Michelle Williams (Ensemble), Orem, UT, is a junior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes Maggie Anderson in *Brigadoon*.

Tyler Wright (Ensemble), Tucson, AZ, is a sophomore majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes Pete in *Crazy for You*.

Anya Sulimoni Young (Nehebka), Provo, UT, is a junior majoring in music dance theatre. Recent credit includes Mary Magdalene in *God So Loved the World* and performances with BYU's Young Ambassadors.

Producing Staff

Artistic Director Rodger D. Sorensen
 Division of Design and Production Director Rory Scanlon
 Production Manager Russell D. Richins
 Production Coordinator Tracey Woolley

Technical Director Doug Ellis
 Expeditor Craig Smith
 Assistant Technical Director Ward Wright
 Special Projects Coordinator Frank Weight
 Special Projects Assistants Todd Andersen, David Adamson, Brian Ramos
 Scenic Studio Crew Allen Argyle, Matthew Leavitt, Mark Macialek,
 Kristen Metzger, Matt Walzer, Jordan Wilson, Joey Waxter

Scenic Artist Jennifer Mortensen
 Properties Advisor Doug Ellis
 Properties Designer Susan Jaussi
 Properties Assistant Melissa Webb
 Properties Specialty Carpenter Jordan Wilson
 Lighting Advisor Michael G. Handley
 Master Electrician Josh Gubler
 Electrics Crew Krista Judson, Heidi Schiers, Becky Roberts,
 Keith Merrill, Tyler Weight, Elizabeth Bunch,
 Jason Fults, Matthew Georgeson

Sound Coordinator Troy Streeter
 Sound Crew Wynn Burton, Sam Schwendiman, Nathan Webster

Costume Shop Manager Donnette Perkins
 Costume Assistant Manager Deanne DeWitt
 Cutters/Drapers Deanne DeWitt, Mary Jane Wadley
 First Hands Amy Fisler, Mina Hong, Bethani Jensen
 Stitchers Erin Bjorn, Shiloh Cheney, Tiffany Conger,
 Jessica Cowden, Tabitha Mounteer, Genet Orme, Marcie Summers
 Costume Crafts John R. Titensor, Emilee McVey, Jessica Cowden
 Hair and Makeup Supervisor Marren Bailey Erb
 Hair and Makeup Running Crew TMA 367 Students
 Wardrobe Supervisor Shiloh Cheney
 Dressers TMA 360 Students

Production Assistant Heidi Reed
 Marketing Assistants Joel Hiller, Linsey Laidlaw, Marta Rovira, Nathan Tanner
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