

CYRANO

An abstract graphic design for a poster. The background is split diagonally from the top-left to the bottom-right. The upper-left portion is black, and the lower-right portion is a vibrant red. In the black area, there is a white, stylized eye with a black pupil and iris, and a yellow, stylized nose. The red area contains the word 'CYRANO' in large, white, hand-painted capital letters.

BYU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND MEDIA ARTS
YOUNG COMPANY

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of my fondest and earliest memories as a child was listening to my father's nightly bedtime stories. These weren't your average bedtime stories. My father, a budding screenwriter, composed elaborate adventures for Darren and the Little Princess. With a few magic words, stories unfolded in technicolor in my young mind. I was transported by stories of courage and adventure. The line between imagination and dreams blurred and my subconscious continued the story.

Then, at the ripe old age of four, I saw how those technicolor stories could be actualized on a stage. My father had taken me to rehearsals for a play he was working on during his graduate degree. I was transfixed by the story once again. I believe that it was these substantial storytelling moments that led me to create those of my own.

Just like Cyrano and my father, our actors have little except their own imaginative storytelling abilities to provoke acts of adventure, love, connection, and loss. This storytelling process requires courage, the courage both Christian and Cyrano so admire but cannot bring themselves to implement with Roxanne. It is a courage of the heart. It is a lifeline to truth. All the best stories contain it. It is the focus of our story. We hope a bit of it stays with you.

—Kris Jennings



BYU COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND MEDIA ARTS YOUNG COMPANY

Cyrano

Adapted By

Jo Roets

From The Play By

Edmond Rostand

Translated Into English By

Audrey Van Tuyckom

Producer

Wade Hollingshaus

Artistic Director

Megan Sanborn Jones

Arts Manager

Jeff Martin

Young Company Producer

Julia Ashworth

Young Company Managing Director

Becky Wallin

Production Stage Manager

Jake Fullmer

Scenic Designer

Rachel Bowerbank

Lighting Designer

Michael Handley

Co-Costume Designers

Cortnie Beatty

Lizzie Mickelson

Co-Makeup Designers

Jordan Johnson

Lizzie Grawe

Properties Designer

Aubrianna Hockett

House Audio Engineer

Eric Kopp

Production Manager

Jennifer Reed

Technical Coordinator

Michael Kraczek

Dramaturg

Robert Fuller

Dramaturg Supervisor

Janine Sobeck Knighton

Technical Director

Travis Coyne

Costume And Makeup Shop Manager

Donnette Perkins

Head of Design Tech

Michael Kraczek

Faculty Design Advisor

Mary Farahnakian

Dennis Wright

Directed By

Kris Jennings

Sept. 23, 28-30, Oct. 5-7, 2016, 7:00 PM

Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 2016, 2:00 PM & 4:00 PM

Margetts Theatre, Harris Fine Arts Center

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences, a partnership of Seattle Children's Theatre and Children's Theatre Company-Minneapolis, 2400 Third Ave South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404.

Please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices. Photography, video and/or audio recording, and texting are forbidden during the performance.

LIST OF SCENES

Act 1

Streets of Paris, 1640

Act 2

At the Pastry Shop of Rapeneau
Paris, 1640

Act 3

Outside Roxanne's House
Paris, 1640

Act 4

At the Front, just outside Arras
Paris, 1640

Act 5

Garden of the Sisters of the Cross, Paris
Fifteen Years Later, 1655

CHARACTER LIST

Cyrano/Actor 1/Narrator

John Walker

Le Bret/Actor 2/Soldier 1/Narrator

Aubree Lyman

Duenna/Actor 3/Monk/Soldier 2

Hannah Witkin

De Guiche/Ragueneau

Kirk Workman

Roxanne/Narrator

Markaye Hassan

Christian/De Lignière/Narrator

Bryson Stewart

Female Swing/Ensemble/Understudy

Abbie Craig

MEET THE CAST

Jonny Walker

Cyrano/Actor 1/Narrator

From American Fork, Utah, Jonny is a junior studying public health, with an emphasis in promotions. Recent credits include James in *Savior of the World* at the LDS Conference Center and Tarzan's Father in the American Fork Players' production of *Tarzan*.

Aubree Lyman

Le Bret/Actor 2/Soldier 1/ Narrator

From Las Vegas, Nevada, Aubree is a senior studying theater arts. Recent credits include Hail in *The Selfish Giant*, Gregory in *Romeo and Juliet*, and The Woman in *The Woman in Black*. She likes performing, reading, writing, and studying languages. She also loves participating in USGA, an unofficial group of BYU students hoping to save and improve the lives of LGBT+ students at BYU. Her dream is to play the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*.

Hannah Witkin

Duenna/Actor 3/Monk/ Soldier 2

From Peachtree Corners, Georgia, Hannah is a senior studying theatre arts with a minor in creative writing. She is also working to become certified in French. Recent credits include Suzanna Walcott in *The Crucible* at the Echo Theater, a company member in the Covey Center's *Much Ado About Zombies*, Ms. Hannigan in *Annie* at the King's Gate Theater, and Emily in *Our Town* at the Clifton Jones Theater.

Kirk Workman

De Guiche/Ragueneau

From Sweet Home, Oregon, Kirk graduated from BYU-I in December of 2015 with a bachelor's degree in English. Recent credits include Mortimer in *Mary Stuart* and Lord Lincoln in *The Shoemaker's Holiday*, both at BYU-I.

Markaye Hassan

Roxanne/Narrator

From Logan, Utah, Markaye is a sophomore studying media arts. This is Markaye's forty-fourth production, her most recent role being Mary in *Savior of the World*. In 2012 Markaye won third place at the national Poetry Out Loud competition in Washington, D.C., and was nominated for Best Actress at the Utah High School Musical Theater Awards. She has played the viola for thirteen years, is an amateur beatboxer, and is learning to ride the unicycle.

Bryson Stewart

Christian/De Lignière/ Narrator

From Lehi, Utah, Bryson is a non-BYU student. He is excited about his opportunity to do this show. It is one of his dream shows and one of his dream roles. This will be his first college production. Next year he plans on attending Snow College to get his associates degree; then he will be going to a yet-to-be determined school to get his BFA. He has portrayed Froggy in *The Foreigner*. He has been in the ensemble of several musicals and won Best Ensemble Actor his senior year in high school. He has done many short films and hopes to do film acting for his career.

Abbie Craig

Female Swing/Ensemble/ Understudy

From Las Vegas, Nevada, and Provo, Utah, Abbie is a sophomore applying to the theatre arts education program. She recently won the Meritorious Achievement Award for her role as Maizie in *The Taste of Sunrise* here at BYU. She is thrilled to be involved with BYU Young Company.

Rebeca Wallin

BYU Young Company Managing Director

From Provo, Utah, Rebeca enjoys her work as managing director of Young Company and has been involved with the company for more than fifteen years. She also has fun with her husband, Joel, running a "Shakespeare for Kids" program during the summer at the Orem Library. She has three children who are growing up on Young Company theatre.



PRODUCTION STAFF

Kris Jennings
Director

From Orem, Utah, Kris is an award-winning actor/director/educator who recently finished an MFA in staging Shakespeare at the University of Exeter in Devon, UK. In May 2014 she completed an internship with the Tony Award-winning Utah Shakespeare Festival. She has completed acting and directing coursework at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, where she studied under Philip Bird, Glynn Macdonald, and Yvonne Morley. She currently serves as adjunct faculty at BYU and Snow College. Her recent credits include director of *Much Ado about Nothing*, Othello in *[Mad] Othello*, Maggie in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Sheila in *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*, director of *Macbeth*, and Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*. She is the co-founder of the Happy Accidents Theatre Company and the Dark Lady Shakespeare Company. kriswjennings.com

Jake Fullmer
**Production
Stage Manager**

From Silver Spring, Maryland, Jake is a junior studying stage management and design. Recent credits include assistant stage managing last year's TYA show, *Water Sings Blue*, and stage managing the International Folk Dance Ensemble. Jake is also currently the production stage manager for *Yellow Umbrellas*, by local playwright Morag Shepard. He is recently happily married to the woman of his dreams, Kiersa Fullmer.

Rachel Bowerbank
Scenic Designer

From Lehi, Utah, Rachel is a senior studying theatre and media arts with an emphasis in scenic design. Recent credits include dresser for *The Count of Monte Cristo* and deck crew for *The Marriage of Figaro*. She is grateful to have been a part of this production and hopes you enjoy the show!

Jordan Johnson
Co-Makeup Designer

From Mill Valley, California, Jordan is a senior studying computer science. She recently worked as a makeup artist and supervisor on *Alice in Wonderland* and *Manon*.

Lizzi Grawe
Co-Makeup Designer

From New Waverly, Texas, Lizzi is a senior studying makeup and costume design. She has an apprenticeship working with a professional leather-smith after graduation to make custom leather armor.

Cortnie Beatty
Co-Costume Designer

From Bullhead City, Arizona, Cortnie is a senior studying costume design. Recent credits include lead costume designer of the BYU student production of *Yellow* and BYU TMA Department capstone *The Pill*. Following her time at in the BYU theatre program, Cortnie hopes to one day become a lead designer for Miss Piggy from the Jim Henson Muppets.

Lizzie Mickelsen
Co-Costume Designer

From Draper, Utah, Lizzie Mickelsen is a senior in theatre arts studies, with an emphasis in costume and makeup design. Recent design credits include props and set dressing for *Beauty and the Beast* at BYU. Recent acting credits include Izzy in *The Taste of Sunrise* and Isabel in *The Fisherman and His Wife*, both at BYU. She recently completed an internship with the Emmy Award-winning production team for the RNC in Cleveland, Ohio.

Robert Fuller
Dramaturg

From Gilbert, Arizona, Robert is a senior studying theatre arts studies. Recent credits include dramaturg for *A Number*, assistant stage manager for *Misalliance*, and cast of *Princess Academy*. This is his first time providing dramaturgy for a BYU mainstage production.

CYRANO



STUDY GUIDE

Robert Fuller, Dramaturg

Dramaturg's Note: More Than a Nose	10
Who Was Edmond Rostand?	11
Questions About the Play	12-13
History vs. Fiction	14
The Letter Is Me	15
Autographs	16

DRAMATURG'S NOTE: MORE THAN A NOSE

What are you insecure about? How does this insecurity affect your everyday life?

One of the first things we notice about Cyrano De Bergerac is his large nose. He himself is aware of this feature and often jokes about it. However, we quickly see that, despite his jokes, he is actually sensitive about it. He is upset when others make fun of it, and most of all, he fears that it will prevent the woman he loves from ever loving him back.

As we continue to observe Cyrano, he shows that while his nose is the first thing we see about him, it is not his only feature. We learn that he is a talented swordsman, and a man whose friends and fellow soldiers will follow and respect. And most importantly, we discover his talent for words and his skill as a writer.

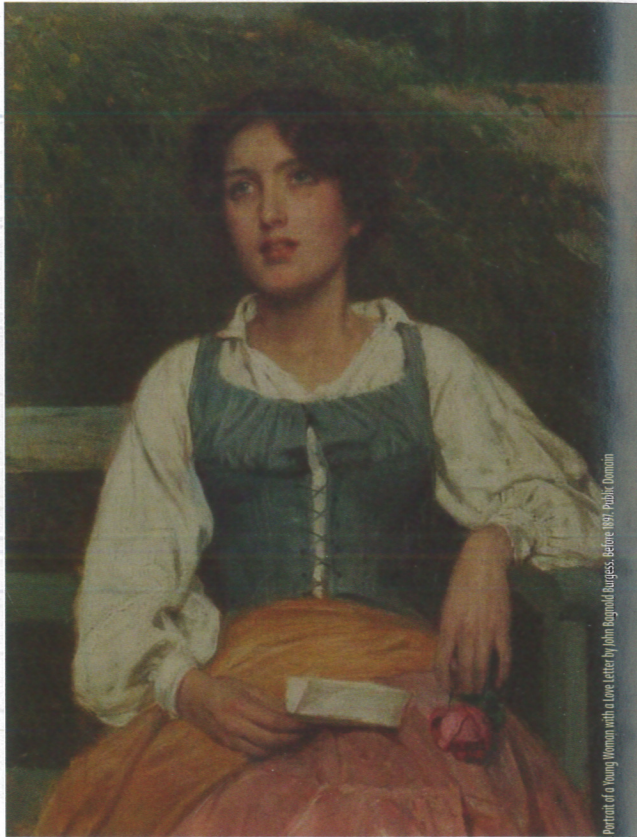
The line that most inspired Director Kris Jennings to bring this play to life contains words Cyrano writes to the woman he loves, "This letter . . . is me." Cyrano has a talent for speaking and writing exactly what is on his mind. This may upset some and charm others, but his words always come straight from his heart. This talent for writing is what inspired Edmond Rostand to write this play about him.

From Cyrano, we learn not to judge others by their outward appearance, but to see the beauty within. We learn to appreciate people for their talents and their personality. He is an inspiration to all of us to let our inner beauty shine and to let it be seen by others. Cyrano is not just a large nose, or a skilled duelist, or a charismatic soldier—he is the words he wrote, and that is what the audience will fall in love with.

Questions to consider as you watch the play:

- What's a talent you have that makes you special?
- How can you show others this talent, and help them know you better?
- What influence can your own past have on your life moving forward?

—Robert Fuller, dramaturg



WHO WAS EDMOND ROSTAND?

Edmond Eugene Alexis Rostand was born April 1, 1868, in Marseille, France. The son of a skilled and wealthy journalist, Edmond received a law degree in Paris. However, his true passion was playwriting.

When he was 22, Edmond wrote his first famous work, a book of poems called *Les Musardises*. Four years later, he wrote his first successful play, *The Romancers*. A year after that he would write *The Faraway Princess*. Finally, in 1897, he wrote *Cyrano De Bergerac: A Comedy in Five Acts*. His plays were known for being cheerful and inspiring, despite most of them ending in tragedy.

In 1902 he was the youngest man to be welcomed into the French Academy, a famous institution that advised the writing and vocabulary of the French language. While he did enjoy a very successful career in Paris, his poor health eventually forced him to move to the French countryside, where he lived until his death in 1918.



The original play *Cyrano De Bergerac* is one of the most popularly produced plays of all time. It has also had several modern film adaptations, including *Roxanne* (1987) and *Let It Shine* (2012).



One of Cyrano's most noticeable features is his nose. Draw a nose on the face to the left that will catch people's eyes.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PLAY

Cyrano believes that people reveal their nature through words and actions. To learn more about Cyrano and his friends, listen carefully to the characters. **As you watch the play, use the actors' words and actions to answer the question below.**

"You will fill in for me, and I for you.
I'll be your voice, and you'll be my
lips." —Cyrano

How do Christian and Cyrano's attitudes towards
each other change over time?

"My heart is all aflame for you I love you to
distraction, you are so fair and so divine, you are
my one attraction." —De Guiche

How are Cyrano and De Guiche
similar? How are they different?

"I don't know the language of love."
—Christian

Why does Cyrano help
Christian?

"Is Roxanne's loved one still the most
perfect man on earth?" —Cyrano

What prevents Cyrano from telling
Roxanne how he feels?

"Honestly, do you think she'll even look at me, with
this grotesque thing here? I cherish no illusions."
—Cyrano

What is Roxanne looking for in a
man?

HISTORY VS. FICTION

While writing *Cyrano De Bergerac*, Edmond Rostand was inspired by actual people from history. What similarities can you spot between these characters and the people they are based on? What are the differences?

CYRANO DE BERGERAC
(HECTOR SAVINIEN DE CYRANO)

Cyrano was born March 16, 1619, in Paris, France. He grew up with a love of nature and was known for his rebellious nature as a young man. He had a brief military career before being wounded in battle. After his retirement, he spent the rest of his life writing plays, poetry, and newspaper articles. His work is believed to have inspired many famous French playwrights and philosophers.



ROXANNE (MADELEINE ROSALIND)

Roxanne is actually based on two women, Madeleine Robineau, Cyrano's cousin, and Marie Robineau, a freethinking woman who went by the name Roxane. Madeleine was a kind and intelligent woman who had a strong influence on Cyrano's later life.



BARON CHRISTIAN DE NEUVILLETTE

Christophe De Neuvillette was a soldier who served under Cyrano in the battle of Arras.

DE GUICHE (ANTOINE III AGÉNOR DE GRAMONT)

De Guiche was married to the niece of an adviser to the king of France. He was a count and a brave, clever, and honorable military commander.

HENRI LE BRET:

Henri Le Bret was a lifelong friend of Cyrano who served with Cyrano in the French guards. He served a brief military career before becoming a lawyer and later, a clergyman. He wrote Cyrano's biography and published his book *Other Worlds* two years after Cyrano died.

THIS LETTER IS ME

Cyrano is best known for his words. He uses them to talk about himself and his everyday life. Can you find some of his favorite words in the puzzle below?

COURAGEOUS	INTELLIGENT	PROFOUND
ELOQUENT	LETTER	RAPIER
FRIEND	PASSIONATE	RECKLESS
HEART	POETIC	SKIRMISH

K	B	D	G	O	C	R	P	R	Q	T	H	M	S	U
J	E	L	R	F	E	O	E	I	N	X	E	A	K	T
Z	G	B	E	I	P	C	U	E	D	B	A	E	I	X
Q	T	W	P	T	K	S	G	R	P	Z	R	A	R	E
V	M	A	D	L	T	I	C	K	A	D	T	L	M	M
M	R	I	E	S	L	E	P	S	K	G	P	B	I	I
Q	A	S	N	L	X	G	R	E	C	I	E	V	S	I
T	S	M	E	D	N	U	O	F	O	R	P	O	H	V
Q	N	T	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	A	T	E	U	F
C	N	E	F	R	I	E	N	D	C	K	U	L	Q	S

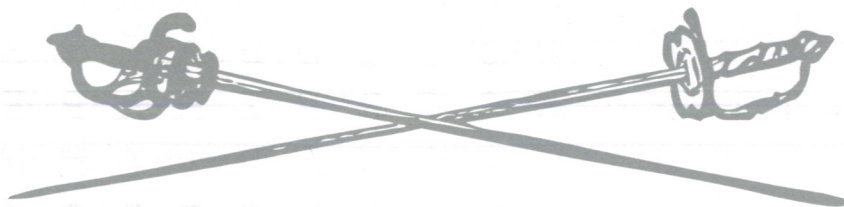
Cyrano de Bergerac, dit le Capitaine Solon, d'après une gravure de la Bibliothèque nationale by unknown. Seventeenth century. Public Domain

Portrait of Antoine III de Gramont, Marshal of France (1604-1678) by Sophie Richaud. 1835. Public Domain



AUTOGRAPHS

After the show, the cast will mingle with the audience. Use this page to get their autographs.



TO LEARN MORE

To learn more about *Cyrano*, visit BYU's Dramaturgy blog, The 4th Wall: <http://4thwalldramaturgy.byu.edu/category/cyrano>



Muses wanted.

In Greek mythology, the muses inspired creativity in artists, musicians, poets, and actors. Today, our performing arts students rely on you to help them achieve their best.

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