The Last Five Years

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown

The Last Five Years is presented through special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019, www.MTIShows.com
Book, Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN
They say, “there are two sides to every story” and in the case of The Last Five Years, “they” couldn’t be more right!

We all have our own story, our own goals, our own experiences, that we carry with us throughout our lives. When two lives come together in a relationship, often with different societal parameters of what love is, how relationships should be, and countless other expectations, the relationship is no longer living in each moment, but rather moving from one expectation to the next. The characters of Jamie and Cathy continually remind us of the dangers that expectation can have on, not just romantic, but all variations of human relationships.

I chose to produce The Last Five Years because this musical so brilliantly portrays the intimate and often hidden moments that make up a relationship; making it unmistakably familiar to audiences who have experienced the trials of love and loss. Vulnerably told through Jason Robert Brown’s soaring melodies and tight, witty lyrics, The Last Five Years tells the very human story of the struggles we face when we commit ourselves to blind love.

Brown wrote this piece after concluding his own five-year marriage, influencing him to create a unique and dynamic form of storytelling; having the show begin at the end of the relationship for Cathy and the beginning for Jamie. I love working from end to beginning and beginning to end simultaneously in the telling of this story, because it allows the audience the opportunity to view the unabashed honesty from both sides of this complex relationship.

We have made some wonderful discoveries throughout the process of the creation you are about to experience! It has been a pleasure to be able to continue our goal of bringing guest talent to Salem with Mr. Micah Young, Mr. Jeff Ostermueller, and Ms. Jill Vanderoef, all of whom expose the deepest most raw parts of their souls to the audience during each performance!

We live in a society where we strive for some preconceived need for companionship with another person, with little to no regard toward first, acquiring peace within ourselves. Jamie and Cathy may love each other, but that is merely blind love. They will never know what it is to be in love because they refuse to learn and grow from one another. I hope this show will shed light on the way in which you look at your life and how you treat your relationships. Be it with a lover, a friend, or family member, we must all remember to let go of expectations in order for peace to find its way into our relationships and most importantly, into our souls!
Cathy Hiatt................................................................. Jill Vanderoef
Jamie Wellerstein...................................................... Jeff Ostermueller

Artistic Team
Director, Producer................................................. Vincenzo Meduri
Music Director ........................................................ Micah Young
Lighting Designer..................................................... Phil McBeth
Sound Designer...................................................... Bruce F Van Ormer
Scenic Designer/Props Master................................. Jaimee Friklas
Stage Manager......................................................... Emily Yundt

Orchestra
Micah Young (Piano)                           Noah Seitz (Cello 1)
Andrea Bean (Violin)                           Casey Younger (Bass)
Mikael Pederson (Guitar)                      Becca Owen (Cello 2)

Tech Crew
Susan Needles and Chelsea Meduri (House Managers)
Amanda Bell (Wardrobe Supervisor)
ACT I
Still Hurting.................................................................................................................... Cathy
Shiksa Goddess.............................................................................................................. Jamie
See I’m Smiling .............................................................................................................. Cathy
Moving Too Fast.......................................................................................................... Jamie
I’m a Part of That ........................................................................................................... Cathy
The Schmuel Song ...................................................................................................... Jamie
A Summer in Ohio....................................................................................................... Cathy
The Next Ten Minutes ............................................................................................... Jamie & Cathy

Intermission (15 min)

ACT II
A Miracle Would Happen/When You Come Home to Me........................................ Jamie/Cathy
Climbing Uphill/Audition Sequence ........................................................................ Cathy
If I Didn’t Believe In You ......................................................................................... Jamie
I Can Do Better Than That ....................................................................................... Cathy
Nobody Needs to Know ............................................................................................. Jamie
Goodbye Until Tomorrow/I Could Never Rescue You .............................................. Cathy/Jamie
CAST

Jill Vanderoef (Cathy)
Jill is beyond thrilled to be doing her second show with Enlightened Theatrictics! She was previously seen in ET's inaugural production: Once On This Island as Erzulie, the Goddess of Love. Having lived in Salem for a short period of time, she's super excited to be a part of their growing artistic community! Jill graduated from Elon University with a BFA in Music Theater. She currently lives in Florida where she has been seen playing with animals, dancing, and singing in several shows at Busch Gardens Tampa. Some other professional work favorites include: Performer/choreographer for RWS & Associates at Wild Waves, Seattle WA; Ariel in Footloose, and Potiphar's Wife in Joseph... at Stephen Foster, Bardstown KY. Jill hails from the most amazing family in the world and would like to thank them for their constant love & support!

Jeff Ostermueller (Jamie)
Jeff Ostermueller is a graduate of Elon University with a BFA in Music Theatre. He is also a native of the beautiful, friendly, oft-discussed state of New Jersey. After performing in the 2nd Broadway National Tour of Spring Awakening, he moved to NYC and currently resides in Astoria, Queens. While living in MYC he performed at Manhattan Repertory Theatre and The Secret Theatre, as well as working on readings, short plays, music festivals, and concerts at various venues throughout the boroughs. Some regional credits include Pump Boys & Dinettes, Forever Plaid, City of Angels, Thoroughly Modern Millie, South Pacific, Children of Eden, Married Alive. When he isn't continuing his studies at T Schreiber Studios or working side jobs, he commutes back to his home state to see his family and cat, Okeemo, whenever he can. Shalom!
Vincenzo Meduri (Director, Producer)
Vincenzo Meduri, Artistic Director and founder of Enlightened Theatrics, has been a performer since he was a young child. Being heavily involved in both choir and drama at Crossler Middle School and Sprague High School, Vincenzo has seen the passion and dedication to art that the people of Salem have to offer; he grew up surrounded by a plethora of talent and yet only a handful of institutions where that talent could be appreciated and more importantly, harnessed.

After graduating from Elon University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre where he performed in numerous collegiate and regional productions, Vincenzo continued his professional career in New York City. There he worked as an actor, director, waiter, and salon receptionist! But not even the seduction of the Big Apple could keep him from, not only being closer to his unconditionally loving and ever growing family, but also from the natural and rare beauty that is Oregon!

After a highly successful inaugural production this past summer with the musical Once On This Island, Mr. Meduri had the life changing opportunity of meeting and collaborating with Broadway Producer, Brisa Trinchero, who continues to act as Enlightened Theatrics’ consultant! Through that friendship, Mr. Meduri was able to land a job as the Producing Assistant for Mr. Todd Gershwin and Mr. Dan Chilewich on the new Broadway musical, A Night With Janis Joplin where he worked and gained professional experience on Broadway!

Mr. Meduri is more thrilled than ever to be back in Salem producing Enlightened Theatrics’ second musical, The Last Five Years! The doors have been opened and the possibilities are endless; thank you for taking part in our new and exciting endeavour!

Micah Young (Music Director)
Festival, Professional Musical Theatre Workshop with Paul Gemignani, Interlochen Arts Academy, and Manhattan School of Music with Constance Keene and Maria Asteriadou. www.micahyoungmusic.com.

**Phil McBeth** (Lighting Designer)
Phil McBeth has been lighting shows for over 20 years now. He fell in love with the theatre in highschool in Gresham and continued his training at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. There Phil was able to work with some really great Lighting Designers and decided lighting was his passion. After leaving Seattle, he came back to Portland and worked on a couple of independant movies. Then landed a Tech Director job at The Majestic Theatre in Corvallis. While in Corvallis he got to practice his craft as a Lighting Designer. Phil found a niche in the dance world, lighting for: Oregon Dance, Regional School of Ballet, Rainbow Dance, Dance Theatre of Oregon, as well as several theatre companies. In 2004 Phil moved back to his home town to help his father with the family construction business. Phil continued working in theatre and dance. Portland credits include resident lighting designer for Dance West, directed by Julane Stites, da Vinci Arts Middle school dance, two shows for Western Oregon Dance department, Rainbow Dance. Theatre credits included several shows for Mt. Hood Rep, Broadway Rose Theatre and Stumptown stages. Phil is working at being a full time lighting designer in the Portland area.

**Bruce F Van Ormer** (Sound Designer)
Bruce is a student at the University of Oregon. He is a theatre major, specializing in set and sound design. Bruce has worked professionally with Willamette Stage Company in Corvallis Oregon and works with Techtron Pro Audio and Event services. He designed sound for University of Oregon’s production of Heather Raffo’s Nine Parts of Desire, which he won a Kennedy center award for. Bruce has also designed, directed, and stage managed numerous other college productions. After graduating Bruce hopes to stay in Oregon and work designing and engineering sound for concerts and musical theatre.

**Emily Yundt** (Stage Manager)
Emily Yundt has a Bachelor of Arts in Theater from the University of Montevallo, in Montevallo, AL. She has had a variety of jobs in the theater world that include Production Stage Manager, Light Board Operator, Wardrobe Crew Head, and Assistant Lighting Electrician. She has also acted in several productions including The Bacchae, Big River, and All Shook Up. She has thoroughly enjoyed working as Stage Manager for this Production of The Last Five Years and is eager to see where the wind takes her next.

**Jaimee Friklas** (Scenic Designer/Props Master)
Noah Seitz (Cello 1)
Since 2008, Noah Seitz has served as Instructor of Cello and Chamber Music at Pacific University, and prior to this appointment he taught at Western Oregon University. As a professional cellist, he performs with the Eugene Symphony, Salem Chamber Orchestra, Oregon Mozart Players, Salem Camerata Musica Chamber Music Society Series, Portland Cello Project, The Orchestra based in Portland, Chintimini Chamber Music Festival, The Unbande (a jazz crossover group), and in recitals with his wife, pianist Sara Greenleaf. In 2003, they founded The Keizer Academy of Music and Arts where they both teach and continue to actively contribute to the artistic educational environment of the Salem/Keizer community. He also serves as an adjudicator for music contests and works as a clinician and guest performer in secondary schools in Oregon and Washington.

Andrea Bell (Violin)
Andrea Bean has been studying violin for twenty-five years, teaching beginning and intermediate violin for fifteen years, and is principle second violin for the Salem Philharmonia Orchestra, which is in its second full season. She also works with Pentacle Theater as a music conductor and musician, as well as any other theaters in the surrounding area she can. Past musical experiences include Into The Woods, The Secret Garden, The Music Man, Les Miserables, South Pacific and A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum just to name a few. She and her husband, Mark, share a private recording studio in Salem as a hobby.

Casey Younger (Bass)
Casey Younger earned both his bachelors of music and masters of music from Western Oregon University. He currently resides in Salem, Oregon. His performance interests range from early baroque to contemporary jazz. Casey currently works at Willamette Valley Music Company, where he also teaches private lessons. www.csyounger.com

Mikael Pederson (Guitar)
For singer/songwriter and guitarist Mikael Pederson (www.mikaelpederson.com), music is a deeply personal and emotional journey, but more importantly, it is a way to connect with the world. He seeks to inspire and encourage others through his songs and performances. Raised in Salem, Oregon, Mikael began his musical education at age 5 with the piano, then took up the guitar at age 12. By high school, he was singing and playing weekly in a church of 5,000 people. Mikael then moved to Los Angeles to study music, meanwhile playing as a hired guitarist for many artists and musical groups. His new EP, “Turn This Around,” captures Mikael’s heartfelt approach to everyday life, and his Renaissance Man outlook. This first studio album, produced and engineered by Troy Welstad and mastered by Grammy Award winner Richard Dodd, was inspired by not only personal experience but also the greater issues facing the globe.

Becca Owen (Cello 2)
Becca Owen is a cellist who has played in various orchestras and indie rock bands in New York, Portland, and the Upper Midwest. She currently plays in the Salem Philharmonia, and is particularly excited to be in the string section for The Last Five Years. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Minnesota State University Moorhead. Besides the cello, she teaches writing at Chemeketa Community College and volunteers at a horse rescue.
In no particular order we at Enlightened Theatrics and Vincenzo Meduri would like to thank: Our corporate sponsor, Meduri World Delights, Todd Gershwin and Daniel Chilewich- *A Night With Janis Joplin*, Allied Video Productions, Barbara Curtin and Brian Leslie- Statesman Journal, Lucas Hill- Salem Weekly, Michael Swanson Bluecatz, Photography, Roger Yost, Rebecca Maitland and the staff of The Historic Reed Opera House, Ann Peck McBride- KMUZ, Oregon Arts Commission, Salem Art Association, Ron Conrad- Blue Rose Graphics, Techtron Audio, Salem Printing & Blueprint, Archive Coffee and Bar, Salem Chamber of Commerce, Salem Weekly, Travel Salem, Willamette University Theatre, RACC, Curtis Sawyer- AKT, Opt-e Web, Craig Johnson, John Olbrantz, Eric Yandell, Meaghan Levy, Sandi Emery-Elwood, Susan Vaslev, Brisa Trinchero- Make Musicals, and to all the countless other people and organizations, mentors and friends, who have helped make this dream possible; we thank you!!

And, of course, a very, very special thank you must go out to my family. Each and every one of you continue to influence and shape the adult I am becoming, and I cannot thank you enough for the experiences and tools you have given me. Thank you for allowing me to always be my true self and for loving and supporting me unconditionally. We are the lucky ones. I love you!

Vincenzo Meduri
Artistic Director and President
Looking for more Musical Theatre in Salem? Check out these Upcoming Productions:

Albany Civic Theatre
*Monty Python’s Spamalot*
February 21–March 15

Western Oregon University
*Spring Awakening*
February 27–March 8

Willamette University Theatre
*The Marriage of Figaro*
March 6–9

Pentacle Theatre
*Les Misérables*
March 7–29

Keizer Homegrown Theatre
*I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*
March 20–29

Historic Elsinore Theatre
*Hair*
April 21

For further listings of performances, audition information, classes, and other theatre events in and around Salem, please visit:

www.facebook.com/SalemTheatreNetwork