













# THE ADDAMS FAMILY A NEW MUSICAL

Book by MARSHALL BRICKMAN and RICK ELICE Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA Based on Characters Created by Charles Addams

Originally produced on Broadway by Stuart Oken, Roy Furman, Michael Leavitt, Five Cent Productions, Stephen Schuler, Decca Theatricals, Scott M. Delman, Stuart Ditsky, Terry Allen Kramer, Stephanie P. McClelland, James L. Nederlander, Eva Price, Jam Theatricals/Mary LuRoffe, Pittsburgh CLO/Gutterman-Swinsky, Vivek Tiwary/Gary Kaplan, The Weinstein Company/Clarence, LLC, Adam Zotovich/Tribe Theatricals

By Special Arrangement with Elephant Eye Theatrical

"THE ADDAMS FAMILY" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrights.co.uk

#### **Production Team**

Adam Laird | Musical Director
Claire Bennett | Director
Bethanie Mitchinson | Choreographer
James Mitchinson | Assistant Director
Laura Suzanne Bock | Vocal Coach
David Quinn | Rehearsal Accompanist
Lauren Noble | Production Manager
Shona Wills | Dance Captain

#### **MTDXB Committee**

Bethanie Mitchinson | Co-Chairman
James Mitchinson | Co-Chairman
Brian Fletcher | Promotions/Digital Media & Marketing
Glenn Atkinson | Treasurer
Talya Mitchell | Social Secretary
Sarah Debono | Social Marketing Secretary
Sophie Worrell | Social Marketing Secretary



# MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS

When we first arrived in Dubai during the pandemic in 2020, one of the things we missed most about home was the social aspect of rehearsing at our local stage musical society, and having lots of people with similar interests in the same room, working towards a common goal. When we discovered that Dubai - with a population of over 3 million people - didn't already have an musical theatre group for adults that we could join, we were quite shocked! And so MTDXB was born.

This show has been over 2 years in the making. It was always our goal as a theatre group to produce a full-scale musical production for audiences in Dubai and after 3 sell-out shows to date we are proud of each and every member for helping us get to this point, especially those who have been with us from the very beginning. As our own family has grown this past year (with the addition of baby Ralph!) we have witnessed our MTDXB family grow exponentially too.

It hasn't been an easy journey, but with the passion and determination of our members, on and off-stage, we have achieved something that at some points felt unachievable. It is hard to convey how difficult it has been for a community group like MTDXB to stage a production of this scale in this part of the world, but we have been blessed with the support and kindness of other like-minded individuals, groups and businesses that have helped us negotiate hurdles and grow.

These relationships and inter-dependencies are key to the success of grass-roots cultural groups such as ourselves and are at the heart of what we stand for.

The Addams Family are a strange, kooky bunch, who despite their quirks and eccentricities just...work! It is a microcosm of our theatre family at MTDXB. With over 60 diverse individuals involved onstage and off, we have bonded over our love of performance and committed a large proportion of our spare time and energy to ensure you, our audience, leave the theatre feeling entertained and on a 'musical high'!

If you enjoyed the performance, please consider giving our socials a like and a follow; leave us a comment, or a review on our website, mtdxb.com, and share with others! Keep an eye on linktr.ee/mtdxb to stay up to date with what we are up to next, or even better, come along and join us! Whether your talents lie in performing, or any of the other elements of theatre which are needed to stage a great show (backstage help, lighting, sound, props, costumes, web development etc) we would love to hear from you! Similarly, if your business can help or would like to sponsor MTDXB for future shows please get in touch.

Thank you for supporting us in our biggest venture yet and we look forward to performing for you again very soon.

#### The Mitchinsons!



# ABOUT THE ADDAMS FAMILY

The Addams Family characters first appeared in a series of cartoons created by Charles Addams in The New Yorker Magazine in the 1930s. These cartoons featured a wealthy and eccentric family with a fondness for all things macabre. This dark, twisted and hilarious family quickly gained a cult following, and the characters were later adapted into several television shows, including the popular 1960s sitcom and a 1990s animated series. It was an Addams Family takeover... enough so that audiences around the world would hear the opening chords of the theme tune and were right on cue with an all too familiar click-click in time to the music. A series of blockbuster movies followed suit and one of the most popular versions hit cinemas in 1991.

Starring the deliciously dark Anjelica Huston and the charismatic Raul Julia as Tish and Gomez with Christopher Lloyd bringing an iconic Uncle Fester to life. The Addams Family movie was followed by a sequel, Addams Family Values. Of course, the more recent CGI-animated films and groundbreaking Netflix series, Wednesday, from Tim Burton, have introduced this zany family to a new generation of fans.

The Addams Family characters have remained beloved by audiences of all ages, and finally graduated from the screen to the stage with a Broadway production of The Addams Family Musical, featuring a book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, and a score by Andrew Lippa.

The debut performance took place on April 8, 2010 at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre. And what a cast they had! Featuring theatre doyens and Tony Award-winning actors Nathan Lane as Gomez Addams and Bebe Neuwirth as Morticia Addams. Other notable names included Krysta Rodriguez as Wednesday Addams, Kevin Chamberlin as Uncle Fester, and Jackie Hoffman as Grandma Addams.

The show follows the Addams Family as they prepare for a dinner party to introduce their daughter, Wednesday, to her boyfriend's parents. The musical is a darkly comedic take on the traditional family musical, with catchy songs and witty dialogue. Musically, the show's score features a variety of styles, including ballads, showtunes, and even a tango!





Initially receiving mixed reviews from critics, it was the audiences who catapulted the musical into the stratosphere... or into orbit near the moon, if your name is Uncle Fester!

It ran for over a year on Broadway, closing on December 31, 2011. The Addams Family Musical was also a commercial success, grossing over \$85 million during its Broadway run. The show received several Tony Award nominations, including Best Original Score and Best Featured Actor for Kevin Chamberlin.

One of the Broadway show's most memorable moments was a guest appearance by Matthew Broderick, a former co-star of Nathan Lane's from their time sharing the spotlight on The Producers and in the recording studio for the animated version of The Lion King.

Broderick played the role of Uncle Fester for just one week in June 2010, filling in for Chamberlin while he was on vacation.

Since its Broadway premiere, The Addams
Family Musical has been staged in numerous
countries around the world, including a highly
successful UK tour in 2017.

This version starred Samantha Womack as Morticia Addams and Les Dennis as Uncle Fester. The UK production was well-received by audiences and critics alike, with praise for the cast's performances and the show's macabre humour.

Other international productions of The Addams Family Musical include runs in Brazil, Germany, Japan, and Australia.

In each country, the show has been adapted to fit the local culture and language, but the dark yet family-friendly humour and quirky characters have remained a constant aspect of the show all over the globe.

And now, it's Dubai's turn...

MTDXB is absolutely thrilled to bring The

Addams Family Musical to audiences right
here in the UAE. We hope you enjoy watching
the show as much as we have enjoyed creating
our first full-scale production.

All together now: da-da-da-dum click-click



# FROM OUR DIRECTOR CLAIRE BENNETT

# When you're an Addams... you gotta have a lotta passion!

Working hard for something we don't care about is called stress; working hard for something we love is called passion-Simon Sinek.

The individuals involved in this audacious and ambitious venture redefine the word passion! This tumultuous journey is a testament to the talent and tenacity of all those involved.

I'm so grateful to James and Beth Mitchinson (the ultimate power couple!) and the MTDXB committee for affording me the incredible opportunity to direct this production.

Even during the most challenging moments, it has been an absolute pleasure and I hope to continue this collaboration in the future.

Along with the friendships that have formed, I have loved seeing the creative shorthand that has flourished amongst the entire Team as the vision has been realised.

#### Move toward the darkness and love... feel.

Throughout their various reincarnations, the Addams Family has cemented itself in the mausoleum of pop horror culture history.

And although that iconography is very present within this Show, the story offers a fresh take with the introduction of new characters.

This is a coming-of-age story about Familial relationships and acceptance. And although the Addams' are far from a conventional family, these themes are still as resonant.

The word Theatre is derived from the Greek (Theatron) meaning the "all seeing place"
To be truly seen and in the moment on stage takes great vulnerability.

With that vulnerability comes great courage. I am so proud of every member of our company for the spectacle that has been created for your viewing delectation!









Glenn Atkinson as Mal Beineke

Glenn has been performing on-stage for many years and this is his third year with MTDXB, having been a founding member in 2021. He has proudly achieved Grade 8 in Voice and in Musical Theatre from the London College of Music and has performed many enjoyable roles in the UK in both musicals and pantomime. Favourites include Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz, Curly in Oklahoma, Lun Tha in The King and I, Ugly in Honk! and Corny Collins in Hairspray.

His last role in the UK was as the Genie in Aladdin. Since moving to Dubai as a senior school leader, in 2018, Glenn has expanded his repertoire in both plays and musicals, performing in every musical production with MTDXB since their founding, and in 'The 39 Steps', with H72 Productions, in 2022, and then in 'The Odd Couple' later that year.

This year he performed 2 plays in the Short +Sweet Festival at The Junction Theatre, winning 1st place in the heats for 'Mandate'. Most importantly he has expanded his friendship circle in meeting so many creatives across the Emirate and enjoys every moment of his time with his drama 'family', both on and off the stage. When not performing on stage, Glenn enjoys the company of his two cats Tutti and Bear, extensive travelling, reading, singing in the car, Lego building and eating out.





## **Alice Bidder as Pugsley Addams**

Alice has been a part of theatre productions since the age of 7. Across Bristol, Watford and now Dubai, Alice is excited to be performing in the Addams Family for the third time! After moving to Dubai in August 2022, Alice was excited to find MTDXB and joined for the 'All I Want For Christmas is MTDXB' show. She is looking forward to playing Pugsley Addams as he is so different to how she generally spends her day as a primary school teacher.

Her favourite roles have included Prudy Pingleton (Hairspray), Alice Beineke (The Addams Family) and Dorothy (Wizard of Oz). Alice wishes the cast the best of luck and hopes you enjoy the show!







**Brian Fletcher as Uncle Fester Addams** 

Brian has been performing on stage for over 30 years, originally back in the UK, before a move to Kuwait in 2014, and Dubai in 2016. With over 20 productions under his musical theatre belt, he is no stranger to character acting having taken on such iconic roles as Danny (Grease), Pharoah (Joseph), Frank N Furter (Rocky Horror Show), Audrey II (Little Shop of Horrors), Sweeney Todd and Lady Bracknell (The Importance of Being Earnest) in addition to performing in pantomimes and as a soloist accompanied by a 300-member strong choir and symphony orchestra (he's has also been known to enjoy belting out the odd number at karaoke nights too!). When launched in 2021, Brian was excited to become a member of MTDXB, and to finally find a company in Dubai that enjoyed staging high quality musical theatre productions. Having performed in 3 of MTDXB's 4 shows to date, Brian was honoured to be asked to join the established MTDXB Committee, and enjoys contributing to the success of the company both on and off-stage. In The Addams Family, Brian finds himself returning to the role of Fester, having briefly performed the role in earlier MTDXB revues, and has loved bringing another wellknown character to life, working with such a talented cast and crew for MTDXB's first full scale production. Brian would like to thank his wife, Clare, for all her support and acceptance of the time invested in following his passion for performing. When not on stage, designing posters and programmes or building websites for MTDXB, Brian is Dad to Georgia (7) and Noah (4), and somehow he also finds the time to fit in a full time job managing eCommerce platforms for brands like Nespresso, Bath and Body Works and Victoria's Secret.





#### Aimee Khalifa as Alice Beineke

From a very young age, Aimee developed a passion for music and started singing with her local youth choir, participating in school and local musicals. She began to train classically from the age of 14 before going to London to start her professional training. Aimee trained at the London College of Music for one year, and following this she completed her training at the International College of Musical Theatre.

Some of her favourite highlights in theatre include 'the actress' in the Blueroom with ICMT, 'Ilse' in Spring Awakening at Edinburgh Fringe, working as lead singer in the productions shows with Live Business (TUI Family Life) and performing as lead singer in the Irish show Rhythm of the Dance for their European and USA tours.

Recently, Aimee decided to take a break to work on her songwriting, and recorded and released her first song Crazy About You on streaming platforms in 2020, followed by Electrify Me at the end of 2022. She is super excited to get back to Musical Theatre with this incredible group of people in the Addams Family!







#### Jessie Leigh as Wednesday Addams

Jess' journey in performing started when she studied acting in the UK. After arriving in Dubai, Jess started studying dance at Sima Performing Arts. It has always been her dream to be part of musical theatre and to use her skills of acting and dancing on stage. Jess' favourite musical theatre shows are Waitress, Dear Evan Hansen and of course The Addams Family! Her passion for musical theatre grew even more when she found MTDXB and performed in numerous Cabaret performances as a dancer.

This time, Jess is taking the stage with her first ever lead role as Wednesday Addams and she is incredibly excited! Performing has become a huge part of Jess' life and she is very grateful to be part of MTDXB's first full theatre show. So, do sit comfortably and enjoy the show!





## **Bryn Mitchell as Gomez Addams**

Bryn graduated from East 15 Drama School in 2017. Classically trained, Bryn went on to perform in many productions across the UK including Breakdown of Communication (Camden People Theatre, 2015), Like The Others (Courtyard Theatre, 2016), RSC's Comedy of Errors (The Dell, 2017), To Finally Feel (Lion and Unicorn Theatre, 2018) and Andrea Chenier (Royal Opera House, 2019). Bryn has also appeared in film and TV including playing Buddy Light in an advert for Bud Light in 2018.

Since arriving in Dubai he has been continuing his stage & film performances. His credits include: The Odd Couple - The Junction, Les Misérables 2020- The Junction, Bull - The Courtyard, Everyone's Talking about MXDXB - The Junction and Winning Best Actor award at the Paramount Short Film Festival Competition 2022 in DIVA. Bryn is excited to be bringing Gomez Addams "to life" in the MTDXB production of The Addams Family.







#### Talya Mitchell as Grandma Addams

Talya, like her brother Bryn, grew up in an entertainment family and has had a lifetime passion for performing. This culminated in becoming a member of the acclaimed Portsmouth Players Musical Society in the UK. Her favourite musical theatre roles were in Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Sweet Charity, Copacabana and Chicago.

She has also tread the boards as both a vocalist and dancer in many variety style shows in the UK and Dubai. Musical theatre, however, is her guilty pleasure and you can find her driving around Dubai belting out show tunes all day long. Talya is a proud member of the committee for MTDXB and is excited to be performing as Grandma Addams in The Addams Family Musical.





#### **Niamh Moore as Morticia Addams**

Making her debut as Cosette in Les Misérables (Mullingar Student Players, 2004), Niamh has since appeared in numerous productions across the midlands of Ireland including Gertrude – Seussical (MCVG), Jasmine - Aladdin (Mullingar Panto Group), Sandy - Grease, Serena – Legally Blonde (Athlone Musical Society). Her favourite roles to date have been Jane Smart - The Witches of Eastwick with Tullamore Musical Society (winner of AIMS Best Overall Show, 2016) and CATS with Clara Musical Society (winner of AIMS Best Overall Show, 2017) where she received a nomination for her portrayal of Rumpleteaser.

Since moving to Dubai, Niamh has been part of a number of productions with Abu Dhabi Choral Group and MTDXB. She would like to wish all of the cast and crew broken legs on their Addams Family adventure!







**Paul Staveley as Lurch** 

Born at a young age in Leeds, Paul's mother insists he was a dancer before he could walk. She says he began to sing long before he could talk. She is also a huge fan of Abba. As a child Paul wowed audiences in Leeds with a performance of the Artful Dodger that the Leeds Weekly News described as 'adequate'.

Having written and performed in plays and musicals for many years, as well as writing and releasing his own songs, Paul is excited to be taking to the stage once again with his MTDXB family, although Director Claire has made it very clear that as Lurch, he is not allowed to look like he's enjoying himself. So if he looks miserable on stage, that is just very good acting. He is singing inside.





## **Stephen Rixon as Lucas Beineke**

Stephen has been performing on stage for many years and has played numerous roles in musicals, plays and pantomimes in both Wexford and Dublin in Ireland. Previous theatre credits include: Ren (Footloose), Daddy Brubeck (Sweet Charity), Pablo (Sister Act), George (The Wedding Singer), Mr. Myers (Fame), Dame Naan Bread (Aladdin), Prince Harry (Snow White), Joe Fell (I Do Not Like Thee Dr. Fel), Fred (A Christmas Carol), Leo (The Drowning Room), Marston (And Then There Were None).

With a huge passion for theatre, his proudest achievement to date is going to New York for an 8-day trip and seeing a total of 14 shows.

Stephen is absolutely delighted to have found MTDXB after moving to Dubai in August and performing with them in their Christmas Concert. He is thrilled to be playing the role of Lucas and wishes many broken legs for all of the cast!







# SONGLIST/RUNNING ORDER

#### Act I

Overture/Prologue (Ancestors, Bryn Mitchell as Gomez, Niamh Moore as Morticia)
When You're An Addams (Ensemble)
Fester's Manifesto (Brian Fletcher as Fester)

Two Things (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez)
Wednesday's Growing Up (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez)

**Trapped** (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez, Niamh Moore as Morticia)

Pulled (Jessie Leigh as Wednesday, AliceBidder as Pugsley)One Normal Night (Full Ensemble)

**But Love** (Brian Fletcher as Fester, Ancestors) **But Love** (Reprise 2) (Brian Fletcher as Fester, Ancestors)

**Secrets** (Niamh Moore as Morticia, Aimee Khalifa as Alice, Female Ancestors)

Gomez's "What If" (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez)

**What If** (Alice Bidder as Pugsley, Talya Mitchell as Grandma)

Full Disclosure Part 1 (Full Ensemble)
Waiting (Aimee Khalifa as Alice)
Full Disclosure Part 2 (Full Ensemble)



# SONGLIST/RUNNING ORDER

#### Act II

Just Around the Corner (Niamh Moore as Morticia, Ancestors)
Just Around the Corner Playoff (Niamh Moore as Morticia, Ancestors)

**The Moon and Me** (Brian Fletcher as Fester, Female Ancestors)

**Happy Sad** (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez, Jessie Leigh as Wednesday)

**Crazier Than You** (Jessie Leigh as Wednesday, Stephen Rixon as Lucas, Glenn Atkinson as Mal, Aimee Khalifa as Alice)

Not Today (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez)

**Live Before We Die** (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez, Niamh Moore as Morticia)

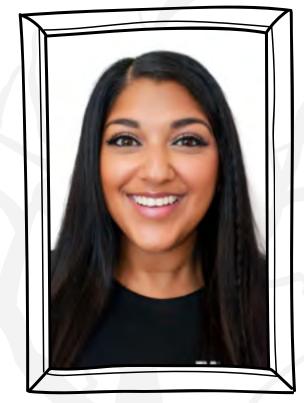
**Tango De Amor** (Bryn Mitchell as Gomez, Niamh Moore as Morticia)

**Finale: Move Toward the Darkness** (Full Ensemble)

When You're An Addams Reprise (Full Ensemble)







**Anisa Bharmal** 



**Rachel Cahill** 



**Karen Carty** 



**Rosie Channon** 



Olivia Coleman



**Ailise Corry** 



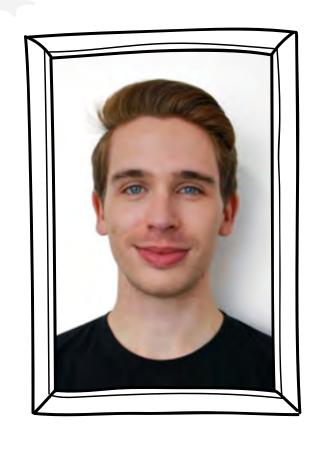
**Gina Daly** 



Sarah Debono



Rhiannon Downie-Hurst



Jevan Fletcher



Sarah Grealis



Felicia Ham



**Katheryn Hansford** 



**Carina Harvey** 



**Emma Henderson** 



Kirin Hilliar



**Marianne Hughes** 



Rowena Karaman



**Katie Keyes** 



**Anezka Alice Kurian** 



**Lindsey Larkin** 



**Chloe Leather** 



Laura Marino



Gemma McFall



Lisa McKeown



**Sarah McNeice** 



**Shannon Meehan** 



Kate Mitrogiannopoulou



Kristina Novykova



**Charlotte Palmer** 



**Megan Rowley** 



Sadiq Saboowala



**Shelley Saha** 



**Ruth Sanders** 



**Sattawat Sonsin** 



**Hayley Summerbell** 



Helen Wallace



Nickie Willoughby



**Shona Wills** 



Sophie Worrell



# BAND

### **Adam Laird - Musical Director**

David Quinn - Keys 1

Toby Nelms - Keys 2

James Tunstill - Strings

Adam MacCloy - Reed 1

Michael Bacarra - Reed 2

Daniel Walton - Trumpet

Jason Mott - Trombone

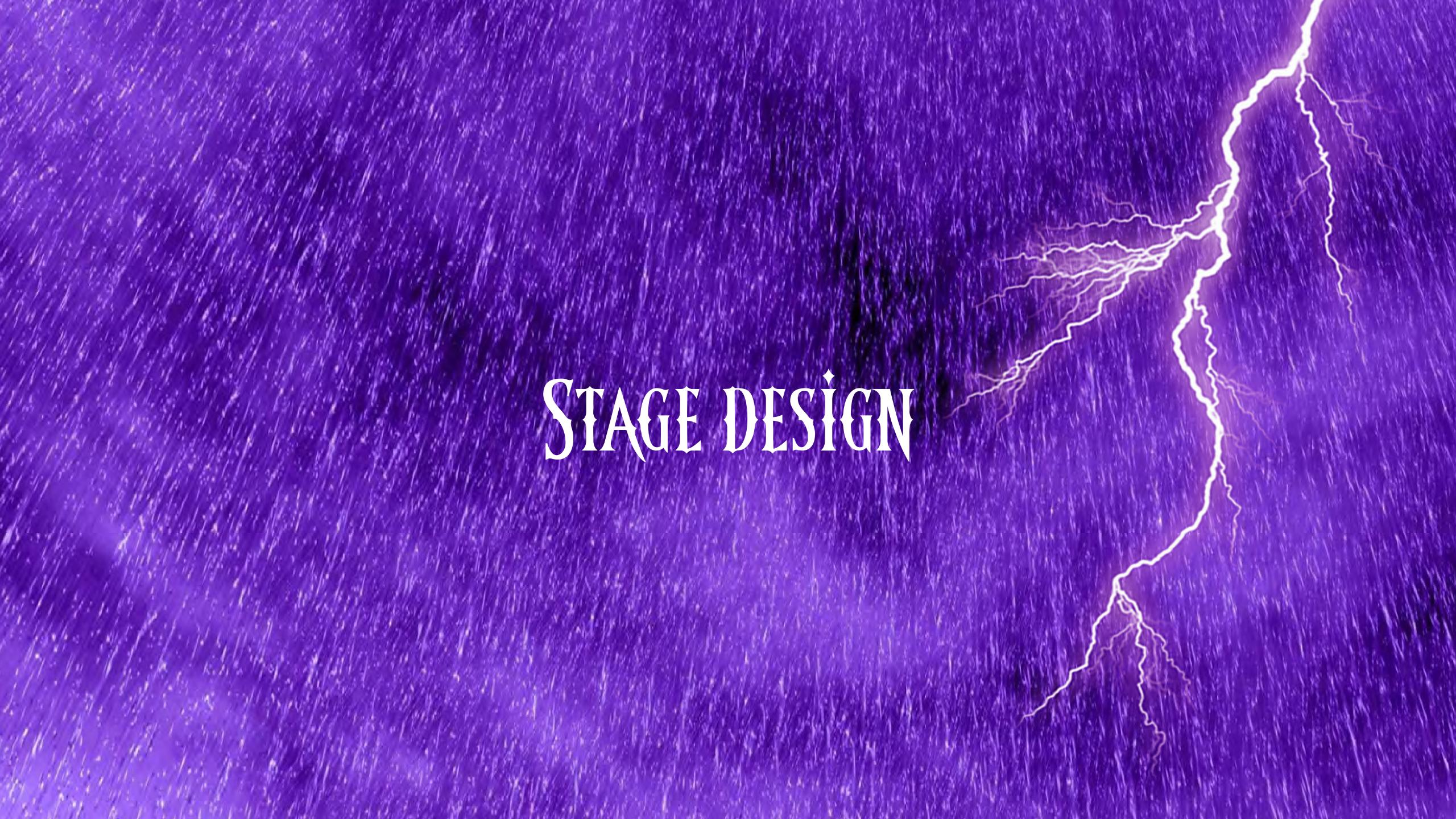
Satya Darcy - Drums

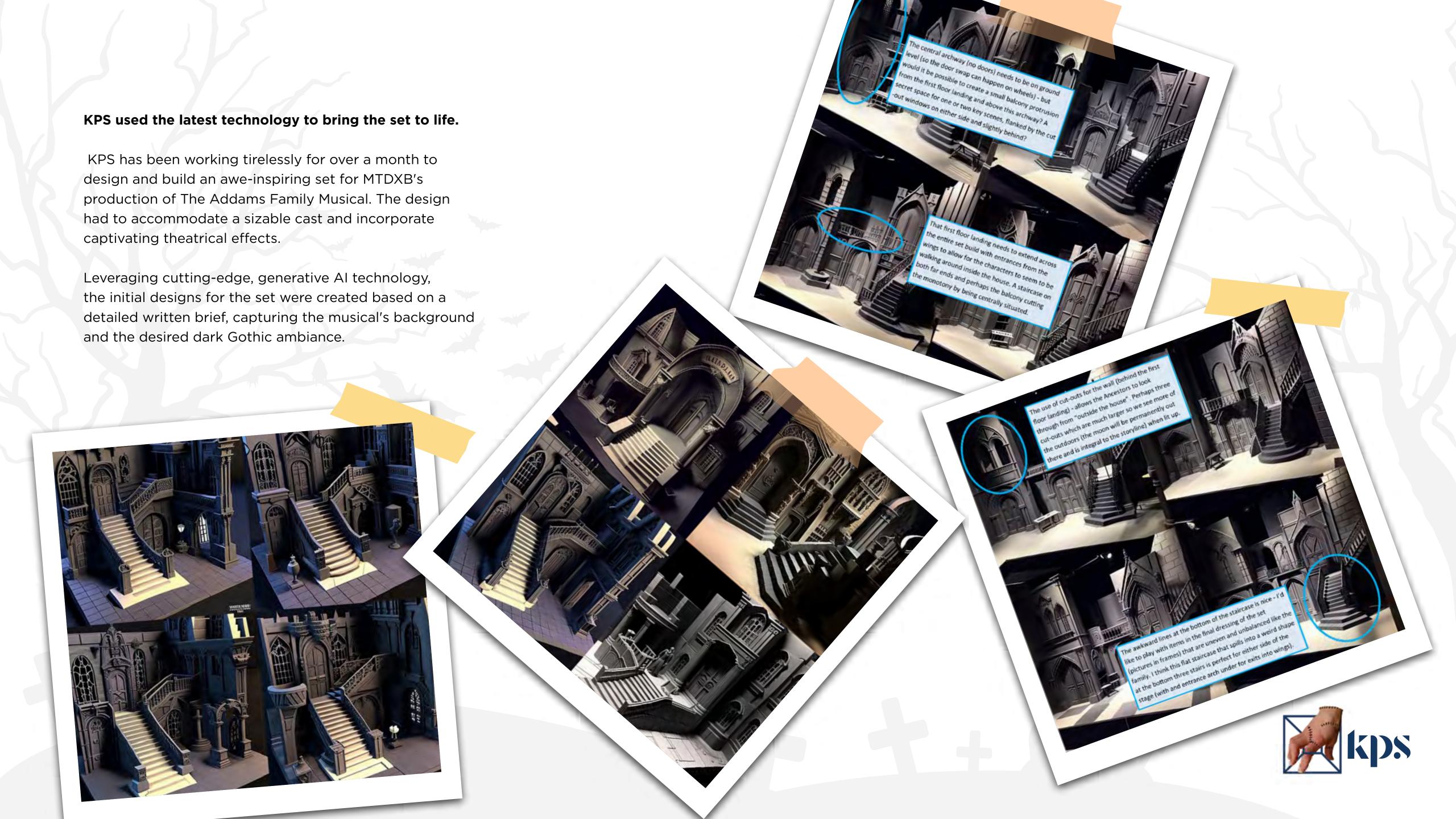
Raman Maroz - Percussion

Janis Buskowski - Bass

Evan Mambo - Guitar















# KPS WOULD LİKE TO THANK OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT













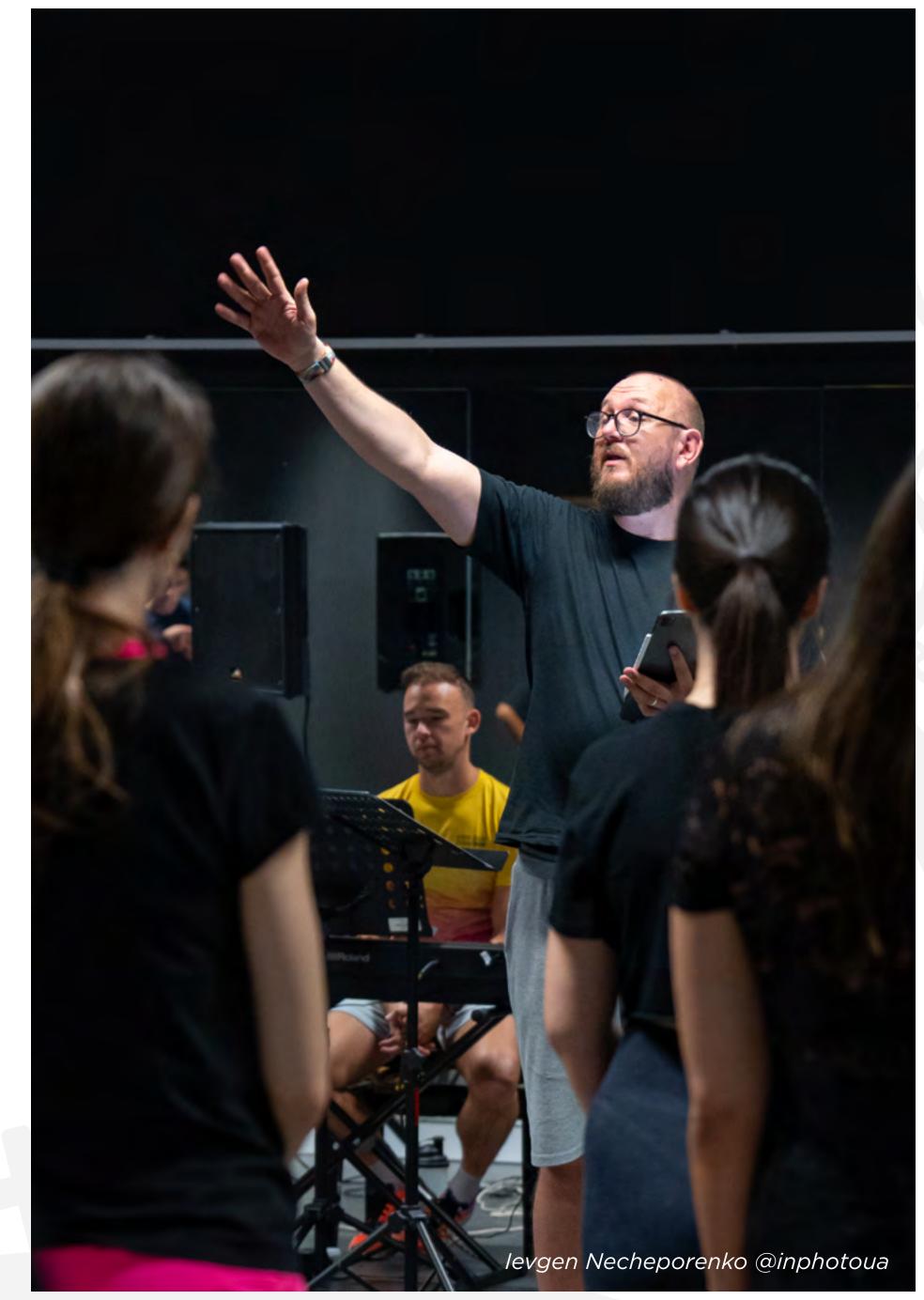












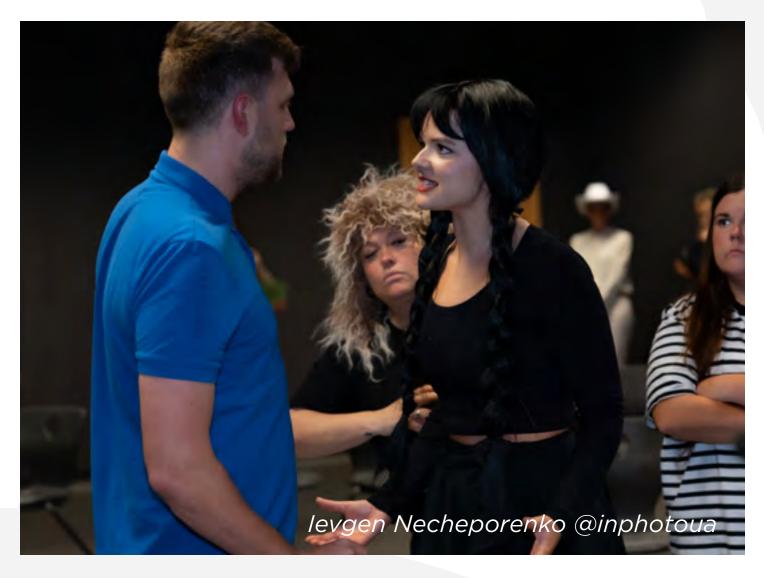
















### **Adam Laird | Musical Director**

Born at an early age in Dover, UK, Adam has been working in music education for over 2 decades and is currently a busy Head of Music in Dubai. Theatre credits include performing, (Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Godspell, Jesus Christ Superstar, Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast, Fiddler on the Roof, The Mikado, Iolanthe, The Gondoliers, I Paglacci, Cavallera Rusticana, The Addams Family) and selected shows as a baton waving musical director include (A Little Night Music, Fame, The Wiz, Grease, Bugsy Malone, West Side Story, Fiddler on the Roof, Gypsy, Into the Woods, Footloose, Our House, Little Shop of Horrors, Oliver!, White Christmas) Adam is enjoying seeing the love of musical theatre alive and well in Dubai.



## **Claire Bennett | Director**

After graduating in London with a degree in Theatre, Claire's performing and directorial skills have informed and enhanced her twenty-year teaching career. She has led on Drama and Performing Arts, staging ambitious Musical Theatre productions in London and Dubai to great acclaim.

Claire has sung in soul bands, Gospel choirs and has been a voice over artist in her native London. She was also a member of Europe's largest community Theatre, Questors. Where she has performed in numerous productions.

Claire is delighted that Musical Theatre Dubai has been formed. It is a much welcomed further enrichment for the Arts community.





### **Bethanie Mitchinson | Choreographer**

Bethanie lives for the stage! Musical theatre is her biggest passion and she is thrilled at how far MTDXB has come in such a short space of time. With the help of her husband (Mitch) they have created this space and great opportunity for like minded individuals to exude their talents and passion. On stage, her favourite roles to date include; Charity in Sweet Charity, Elle Woods in Legally Blonde, Roxie Hart in Chicago and, in quite the contrast, Anybodys in West Side Story.

She was thrilled to win the Junction's 'Best Supporting Actress Award' for her role of Stage Manager in H72's The Play That Goes Wrong. Though she has missed being on stage this time, she has really enjoyed choreographing such a fun show and can't thank the team, front and backstage, enough for their support. She can't wait to show everyone what we have in store next. Long live MTDXB!



### **James Mitchinson | Assistant Director**

James has been involved in both plays and musicals back home in Newcastle for about 15 years before helping to set up MTDXB. In Dubai, he has performed for Dubai Drama Group in The Permanent Way and for H72 Productions in The Play That Goes Wrong, as well as participating in the Short + Sweet Festival at The Junction. Occasionally, 'Mitch' will make an appearance for MTDXB, but often will just let the more talented members take to the stage!

For this production, Mitch has been assistant director and has thoroughly enjoyed working alongside the very talented Claire Bennett to help stage this wonderful musical.





### Laura Suzanne Bock | Vocal Coach

A singing teacher and voice coach by trade, Laura's fundamental goal when working with singers is to help sustain healthy, long lasting and effective voices. She primarily teaches one on one lessons, but loves to also teach workshops and coach shows such as this one.

Throughout this rehearsal process, Laura has enjoyed knuckling down and teaching the cast the intricacies of accent work and vocal safety, and she is incredibly proud of the amazing sound they are making! Laura has performed all her life, most recently in Hong Kong, where she lived for five years until moving to Dubai in 2022, and then with MTDXB for their past few shows.

As she was pregnant for the first half of rehearsals, performing wasn't a viable option this time around, but she's thrilled to have been able to be involved, to save her from the FOMO! Laura lives with her very tall husband Ashley, their newborn son Alfie, and their idiotic but gorgeous cat, Beans.



# David Quinn | Rehearsal Accompanist

Dave is a musician and teacher originally from Tyrone, Northern Ireland. He studied piano performance at Royal Irish Academy of Music and Music with Education at Queen's University, Belfast. Dave is currently completing Master's studies at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London. Fluent in German, Dave taught music at a bilingual school in Berlin, working with the German Chamber Orchestra and coaching his choir to perform at the Berliner Philharmonie.

Dave is passionate about musical theatre and has been musical director for several amateur and professional musical productions. Aside from music, Dave is also a fitness enthusiast and an avid traveller, often to be found chasing sunsets or hiking through an obscure jungle!





#### **Lauren Noble | Production Manager**

Lauren Noble is the founder and creative director of Collab Company, a UAE-based performing arts organisation. She is sometimes a director and scriptwriter. She is sometimes a designer and performer. She is most often the proud advocate for arts education that disrupts outdated pedagogy. Lauren has a BA Honours in Drama and Performance Studies, a PGCE in English Language, Literature and Arts and Culture, and over 12 years' experience in the classrooms of Durban and Dubai.

Lauren's aim is to redefine the performing arts by putting conscious collaboration at the forefront of everything she does... which is exactly how she became involved as the Production Manager for this kooky, spooky and perfectly Dubai version of The Addams Family Musical with her favourite musical theatre troupe!

Her recent work includes directing Desert Stanzas and the amphitheatre iteration of Antigone Retold for Emirates LitFest 2023. Last year she collaborated with MTDXB on a cinematic inclusion project called You Will Be Found and later with the International Psychology Conference Dubai on an accredited theatre workshop. She devised, directed and managed the immersive theatre event called The Museum Mawaheb which included the originating version of Antigone Retold alongside eight other performing and literary art installations. Other notable works include Dubai Drama Group's A Girl In School Uniform (Walks into a Bar) and the Theme8 Festival winner for best play, Checkmate, in 2021.



### **Shona Wills | Dance Captain**

After living in Dubai for four years, Shona is delighted to be welcoming musical theatre back into her life.

Shona graduated from Gloucestershire University with a Performing Arts degree in 2014. After this, she performed at Edinburgh Fringe Festival and has since undertaken various stage manager and directing roles. She is now a Primary School Teacher who is involved in school productions and sharing her passion with the children.

Shona feels very grateful to be a part of MTDXB and is extremely excited to perform in this show!



















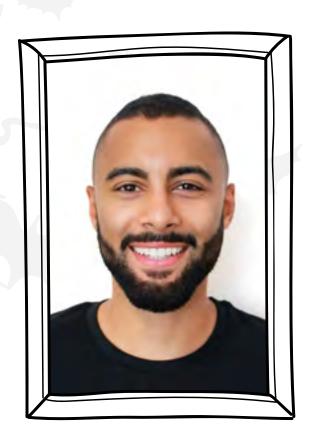








**Lauren Noble** 



**Hassan Nasser** 



**Kehkashan Anand** 



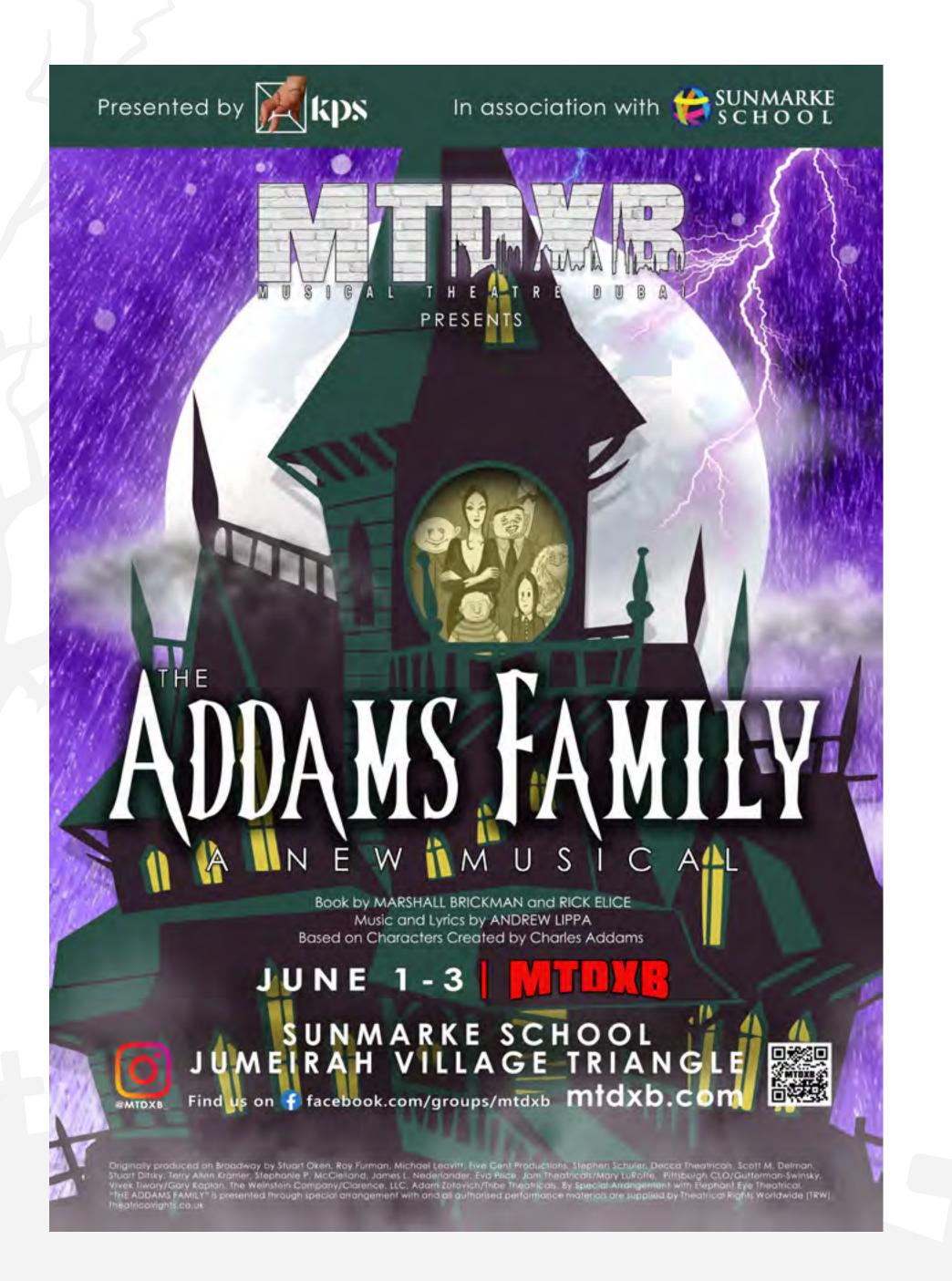
James Casaki

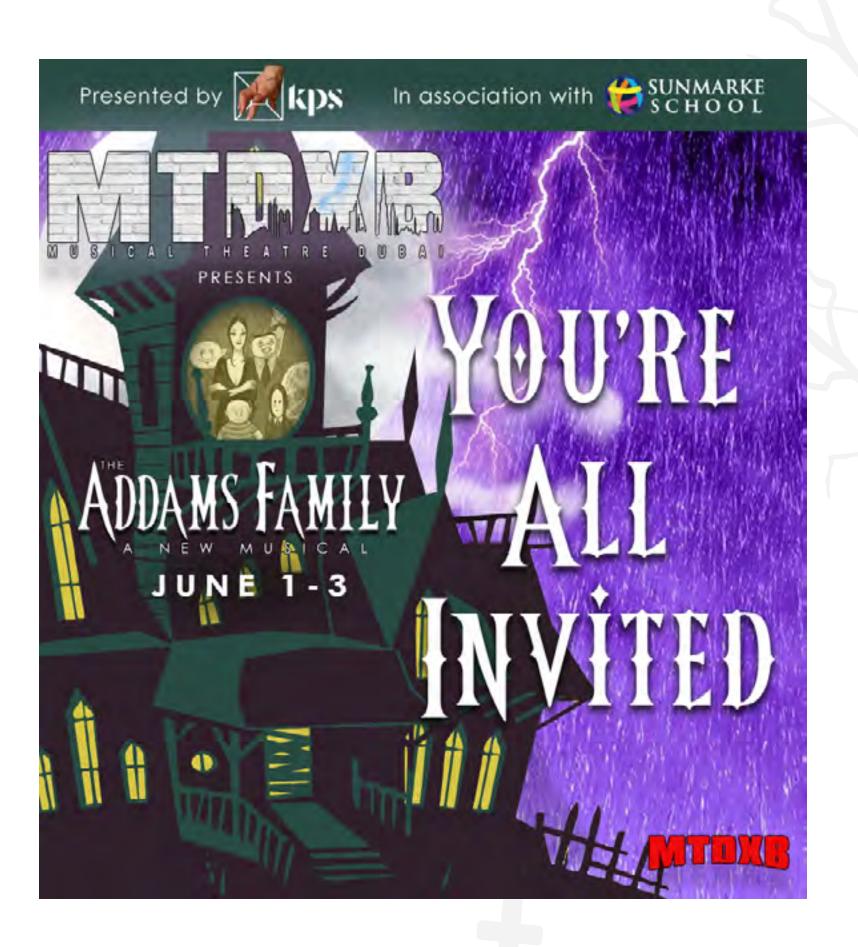


**Delyse Mitchell** 

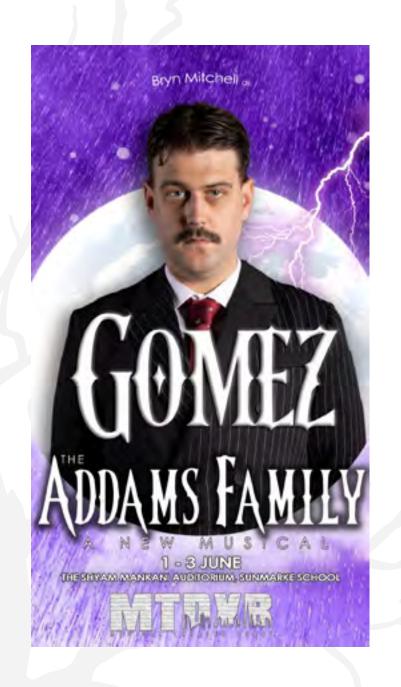


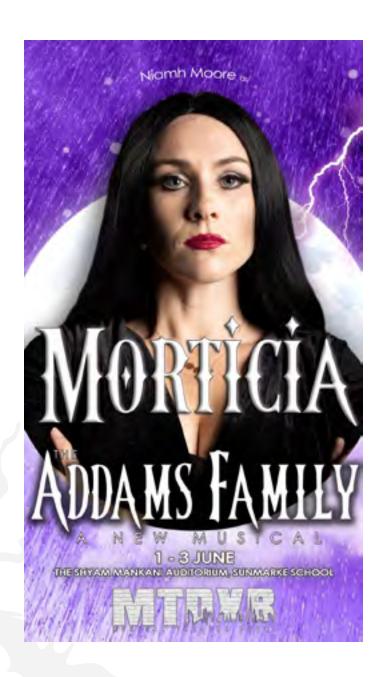


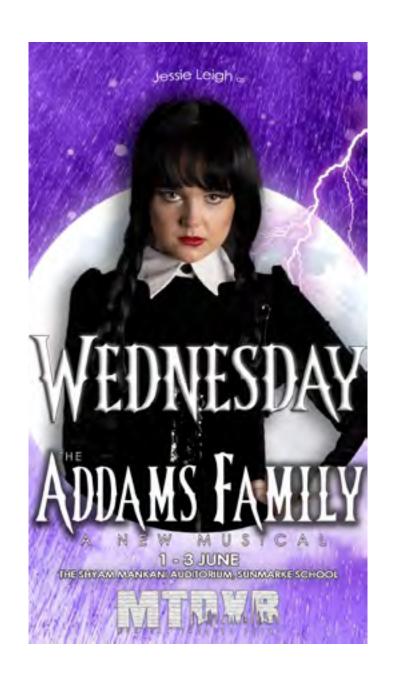


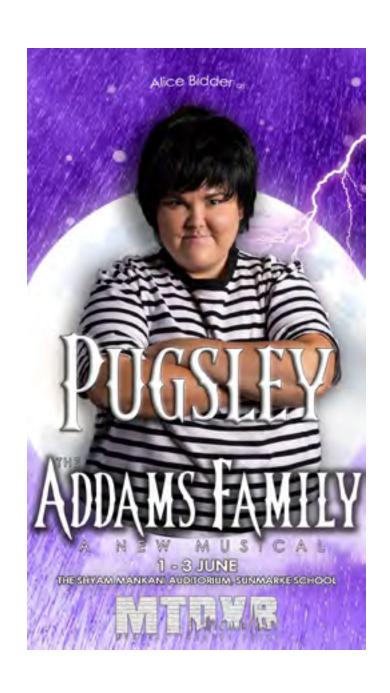


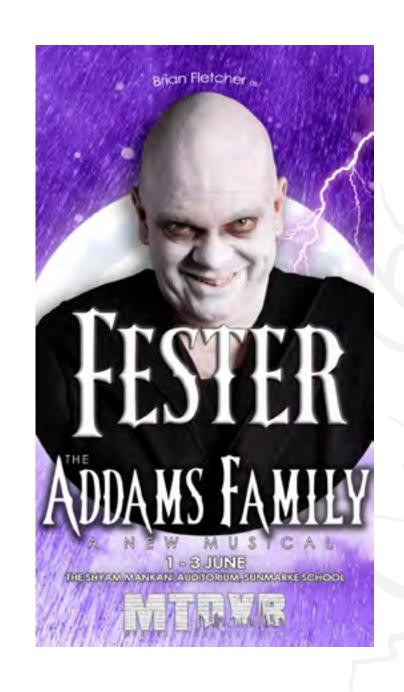


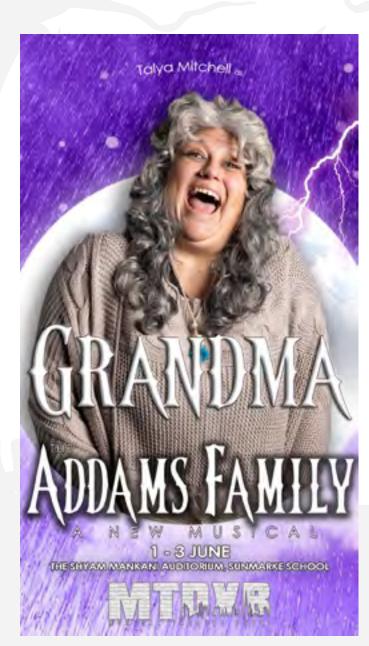


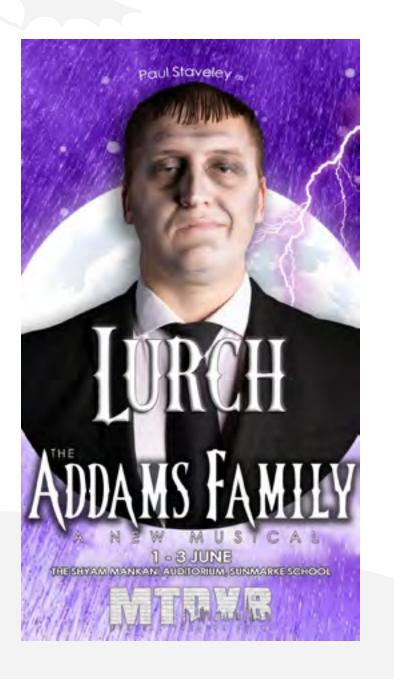


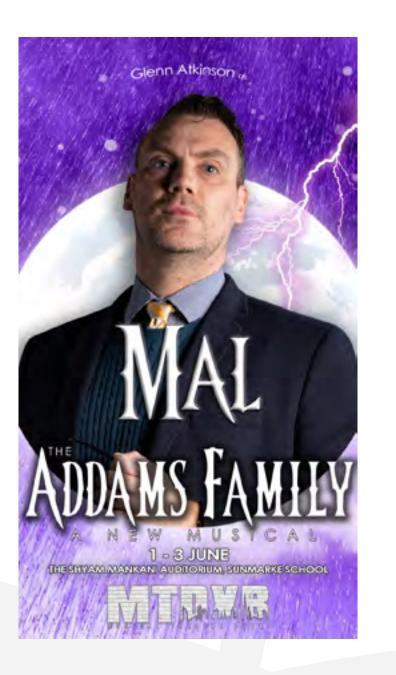


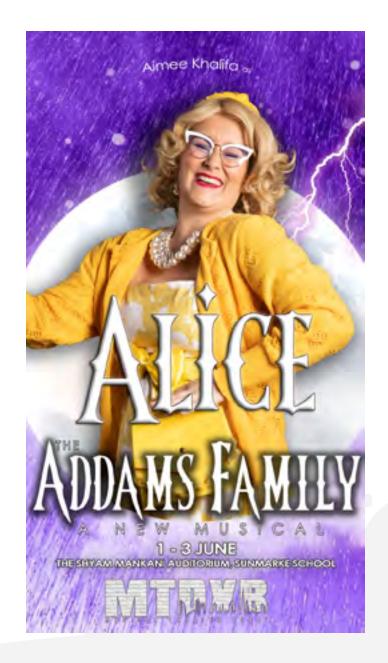


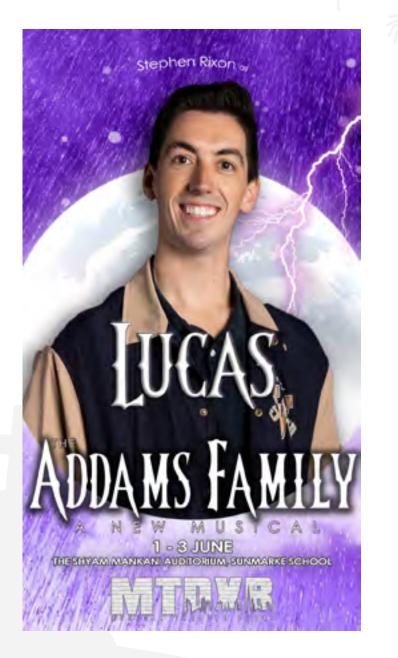


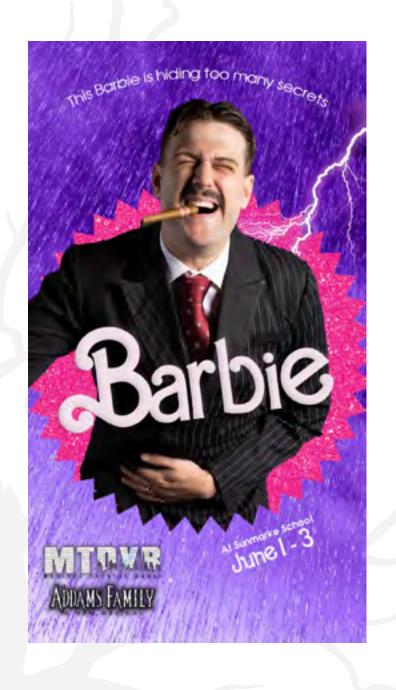


















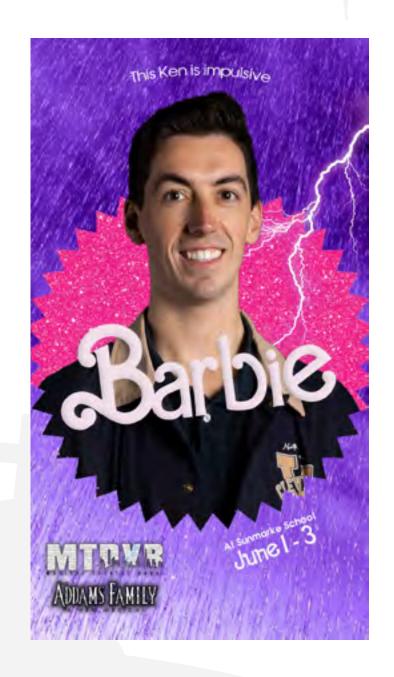






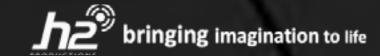












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## A COLLAB WITH COLLAB



Lauren Noble, founder and creative director of Collab Company

Hello! My name is Lauren Noble, and I have had a passion for the performing arts since I was just 12 years old. This was in my final year of primary school and I was performing in my first lead role as Lucy from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.* That was 22 years ago, and I can still recall every detail of those performances with absolute clarity. The restlessness of the wings. The warmth of the stage lights. The energy of the audience. These are the ephemeral moments of the performing arts that never quite leave you, and it was this production which signified that the theatre was exactly what I was meant to do with my life.

I founded Collab Company in 2020 as a way to advance the arts through intentional, innovative and imaginative collaborations which are unrestricted by the conventions of any one art form. As a qualified performing arts practitioner and drama teacher, I am dedicated to crafting bespoke experiences which unite my love of directing, devising, scriptwriting and designing. My work has become a way for me to consciously shape experiences for others to immerse themselves in the characteristics that defined my own love of the stage and the classroom for many years. Disrupting. Creating. Revisiting. Imagining. Questioning. Empowering. Discovering. Exploring. Teaching. Learning. My organisation embraces a multidisciplinary approach to a wide range of experimental projects, educational initiatives and outreach programs, both locally and internationally.

I first started working with MTDXB in late 2021 when I was asked to sit on an audition panel for *Everybody's Talking About MTDXB*. My love of the sheer spectacle of musical theatre in all its theatricality could never have prepared me for seeing musos in their natural habitat like that. I learned so much!



The award-winning devised theatre production of 'Checkmate' (2021)



Our collabs have always excited me, pushing me to find unique ways to include music and musicality in my own world-building as an artist. In 2022, a collaboration with Mawaheb (an art studio for people with determination) resulted in a hauntingly poignant short film called You Will Be Found which was based on themes from Dear Evan Hansen and starred MTDXB's very own James Casaki in the lead role. I also had the privilege of directing and devising with Sarah McNeice and Anisa Bharmal for four months last year, each of them bringing their singing prowess to their roles as Megara and Hera in our immersive theatre, literature and arts education experience called *Antigone Retold*. And then this year, one of the highlights of my career involved the opportunity to direct the stunning Sophia Cafoor-Camps in an English-Arabic duet which was performed in front of HRH Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum as the opening sequence of the opening ceremony of the Emirates LitFest 2023! What a journey MTDXB and Collab Company have already been on...

Then I read the production team application announcement for MTDXB's The Addams Family and I had some thinking to do. It had been a long, long time since I had sat at any design desk other than the one I usually sit at as the content creator for my own creativity... but something was telling me to free up my pro bono schedule for this season to tangibly support my friends in musical theatre.

After all, Collab Company was founded to build a vibrant community of creatives who share skills, amplify talent and traverse a multitude of creative industries as they uplift one another.



'Antigone Retold - the interactive experience' at The Museum Mawaheb (2022)

What better way could I do this than to lead as Production Manager? And so I did. And what a journey from page to stage it has been! I have worked in almost every free moment for the past three months to provide as much support as possible to our larger-than-life Addams ensemble: from an event management press night to upskilling the cast on prop design, from supporting on costume construction to learning from others in our makeshift design workshops at Sunmarke School, from time spent with the very best backstage team to advising on the set build from start to finish with our friends at KPS... the list goes on and on...

I am so thankful for my extended theatre family of MTDXB who provided me this opportunity to showcase the advantages of collaborating with my organisation. It was my chance to prove the impact of our unique synergistic, ethical model of theatre-making in a region which so desperately requires more, more, more structure and infrastructure if we want to truly advance the arts as a whole. Collab Company wants each event we collaborate on to manifest a shift in culture whereby we prove without any doubt that, by working in collaboration and not in competition, we are better able to uplift one another to reach new heights together. May MTDXB and Collab Company continue that journey together for years to come...







## MTDXB WOULD LİKE TO THANK

**Claire Bennett (Director)** - For her overriding passion and dedication to this project. From the very first rehearsal to the very last, she has committed 100% to ensuring the audience are entertained and the story of The Addams Family and their enigmatic characters shine through in every scene and every song. Her commitment to detail has been outstanding and her positive energy and expertise has been invaluable.

**Adam Laird (Musical Director)** - For his infectious energy and sense of humour alongside the high expectations he insists from every single member of the cast. Also, for pulling together some of the best musicians in Dubai to perform this fabulous score!

**Dave Quinn (Accompanist & band)** - For devoting his talent to this production and being a reliable pair of musical hands to accompany Adam at rehearsals as well as in the band.

**Bethanie Mitchinson (Choreographer)** - For sacrificing her own desire to perform in order to commit herself to this challenging role. Her attention to detail as choreographer for the show and drive for perfection in every musical number (all with good humour!) has created a visual spectacle that perfectly complements the music and singing.

**Lauren Noble (Production Manager)** - Her devotion to the arts and this production has been immeasurable. She lives and breathes theatre and it is fair to say it has consumed a large part of her life these past few months! Lauren has high standards and her input and advice has lifted the quality of MTDXB productions to another level.

#### **Production & Backstage Team**

Thank you all for dedicating your time and energy to this very special production. You are all part of our MTDXB family and we hope you stick around for the next one!

Hassan Nasser James Casaki Kehkashan Anand Delyse Mitchell

**Laura Suzanne Bock** - For her expert vocal tuition, such as accent work to breathing techniques; she has been invaluable throughout the rehearsal process, despite being heavily pregnant with little Alfie!

**Shona Wills** - For being a fabulous, supportive dance captain and bringing positive vibes and good energy at all times.

#### The MTDXB Committee

- Bethanie Mitchinson (Co-Chairman)
- James Mitchinson (Co-Chairman) For his assistance directing alongside Claire and general help in lots of other areas to stage this show.
- Brian Fletcher (Promotions/Digital Media & Marketing) For his talents with all things technical, including the website, poster design and programme. Brian has driven the promotional quality of this show to almost professional levels and all whilst learning a principal part!
- **Glenn Atkinson (Treasurer)** For keeping meticulous records and balancing the books on a very complex financial venture for our still very young group, as well as lending his talents to the part of Mal!
- Sarah Debono (Social Media Secretary) For your assistance and advice about what to put out for the world to see ensuring we look professional. As well as your weekly dedication to host post-rehearsals drinks.
- Sophie Worrell (Social Media Secretary) Our resident influencer! Thank you for your keen eye for what's hot and what's not. Also, for the hours you've spent touching us all up to make us look our best!
- Talya Mitchell (Social Secretary) For working hard to bring together 50 individuals through regular social events and creating links through sponsorship to lift the experience of our audience members and raise the profile of the group.

**Jonny Shaw (Lighting design and programming)** - For donating his time and expertise once again to program the lighting for the entire show ensuring it looks fantastic from the audience's perspective.

**Sean Alozo (sound) and Amr Adel Ashry (Lighting)** - For being a reliable and trustworthy set of hands!

**Delyse Mitchell** - For being a constant supporter of our group from day one and using her experience to give advice and seek sponsors.

**Sergii Tymchenko (Wise Dance, @wise.dance)** - For lending us his expertise to choreograph an amazing tango routine!

**Paraic Aherne (@paraicaherne)** - For donating his time and talent to taking photos and creating videos for us.

**levgen Necheporenko (@inphotoua)** - For taking photos of our rehearsals and kindly passing them on to us.

**Catherine Broad (Dubai Drama Group)** - For supporting by helping us navigate some of the DTCM paperwork!

Marwa El Kholy - For being our translator to assist with paperwork.

**Ana Gabriela Polimeno** - For helping out in rehearsals and stepping in where required, a future star in the making!

**KPS Interior Design Fit Out** - THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for designing and building the most incredible set for this iconic show and elevating and redefining what it means to be an 'amateur' theatre group in this region.

**Sunmarke School** - For providing support at all levels to help nurture and grow MTDXB. Without this support, there wouldn't be a show. You're a role model for other schools and venues in Dubai about how to support the development of grassroots theatre groups such as ourselves and I hope other places take note!

**Tracey Bishop (at Sunmarke)** - For being a massive supporter of our group and welcoming us to Sunmarke, your passion for theatre is clear to see and you have been instrumental in helping us clear the red tape and successfully stage this production.

**The Junction Dubai** - For the kind loan of some props for the show and their constant support for our theatre group.

**Dune Productions (@duneuae)** - in particular, Emma Isbell, for supporting us with microphones and giving valuable feedback in rehearsals.

Triple One Media Productions (@111.media, @khaledlj) - for agreeing to host our photoshoot and being so accommodating.

Jumeirah English Speaking School (Jess) - For the generous loan of some props for the show.

**Nestlé** - For kindly providing us with cereal bars for the foyer.

**Nespresso (ae.buynespresso.com)** - For kindly coming to provide complimentary coffee for our audience.

MK Fencing Academy (mkfencingacademy.com) - For the kind loan of two foils as props.

Party Social (partysocial.ae) - for the kind loan of chairs for use in the show.



























#### **Principal Cast**

Glenn Atkinson - Mal Beineke Alice Bidder - Pugsley Addams Brian Fletcher - Uncle Fester Addams

Aimee Khalifa - Alice Beineke

Jessie Leigh - Wednesday Addams

Bryn Mitchell - Gomez Addams

Talya Mitchell - Grandma Addams

Niamh Moore - Morticia Addams

Stephen Rixon - Lucas Beineke

Paul Staveley - Lurch

#### **Production Team**

Adam Laird - Musical Director

Claire Bennett - Director

Bethanie Mitchinson - Choreographer

James Mitchinson - Assistant Director

Laura Suzanne Bock - Vocal Coach

David Quinn - Rehearsal Accompanist

Lauren Noble - Production Manager

Shona Wills - Dance Captain

#### **MTDXB** Committee

Bethanie Mitchinson - Co-Chairman

James Mitchinson - Co-Chairman

Brian Fletcher - Promotions/Digital Media & Marketing

Glenn Atkinson - Treasurer

Talya Mitchell - Social Secretary

Sarah Debono - Social Marketing Secretary

Sophie Worrell - Social Marketing Secretary

#### **Production Crew/Backstage Team**

David Quinn - Keys 1

Toby Nelms - Keys 2

James Tunstill - Strings

Adam MacCloy - Reed 1

Michael Bacarra - Reed 2

Daniel Walton - Trumpet

Jason Mott - Trombone

Satya Darcy - Drums

Raman Maroz - Percussion

Janis Buskowski - Bass

Evan Mambo - Guitar

Sergei Tymchenko - Tango Choreography & Training

Lauren Noble - Stage Management

Lauren Noble - Production Design

KPS - Set Design & Build

Lauren Noble & Team - Props

Lauren Noble, Cast - Costumes

Jonny Shaw - Lighting Design

Amr Adel Ashry - Lighting

Sean Alozo - Sound

Rahail Siddiqui - Sound

Delyse Mitchell - Front of House

levgen Necheporenko - Promotional Photography

Paraic Aherne - Promotional Photography

Khaled El Jarieh - Promotional Photography

Brian Fletcher - Programme Concepts

Lauren Noble - Programme Concepts

**KPS - Programme Design & Production** 

Brian Fletcher - Poster & Promotional Materials Design

Brian Fletcher - Website

#### **Ancestors & Dancestors**

Anisa Bharmal

Rachel Cahill

Karen Carty

Rosie Channon

Olivia Coleman

Ailise Corry

Gina Daly

Sarah Debono

Rhiannon Downie-Hurst

Jevan Fletcher

Sarah Grealis

Felicia Ham

Katheryn Hansford

Carina Harvey

Emma Henderson

Kirin Hilliar

Marianne Hughes

Rowena Karaman

Katie Keyes

Anezka Alice Kurian

Lindsey Larkin

Chloe Leather

Laura Maria Chiara Marino

Gemma McFall

Lisa McKeown

Sarah McNeice

Shannon Meehan

Kate Mitrogiannopoulou

Kristina Novykova

Charlotte Palmer

Megan Rowley

Sadiq Saboowala

Shelley Saha

Ruth Sanders

Sattawat Sonsin

Hayley Summerbell

Helen Wallace

Nickie Willoughby

Shona Wills

Sophie Worrell

#### **Tango Dancers**

Sergii Tymchenko Jevan Fletcher Felicia Ham Kirin Hilliar







Thank you for supporting **MTDXB** and community theatre. We hope you enjoyed the show and we'd love to hear your feedback at **facebook.com/MTDXB** 

To find out more about MTDXB, to find all our socials, or to join us in our after-summer musical cabaret show, scan the QR code or visit MTDXB.com

