

Hayes School of Music and the Department of Theatre and Dance

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The Schaefer Center Presents...

a Department of Theatre and Dance and Hayes School of Music Production

SWEENEY TODD The Demon Barber of Fleet Street A Musical Thriller

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by HUGH WHEELER

From an Adaptation by CHRISTOPHER BOND

Originally Directed On Broadway by HAROLD PRINCE Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Originally Produced on Broadway by Richard Barr, Charles Woodward, Robert Fryer, Mary Lea Johnson, Martin Richards in Association with Dean and Judy Manos

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The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Stage Direction by Keith Martin Musical Direction by Mélisse Brunet Choreography by Ray Miller Vocal Coaching by Gennard Lombardozzi Appalachian Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mélisse Brunet Scenic Design and Painting by Michael Helms Lighting Design by John Marty Costume Design by Sue Williams Makeup Design by Newman Jones Sound Design by Rachel Scherer Sound Engineering by Scott Haynes Fight Choreography by Brad Archer Dialect Coaching by Derek Gagnier Production Management by Matt Tyson

There will be one 15-minute intermission

CAST

Sweeney Todd	Joshua Hobbs
Mrs. Lovett	Sidney Ginn
Anthony Hope	Devon Bucey
	Sophie Weiner
Bird Seller	Virginia Riggsbee
Tobias Ragg	Zoe Dean
Judge Turpin	Richard Moore
The Beadle	Trevor Neal
Beggar Woman	Mackenzie Smith
	Roy Dale Cox
Jonas Fogg	Parker Stone
	Lily Jordan, Jonathan Long, Jordan Matthews,
	Sabrina Palazzo, Parker Stone

ENSEMBLE

Tyler Baucom Connor Chaney Hannah Daniels Dalton Forster Sabrina Furches Molly Gillespie Ryan Haynes Lily Jordan Phillip Lavey Jonathan Long Elizabeth Mason Moore Jordan Matthews Treasa McDonald Haley Nguyen Sabrina Palazzo Virginia Riggsbee Joy Siler Quincy Stanford Parker Stone Jackson Wellborn

SweeneyTodd:The Demon Barber of Fleet Street is rated PG-13 due to mature content, which includes scenes of physical and sexual violence, along with theatrical fog, and a gunshot effect.

If these scenes trigger circumstances in your personal life, please contact the Counseling Center at 828.262.3180, the Office of the Dean of Students at 828.262.8284, or the 24-hour OASIS hotline at 828.262.5035.





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PRODUCTION STAFF AND CREW

ProducersJames Douthit, Kevin Warner
Technical DirectorMatt Tyson
Costume Shop SupervisorJennifer Ackland
Schaefer Center Technical DirectorScott Haynes
Schaefer Center Assistant Technical DirectorConor McKenzie
Stage ManagerChristina Donovan
Assistant Stage ManagersSage Espinosa, Alex Konscol,
Carson Rainey
Assistant Stage DirectorHolli Benfield
Assistant ChoreographerSabrina Furches
Assistant Lighting DesignerTim Travis
Assistant Costume DesignerNewman Jones
Assistant Technical DirectorJohn Bell
Dramaturgy CoordinatorDerek Davidson
Dramaturgy TeamBolli Benfield, Jamie Brigman,
Kaitlyn Lyon, Mackenzie Smith
Chorus PreparationAaron Ames, Emma Lassiter
Musical PreparationAaron Ames, Eric Luke, Mélisse Brunet
Fly CaptainConor McKenzie
Dance Captain
Fight Captain
Light Board OperatorMelanie MacDonald
Properties MastersMorgan Patterson, Roxanne Waddell
Paint ChargeAlexis Ovenden
Master ElectricianLizzy Vazquez
Assistant Master ElectricianEthan Martin
StagehandsHayley Beickert, Jacob Buckner, L.J. Faircloth
Fenna Hanes, Kenny Petroski, Felicity Rice,
Connor Stack, Elizabeth Sutton, Sierra Taylor
Wardrobe CrewZach Durham, Grace King, Doe Lee
Valborg CrewJohn Bell, Bailey Bossow, Jacob Buckner, Caleb Dalby,
Christina Donovan, Gabby Drum, Allison Hopkins,
Abby Johnston, Ethan Martin, Max Probst, Tim Travis,
Lizzy Vazquez, Roxanne Waddell; Eve Sigmon, WHS Intern
Costume Shop EmployeesSarah Bischoff, Casey Huntley,
Newman Jones, Kelsey Ledger, Heather Locklear,
Sabrina Palazzo, Logan Riley, Lakin Wingfield
Additional Costume WorkAlice Neff, Brad Parquette,
Denise Schumaker
Hair and Wig Consultant and StylistGordon Hensley

Poster Design	Brad Parquette	
Production Photographer	Lynn Willis	
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Office of Arts & Cultural Programs Marketing DirectorAnna Gaugert		
College of Fine & Applied Arts Comm. DirectorMeg	han McCandless	

APPALACHIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

FLUTE

Devin Glasgow (also recorder and piccolo) Caroline Sullivan (also piccolo)

OBOE

Catherine Sander (also English horn)

CLARINET Michelle Jaluvka (also E-flat clarinet) Clair Williams (also bass clarinet)

BASSOON Olivia Tippett

HORN Angelica Sandry

TRUMPET Tim Hamilton, principal Arias Fischer

TROMBONE Zach McRary, principal Nathan Hanner Zack Litty (bass trombone)

PERCUSSION Andrew Henry, principal Sam Lyall

VIOLIN I/II

Faith Barry, concertmaster Rafailia Kapsokavadi, principal second Andrea Barklage Maya Brown-Hughston Hunter Holbert Lindsey King Andrew O'Keefe

VIOLA

Shoma Mowa, co-principal Sarah Bartholomew, co-principal Danielle Cuntapay Scott Faircloth

CELLO Ethan Triplett, principal

Nick Allion Caitlin Lyday

DOUBLE BASS Mason Beam

ORGAN/HARPSICHORD/CELESTA Andrew Byrd

KEYBOARDS/SOUND EFFECTS Aaron Ames

MUSICAL NUMBERS

THE PLACE: London, Fleet Street and environs

THE TIME: The 19th Century

PROLOGUE

Prelude	Orchestra
The Ballad of Sweeney Todd	Company

ACT I

<i>No Place Like London</i> .Sweeney Todd, Anthony Hope, Beggar Womar
The Worst Pies in LondonSweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett
Poor ThingMrs. Lovett, Sweeney Todd, Judge Turpin, Beadle
Ensemble
My FriendsSweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Ensemble
Green Finch and Linnet Bird
Ah, MissAnthony Hope, Johanna, Bird Seller, Beggar Womar
Iohanna (Part I)Anthony Hope, Johanna, Judge Turpin, Beadle
Iohanna (Part II)Anthony
, Pirelli's Miracle ElixirTobias Ragg, Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Ensemble
Pirelli's EntrancePirelli, Tobias Ragg, Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett
Ensemble
<i>The Contest (Part I)</i> Pirelli, Sweeney Todd, Beadle, Tobias Ragg
Mrs. Lovett, Ensemble
<i>The Contest (Part II)</i> Pirelli, Sweeney Todd, Beadle, Tobias Ragg
Mrs. Lovett, Ensemble
Ballad of Sweeney ToddCompany
JohannaJudge Turpin, Johanna
<i>Wait</i> Mrs. Lovett, Sweeney Todd, Beggar Woman
Anthony Hope, Pirelli, Tobias Rago
Pirelli's DeathPirelli, Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Tobias Rago
The Ballad of Sweeney ToddThe Three Tenors, Judge Turpin, Beadle
Kiss Me (Part I)Anthony Hope, Johanna
Ladies in Their SensitivitiesBeadle, Judge Turpir
Kiss Me (Part II)Anthony Hope, Johanna, Judge Turpin, Beadle
Pretty Women (Part I)Sweeney Todd, Judge Turpir
Pretty Women (Part II)Sweeney Todd, Judge Turpin, Anthony Hope
Mrs. Lovet
<i>Epiphany</i> Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovet
A Little PriestSweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovet

ACT II

God That's Good	Tobias Ragg, Mrs. Lovett, Sweeney Todd, Beggar Woman, Ensemble
lob ann a (A st ll Coausna)	
Johanna (Act il Sequence)	Sweeney Todd, Anthony Hope, Mrs. Lovett,
	Johanna, Victims
	Anthony Hope, Johanna, Beadle, Policemen
	Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett
By the Sea (Part I)	Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett
By The Sea (Part II)	Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Anthony Hope
Wigmaker SequenceSwee	ney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Anthony Hope, Quintet
The Letter	Quintet, Sweeney Todd
	Sweeney Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Tobias Ragg
	Mrs. Lovett, Tobias Ragg
	Mrs. Lovett, Beadle, Tobias Ragg
-	rs. Lovett, Beadle, Tobias Ragg, Sweeney Todd
	rs. Lovett, Beadle, Tobias Ragg, Sweeney Todd
	Lunatics
	Jonas Fogg, Anthony Hope, Johanna, Lunatics
	Anthony Hope, Johanna, Ensemble
	y Todd, Mrs. Lovett, Beggar Woman, Ensemble
Searching (Part II)	Anthony Hope, Johanna, Beggar Woman,
	Sweeney Todd
The Judge's Return	Sweeney Todd, Beggar Woman, Judge Turpin,
	Johanna, Ensemble
Final Scene (Part I)	SweeneyTodd, Mrs. Lovett, Judge Turpin,
	Beggar Woman
Final Scene (Part II)	Sweeney Todd, Tobias Ragg, Beggar Woman,
Judge	e Turpin, Anthony Hope, Johanna, Policemen

EPILOGUE

The Ballad of Sweeney Todd.....Company





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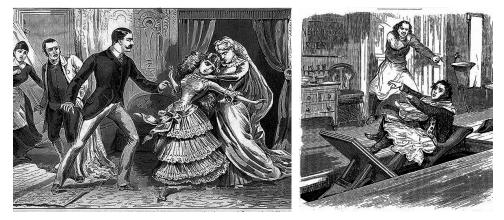


Production Notes: The Dramaturgical World of SWEENEY TODD

Dramaturgy is one of the more obscure roles in the world of theatre, but also one of the most important. The dramaturg's duties change and flow with the process of a production. Researching unfamiliar words, discovering information about specific locations, and making sure the production is historically accurate are a few of a dramaturg's duties. One of the main goals of dramaturgy is to know as much as we can about the world of the play so that when director, designers, and actors need information, the dramaturg can supply it (or direct them to where they can find what they need).

The dramaturgical team for *Sweeney Todd* — Holli Benfield, Jamie Brigman, Kaitlyn Lyon and Mackenzie Smith (under the coordination of Dr. Derek Davidson) — took its role seriously, researching the world of the play, its structural origins in melodrama, and its relevance for contemporary audiences. In those notes, the team has summarized some material they think the audience may like to know in order to more fully understand and experience the richness, depth, and timeliness of this extraordinary musical.

First, it is important to know the theatrical convention from which the current play arose. Sondheim's musical is actually based on much older melodramas — which were the most popular kind of theatre in the 19th century — wherein the titular character, Sweeney Todd, was an utterly reprehensible criminal who was brought to justice. But melodramas are notable for presenting a black and white world, in which good and evil are clearly delineated and never intermingle. This musical turns the genre of melodrama on its head, asking the audience: who here is completely good, who completely evil? Are not all in varying degrees culpable for the crimes committed? Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* deconstructs the conventional melodrama to marvelous effect.



Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, which Stephen Sondheim describes as "A Musical Thriller," opened at the Uris, now Gershwin, Theater on March 1, 1979. The legend of a malevolent barber who murders his customers, often just-paid sailors returning from long sea voyages, and his helpful neighbor, Mrs. Lovett, who uses their bodies for the filling of her meat pies, originated in the popular penny dreadful serial "A String of Pearls" (1846-47). Scholar Robert L. Mack believes that the reason this story in particular made such a strong impact is that it spoke to the cultural anxieties of the industrial revolution, especially as so many people from farms and rural areas migrated to urban areas—namely London—where often they were swallowed up by, and added to the anonymous, overcrowded masses of wretched poor. Sweeney's story has only grown in popularity over the years, sustaining novelistic treatments, numerous stage adaptations, and at least two films.



The two illustrations above, the 'British Beehive' by Robert Cruikshank, and an etching of 1870s London, by Gustave Doré, reflect both the hazardous hierarchical nature of British society (and its rigid class system) and the abject and hopeless living conditions of the city's poorest citizens. British Beehive image courtesy of Victoria and Albert Museum collection.

So...Why this play now?

Often, it is assumed musicals are made purely to entertain. However, *Sweeney Todd* is more than just a tragedy written to titillate the darker parts within us. This show utilizes the plot and characters from *The String of Pearls* to make a biting commentary on social disparity and mobility, abuse of power, and the futility of revenge. One has only to look cursorily at today's news to see how this play, although set in 1847, continues to be relevant. For example, the "Honorable" Judge Turpin the antagonist of our story—reminds us of innumerable stories released in recent months about men in positions of power, lying, cheating, abusing women, and sometimes worse.

But perhaps more pointed—and more gruesome—is the barbarous act of murdering people and baking them into pies, a thing so dreadful as to bear (at first blush) little resemblance to the more civilized behavior of contemporary society. But here too, the play cleverly critiques class structure upside-down. Sweeney and Mrs. Lovett sing: "How gratifying for once to know that those above will serve those down below!" Today the inequality between "those above" (the 1%) and "those down below" (the other 99%) is huge, and the way we as a society claw our way up the economic ladder, feeding on each other as we go, certainly resembles a kind of cannibalism. The rich continue to get richer, while the poor remain poor, with little hope of social mobility. Are the ruthless actions of those in power today, the 1% who often disregard the most abject among us, and whose rapaciousness, murderous self-interest, and insensitivity to others' suffering have led to a wealth disparity dwarfing that of the 19th century—are their actions really less barbaric?

*The dramaturgs encourage you to spend a few moments looking at the lobby display, where you will find images and other material that may further enhance your experience of the play!



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