



Proudly Presents

THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Written and Composed by
JASON ROBERT BROWN

Originally Produced for the New York Stage by Arielle Tepper and Marry Bell
Originally Produced by Northlight Theatre | Chicago, Illinois

Scenic Design by
Nicholas James Schwartz

Lighting Design by
Erik S. Barry

Costume Design by
Alicia Biewer

Props Design by
Brian James Polak

Stage Manager
Joel E. Garcia

Technical Director
Josh Prisching

Music Direction by
Annabelle Revak

Directed by
Rachel Elise Johnson & Isaac Loomer

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Special thanks to the Morton Broadway Club and The Saints for their support

CAST

Catherine Hiatt.....Natalie Rae
Jamie Wellerstein.....Curtis Bannister

BAND

Piano	Annabelle Revak
Cello	Taylor Anapol
Violin	Hillary Bayley

MUSICAL NUMBERS

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)
A Miracle Would Happen.....	(Jamie)
Climbing Uphill	(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 PROFILES



Curtis Bannister

(Jamie Wellerstein)

Described by TimeOut Chicago Magazine as “radiating with slowly simmering energy”, tenor Curtis Bannister has been praised for his

“dramatic inflection and compelling energy” by The Washington Post and his “thrilling tenor voice and a towering stage presence” by The Herald Journal. In addition to his debut with Jedlicka PAC as Jamie in *The Last Five Years*, the 2018/19 Season includes his debut with the LA Philharmonic in Meredith Monk’s *Atlas*, a return to his alma mater- Peabody Conservatory of Music-as the Celebrant in Bernstein’s *Mass*, and engagements in Chicago yet to be announced. Past season highlights: Thomas/AMAZING GRACE (Broadway in Chicago), John/MISS SAIGON, Monty/SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER, Sweeney Todd u/s/SWEENEY TODD (Merry Go Round

Playhouse), Enjolras/LES MISERABLES (Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre), Jim Conley & Newt Lee/PARADE (Writers Theatre), Jean/MARIE CHRISTINE (BoHo Theatre), and Coalhouse Walker Jr./RAGTIME (Maryland Arts Festival). For more information, visit www.thecurtisbannister.com.



Natalie Rae *(Catherine*

Hiatt) is beyond excited to be returning to the Jedlicka stage in one of her dream roles! Natalie has a BA in Musical theatre from the University of Wisconsin

Green Bay. She was most recently seen in *The Odd Couple*, the female version (U/S Florence/Vera/Sylvie) at Oil Lamp Theatre, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Florika)at The Jedlicka, *The Butler Did It* (Charity Haze) at The Jedlicka, and *Cabaret* (Fraulein Kost) at Oakton. She would like to thank her friends, family, and Robert for their love and support.

CREATIVE STAFF PROFILES

Rachel Elise Johnson (*Co-Director*) is a veteran at The Jedlicka, having recently performed in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Diva), but she is excited to co-direct a show here for the first time. Her most recent directing credits include: *Carrie 2: The Rage* (Underscore Theatre) and *My Name is Annie King* (Underscore Theatre). She currently serves as Underscore's Company Manager, as well as the Festival Manager for The Chicago Musical Theatre Festival. Rachel has been performing and directing in the Chicago theatre community since moving here from California. To Isaac: I love you and the magic we create together. I couldn't imagine doing it with anyone else.

Isaac Loomer (*Co-Director*) is excited to be co-directing his first show with The Jedlicka. Originally from MN, he keeps active in any part of theatre he can. He currently serves as the Producing Artistic Director for Underscore Theatre. Favorite directing credits include *Carrie 2: The Rage* (Underscore Theatre); *Notes & Letters* (Underscore Theatre); *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (ETC Theatre). Much love to all his friends and family for their support. "To Rachel and Annabelle for tackling this piece with me. To Ben and our Pups for being so understanding about the times I'm away pursuing art! Finally, to Dionysus for making sure amazing musicals keep getting performed!"

Annabelle Revak (*Music Director/Pianist*) is a composer, music director, and pianist. Originally from northern Wisconsin, she is studying music composition and musical theatre at Columbia College Chicago. Her first full-length musical, *Notes and Letters*, was produced at the 2018 Chicago Musical Theatre Festival. Recent music directing credits include *Murderous Innocent*; *Notes and Letters* (CMTF 2018), *Lysistrata Jones* (Refuge Theatre Project), *Abduction! The Musical* (Locked Door Productions), and [title of show]; *Make Me Bad* (Columbia College Chicago).

Taylor Anapol (*Cellist*) is an actor-musician from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a BFA Musical Theatre Performance major at Columbia College Chicago. Actor-muso credits include *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Columbia College Chicago), *Twelfth Night* (Fury Theatre), and *24WORDS: An Equal Rights Musical* (LingoStudio). She recently played for *Murderous Innocent* in the Chicago Musical Theatre Festival (Underscore Theatre Company), *Make Me Bad* (Columbia College Chicago), and *Burnham's Dream: The White City* (Lost And Found Productions).

Hillary Bayley (*Violinist*) is a Chicago-based violinist with experiences ranging from the orchestral stage to the theater pit. She performs with the Chicago Arts Orchestra, Quad City Symphony Orchestra, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, and other ensembles throughout the Midwest. She has served as concertmaster and principal second violin for Windy City Opera and Floating Opera Company, respectively. Last season, Hillary performed in the pit for the Jeff Award-winning musical premiere of *The Civility of Albert Cashier* (Permoveo Productions i/a/w Pride Films and Plays). Hillary is thrilled to make her Jedlicka debut with this beautiful production!

Nicholas James Schwartz (*Scenic Designer*) is ecstatic about being a part of telling this story! Previous and upcoming works include: *NAKED* (TrapDoor Theatre) *JUNETEENTH STREET* (ETA Creative arts), *DEFACING MICHAEL JACKSON* (Flying Elephants Productions), *ROUNDED HEADS AND PEAKED HEADS* (Red Tape Theatre), *GREEN BOOK* (Pegasus Theatre Company), *MEMPHIS*, *YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN* (Parkland College), *REVOLT* (Vision Latino Theatre), *SHAKESPEARE IN HOLLYWOOD*, *SILENT SKY*, *BOOK OF LIZ*, *CHRISTMAS CAROL* (Theatre of Western Springs). Enjoy!

Erik S. Barry (*Lighting Designer*) is a freelance Lighting Designer based in Chicago. Erik's designs have been seen

at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (DC), The Harris Theatre, Carnegie Hall (NYC), and the Detroit Music Hall. He is the Resident Lighting Designer for Underscore Theatre Company and The Chicago Gay Men's Chorus. His work has received multiple Joseph Jefferson Award Nominations. He received his Masters of Fine Arts degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. www.eriksbarry.com

Alicia Biewer (*Costumer*) is thrilled to be doing another show with the The Jedlicka! She most recently costumed for *The Butler Did It*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Priscilla – Queen of the Desert* (JPAC). She studied fashion at the International Academy of Design in Chicago and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design. Alicia worked with a Chicago-based clothing line, designing and selling at the Las Vegas MAGIC Trade Show and does a wide variety of design and sewing with her small company; but her true love is costuming. Some of Alicia's work has been featured on Etsy.com, Cosplay Add Events, and Baby Einstein. She created Harry Potter costumes for a London Children's hospital staff to brighten the day of the patients. She also has worked as a costume designer/actor for the Oakbrook Terrace and Butterfield Park Districts for several years, creating one of a kind events and costumes. Alicia has quite the interesting day job as a Wildlife Rehabilitator, taking care of sick, injured, and orphaned native wildlife and somehow finds a way to include her love of sewing into this role, by creating specialized needs for the animals and costumes for their wildlife Education Programs. Love and kisses go out to her friends and family for the constant support xoxo!

Josh Prisching (*Technical Director*) having worked for Underscore Theatre Company, Greenhouse Theater Center, Open Door Theatre, and many other Chicagoland theatre companies, Josh brings his expertise to the Jedlicka stage for the first time.

Joel E. Garcia (*Stage Manager*) After stepping in on short notice to help with his first show, *The Game's Afoot*, Joel instantly fell in love with the backstage aspect of theatre and hasn't looked back since. Going from running crew, to sound op, to A.S.M. and eventually stage manager, Joel is extremely grateful for the opportunities he has been given to learn and grow within the theatre. "A very special thank you to Michael Nedza and Samantha Nieves for teaching me so much in such a short amount of time and to our new Artistic Director, Brian Polak, thank you for letting me continue to live my dream of working in a theatre!"

Samantha Nieves (*Production Manager/ Assistant Theatre Manager*) has been an active member of the Jedlicka Performing Arts Center since 2013. She began as a student aid and worked her way up to full-time employment. That's right – salary pay and benefits. Whoop, whoop! Throughout her time at The Jedlicka, she has performed, assistant directed, and stage managed, in a number of productions. Look out for her directorial debut in The Jedlicka's first, all-student production of Caridad Svich's, RED BIKE, opening October 2018.

Brian James Polak (*Artistic Director/ Theatre Manager*) is an award-winning playwright, community-focused theatre maker, and educator. He has worked as a playwright, actor, and producer in Boston and Los Angeles before recently relocating to Chicago. When not collaborating with the amazing team at the Jedlicka and Morton College, he hosts a playwright-centered podcast for American Theatre Magazine called The Subtext. Contact: Brian.Polak@morton.edu