Welcome! We chose The Cradle Will Rock for our 2017-18 Season because we knew that we had a graduating class that was very politically active and would enjoy the challenging themes embedded in the work. We had no idea how relevant this show, with its themes of unionism and labour strikes, would become this year. The piece is a plea for industrial unionism and takes place in fictional Steeltown, USA. It questions the role of the middle class, who prostituted themselves by getting caught between the bosses at the top and the workers coming up. The piece appeared at a time when President Roosevelt was viewed, by many, as a fascist, when the leaders of the labor movement worked for the industry bosses instead of the employees.

It is an extremely challenging show musically. Marc Blitzstein was an important composer of the modern era who studied in Berlin with Arnold Schoenberg and favoured atonality. While in Berlin he experienced the Cabarets, the new styles of music emerging out of popular culture as well as the left-wing agitational propaganda (agitprop) theatre movement. Blitzstein brought Getranntnmusik (music for use) and Kleinkunst (musical commentary on events) to America. He wrote one song, Nickel Under My Fist, sung by the character of a prostitute, which he played for Bertold Brecht, who encouraged him to write a full show: “why don’t you write a piece about all types of people?” He brought this idea how relevant this show, with its themes of unionism and labour strikes, would become this year. The piece is a plea for industrial unionism and takes place in fictional Steeltown, USA. It questions the role of the middle class, who prostituted themselves by getting caught between the bosses at the top and the workers coming up. The piece appeared at a time when President Roosevelt was viewed, by many, as a fascist, when the leaders of the labor movement worked for the industry bosses instead of the employees.

We have attempted to pay homage to the original production by embedding the actors within the audience and playing their parts from their seats. We hope that you enjoy the fun of interaction that comes with this playing space. This piece has provided us with exciting challenges in terms of the variety of styles of acting: realism, melodrama, vaudeville, stylized comedy as well as elements of abstract expressionism. Like the fictional setting, the characters are archetypes of the time. It has been a real joy to rediscover this eighty-year-old piece with this cast. The piece resonates deeply in these challenging political times as our hero Larry Foreman cries “This ain’t Russia, no, it's Steetown, USA!”

Dr. Marc Richard

CAST in alphabetical order

Professor Trixie............................................Liam Crober Best
Professor Scoot, Dr. Specialist..................Claire Boudreau
Professor Mamie, Ella Hammer..............Samantha Bourque
Bugs, Gent.................................................Matthew Fearnley-Brown
Junior Mister, Ensemble.........................Aidan Burke
Reporters # 2, Ensemble.........................Caroline Burton
Mr. Mister................................................Jonathan Corkal
President Prexy..........................................Geoffrey Cormier
Editor Daily, Sadie Pollock.....................Brynn Cutcliffe
Ensemble..................................................James Franklin
Ensemble................................................Matthew Gawley
Sister Mister............................................Alex Grattan
Ensemble..................................................Kelsi James
Larry Foreman.........................................Colin Kelly
Reporters # 1, Ensemble.........................Brittni Kenny
Ensemble..................................................Thomas Killip
Ensemble..................................................Emma Burke Kleinman
Cop, Steve.................................................Liam Lynch
Mrs. Mister..............................................Emily Meadows
Harry Druggist..........................................Russell Niessen
Dauber....................................................Adam Smith
Gus Pollock, Dick.................................Braeden Solts
Yasha.....................................................Benjamin Todd
Moll.......................................................Sydney Williams
Rev. Salvation..........................................Garrett Woods

Choreographer: Alex Grattan
Assistant Director: Claire Boudreau
Assistant Music Director: Jonathan Corkal

Director’s Notes

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Dr. Marc Richard

Scene One - Streetcorner
Moll’s Lament – “I’m checkin home now.”..........................Moll
“...but I only got thirty cents.”......................................Moll & Gent
“So that’s the way you work it.” ....................................Moll & Dick

Scene Two - Nightcourt
“Hurry up and telephone to Mr. Mister.” .......................Cap & Liberty Committee
“Gee, but they make a lotta noise.”.................................Moll, Harry Druggist, Dick, Cop, Clerk & Liberty Committee

Scene Three - Mission
“Revendred Salvation, how are you?” ............................Mrs. Mister
Refrain – “Hard times, I can assure you.”..........................Mrs. Mister
Chorale – “Thou shalt not kill.”......................................Revendred Salvation
“Revendred Salvation, I’m worried.”............................Mrs. Mister
Refrain – “So we must set the town right.”.........................Mrs. Mister
Chorale Variation – “Righteousness conquers, iniquity perishes.” Revendred Salvation
Refrain – “War! War! Kill all the dirty huns.” ....................Revendred Salvation, Mrs. Mister & Ensemble

Scene Four - The Laun of M. Mister’s Home
“Cron-Spoon.” .................................................Junior & Sister Mister
“Freedom of the Press.” ...........................................Mr. Mister & Editor Daily
“Honolulu.” .....................................................Junior, Sister, Mister, Miller & Editor Daily

Scene Five - Drugstore
“Drugstore.” ...................................................Harry Druggist, Steve & Bugs
“Gus and Sadie Love Song.” .....................................Gus & Sadie Polock

Scene Six - Hotellobby
“The Rich.” .....................................................Yasha & Dauber
Rumba – “Ask us again and again.” ............................Yasha, Dauber & Mrs. Mister
“Art For Art’s Sake.” ............................................Yasha & Dauber

Scene Seven - Nightcourt
“Nickel Under the Foot.” ........................................Moll
“Leaflets.” .....................................................Larry Foreman
“The Cradle Will Rock.” .........................................Larry Foreman

Scene Eight - Facultyroom
“I need a speaker - one of your professors.” ...................Mr. Mister & President Prexy
“TheTriple-Frank-Maneuver.” ..................................Professor Mamie
“I don’t like military training.” ..................................Professor Scoot
“Listen, fellas!” ...............................................Professor Trixie

Scene Nine - Dr. Specialist’s Office
“Not going to hurt, is it, Doctor?” ..................................Mr. Mister & Dr. Specialist
“Doctor and Ella.” ............................................Ella Hammer, Dr. Specialist, Mr. Mister, Reporters
Joe Worker.” ..................................................Ella Hammer

Scene Ten - Nightcourt
Reprise – “Nickel Under the Foot.” ..............................Moll
Reprise – “The Cradle Will Rock.” .............................Larry Foreman & Full Company
TECHNICAL CREW

Stage Manager…………………Hailey Helm
Assistant Stage Manager………Nicole Fontes
Audio Crew……………………Jasper Jacobs
Carpentry Crew…………………Jacob Curtin, Mark Greenwood, Tyler Hawes, David Heeney, Brittany Martin, Gabriel Mazza, Connor Mckey, Kim Moreira, Spencer Pestell, Abigail Pritchard, Lilyan Stoddard
Head Lighting Technician………Michelle Campbell
Lighting Crew…………………Sydney Catulle, Brett Kasza, Steven Lafond, Wellesley Lee, Emma Mizolek, Fraser Normand, Cameron Trasuk, Jennifer Wilson
Properties Crew………………...Emma Banman, Emily Belliveau, Maeve Byrnes, Anna Cragg, Isabel Heim, Shara-Lee Miller, Nicola March, Gil Ruston, Stephanie Sintichakis, Benjamin Tuck, Monyek Zahab
Scenic Paint Crew……………..Nathan Brown, Tomas Hineler, Meaghan Hofer, Tillie Morgan, Kassidy Noble, Amy Owen, Kristin Ruggeberg, Alexandra Spicer, Celina Westlake
Wardrobe Crew…………………Federic Amdur, David Brown, Melanie Coomber, J. Fletcher Evans, Clara Herbert, Daniel Jakobs, Jacob Johnston, Kiren Mcneice, Mikayla Stranges
Technical Assistants……………Lucas Andrews, Nesta Cooper, Kristin Trevors, Jillian Wilson
Production Assistants..........Leelind Keary, Andre Pezzin

Running Crew

Lighting Board Operator……….Emma Mizolek
Sound & Follow Spot Operator…Jasper Jacobs
The Troll Under the Booth………Tillie Morgan
Wardrobe Dresser………………Mikayla Stranges

Marc Blitzstein
The Cradle Will Rock
A Play in Music

Director: Marc Richard
Music Director: Chris Barillaro
Set Designer: Denise Lisson
Costume Designer: Barbara Rowe
Lighting Designer: Magi Oman

Used by arrangement with European American Music Corporation, agent for Christopher Davis and agent for The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, Inc.

February 15 - 25, 2018