THE LAST 5 YEARS

By Jason Robert Brown

Wednesday, April 1, 7:30pm
Thursday, April 2, 6:00pm

The Globe Studio
Doudna Fine Arts Center, Room 1080

Supported by EIU Theatre Arts Department and others
The Last Five Years

Written and Composed by Jason Robert Brown
Originally Produced for the New York Stage by
Arielle Tepper and Marty Bell
Originally Produced by Northlight Theatre
Chicago, IL

THE LAST FIVE YEARS
Is presented through special arrangement with
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A Note from the Director

The journey of this production of The Last Five Years began last summer when Grace Muñoz and I fell in love with the music of the show. Not a day went by all summer without the two of us playing the music in the car and singing along as loudly and obnoxiously as possible. We often threw around the idea of actually doing the show but were unsure that two undergraduate students at a university with such a small theatre department could accomplish it.

Then, when the fall semester began, I decided I wanted to find a way to really do a show on my own. After talking with J. Kevin Doolen and Nick Shaw, Grace and I began to raise and work for the money to purchase the rights for LSY. Not long after, we had acquired enough through hard work and a few generous donations, and we soon placed our order to purchase the rights and materials for the show, with a bit of help from Damita Lewis, of course.

This show has been a long and complex journey, one that has demanded quite a few late nights and a lot of hard work. We hope to inspire future students to create their own productions. In order to do so, we will be starting a small fund within our organization, Alpha Psi Omega – the honors theatre fraternity – that will only be used for further student-run productions. Everything has to start somewhere. For us, this is where it all begins.
Imani McDaniel

This is Imani’s debut as a director. She is a junior theatre major with an English minor from Paris, Illinois. She was last seen on stage as Miss Casewell in The Mousetrap and is currently assisting in the build of puppets for Good Person of Setzuan. Most of her work at EIU thus far has been behind the scenes as a technician but she has decided to break out of that and try something entirely different for L5Y. She only began directing this semester and hopes that this show goes well. She has come to love directing and has found a new passion within it. Imani is a proud member of the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority and Vice President of the Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors fraternity. She would like to thank Grace Muñoz for helping her achieve so much in theatre, her grandparents, Mary Herrington-Perry and Keith Perry for all their love and support, and her Grandma Sammy for being her ultimate inspiration in theatre and in life.

Christopher Sanderson

Is a freshman here at Eastern. He is from Park Forest, Illinois and this is his 4th production here at EIU. He Assistant Stage Managed for Lonely Planet and you might have seen him in Carnival as a Roustabout/Strong Man and as Christopher Wren in The Mousetrap. He would like to thank his family and friends for being so supportive in his life. He would also like to thank Grace and Imani for including him to work on this production.
Grace Munoz

A senior Theatre Arts major and Business minor is in her final semester here at EIU. She was last seen onstage in Carnival (Rosalie) and has worked as the Props Master for the last several shows here at EIU. She is in the Departmental Honors program, and the President of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors fraternity. She is also a proud member of Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority. She would like to thank her grandparents, parents, and sister for being her constant support and inspiration to continue to do what she loves; Michael Compton for being her constant support and for encouraging her to move forward with this project. She would also like to thank Imani for being the best partner, collaborator, director and friend she could ever ask for and Frank and Chris for being their crazy selves.

Frank Monier

A freshman at EIU this year, he is both a Theatre Arts and Business Management major. Frank received an Excellence in Fine Arts Scholarship and also a Talented Student Award. You may have recently seen Frank in Carnival (Marco the Magnificent) or even backstage in The Mousetrap (ASM). He will also be performing in EIU's production of Good Person of Setzuan (Wang/Waiter) and will also be performing in The Cat in the Hat (Boy) at the Shawnee Summer Theatre in Bloomfield, IN. He would like to thank all of his professors and his family, especially his parents, for pushing him to become the man he is today!

Acknowledgements

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Damita Lewis
Alpha Psi Omega
Dr. J. Corey Francis
The entire Orchestra
Ernesto Lopez
Dr. Jonathan Bowman
Paul Johnston
The Theatre Faculty and Staff for being so supportive
Time

The timelines for each of these characters is opposite. Cathy begins at the end of the relationship, whereas Jamie starts at the beginning.

Scenes

"Still Hurting" - Cathy. Their apartment.
"Shiksa Goddess" – Jamie. His apartment.
"See I'm Smiling" – Cathy. A dock in Ohio.
"Moving Too Fast" – Jamie. His apartment.
"I'm A Part of That" – Cathy. Jamie’s book reading.
"The Schmuel Song" – Jamie. Their apartment.
"A Summer in Ohio" – Cathy. Her flat in Ohio.
"Climbing Uphill/Audition Sequence" – Cathy. An Audition.
"If I Didn't Believe in You" – Jamie. Their apartment.
"I Can Do Better Than That" – Cathy. Her apartment.
"Nobody Needs to Know" – Jamie. Their apartment.
"Goodbye Until Tomorrow/I Could Never Rescue You" – Cathy/Jamie. Her apartment/ Their apartment.