



**THE 18/19 SEASON**  
THE HEIGHTS OF IMAGINATION

John J. Cali School of Music  
Department of Theatre and Dance

# *Baby*



**February 7–10, 2019**

Leshowitz Recital Hall

**Large  
Print**



**MONTCLAIR STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Susan A. Cole, President  
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts  
Jedediah Wheeler, Executive Director, Arts + Cultural Programming

John J. Cali School of Music      Department of Theatre and Dance  
Jon Robert Cart, Director      Randy Mugleston, Chair

# ***Baby***

Book by **Sybille Pearson**

Music by **David Shire**

Lyrics by **Richard Maltby, Jr.**

Director **John Housley**

Music Director **F. Wade Russo**

Music Supervisor **Gregory J. Dlugos**

Production Stage Manager **Lauren Winston**

Assistant Stage Manager **Allison McLain**

## **Cast** (in order of appearance)

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Lizzie Fields .....    | <b>Amaya White</b>      |
| Danny Hooper .....     | <b>Daniel Grest</b>     |
| Pam Sakarian .....     | <b>Gianna Grosso</b>    |
| Nick Sakarian .....    | <b>Thomas Short</b>     |
| Arlene MacNally .....  | <b>Mo DeGreen</b>       |
| Alan MacNally .....    | <b>Tyler Fernandez</b>  |
| Doctor/Professor ..... | <b>Ethan Lynch</b>      |
| Nurse/Professor .....  | <b>Sarah Jane Libby</b> |

Ensemble **Kristen Brock, Ben Daniel, Lexie DeBlasio, Wesley Geil,  
Sarah Jane Libby, Ethan Lynch, Zac Molegraaf, Jenna San Antonio**

Understudies **Jenna San Antonio** (Lizzie), **Zac Molegraaf** (Danny),  
**Lexie DeBlasio** (Pam), **Ben Daniel** (Nick), **Sarah Jane Libby** (Arlene),  
**Ethan Lynch** (Alan)

Swings **Kristen Brock, Wesley Geil**

*Baby* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

Duration: 90 minutes, no intermission.

In consideration of both audiences and performers, please turn off all electronic devices. The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted. No food or drink is permitted in the theater.

## Musical Numbers

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|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| "We Start Today" .....                | <b>Danny, Lizzie, Alan, Arlene, Nick, Pam, Ensemble</b> |
| "What Could Be Better" .....          | <b>Danny, Lizzie</b>                                    |
| "The Plaza Song" .....                | <b>Alan, Arlene</b>                                     |
| "Baby, Baby, Baby" .....              | <b>Nick, Pam, Danny, Lizzie, Alan, Arlene</b>           |
| "Transition" .....                    | <b>Ensemble</b>   |
| "I Want It All" .....                 | <b>Lizzie, Arlene, Pam</b>                              |
| "At Night She Comes Home to Me" ..... | <b>Nick, Danny</b>                                      |
| "Fatherhood Blues" .....              | <b>Danny, Alan, Nick, Male Ensemble</b>                 |
| "Easier to Love" .....                | <b>Alan</b>   |
| "Romance Part I" .....                | <b>Pam, Nick</b>  |
| "I Chose Right" .....                 | <b>Danny</b>  |
| "The Story Goes On" .....             | <b>Lizzie</b>   |
| "Romance Part II" .....               | <b>Pam, Nick</b>  |
| "The Ladies Singing Their Song" ..... | <b>Lizzie, Female Ensemble</b>                          |
| "Patterns" .....                      | <b>Arlene</b>   |
| "The End of Summer" .....             | <b>Lizzie, Arlene, Pam</b>                              |
| "Transition" .....                    | <b>Ensemble</b>   |

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| “Two People in Love” .....                  | Danny, Lizzie, Ensemble |
| “With You” .....                            | Nick, Pam               |
| “And What if We Had Loved Like That?” ..... | Alan, Arlene            |
| “Birth Sequence” .....                      | Company                 |

**Place and Time:** On a College Campus in Present Time

## Director’s Note

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For our concert performance of *Baby*, we are respectfully using abridged portions of Sybille Pearson’s wonderful book in order to give contexts for the songs and preserve the beautifully human intentions of the authors.

## Production Biographies

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**John Housley** Housley (Director) directed *Songs for a New World* and *Company* at MSU. A graduate of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, he has been the acting teacher at Paper Mill Playhouse’s Musical Theater Conservatory since 2001, where he has written and directed their New Voices concerts. He is the writer of the acclaimed comedy *Dadetown*, and his film *Jack 1/24/71* was a finalist at the Sundance Institute.

**F. Wade Russo** (Music Director) is based in Boston and most recently conducted *Oliver* at the Goodspeed Opera House. Other credits include Broadway: associate conductor *By Jeeves*; National Tour: *The Boy Friend*, directed by Julie Andrews; Regional Theater: Huntington Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Barrington Stage, Lyric Stage Company and New Repertory Theatre of Boston, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Gateway Playhouse, and Weston Playhouse. He received the St. Louis Critics Award as Outstanding Musical Director/Conductor for *Sunday in the Park with George* in 2013. Russo has taught at Circle in the Square Theatre School, the Juilliard School, Point Park University, and the Boston Conservatory.

**Gregory J. Dlugos** (Music Supervisor) is currently music supervisor of the Musical Theatre program at MSU. Most recent credits include *A White House Cantata*, *Anything Goes*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Last summer he participated in the world premiere of John Luther Adams's *In the Name of the Earth* at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. He was music director and conductor for the world premiere of *Pamela's First Musical* by Cy Coleman and Wendy Wasserstein, also last summer, at the Two River Theater in Red Bank, NJ. At MSU, in addition to supervisory duties, Dlugos conducts MSU Encore for the Musical Theatre program in the Department of Theatre and Dance and also teaches in the John J. Cali School of Music.

**Lauren Winston** (Production Stage Manager) is a junior BFA Theatre Production/Design student concentrating in stage management. This is her first show as a production stage manager. Winston has worked as an assistant stage manager at MSU on *Company*, *Civics and Humanities for Non-Majors*, and *Wedding Band*. She has also been a wardrobe head for *Anything Goes* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

## Cast Biographies

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**Kristen Brock** (Ensemble/Swing) is a current freshman, majoring in the BFA Musical Theatre program. She is originally from Orlando, FL, where she has worked at many professional and regional theater companies. Some of her favorite roles include Reno Sweeney (*Anything Goes*), Millie (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*), Jovie (*Elf*), and Witch (*Into the Woods*), for which she was a nominee at the Jimmy Awards.

**Ben Daniel** (Ensemble/Nick Understudy) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major at MSU appearing in his third MSU production. Daniel has been doing shows since the age of 12. He won the National Youth Art award for playing Carl Hanratty (*Catch Me if You Can*).

**Mo DeGreen** (Arlene MacNally) is in her junior year at MSU. Recently she was lucky enough to be in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* as a swing and last year in *A White House Cantata* as Julia Grant. DeGreen has also played Maria in *Twelfth Night* and will appear as Sasha in *Orlando* later in the semester. She hails from Cincinnati, OH.

**Lexie DeBlasio** (Ensemble/Pam Understudy) is appearing in her first production at MSU. Her favorite roles include Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*, Ellen in *Miss Saigon*, and Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*.

**Tyler Fernandez** (Alan MacNally) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major, and this is his fifth and final production at MSU, as he will be graduating this spring. He was seen last fall as Harold in *The Full Monty*. He studies voice under the direction of Michael Rider. [tyler-fernandez.com](http://tyler-fernandez.com)

**Wesley Geil** (Ensemble/Swing) is a junior Musical Theatre major. This is his sixth production at MSU. He was previously in the casts of *Into the Sun*, *West Side Story*, *Company*, *Anything Goes*, and *The Full Monty*. He is 22 years old and from Kansas City, MO.

**Daniel Grest** (Danny Hooper) is a junior Musical Theatre major from Melbourne, FL. Prior roles at MSU include ensemble in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Presidents Buchanan and Jefferson in *A White House Cantata*, DJ in *Goblins & Gates*, and Tiger in *West Side Story*. Other favorite roles include *Pippin*, Jack in *Into the Woods*, and Salt/Ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast*.

**Gianna Grosso** (Pam Sakarian) is a sophomore in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her most recent credits include Georgie Bukatinsky in MSU's production of *The Full Monty*, Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Anita in *West Side Story*, Fantine in *Les Misérables*, and Eva Perón in *Evita*. She also appeared in MSU's production of *A White House Cantata*.

**Sarah Jane Libby** (Nurse/Professor/Ensemble/Arlene Understudy) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major. She was last seen at MSU as Erma in *Anything Goes*. Some favorite roles include Ariel (*The Little Mermaid*), Elle Woods (*Legally Blonde*), and Maggie (*A Chorus Line*).

**Ethan Lynch** (Doctor/Professor/Ensemble/Alan Understudy) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major. Favorite MSU roles include Lord Evelyn Oakleigh in *Anything Goes* and Lord Caversham in *An Ideal Husband*. He plays a lot of English lords. He also performs outside of MSU; recent roles include Leaf Coneybear in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and Frederic Charlus in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. [ethanjameslynch.com](http://ethanjameslynch.com)

**Zac Molegraaf** (Ensemble/Danny Understudy) is making his debut at MSU in *Baby*. He was most recently seen in *All Shook Up* (Dean Hyde) at Theatre Under the Stars in Houston, TX. Other favorite credits include *Big Fish* (Edward Bloom), *American Idiot* (Joshua), *Curtains* (Lieutenant Frank Cioffi), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneybear). @Zacmolegraaf

**Jenna San Antonio** (Ensemble/Lizzie Understudy) is making her MSU debut. Her current credits include Eponine in *Les Misérables* and Hope in *Urinetown*.

**Thomas Short** (Nick Sakarian) is a junior Musical Theatre major at MSU. He was recently in *The Full Monty* as Malcolm and *Civics and Humanities for Non-Majors* as Nick. His other past performances at MSU are Man #2 in *Songs for a New World*, James Monroe in *A White House Cantata*, and Harry in *Company*.

**Amaya White** (Lizzie Fields) is performing in her first production at MSU. Past roles include Deloris in *Sister Act*, Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress*, and Nicki in *Sweet Charity*. She received a nomination for a Paper Mill Rising Star award for her performance in *Sister Act*. She can be heard on “It’s a Hard Knock Life” on the *Annie* soundtrack (2014).

## Staff

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### Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

Executive Director **Jedediah Wheeler**

Executive Producer **Jill Dombrowski**

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Production Associate **Cyndi Kumor**

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Assistant Technical Director **Daniel Graham**

Draftsman/Master Carpenter **Nick Skiba**

Scenic Charge **Olivia Joyce**

Props Supervisor **Alison Merrick**

Costume Supervisor **Debra Otte**



Costume Shop Supervisor **Judith Evans**  
Assistant Costume Shop Supervisor **Jeanette Aultz**  
Drapers **Tilly Adams, Amanda Phillips-Balingit, Katie Pippin**  
Wardrobe Mentor **Pamela Snyder-Gallagher**  
Lighting Supervisor **Cecilia Durbin**  
Production Master Electricians **Elaine Wong, Daniel Huston**  
Sound Supervisor **Scott O'Brien**  
Stage Management Supervisor **Mysti Stay**

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Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation



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To view our complete season and for more information, visit [peakperfs.org](http://peakperfs.org).

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