9-26-1997

Chorus Line

Center for Performing Arts

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The Center for Performing Arts

PRESENT

A Chorus Line

SEPTEMBER 26, 1997

AT GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY PARK, ILLINOIS
THANK YOU

Welcome
On behalf of the Board of Directors for The Center For Performing Arts and Governors State University I take this opportunity to welcome you to the 97-98 season. Most of our management and support staff at the Center are new. We all are committed to providing entertainment that reflects the wide variety of cultural diversity that is the benchmark of the Chicago Southland. To that end, we delight in sharing with you the offerings of this season from the best of Broadway to Chicago’s Second City comedy troupe and top notch family programs. All the 97-98 offerings at The Center For Performing Arts were selected with you in mind. Our efforts are even more enhanced due to the residencies of The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, The Park Forest Singers, The American Dance Center, and The Suburban Youth Symphony. I hope to greet you at many, if not all these performances this season.

We are delighted that you have joined us for the performance today and sincerely hope that you will be back many times this year to celebrate the arts at Governors State University. Our task in providing entertainment for you at The Center For Performing Arts is a joyous one. We look forward, with your support, to continuing to present music, theater, comedy and dance that will bring you joy and bring you back.

A special thanks tonight to WBBM CHANNEL 2 CBS Chicago and DAILY SOUTHTOWN NEWSPAPERS for acting as media sponsors for A CHORUS LINE. The television and extra newspaper exposure provided by these two Chicago media leaders greatly enhanced ticket sales for A CHORUS LINE and our entire 97-98 season. For this support we are grateful.

Sincerely,
Burton E Dikelsky
Executive Director

The Center For Performing Arts would like to acknowledge the generous support of the following sponsors:

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- Kurt Saphir Pianos

JERIKO ENTERTAINMENT
presents
A CHORUS LINE

conceived and originally choreographed and directed by
MICHAIL BENNETT

book by JAMES KIRKWOOD & NICHOLAS DANTE
music by MARVIN HAMLISCH
lyrics by EDWARD KLEBAN

originally co-choreographed by BOB AVIAN

with (in alphabetical order)
MARK BANNON, PAUL BUSCHMAN, PIO JOE CABADA, LILI CALAHAN, E. CLAYTON CORNELIUS, DEBORAH CROCKER, PATTIE FORD, KIRSTEN E. GERDING, SETH HAMPTON, RA-SEAN HOLLOWAY, ERIN HUNTER, MATTHEW T. JOHNSON, CHRIS LOCKAMY, MATT LOEHR, MARK MACKAY LUSH, ERIN MALLOY, LORI MELISSA MARSHBURN, ELIZABETH POLITO, KEVIN RAY, SPENCER ROWE, MICHELLE SCARPA, ERIC SCIOTTO, ROBERT TUNSTALL, PETRA VAN NUIS, MARILYN VILLAMAR & JENNIFER WATKINS

scenery designed by ROBIN WAGNER
lights designed by THEONI V. ALDREDGE

lighting by RICHARD WINKLER
sound by BRUCE YAUGER & COWBOY MAYERS

production stage manager RON GUARNIERI
musical director JEFF BUCHSBAUM

casting by HEATHER J. BENNETT
assistant to Ms. Lee MICHAEL GORMAN

general management NIKO ASSOCIATES, INC
associate producer JEFFREY CHRZCZON

LONNIE EJ COOPER

original broadway production produced by
The New York Shakespeare Festival, Joseph Papp, Producer

In Association with Plum Productions, Inc.

original direction and choreography recreated by BAAYORK LEE

A CHORUS LINE is produced by special arrangement with Tams Witmark Music Library Inc., 560 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022
Prior to the performance of *A Chorus Line* at the Public Theatre in New York, the original company collectively appeared in 72 Broadway shows, 17 national companies and 9 bus-and-truck tours in which they gave a total of 37,905 performances. Collectively, they had 612 years of dance training with 748 teachers-counting duplications. They spent approximately $894 a month on dance lessons. While performing they sustained 30 back, 26 knee and 36 ankle injuries. The characters portrayed in *A Chorus Line* are, for the most part, based upon the lives and experiences of Broadway dancers. This show is dedicated to anyone who has ever danced in a chorus or marched in step...anywhere.

**CAST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Mark Bannon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila</td>
<td>Kristen Gerding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al</td>
<td>Spencer T. Rowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maggie</td>
<td>Erin Malloy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lois</td>
<td>Jennifer Watkins</td>
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<td>Don</td>
<td>Paul Buschman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richie</td>
<td>Ra-Sean Holloway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike</td>
<td>Matt Loehr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry</td>
<td>Mark Mackay Lusk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg</td>
<td>Chris Lockamy</td>
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<td>Butch</td>
<td>E. Clayton Cornelius</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diana</td>
<td>Michelle Scarpa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connie</td>
<td>Marilyn Villamar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zach</td>
<td>Matthew Johnson</td>
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<td>Roy</td>
<td>Matt Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Val</td>
<td>Pattie Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judy</td>
<td>Lili Calahan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bebe</td>
<td>Petra Van Nuis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bobby</td>
<td>Robert Tunstall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristine</td>
<td>Erin Hunter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vicki</td>
<td>Rachael Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassie</td>
<td>Lori Melissa Marshburn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trisha</td>
<td>Elizabeth Polito</td>
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<td>Mark</td>
<td>Seth Hampton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>Pio Joe Cabada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul</td>
<td>Eric Sciotto</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SWINGS**

Deborah Crocker, Kevin Ray

**UNDERSTUDIES**

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement for the appearance is made at the time of the performance.

Welcome to The Center For Performing Arts at Governors State University. Every time I attend an event at the Center, I am overcome with feelings of excitement and anticipation. Not only do I relish in the thought of the next two hours being filled with a world class performance, I am thrilled by the ever-growing programming calendar at the Center and the ever growing audiences I've seen over the last two years. In the midst of an exquisite performing space at the public University with the fastest growing enrollment in Illinois, together we are about to enjoy a wonderful evening of theatre. Could there be a better moment for us to share than this one?

As a community, we have successfully brought the opportunity for cultural enrichment and a variety of performing arts to Governors State University. Your support as patrons, contributors, and volunteers have been the hallmark of this success. Yet this is still only the beginning. After only three short years the Center now books over 90 annual events which include performances, luncheons, business meetings and educational speakers.

"Your" Center For Performing Arts truly does stand for diversity entertainment, education and a coming together of ideas and peoples. I extend a warm welcome with a sincere invitation to join us often and delight in the moments of every program.

Paula Wolff
President, Governors State University

Welcome to the 97-98 season at The Center For Performing Arts Center at Governors State University. It certainly promises to be another year of great music dance and theatre that appeals to audiences of all ages and tastes that will be truly exciting and innovative. On behalf of the board of directors, I wish to thank all of you for your continuing support of the Center's activities. Without your participation as ticket buyer's and as generous donors, the Center would not be able to present and bring to our region some of the stellar artists and touring companies whose performances we have come to expect over the years. Due to your enthusiastic response to our programs, we look forward to another season of quality arts and entertainment at our state-of-the-art Center which has become the "crown jewel" of theaters in the Chicago Southland region.

As the season progresses and as your participation in the activities at the Center become greater, please be mindful that your continuing support is instrumental to our ability to present the finest programming that all of you - our audience members - deserve. We ask that you continue to give to our efforts as generously as possible and invite your friends to attend our events as well. In doing so you, will be securing the future of the Center and its programming for years to come.

Sincerely,

Karen C. Reid
Chair, The Center For Performing Arts

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

MARK BANNON (Tom) is proud to be a part of this production of A Chorus Line. Regional: A Chorus Line, George Ml, 42nd Street, Fiddler on the Roof, and Hello Dolly! Thank you Mom and Dad, Carol, and Skip for all your love and support. 

PAUL BUSCHMAN (Don) is "Jazzed" to be in this production and to be returning to the role of Don. Other favorite roles include Jesus in Jesus Christ Superstar; Riff and Diesel in numerous productions of West Side Story. Has toured U.S. as lead singer in two show bands. Thanks to family, friends, and especially finance, Linda, for love and support.

PIO JOE CABADA (Frank) is proud to join this national tour of A Chorus Line. He was born in the Philippines and grew up in Reno, Nevada. He has performed professionally in the U.S. and abroad. Special thanks to family, friends, and David G.

LILI CALAHAN (Judy, u/s Cassie) credits include the National Tour of Evita and the European Tour of Jesus Christ Superstar. Her favorite regional productions include Joseph...Dreamcoat, West Side Story, Sweet Charity, Cabaret, Phantom, and Tommy. Recently, Lili has performed stand-up comedy in New York clubs including Carolines, Stand-Up New York, and the Comic Strip Live.

DEBORAH CROCKER (Swing) After graduating from Purchase College, Deborah has performed nationally, internationally, and in New York City Opera, Donal Byrd the Group, Martha Graham Dance, and Ballet Hispanico. She was also a soloist for a gala honoring Cynthia Gregory and has danced on the Tonight Show.

E. CLAYTON CORNELIUS (Butch) a Pittsburgh native, Clayton was last seen in the National Tour of The Wiz. He also has performed numbers from A Chorus Line with Marvin Hamlish’s Pops Orchestra in Pittsburgh. Clayton’s favorite credits include: School.
house Rock Live!, Evita, JC Superstar, and Brigadoon. He would like to thank God, his parents, Romeldra, and JRB

PATTIE FORD (Val) National Tours: Phantom, 25th Anniversary Tour of Forum, title role in Gypsy, European/National companies of A Chorus Line. Regional: Shelby in Steel Magnolias and Carrie in Barefoot in the Park. TV: Guiding Light and All My Children. Pattie is grateful for all blessings, especially her guardian angel - husband Whitney.

KIRSTEN E. GERDING (Sheila) a graduate of Baltimore School for the Arts, recently appeared in Jesus Christ Superstar, with Ted Neeley, and is thrilled to be back on the road. Other credits include: 42nd St., Into the Woods, Nutcracker. Kirsten sends love to her family and friends and dedicates these performances to the memory of Sylvester Wilson production It's Magic. The past four years, she has been performing on cruise ships. Theatre credits include: Anything Goes, The Wind in the Willows, Guys and Dolls, and The Sound of Music. She is thankful to God, family, friends, and Murdock.

CHRIS LOCKAMY (Greg) is a native of Dayton, OH, where he attended Wright State University and studied Dance. Chris was last seen as the Butler in the National Tour of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Other credits include: 42nd Street, Timeless Christmas Treasures, and A Chorus Line.

MATT LOEHR (Mike) is thrilled to be making his touring debut with A Chorus Line (Thanks Fran!). He comes from Mobile, AL where he performed in numerous shows at the Playhouse in the Park and Mobile Ballet. He attended LeFlore High School for the Arts and thanks his mother, father, and Kira for all of their love.

MICHELLE SCARPA (Diana), a NJ native and Rutgers grad, was most recently seen in the National Tour of The Who's Tommy. Other credits include the European Tour of Best of Broadway and America Rocks at Resorts International in Atlantic City. Special hugs and kisses to all her family, friends and as always Mickey D. for their undying love and support. This one's for you Grandpa!

MARK MACKAY LUSK (Larry) recently toured the U.S. in Singin' in the Rain. Mark is originally from Atlanta, GA and earned a BFA in Dance from Webster University in St. Louis, MO. Other professional credits include Hello Dolly!, Cabaret, Best Little Whorehouse..., West Side Story (Baby John), and A Chorus Line (Mark).

ERIN HUNTER (Kristine) a native Marylander, most recently performed in The Who's Tommy at Mill Mountain Theatre. Since graduating from Bucknell University, Erin has performed with dance companies and in musical theater productions in New York City and throughout the U.S. Favorite roles include Louise in Carousel, Dream Laurey in Oklahoma, and Tiger Lily in Peter Pan. Thanks to family and friends. Love to all!

MATT YOUNG (Roy, u/s Don & Bobby) an NYU graduate, got his start at theatre at The Mount in Gardner, MA. He is pleased to be reunited with fellow West Side Story dancers

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Paul and Lilly and Calamity Jane alumnus Kevin. Matt is proudest of his theatrical work dealing with HIV and AIDS.

MICHAEL BENNETT (Original Director/Choreographer) choreographed Promises, Promises; Coco; Company; Follies (which he co-directed with Hal Prince) and Seesaw (which he also wrote and directed). In 1973, he made his debut as a dramatic director with Twigs, which starred Sada Thompson. A Chorus Line which he conceived, choreographed and directed, won nine Tony awards. In 1976, he and the other authors of A Chorus Line were awarded the Pullitzer Prize for drama. In 1979 he produced, directed and choreographed Ballroom, which was nominated for eight Tony awards and won Mr. Bennett his sixth Tony. He won his seventh Tony award for Dreamgirls.

MARVIN HAMLISCH (Composer) has written major works for film, stage and concert hall including A Chorus Line, They’re Playing Our Song, The Goodbye Girl, The Way We Were and The Sting. He is the recipient of three Oscars, four Grammys, two Emmys, a Tony and three Golden Globe awards. A graduate of The Julliard School of Music, he holds the position of the Principal Pops Conductor for both the Pittsburgh and Baltimore Symphony Orchestras.

EDWARD KLEBAN (Lyricist), composer/lyricist made his debut writing the lyrics for A Chorus Line. Mr. Kleban graduated from the Music and Art High School and Columbia University. He was a member of the Lehman Engels B.M.I. Musical Theatre Workshop for ten years. His theatre songs have been heard at Cafe LaMama, The Revue in East Hampton and the Manhattan Theatre Club. He has also written songs for Mel Brooks, Marlo Thomas, Phyllis Newman, Sally Kellerman and Priscilla Lopez.

JAMES KIRKWOOD (Author) was a Broadway and television actor before taking up writing. His novels include ‘There Must Be a Pony’ , “Good Times, Bad Times”, “P.S. Your Cat is Dead”, “Some Kind of Hero”, “Hit Me With a Rainbow” and one non-fiction book, “American Grotesque”. He has dramatized There Must Be a Pony for stage as well as P.S. Your Cat is Dead. Another play, U.T.B.U. (Unhealthy to be Unpleasant), was produced in 1966. Some Kind of Hero was made into a film starring Richard Pryor. His play Legends, starring Mary Martin and Carol Channing, played a national tour.

THEONI V. ALDREDGE (Costume Designer) has designed more than 140 Broadway shows, numerous Off-Broadway productions, films, opera and ballet. For her theatre work she has won Tony awards for Annie, Barnum and La Cage aux Folles, and also Drama Desk, Variety Drama Critics and Maharam Award. She won an Oscar for her costumes for the film The Great Gatsby.

BOB AVIAN (Co-choreographer/Original Production) began his professional career as a dancer and was in over a dozen Broadway shows including West Side Story, Hello, Dolly! and Funny Girl. He then became an integral part of every Michael Bennett production for the next twenty years, working as his associate choreographer and/or assistant director on Henry, Sweet Henry; Promises, Promises; Coco; Company; Follies; Twigs; See-saw; and Gods Favourite. He then won his second Tony for choreographing Ballroom, as well as serving as co-producer. Mr. Avian was a producer of the highly acclaimed Broadway and National tours of Dreamgirls. He choreographed the London production of Stephen Sondheim’s Follies and then created the musical staging for Miss Saigon and Martin Guerre. He choreographed the New York production of Sondheim’s Putting It Together, starring Julie Andrews and most recently did the musical staging for the London and Broadway productions of Sunset Boulevard, receiving his sixth Tony nomination.

ROBIN WAGNER (Set Designer) Broadway Designs include Victor/Victoria, Big, Jelly’s Last Jam, Crazy For You, City of Angels, Jerome Robbins’s Broadway, Chess, A Chorus Line, Dreamgirls, 42nd Street, On The Twentieth Century, Jesus Christ Superstar, Lenny, Promises, Promises, The Great White Hope and Hair. Other work ranges from regional theatre to ballet, rock and roll and grand opera, including the Metropolitan, Vienna State, Hamburg State and Royal Opera Companies. Honors include Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Lumen and others. He is a trustee of the New York Shakespeare Festival.
and is a professor of Theatre Arts at New York University.

BAAYORK LEE (Director/Choreographer). Baayork’s artistic ventures span the globe, having produced, directed or choreographed on almost every continent. Ms. Lee created the role of Connie Wong in A Chorus Line based on her own life and has been directing productions of A Chorus Line in the United States and around the world since 1976. Ms. Lee directed and choreographed the Australian premiere of Barnum and served as the associate choreographer for My One and Only on Broadway. In Italy, she has directed/choreographed A Chorus Line, La Cage aux Folles (Italy’s 1992 Golden Ticket Award for Best Choreography), Cabaret, Fragoli, and Forum. She served as resident choreographer for the Washington Opera for 7 years, working on such projects as The Merry Widow, Eugene Onegin, Pearl Fishers, Czar’s Bride, Amahl and the Night Visitors, The Ballad of Baby Doe and the premiere of Goya with Placido Domingo. Her regional and Off-Broadway credits include Animal Crackers and Coconuts for Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. and the Huntington Theater in Boston, Let Em Rat for Cy Coleman at the Coconut Grove in Florida, Starmites at American Festival in New Hampshire, Tales of Tinsel Town in New Brunswick and Apple Pie at The New York Shakespeare Festival. With co-author Thommie Walsh, she has written a book entitled "On The Line: The Creation of A Chorus Line", which was released in Japan last year. As always, she dedicates her work to the memory of Michael Bennett, her mentor and friend.

THARON MUSSER (Lighting Designer/Original Production) has lit Hallelujah, Baby!, Mame, Applause, The Good Doctor, A Little Night Music, California Suite, The Prisoner of Second Avenue, The Sunshine Boys, Ballroom, The Act, The Real Thing, Brighton Beach Memoirs, Biloxi Blues, Broadway Bound, 42nd Street and Rumours. Ms. Musser won Tonsy for Follies, Dreamgirls and A Chorus Line. Cym Sounds (Sound Designer) The design team of Bruce L. Yaeger and Cowboy Mayers has a surplus of experience with touring musicals as sound designers, engineers, electricians and production managers. Design/Engineering credits include the national tours of Man of La Mancha, Jesus Christ Superstar, She Loves Me, Ain’t Misbehavin’ and The Wiz. Fall 1997 productions include West Side Story and A Chorus Line. Cowboy and Bruce formed CYM in September, 1996 to provide these touring shows with traveling sound systems that are adaptable to the many different venues the productions visit. When Cowboy is not on the road, he bakes large amounts of meat at home in Louisiana. Bruce is a musician/producer who traps wild vegetables in L.A.

NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL (Original Producer) began in 1954 when Joseph Papp brought together a group of actors to perform scenes from Shakespeare’s plays for the public free of charge. In 1962, The Festival opened its permanent summer-time home at the Delacorte Theatre in Central Park. In 1966, Papp found the theatre its year-round home, the Astor Library on Lafayette Street. It opened as the Public Theatre in 1967 with the world premiere of the musical Hair. Public Theatre/NYSF productions have collectively won 32 Tony awards, 111 Obies, 31 Drama Desk Awards, 6 New York Critics’ Circle Awards and 3 Pulitzer Prizes. Fires in the Mirror, The Normal Heart, The Colored Museum, For Colored Girls...The Pirates of Penzance and A Chorus Line are among the theatre’s award winning productions. Twenty shows have transferred to Broadway, most recently Bring in da Noise, Bring in da Funk. The Public entered a new era in 1993 with the appointment of director/playwright George C. Wolfe as Producer. Wolfe’s desire to create a theatre that looks and feels like New York has brought a new vitality to the institution on-stage and off. Under Wolfe’s leadership, The Public is extending its commitment to bold new American plays, innovative contemporary musicals, extraordinary performers, daring directors, the completion of the Shakespeare marathon, and the cultivation of an American aesthetic of performing Shakespeare.

RON GUARNIERI (Production Stage Manager) Broadway: Personal Assistant; Robert Goulet in Moon Over Buffalo. National Tours: Production Stage Manager; Ain’t Misbehavin’ with Martha Reeves & The Vendelllos; Personal Assistant/Dresser; Robert Goulet in Man of La Mancha, Robert Goulet/Paige O’Hara in Road Manager; An Evening with Robert Goulet, A Christmas Carol. HEATHER J. BENNETT ( Casting Director) served as the Resident Casting Director for Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ for seven years prior to starting her own firm. She is pleased to work with Baayork Lee again, having cast A Chorus Line in 1991, and equally pleased to have formed this new relationship with Jeriko Entertainment. Ms. Bennett has worked with numerous directors including Robert Johanson, Rob Marshall, Charles Reepo, James Rocco, Larry Fuller, Mark S. Hohee, Alan Johnson, and Ray Cooney, successfully casting over 50 projects.

JERIKO ENTERTAINMENT (Producer) is a producing organization formed in 1993. Jeriko has produced the critically acclaimed Man of La Mancha, She Loves Me, Jesus Christ Superstar (with Ted Neeley and Carl Anderson) and Ain’t Misbehavin’ (starring Martha Reeves & the Vendelllos) national tours. Jeriko is proud to be represented on the road with West Side Story and the current tour of A Chorus Line.

FRAN LIEBERGALL (Musical Supervisor) has worked in the professional theatre since 1975, when she was chosen (at the age of 22) by Marvin Hamlisch as the original pianist for A Chorus Line. She went on to play the show in its Broadway debut and eventually mounted and musically supervised the original National, International, London and Australian productions. In 1978, Fran left A Chorus Line for they’ re playing our Song for which she served as Marvin Hamlisch’s assistant, pianist and associate conductor. Her other credits include Ballroom, Smile, They’re Playing our Song with Lucie Amaz and Laurence Luckinbill, Godspell and The Goodbye Girl. Fran continued to supervise the Broadway production of A Chorus Line until its closing in 1990, and her long association with Marvin Hamlisch and the show happily continues to this day. She dedicates this production to all the wonderful people she has worked with over the years, to Baayork Lee (for her eternal faith and friendship) and especially to her son, Kyle.