



The University of Texas at Austin
Theatre and Dance
College of Fine Arts

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

PRESENTS

SPRING AWAKENING

BOOK AND LYRICS BY STEVEN SATER

MUSIC BY DUNCAN SHEIK

BASED ON THE PLAY BY FRANK WEDEKIND

NOVEMBER 6-24, 2019

AT THE OSCAR G. BROCKETT THEATRE

Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Spring Awakening* explores the journey from adolescence to adulthood as a group of young people struggle with questions of morality, sexuality and self-identity, on stage at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre November 6-24, 2019. Directed by Anna Skidis Vargas and set to a punk rock score, this groundbreaking musical personifies the struggles of growing up and finding your own unique voice.

Spring Awakening tells a story of adolescent love, the trials of puberty and the friendships built in the face of an uncomprehending world. Inspired by Frank Wedekind's once-banned and still provocative German play from 1891, *Spring Awakening* holds up a mirror to our own time and has established itself as a must-see musical of a new generation.

"*Spring Awakening* tackles so many critical themes, it's hard to find someone who hasn't been affected by at least one of these scenarios in some way," shares director Anna Skidis Vargas. "Most importantly, it gives voice to the younger generation. It can be heart-wrenching at times; it tackles issues of anxiety, shame, abuse and suicide, but there is also so much love and laughter along the way. It shines a light on the longing we all feel to connect. It's about how wild and hard it is to be young, the friendships we forge and the struggles of growing up and figuring out who we are. That's where *Spring Awakening* lies – the beautiful rage against those of us who could make a positive difference in the lives of youth, but who choose to look away."

Anna Skidis Vargas is an M.F.A. in Directing candidate who works primarily on musicals, devised theatre and the stories of underrepresented groups. She is the founder of Theatre Nuevo in Saint Louis, where she produced and directed *This is Not Funny*, *Orgullo*, *Acronyms*, *Hell* and *Luchadora!*, for which she was nominated for Outstanding Director and Outstanding Production of a Comedy by the Saint Louis Theater Circle. Skidis Vargas has received two Circle Awards for her performances in *Lizze, the Musical* and *Spring Awakening* and has been named a "Rising Leader of Color" by *Theatre Communications Group* (TCG). She holds a B.A. in Performance from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. skidisvargas.com

Spring Awakening features a powerful cast, including Savanna Cole (Wendla), Adara Felix (Martha), Lea Donnerberg (Ilse), Frances Garnett (Thea), Deja Criston (Anna), Jeremiah Abdullah (Melchior), Pedro Antonio Castañeda (Moritz), Oscar Salinas (Ernst), Hayden Daniel Cox (Hanschen), Nathan Tran (Georg), Will Hahn (Otto), Ryan Alvaredo (Adult), Juleeane Villarreal (Adult), Alfred Chou (Ensemble) and Danielle Kane (Ensemble).

The production team for *Spring Awakening* include Scott Bussey (Technical Director), Samantha Cole (Draper), Susan Finnigan (Music Director), Stephanie Mae Fisher (Costume Designer), Jeff Gan (Dramaturg), Tucker Goodman (Scenic Designer), Joseph Harrington (Draper), Aly Redland (Stage Manager), Bill Rios (Lighting Designer), Anna Skidis Vargas (Director), Logan Smith (Projection Designer), Jessica Peña Torres (Choreographer), Ben Truppin-Brown (Sound Designer) and Annie Ulrich (Draper).

For more information about *Spring Awakening*, please visit JoinTheDrama.org

CALENDAR LISTING

November 6-24, 2019– The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance presents *Spring Awakening* at the Oscar G. Brockett Theatre (300 E. 23rd St.), located in the F. Loren Winship Drama Building. A map of the campus: theatredance.utexas.edu/about/location-directions-parking

Performance times are November 6 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview), November 7 at 7:30 p.m. (Opening), November 8, 12-16 19-23 at 7:30 p.m.; November 10, 16-17, 23-24 at 2:00 p.m. (\$26 adult, \$21 UT faculty and staff, \$15 student) are on sale at authorized ticket outlets, which include the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and all Texas Box Office outlets, online at JoinTheDrama.org, or by calling (512) 477-6060 or (800) 982-BEVO. Tickets for the preview performance on November 6 (\$10 adult, \$5 student) are available at the Bass Concert Hall Box Office and F. Loren Winship Building Box Office. Box Office locations and hours: theatredance.utexas.edu/ticketing

ABOUT TEXAS THEATRE AND DANCE

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance is a world-class educational environment that serves as the ultimate creative incubator for the next generation of artists, thinkers and leaders in theatre and performance.

ALSO THIS SEASON

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

Fall For Dance

November 12-17, 2019

B. Iden Payne Theatre

Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet

By Tarell Alvin McCraney

February 26-March 8, 2020

Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

Sense and Sensibility

Adapted for the stage by Joseph Hanreddy and J.R. Sullivan

April 8-19, 2020

B. Iden Payne Theatre

Dance Repertory Theatre presents

(R)evolution

April 15-26, 2020

Oscar G. Brockett Theatre

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Based off the 1891 play *Frühlings Erwachen* by Frank Wedekind, *Spring Awakening* is a Tony Award winning musical about teenage sexuality and rebellion. The cast album also received the 2008 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album. [Spring Awakening \(Original Broadway Cast Recording\) Q&A](#). *Spring Awakening* is a rock musical with music by Duncan Sheik and a book and lyrics by Steven Sater. It is based on the 1891 German play *Spring Awakening* by Frank Wedekind. Set in late 19th-century Germany, the musical tells the story of teenagers discovering the inner and outer tumult of adolescent sexuality. In the musical, alternative rock is employed as part of the folk-infused rock score. See more of *Spring Awakening Music Festival* on Facebook. [Log In.](#) or. [Create New Account](#). See more of *Spring Awakening Music Festival* on Facebook. [Log In.](#) [Forgot account?](#) [Spring Awakening Music Festival Concert Tour](#). [Community](#) [See All](#). *Spring Awakening* is a Musical from 2006, based off a 19th Century German play of the same name (or *Frühlings Erwachen*, in German). The Play was banned in most countries for many years, dating up to the 70s, due to it's controversial messages. Act I. Wendla Bergmann , an adolescent girl in late-19th century Germany, laments that her mother gave her "no way to handle things" and has not taught her the lessons she needs to learn ("Mama Who Bore Me"). She tells her mother that it is time she learned where