

PORTLAND STAGE

MAINSTAGE | NEW WORK | EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT

Mical Hutson

Marketing & Communications Director

mhutson@portlandstage.org

mobile (207) 283.5007

PORTLAND, MAINE • APRIL 20, 2022 • FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Room Photos: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w8z3m911cy2sxvo/AADh0f5obOdxAKXHzcQHcADya?dl=0>

PORTLAND STAGE WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL IS A HISTORICAL EXPLORATION OF SABINA SPIELREIN, A PIONEERING FEMINIST PSYCHOANALYST

Reviewers are invited to attend the opening performance of *Sabina* Friday, May 6, 2022 at 7: 30 p.m.

Portland, Maine— *Sabina* is a profoundly moving psychological mystery, the story of Sabina Spielrein, a catatonic 19-year-old Russian girl who is sent to the Burgholzli Institute by her parents as a last resort. She is found there by Carl Jung, who is looking for a patient on whom to try Freud's not-yet-proven Talking Cure. The success of their work brings them together as lovers and eventually colleagues and nearly ruins Jung's family and career. But in the process, Sabina introduces Jung to an inner world of archetypes and shadows that become the foundation of Jungian psychology. She brings Jung and Freud together and, in many ways, surpasses them as a pioneering feminist psychoanalyst who becomes the hero of her own story. She was lost to history until now.

The world-premiere Guggenheim-award-winning musical *Sabina* will be on stage from May 4 through May 22, with a digital streaming option available from May 18 through June 5. The creative team consists of Maine playwright Willy Holtzman, composer Louise Beach, and lyricist Darrah Cloud. *Sabina*, also a Richard Rogers Award finalist, has been brought to the stage by many hands, including a five-member cast and a world-class design and production team. Its soaring lyrical score is performed by a string quartet, oboist, and pianist. In the words of Artistic Director Anita Stewart, "*Sabina* is a thinking person's musical that speaks to the human soul."

The extensive creative team includes Tony Award-winning Lighting Designer Christopher Akerlind and Broadway Sound Designer Charles Coes and three directors: co-directors Danilo Gambini, Daniella Topol, and Musical Director Bradley Vieth. Orchestrations are by Broadway's *Come From*

Away (Grammy and Drama Desk nomination) August Eriksmoen.

Portland Stage had been instrumental in developing the work, supporting the creative team throughout the last two years of the pandemic. The story has deepened as current events have unfolded that mirror some of Sabina's own story.

CAST & ARTISTS

CARL JUNG Philip Stoddard*

SABINA SPIELREIN Stephanie Machado*

LUDWIG BINSWANGER Jason Michael Evans*

EMMA JUNG Sarah Anne Fernandez*

SIGMUND FREUD Bruce Sabath*

CO-DIRECTOR Danilo Gambini

CO-DIRECTOR Daniella Topol***

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Bradley Vieth

SCENIC DESIGNER Anita Stewart**

COSTUME DESIGNER Fabian Fidel Aguilar**

LIGHTING DESIGNER Christopher Akerlind**

SOUND DESIGNER Charles Coes**

STAGE MANAGER Myles C. Hatch*

**member Actors Equity Association*

***member United Scenic Artists*

****member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society*

QUICK INFO

Live In-Theater Dates: May 4 - 22, 2022

Digital Streaming Dates: May 18 - June 5, 2022

Run Time: Two hours including a 15-minute intermission

Box Office Hours: Tuesday through Saturday • Noon to 5 pm
and 2 hours before performance time

Box Office Phone: 207.774.0465

Box Office Email: boxoffice@portlandstage.org

Tickets Online: <https://www.portlandstage.org/show/last-ship-to-proxima-centauri-2022/>

PRICES In-Person: \$20-\$63. Discounts for seniors 65+ and students.

PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN TICKETS AVAILABLE: Find rules and restrictions on the website. Digital

Streaming: \$25 online, or call the box office for Pay-What-You-Can.

RUSH35 Tickets: \$15 at the door for registered participants ages 35 and under.

ABOUT PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY

48th season

Portland Stage offers Mainstage performances, New Works, and Education programs. The 2021-22 Mainstage season is trying to maintain its regular schedule as safety and artists' unions permit, including one co-production musical with Maine State Music Theatre, six Mainstage productions, staged readings of its commissions, and Studio Series productions. PS promotes and celebrates

the creation of new plays with an environment that supports the region's playwrights, builds bridges between its theater and national writers, and develops awareness of theater with three exciting initiatives: the Clauder Competition, the Little Festival of the Unexpected, and From Away, a festival in collaboration with the International Writing Program (IWP) at the University of Iowa. This year, Portland Stage also celebrates its 12th season of the Susie Konkel Theater for Kids and the 100,000 student experiences it has provided in the last decade through its education programs. Subscriptions to Portland Stage are available. More than just a seat in the house, subscribers gain insider access, significant savings, and flexibility. Visit portlandstage.org to learn more.