



Peter Pan (2014)

Michigan State University
Department of Theatre
East Lansing, MI

Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, Betty Comden and Adolph Green
Music by Mark Charlap and Jule Styne
A musical based on the play by James M. Barrie

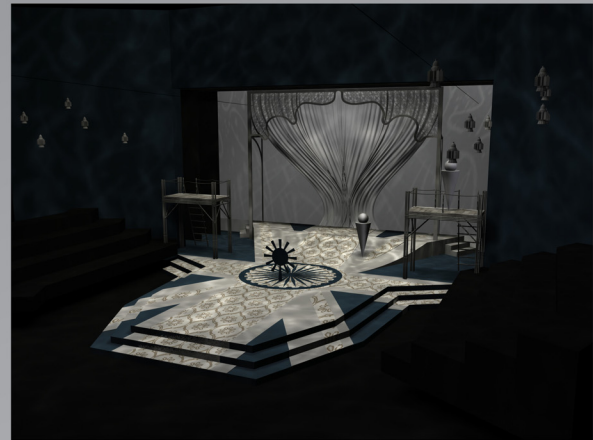
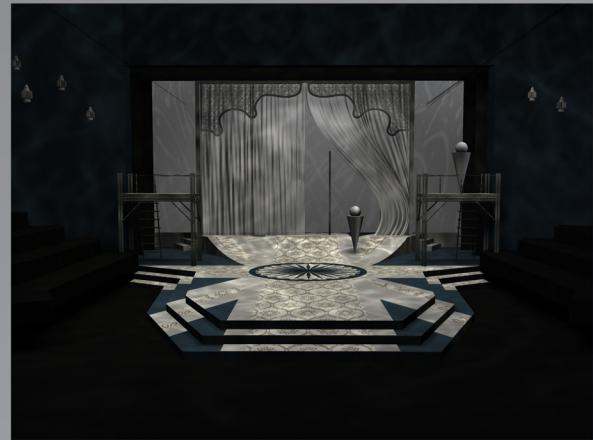
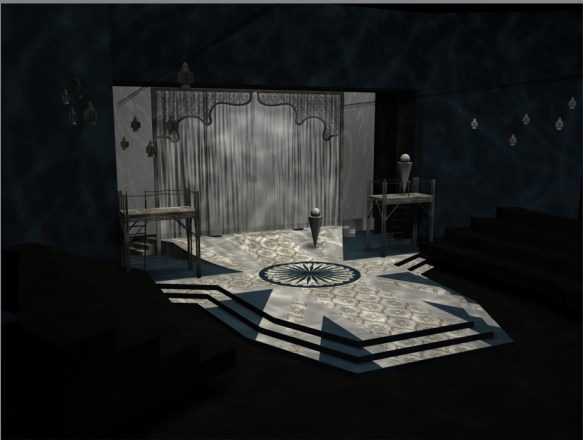
Directed by Rob Roznowski

Musical Direction by Dave Wendelberger
Flight Direction by Tracy Nunnally
Choreography by Shubhi Kalwani, Raji Singh, Ranjani Srinivasa, Jennifer Ridley and Zev Steinberg

Scene Design by Kirk Domer
Costume Design by Daniel Hobbs
Lighting Design by Shannon Schweitzer
Media Design by Alison Dobbins
Technical Direction by Edward Weingart

Peter Pan is a high-flying fantasy that tells the story of the young boy who won't grow up.

Digital Rendering - 3D Studio Max



Lansing City Pulse - By Mary Cuzack, April 16, 2014
Kirk Domer's versatile set is an Indian bazaar, and traditional Indian shadow puppets are used to mimic the action, enhance the fantastical setting and stand in for animals. Spoiler alert: There is not a real crocodile in the cast.

Lansing State Journal - By Bridgette Redman, April 12, 2014
The show itself has a new setting that Roznowski and the department selected as a response to some of the controversy that typically surrounds the show. The MSU version changes this by setting the whole story in colonial India and the Indians in Neverland are actually Indian.

Synopsis:

Our recreation of Barrie's familiar plot took its audiences through a stimulating, perhaps surprising, cross-cultural journey. Barrie's original image of Indians, as well as the musical's depiction of them as "redskins" who "Smokum peace pipe," has been deemed racist, or at the very least culturally insensitive, so we decided to set our production in colonial India at the turn of the century. After all, in 1902, the year J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* was published, the British Empire or the Raj was firmly entrenched in India. Thus, we characterized Mr. and Mrs. Darling as representatives of the empire since British soldiers and their families were often posted to India. Peter and the "lost boys" are reminiscent of Kipling's *Kim*, representing the Anglo-Indian racially mixed children, often called *Kutch Butche*, a derogatory term which means, "half-cooked kids." By the nineteenth century, young English women arrived in India in large numbers, perhaps humorously labeled the "fishing fleet;" in our production of culturally and physically mutating realities, the girls of the fishing fleet transform into the familiar pirates.

Kirk A. Domer

Chairperson, Department of Theatre, MSU
Associate Professor of Scene Design



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