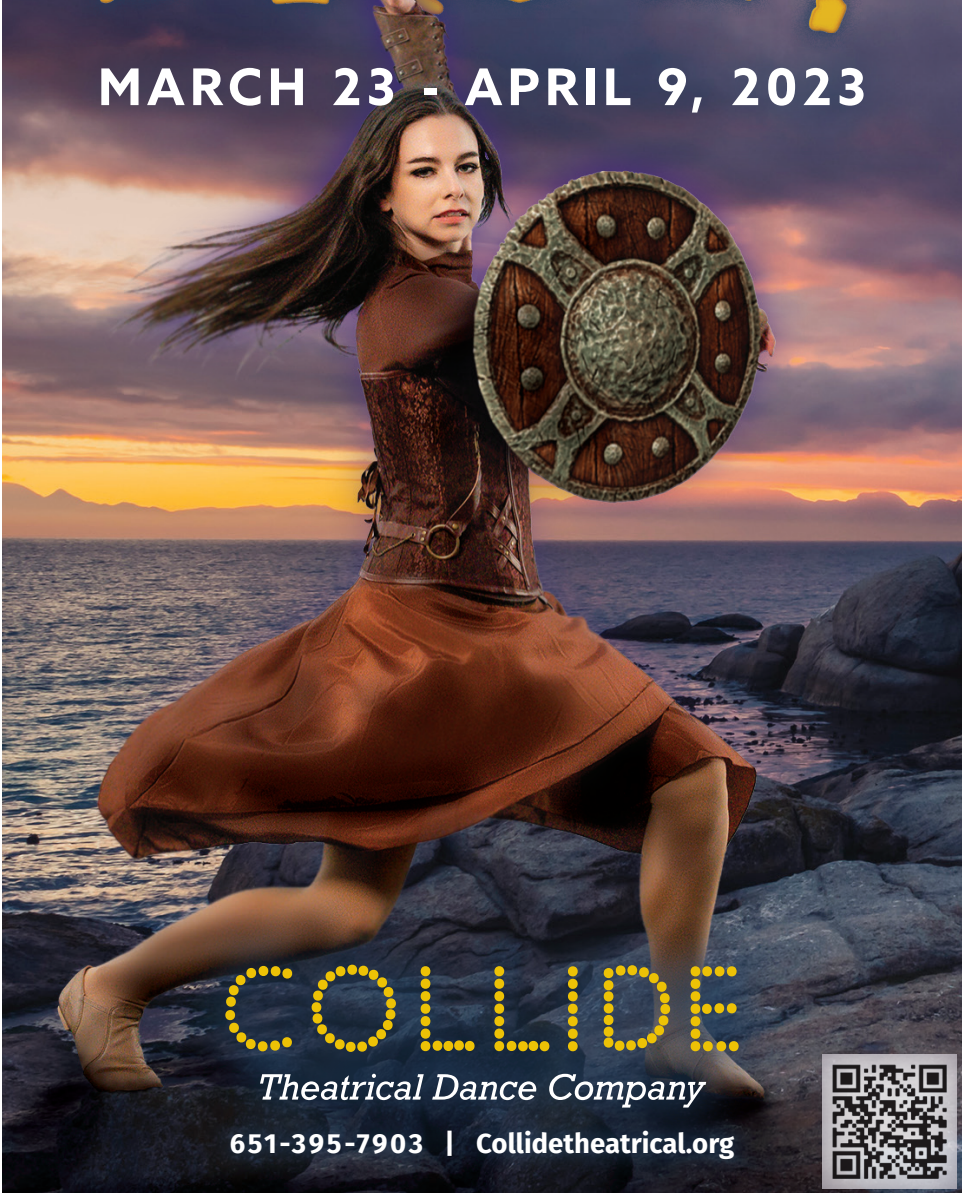


It's Game Time

SKOL!

MARCH 23 - APRIL 9, 2023



COLLIDE

Theatrical Dance Company

651-395-7903 | Collidetheatrical.org



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear friends,

A few years ago my friend Sam Graber shared the incredible story of the Birka Viking who, after recent genetic testing, was proven to be female. I began to deep dive into Viking history and was instantly intrigued by the gender equality that existed in their culture.

In creating this story it was important to me to create a female character who was not a sexualized Hollywood version of a female action hero. Lagertha's ability to lead with

empathy shows strength, not weakness. Her masculine traits are coping mechanisms needed for survival and not displayed simply for the sake of violence. She is a strong female character not because of her ability to fight, but her ability to lead with grace, clarity, and compassion. I hope you will be inspired by her as much as I am!

The incredible team of Mike Michel, Katie Gearty, and Rush Benson created the original music for the production, and it was a joyous collaboration process. This is the first step for this new musical, and I look forward to seeing how Lagertha's story evolves in the future.

Regina Peluso

SONG LIST

ACT ONE

SKOL Theme Song* Meet the players of SKOL!

Two Brothers~ Ragnar, the oldest brother and Viking Earl, does not get along with his jealous younger brother, Harald.

Welcome to Birka* Ragnar watches his daughter Lagertha grow up in the town of Birka.

The Healing Dance~ The Viking women are unable to heal a contagious respiratory disease.

Meet the Christians# Harald, now converted to Christianity, is crowned the new King of England. The Christians control the wealth, and with it, the cure for the Viking disease.

If We Go to Die* Ragnar and the Vikings prepare a war strategy to fight the Christians for the cure for the mysterious illness. Lagertha doubts her father's plan.

Freya's Calling+ Freya visits Lagertha in a dream calling her toward her destiny as a warrior leader.

Preparing for War* The Vikings board the ship and Lagertha learns that her father, Ragnar, is ill.

Receiving the News* The Christians receive a letter informing them of the Vikings' impending arrival and they prepare for war, much to the dismay of Ansgar and Lars, who ask the King for peace.

Battling the Elements# The Vikings cross the dangerous seas and find the orphan child Solveig has snuck on board.

Fight Me* The first battle between the Christians and the Vikings takes place on Christian soil. The two brothers reunite, but the Vikings surrender.

Battle #1 Reactions~ The Christians celebrate while the Vikings regroup for the next battle.

Prove It* Lars learns that the Vikings are only fighting for the cure, and when the battle has horrific results, Lagertha vows to take control.

ACT TWO

Listen (Instrumental)* Freya appears to Lagertha and gives her the courage to lead.

Flip the Script^ Lagertha leads the Vikings to victory.

Going, Going, Gone* The Vikings celebrate and Eirick has an ill-timed offer for Lagertha.

SKOL Mashup* The Christians retaliate with tumultuous results, and Harald reveals to Lagertha that he is her birth father.

Listen+ Alone and in captivity, Lagertha questions her fate and mourns her losses.

Lars* Lars visits Lagertha in jail and agrees to help her steal the medicine.

It Gets Better^* Harald spins lies about Ragnar, falsely claiming that Ragnar stole his child and banished him from Birka. Eirick is swayed into revealing Ragnar's location on the map, and the Christians run to capture Ragnar.

Harald's Ultimatum^ The Christians return having found and captured Ragnar. Harald threatens him to convert to Christianity or die.

Flip the Script Reprise* The Vikings and Christians fight their final battle.

The Dream Reprise* Lagertha is haunted by everything she has lost.

Epilogue* Lagertha is the new Earl of the Viking clan and Lars is the Christian King. The love of their Gods prevents them from having a relationship more than fair trade between the two clans.

Choreography by:

~ Heather Brockman

^ Rush Benson

* Regina Peluso

Kyle Weiler

+ Renee Guitarr

CAST



Lagertha
(*Viking Shield Maiden*)

Renee Guittar



Ragnar
(*Viking Earl, raises Lagertha*)

Jarod Boltjes



King Harald
(*Lagertha's birth father*)

Ben Siglin



Lars
(*Christian doctor*)

Javan Mngrezzo



Eirick
(*Viking boyfriend of Lagertha*)

Patrick Jeffrey



Ansgar
(*Christian monk*)

Michael Mossucco



Knut
(*Viking*)

James Delage



Ole
(*Viking*)

Nathan Huberty



Thora
(*Lagertha's mother*)

Michaela Borowski



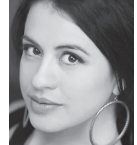
Guindheid
(*Viking*)

Grace Kidder



Odin
(*God of War*)

Rush Benson



Freya
(*Goddess of Love & Death*)

Katie Gearty
(3/23-3/26, 4/6-4/9)

Solveig
(*Orphan Viking child*)
Elza Schmerler*

Young Lagertha
Rylee Flaherty*

Freya
(*Goddess of Love & Death*)
Rachel Holder
(3/30-4/2)

*Denotes Apprentice Company

ENSEMBLE APPRENTICE COMPANY

Performances 3/23, 3/26, 3/31, 4/1, 4/6, 4/9
Johanna Engebretson, Aleksa Lawry, Caleb Hale, Connor Hestwood, Susana Torrence

Performances 3/24, 3/25, 3/30, 4/2, 4/7, 4/8
Elayna Sitzman, Lucy Edhlund, Caleb Hale, Teresa Higgins, Connor Hestwood

UNDERSTUDIES

Michaela Borowski (Lagertha), James Delage (Ragnar), Nathan Huberty (Lars & Eirick), Grace Kidder (Ansgar), Rylee Flaherty (Solveig), Lucy Edhlund (Young Lagertha)

MUSICIANS

**Composer/
Guitar**

Mike Michel

**Vocals/
Arrangements**

Katie Gearty

Vocals/Lyrics

Rush Benson

Bass

Ben Kelly

Drums

Nate Babbs

CREATIVE TEAM



**Creator/Director/
Choreographer**

Regina Peluso

Music Director

Mike Michel

**Associate
Choreographers**

Rush Benson,
Renee Guittar,
Kyle Weiler

Stage Manager

Rachael Rhoades

Lighting Designer

Mike Grogan

**Set Designer/
Technical Director**

Robin McIntyre

Sound Designer

David J Russ

**Assistant
Sound Designer**

Nathan Courteau



**Assistant Director/
Choreographer**

Heather Brockman

Costume Designer

Regina Peluso

Seamstress

Sheila Heil

Program Design

Josh Wallace

**Photography/
Virtual Film**

Lucas Wells &
Steve Campbell

**Box Office/
Front of House**

Mikah Juelich

**Marketing
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Grace Kidder

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David Fettig - Chair, Christina Goldstein - Finance Chair, Tracy Harris - Secretary, Manuel Barrera, Robert Bitzan, Katy Hass, Mary P. Lincoln, Jim McGibbon, Laurie Nevers, Nathan Pechacek, Brian Sheehan, William Spring, Eric Tornoe, Regina Peluso (ex-officio)

THANK YOU

Sam Graber, Paul Coate, Totino-Grace High School, Gloria Schmid, Mary Lincoln, Laurie Nevers, David J Russ and It's A Secret, Jason Halupnick, Mike Halupnick

BIOS

Rush Benson (Odin/Lyricist/Choreographer) - Collide: Zoot Suit Riots, Dracula, Romeo & Juliet (2020 - Romeo), The Cafe, Stand By Me, Wonderland (2021 - The White Rabbit). Other Credits: The Ordway (Beauty and the Beast, 42nd Street, West Side Story), Chanhassen Dinner Theatres (Footloose), The Guthrie Theatre (A Christmas Carol), Flying Foot Forum, James Sewell Ballet, Keane Sense of Rhythm Tap Company.

Jarod Boltjes (Ragnar) - Collide: The Great Gatsby (Tom), The Cafe, Stand by Me, Wonderland (2021 & 2022 - The Doctor), The Holiday Cabaret, Class of '85 (2022 - Nick Fender). Other Credits: James Sewell Ballet, Contempo Physical Dance, St. Paul Ballet, and Threads Dance Company.

Michaela Borowski (Thora) - Collide: Wonderland (2022 - Alice), Seven Deadly Sins. Other Credits: Huntsville Ballet Company, Virginia Ballet Theater, Todd Rosenlieb Dance, Twin Cities Ballet. Michaela trained at Atlanta Ballet.

James Delage (Knut) - Collide: Debut! Other Credits: Beauty and the Beast (Ordway), Heathers: The Musical (BLUEBARN Theatre), Cakewalk (Omaha Dance Project), The Nutcracker Ballet, Cabaret, Sunday in the Park with George, Bonnie and Clyde, A Nightmare's Holiday (Creighton University).

Katie Gearty (Freya/Arrangements) - Collide: Dracula, Lot of Livin' to Do, The Belmont Hotel, Dracula, Le Petit Moulin, Dance 'Til You Drop, The Great Gatsby, The Picture of Dorian Gray, Romeo & Juliet (2020). Other Credits: The Dakota Jazz Club, Hookers and Blow, Mick Sterling and The Sunshine Gang.

Renee Guittar (Lagertha/Choreographer) - Collide: Lot of Livin' to Do, The Belmont Hotel, Romeo & Juliet (2014 & 2020), Zoot Suit Riots, C.L.U., Dracula, Wonderland (2021 & 2022 - The Caterpillar), Frankenstein, Class of '85 (2014 & 2022). Other Credits: The Guthrie, The Ordway, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, and The Old Log Theater. Choreographer of Footloose at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres.

Rachel Holder (Freya) - Collide: The Holiday Cabaret. Other Credits: Dakota Jazz Club, Crooners Supper Club, Keg and Case Market, Ordway, History Theatre, and the Chanhassen Fireside Theater.

Nathan Huberty (Ole) - Collide: Debut! Other Credits: National Theater for Children (Minneapolis, MN); River City Players (Tahlequah, OK); Unto These Hills (Cherokee, NC).

Patrick Jeffrey (Eirik) - Collide: Belmont Hotel, Romeo & Juliet (2014 - Romeo), Dracula (2016 & 2018), Dance 'Til You Drop, The Great Gatsby (Gatsby), Wonderland (2021 - Mad Hatter), Class of '85 (2022 - Blake Scott), Our Stories. Other Credits: Carnival Cruise Lines, Black Label Movement, The Ordway, and Zenon Dance Co.

Grace Kidder (Guindeild) - Collide: The Great Gatsby, The Picture of Dorian Gray, Romeo & Juliet (2020), Class of '85 (2022 - Barb Smith). Other Credits: ILEA Awards, Hosanna Christmas Concert, MOA Fright Night Lights, and American Spirit Dance Company.

Javan Mngrezzo (Lars) - Collide: Romance Cabaret, Class of '85 (2022 - Eugene Humphry), Our Stories, Wonderland (2022 - Mad Hatter). Other Credits: Black Label Movement, Rhythmically Speaking, Threads Dance Project and BodyVox, Analog Dance Works, ARENA Dances, and Ballet Co.Laboratory.

Michael Mossucco (Ansgar) - Collide: Wonderland (2022 - The White Rabbit), Seven Deadly Sins. Other Credits: SpongeBob the Musical (Revival Productions), Kinky Boots and The Wizard of Oz (Derby Dinner Playhouse), Elf the Musical (La Comedia Dinner Theatre).

Ben Siglin (King Harald) - Collide: Frankenstein, The Romance Cabaret, Class of '85 (2022 - George Hale). Other Credits: Old Log Theater, Borealis Dance Company, Valleyfair, Paul Bunyan Playhouse.

Regina Peluso (Director/Choreographer/Writer) - Founding Artistic Director of Collide; has choreographed/directed/created 24 productions for Collide including Lot of Livin' to Do, Belmont Hotel, Class of '85, Romeo & Juliet (2014 & 2020), CLU, Zoot Suit Riots, Dracula (2015 & 2018), Dance 'Til You Drop, Le Petit Moulin, The Great Gatsby, The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Cafe, Stand By Me, and Wonderland. Other credits include A Christmas Carol at The Guthrie Theater (2018-2022), numerous productions at The History Theater, Old Log Theater, Stages Theater Company, and Mall of America, among others. Regina is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Union.

Heather Brockman (Asst. Director/Choreographer) - Collide: [Performer]: Le Petit Moulin, Dance 'Til You Drop, Wonderland, Romance Cabaret, Seven Deadly Sins, The Picture of Dorian Gray, Romeo & Juliet (2020), The Cafe, Stand By Me. [Choreographer]: Stand by Me, Great Gatsby, Holiday Cabaret, Frankenstein. Other Credits: Ballet of the Dolls (1995-2014), Visions of Sugarplums, Dance Co., Out on a Limb Dance Theater.

Kyle Weiler (Asst. Choreographer) - Collide: Debut! Performing Credits: Broadway/Tours of Hamilton (Universal Swing), Centennial International Tour of West Side Story (Diesel, Riff u/s, Dance Cap.), Damn Yankees (Ordway), and Mamma Mia (Theatre Aspen). Choreography Credits: Eclectic Edge Ensemble, Hennepin Theatre Trust, Children's Theatre, Theatre Aspen, NYC Jazz Choreography Inc., and Juilliard's Choreographic Honors.

Mike Michel (Composer/Guitar/Music Director) - Collide: Debut! Mike Michel is a Minnesota Music Academy award winning songwriter, modern guitarist, music educator, & digital creator. Mike has had the honor of collaborating with many amazing artists and institutions like Haley, Dave King, Saltee, Desdamaona, Carnage, The Unknown Prophets, DJ ESP, Meg Stuart, MIA, & The Walker Arts Center. Currently, Mike is recording, touring and cultivating his artful groove-infused indie/alt rock band, The Orange Goodness, and running his online music education hub, The Rock & Roll Therapy Room.

Nate Babbs (Drums) - Collide: Debut! Other Credits: Reina Del Cid, Foreign Fields, Dan Rodriguez, and John Mark Nelson. He is the Artist Rep for Low Boy Custom Beaters, a kick drum beater company based in Santa Barbara, CA, as well as a freelance sound engineer.

Ben Kelly (Bass) - Collide: Debut! Other Credits: John Mark Nelson, Sexy Delicious, and the Buffalo Function Music Band. Using the same care for creation, whether it be music or clothes, Benjamin has a style-forward love for sharing joy with others. Ben runs and designs his own brand Dinosaur Hampton.



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OUR STORIES

CHAPTER 2

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Ballerina Camps **June 19-22 | August 7-10**

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Summer Class Session **July 10-27**

Three weeks of classes, meeting twice per week. Class offerings include pre-ballet, ballet, pointe, jazz, modern, and more. Dancers enroll based on their 2022-2023 School Year level.



Youth Dance Camps **June 19-23 "Rockin' in the USA" August 7-11 "Summer Splash"**

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