



PIRATE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

A musical by R. Rodgers & O. Hammerstein II

KINNEKSbond  
CENTRE CULTUREL MAMER

# The Sound of Music

Thu 7<sup>th</sup>, Fri 8<sup>th</sup> & Sat 9<sup>th</sup>  
November 2024 at 19:30  
Sat 9<sup>th</sup> & Sun 10<sup>th</sup>  
Nov at 15:00

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I am absolutely delighted to be attending a performance of this 2024 Pirates' production of *The Sound of Music* a musical that has captivated audiences for generations with its uplifting story and memorable songs. This production is testament to the power of community, creativity, and the joy of coming together to share a much-loved story.

*The Sound of Music* is familiar to us all. Childhood favourites such as "doe a deer" and "favourite things" are known to every child and have become glorious "singalongs" over the years. Informal references are often made to the songs from this well-loved musical. But the themes of this story do run deeper. This story is a celebration of the resilience and spirit of individuals who embrace their true selves and uplift those around them. As the company brings Maria, the von Trapp family, and their enchanting story to life, let their journey inspire you. We should all believe in the power of our own talents and the unique contributions we make to life.

I'm very aware of the hard work involved in bringing a production like this to life. Every rehearsal, every practice, and every moment on stage contributes to creating something truly magical. The dedication, passion, and hard work of the performers, and those backstage are what will make this performance very special.

Thank you to the Pirate Productions. Your commitment and joy are what will make this performance a memorable celebration of musical theatre.

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## A Word from the Chair of Pirate Productions

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our latest musical production *The Sound of Music* on this, our 45th anniversary. Yes, Pirate Productions was founded way back in 1979, our first production being Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*, from where our club gets its name.



For this production we have a new director at the helm, Victor Bonanno, whom some of you may have seen in our recent production of *Too Darn Hot!* where he played the role of composer Cole Porter. When Victor said he'd like to direct *The Sound of Music* we were surprised, amazed and delighted that he'd chosen such a big, and iconic, show! And, with the very capable support of Dominique Vitali as choreographer and Eric Gherardi as musical director, Victor has done a great job in his directorial debut.

Of course, every production depends on the whole production team without whom such a show as this would not be possible. This also includes the stage manager, Ann Bonnici and producer, Valerie Scott who are responsible for everything you see and hear on stage, everything you can't see backstage and everything else front of house that helps make this an evening I'm sure you'll never forget. Many thanks to them and their teams for all the hours and hours of hard work.

This show is a co-production with Kinneksbond Centre Culturel Mamer and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank their entire team for their support both on the technical and organizational side. You guys are the best!!

We aim to present at least one, sometimes two productions a year, ranging from operetta to more traditional musicals. Recently, we have also shown original script productions, for example this year's horror/comedy musical *THIRTEEN* performed in April.

Any club such as ours depends on enticing new members to join. If you are interested in performing on stage as an actor, play an instrument in the orchestra, help backstage with one of the many different technical disciplines (set design, costumes, lighting, sound, props) please contact us via [backstage@pirates.lu](mailto:backstage@pirates.lu).

You can find details on the website ([www.pirates.lu](http://www.pirates.lu)) of how to join Pirates and be notified of upcoming auditions and productions.

Speaking of upcoming productions, a little bird tells me that news of our 2025 show will be released soon.....more on that later!

All that remains for me to say is thank you for your support and I hope you have a wonderful evening.

Neil Johnson  
Chair - Pirate Productions asbl



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## A Word from the Director

### Climb Ev'ry Mountain – Welcome to *The Sound of Music!*

Over the years, this show has become an indelible part of pop culture. It has been referenced in various movies and TV shows. Its music has inspired today's pop artists such as Ariana Grande and Gwen Stefani. It paved the way for other child musicals, from *Oliver!* to *The Lightning Thief*. A mark of this show's popularity was demonstrated when we had 100 children and 100 adults come to the auditions! But what keeps making this show relevant, 65 years after its opening on Broadway back in November 1959, is its universality and timelessness. Maria, a young woman on a quest to find her mission in life and the place where she belongs, is a character that everybody can relate to as we all go through similar struggles in our lives. Its ultimate message of hope in the face of adversity resonates as strongly nowadays as it did decades ago. In recent times we have had health pandemics, increasing environmental concerns, as well as political and economic turmoil. And yet the show's message to face our fears and climb our mountains, in the hope that we will come out the other side stronger and happier, is a message that we still hold close to our hearts, today more than ever before. Maria also teaches the kids, and the audience, the importance of music, laughter and fun in life. And if, like Maria, we climb our mountains with a smile on our face and with a song in our heart, the climb over the dark mountain will appear less daunting.



The 50-strong cast and live orchestra of 28 musicians that you will see today have been working hard all year round to bring this production to you. You could say this show is our mountain, and you, the audience, are the ones that make the climb worthwhile.

I would like to thank each member of the cast, the orchestra and crew for all the hard work and commitment they have shown as I have worked to make my vision a reality. However, I couldn't have done it without the great team I've had supporting me. I would like to thank Eric Gherardi, our musical director, who has shown infinite patience throughout, and Dominique Vitali, our choreographer, whose eye for detail is amazing. A special thank you also goes to Philip Dutton and Valerie Scott, who have been more than just a set designer and producer. They have supported me from Day One and I cannot thank them enough for all they've done for the show and for the company.

I would like to thank Pirate Productions for entrusting me with this show, Kinneksbond Theatre who every year allows us to use this wonderful space, and all the people who, each in their own way, have managed to make this show possible.

I would also like to take this opportunity to dedicate this show to my mother, my very own Maria. Not only did she introduce me to the movie and instilled in me a great love for this show, but she also showed me by example how to face my own personal mountains.

So long, farewell, and I hope you enjoy the show!

Victor Bonanno  
Director





## MUSICIANS

Violins (1st)	Mateja Arnesk Noémie Suto
Violins (2nd)	Danièle Deriaz Gudrun Krippner Rosalie Wellens
Violas	Reece Delia Eleanor Sharpston ( & Mandolin)
Cellos	Elinor Guinane Vishana Georgieva
Double Bass	Florence Spaus
Harp	Chiara Lopes
Flutes	Tamya Saransig Tina Giannessi ( & Piccolo)
Oboe	Simone Figl ( & English Horn)

Clarinets	Christian Walder Henry Wickens
Bassoon	Maria Mesias
Horns	Jane Wickens Agnes Merz Martine Marx (Tenor Saxophone)
Trumpets	Paul Barker Marc Gillet Pol Schummer
Trombones	Geoff Read Guy Spaus (Bass Trombone)
Tuba	Dimosthenis Miniatis
Percussion	Bob Rumé Désirée Rumé



### **Musical Director**

I have had the pleasure of working with Pirate Productions since *The Jazz Club* in 2013 when I was in the middle of my music studies and then went on to become a percussion teacher. I've always cherished the great variety of shows we put on and I am grateful for all the things I've learnt from those different experiences.

This time, for my 15th show, it's another special one, a Rodgers and Hammerstein classic, *The Sound of Music*. To be conducting such a well-known show with so much performance history is truly a great honour. Also, this is my first time conducting a full symphonic orchestra, as I have usually conducted wind bands, primarily the Harmonie Municipale Schiffange since 2018. So again, a new show with a new challenge where I could learn new things especially from the string players in the orchestra.

It is also worth mentioning that for this show, more than ever as far as I know, we were overwhelmed with the number of adults and children auditioning and spoiled with the quality of the voices we heard. The beautiful simplicity of the music really makes our lead voices shine and I promise that you will keep whistling those happy tunes for days.

Last but not least, I want to congratulate our wonderful kids for their effort and patience at the rehearsals, they are a joy to work with and I really hope their debut with us will lead to a great career in the performing arts.

Eric Gherardi



### **Choreographer**

I have danced both as an amateur and a professional with a focus on ballroom and Latin-American dancing. Having also trained in ballet, historical dances, tap dance and flamenco, I have that general knowledge that comes in handy when staging choreography for musicals playing in various periods of history and with casts of mixed dancing skills.

When the director asked me if I would work on *The Sound of Music*, I was somewhat nervous because after 20 years with Pirates, I had yet to work with children... well I survived and, more importantly, the children have too! The opportunity to work with Eric as Musical Director and Victor as Director was too good to pass up. After seeing and hearing the talented cast (adults and children) that was selected I could not wait to start rehearsals.

*The Sound of Music* is my 12th show with Pirate Productions after *Cinderella* (2003), *Stepping Out* (2003), *Showtime* (2004), *La Cage aux Folles* (2006), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (2009), *Nunsense* (2012), *Scrooge -The Musical* (2017), *Young Frankenstein* (2018), *Melusina* (2019) and *Too Darn Hot!* (2022).

I hope you enjoy the show as much as I have working with Victor, Eric and all the cast in putting this show together.

Dominique Vitali





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# Principals - Adults



## Sabine Goedert (Maria)

I discovered my passion for singing, dancing and acting at the young age of 5 years when I was sitting in the front row of *Starlight Express* in Bochum. My parents supported my love for music by giving me the opportunity to take classical guitar and voice lessons. Through my adolescence and young adult life I've been lead guitarist and singer in a rock band, and was a soloist and dancer in a musical-revue production in Germany for 6 years.

After 10 years of not being on a stage, I now have the opportunity to do this show with Pirates. I still can't believe my luck in getting such a dream role as Maria! The whole rehearsal process was such a fun time and I cherished every second of it. Friendships formed throughout the months, and I am very sure to miss my 12 stepchildren and my stage-husband as soon as the last curtain falls. I hope you'll all enjoy the show as much as the whole cast does!



## Ignacio Gonzalez (Captain von Trapp)

I was born in Madrid and started making music at a young age, but it was only when I joined a choir as a teenager that it really clicked. Since then I have not been able to stop singing, in choirs and as a soloist, with little roles in operas and operettas, and doing a lot of renaissance and baroque music.

This is my first incursion into musical theatre, and what a ride! I have had a lot of fun in rehearsals, discovering that acting is harder than one would think. Even walking in the right way is difficult! But after a lot of perseverance, we have managed to climb every mountain that we have encountered, and I think it has come along very well. I hope you enjoy it as much as our von Trapp household does!



## Christine Leick (Mother Abbess)

I've been singing in choirs since I was a child, but it wasn't until 2010, when the conductor of the choir I had just joined encouraged me to take classical singing lessons at the Luxembourg Conservatory, that I truly discovered how much singing means to me. Incidentally, this man is now my husband and we are surrounded by music every day!

This is my first production with Pirates, and I am very excited to share the stage with this amazing group of people.



## Catriona Gillham (Baroness Elsa Schröder)

After arriving in Luxembourg for work in 2014, I was looking for ways to meet new people, build my confidence, and give myself a challenge - and I quickly discovered Pirates, which was holding auditions for *Oliver!* I haven't looked back, and since then have got involved in as many shows as I can, either on-stage (e.g. as Elizabeth Benning in *Young Frankenstein* and as Linda Lee Thomas in *Too Darn Hot!*) or behind the lighting desk - sometimes with my buddy and lighting coach Anthony, and sometimes on my own. I feel really lucky to be part of such a big, successful, well-organised club, which gives us a chance to learn so many new skills!

When I'm not in rehearsals with Pirates or at work, I can be found playing percussion with the Rollingergrund Harmonie, singing with the choir Dixtuor, or taking singing lessons at the Conservatoire. Having completed my Premier Prix in classical singing a couple of years ago, I am now studying baroque singing.



### Simon Taylor-Kielty (Max Detweiler)

I'm a Manchurian, who's lived all over the place, and had loads of different jobs but mostly I've been employed as an illustrator on books and greetings cards. Playing Max Detweiler in *The Sound of Music* is the pinnacle of everything that I've done before! I love the character, and I've always LOVED the show! It's everything that makes musical theatre so special! All the songs are sing-a-longy and full of energy! We've got an AMAZING cast and crew! Us on stage are having a ball, hope you have a ball watching the show too!



### Serge Losch (Franz - Butler)

40 years ago, I played in the orchestra in Pirates' production of *Lilac Time*. Now I'm on stage in *The Sound of Music* with so many talented people from lots of different places. What an honour and pleasure! In my musical (amateur) life, I have played brass and sung all kinds of music as a soloist and in choirs. After having performed in operas, operettas and musicals, I knew that this is what I wanted to do alongside composing music. Now I am the butler, not singing, but serving, in this great show that I hope you're going to enjoy.



### Blathnaid O'hAnnrachain (Frau Schmidt - House Keeper)

I started acting in school in my teenage years and quickly formed a passion for theatre. This year marks 20 years of my membership of the Pirates family. In 2004, I started with Showtime, and over the years I have performed in *La Cage aux Folles*, *Calamity Jane*, *Aladdin* and *The Jazz Club*. In recent years you will have found me regularly behind the bar at Pirates shows, but I'm delighted to be once again tripping the light fantastic this year and holding up the other side of the bar!



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# Synopsis

## Act One

In 1937 Salzburg, Austria, nuns from Nonnberg Abbey sing the “Preludium”, while one of the postulants, Maria Rainer, is on the nearby mountainside. The Mother Abbess and the other nuns consider what to do with her. The Mother Abbess sends Maria out from the Abbey to serve as temporary governess to the seven children of a former naval officer, Captain Georg von Trapp.

The Captain introduces Maria to the children and she teaches them the basics of singing. That night, Rolf, a young messenger, meets with the eldest child, Liesl, while a loud thunderstorm causes the frightened children to seek out Maria in her bedroom.

Captain von Trapp arrives a month later from Vienna with Baroness Elsa Schröder and Max Detweiler. Elsa tells Max that something is preventing the Captain from marrying her. Max declares that only poor people have the time for great romances. Maria arrives with the children, all wearing clothes that Maria has made from her old bedroom curtains. The Captain is embarrassed and enraged. Maria confronts him and he orders her back to Nonnberg but when he hears the children singing for Elsa, his heart opens up and he asks Maria to stay.

The Captain throws a lavish party for Elsa. As the Captain and Maria dance to the Ländler, an Austrian Folk dance, they recognise their unspoken attraction. Maria, confused by her feelings for the Captain, flees back to Nonnberg Abbey, where the Mother Abbess encourages her to return to the Captain and find the life she was born to live.

## Act Two

Without Maria, the children have lost the joy of making music but suddenly, Maria returns. Max and Elsa try to convince the Captain that the imminent Anschluss is inevitable but the Captain remains unwavering in his disgust for the Nazis, and he and Elsa realise that they cannot share a future. The Captain now understands what he and Maria have both known deep inside for many weeks.

In Mother Abbess’ office, Mother Abbess and the Nuns of Nonnberg Abbey prepare Maria for her wedding to the Captain. As the nuns watch, Maria walks down the aisle at her wedding in procession with the children and the Captain.

The Captain and Maria return from their honeymoon to find that Rolf and Franz the butler have joined ranks with the Nazis. Admiral von Schreiber of the Third Reich and Herr Zeller, the local Nazi leader, inform Captain von Trapp that he must accept a commission in the German Navy and report immediately to Bremerhaven. The Captain and Maria decide that they must secretly flee Austria.

The von Trapps sing at the Kaltzberg Festival, and they leave the stage in small groups. The family takes refuge at Nonnberg Abbey as Nazi soldiers look for them. Rolf discovers the von Trapps, but seeing Liesl, he chooses not to reveal their hiding place. They flee over the Alps to freedom and escape the Nazis.





# Cast List

Maria

Captain von Trapp

Liesel

Friedrich

Sabine Goedert-Breil

Ignacio Gonzalez

Josephine Hatch

Jakob Puc

*Thu & Sat matinée*

*Fri, Sat evening &  
Sun matinée*

Louisa

Brigitta

Kurt

Marta

Gretl

Mother Abbess

Baroness Schröder

Max Detweiler

Rolf

Frau Schmidt

Franz

Emily Charitos

Sophie Belisle

José Maria Assunção

Ines Carnicero

Claire Feugier Camisuli

Christine Leick

Catriona Gillham

Simon Taylor-Kielty

Bruno Mackenzie

Blathnaid O'hAnnrachain

Serge Losch

Karolina Lazarus Yazbeck

Zoi Ioannidi

David Kavas Puc

Zoe Kiss

Evelyn Taraskiewicz

## *Ensemble & Minor Characters*

Aifric Ní Fhloinn

Anton Zerafa

Dorothee Waldeck

Julie Darné

Michael Watson

Pavla Kolarova

Sheila Kucharczyk

Valerie Scott

Alexandra Slack

Artemios Vogiatzis

Dustin Andersen

Julien Farlin

Mihaela Schmiedel

Petra Lahr

Swagat Sinha

Victoria Carrende Herrero

Ana Luisa Colaço

Caroline Klein

Elena Nogarole

Keira Bianchi

Monica Trantow

Pierre van Boxel

Tanja Duhr

Aneta Schuetz

Clare Christensen

Francesca Marzi

Marina Tomašić

Paula Simpson

Samantha Huffman

Tom Mortimer



# Running Order

## Act I

Scene 1 – Nonnberg Abbey, Salzburg

Scene 2 – Mountainside, Salzburg

Scene 3 – Office of Mother Abbess

Scene 4 – Courtyard of the Abbey

Scene 5 – Living room at von Trapp villa

Scene 6 – Terrace at von Trapp villa

Scene 7 – Maria's bedroom

Scene 8 – Hallway outside bedroom

Scene 9 – Terrace at von Trapp villa

Scene 10 – Hallway outside Living room

Scene 11 – Living room at Von Trapp villa

Scene 12 – Courtyard of the Abbey

Scene 13 - Office of Mother Abbess

*Preludium* - Nuns

*The Sound of Music* – Maria

*Maria* – Mother Abbess, Sister Margaretta  
Sister Berthe, Sister Sophia

*My Favourite Things* – Maria & Mother Abbess

*My Favourite Things* – Maria

*Do-Re-Mi* – Maria & the children

*Sixteen going on Seventeen* – Rolf & Liesl

*The Lonely Goatherd* – Maria & the children

*The Lonely Goatherd* – Gretl

*How Can Love Survive?* – Max & Elsa

*The Sound of Music* – Maria & the children

*So Long, Farewell* – The children

*Morning hymn* – Nuns

*Climb Ev'ry Mountain* – Mother Abbess

## Act II

Scene 1 – Terrace at the villa

Scene 2 – Nonnberg Abbey

Scene 3 – Office of Mother Abbess

Scene 4 – Nonnberg Abbey

Scene 5 – Living room at villa

Scene 6 – Concert Hall, Kaltzberg

Scene 7 – Courtyard of the Abbey

*The Lonely Goatherd* – Max & the children

*The Sound of Music* – Captain & the children

*My Favourite Things* – Maria & the children

*Gaudeamus Domino* – Nuns

*Maria* – Nuns

*Confitemini Domino* – Nuns

*Sixteen Going On Seventeen* – Maria & Liesl

*Do-Re-Mi* – von Trapp family

*Do-Re-Mi* – von Trapp family

*Edelweiss* – Captain, Maria & the children

*So Long, Farewell* – von Trapp family

*Climb Ev'ry Mountain* – Nuns







# Principals - Young Cast

(in alphabetical order of first name)



## **Bruno Mackenzie (Rolf)**

After playing a petty drug dealer in the Pirates show *Tom and the Magic Door* last year, I was eager to join another one of their productions, so I was ecstatic when I found out I was going to play Rolf in *The Sound of Music*! I've loved acting since I was 12, which was when I got to play a fabulous drag queen in my theatre class, and now I'm very excited to be part of such a wonderfully talented ensemble!



## **Claire Feugier Camisuli (Gretl - Thu, Sat matinée)**

This is my first theatre show ever, and I am very excited to be part of the cast of *The Sound of Music*. Outside of theatre, I practice gymnastics and went to the national championships of Luxembourg, I love music and I play three instruments: tuba, viola, and piano, and I also started ballet when I was 4 years old. I moved to Luxembourg 4 years ago from Qatar where I was born in 2014. I loved rehearsing with all these nice people!



## **David Kavas Puc (Kurt - Fri, Sat evening, Sun matinée)**

I fell in love with acting and performing on stage from my early childhood. Even my parents can't guess sometimes when I'm serious or just acting! Acting also serves me well when I play basketball, my other passion. At least it always works with the referee. As an all-round musician I play violin, saxophone and sing in the choir. After doing my first musical last year with the Pirates, I am so happy to be able to perform in *The Sound of Music* this year.



## **Emily Charitos (Louisa - Thu, Sat matinée)**

From a very young age, I've been passionate about the performing arts. Studying English drama, piano, dance and singing has only deepened my love for this field. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to portray Louisa von Trapp in this production of *The Sound of Music*, and I look forward to bringing this beloved character to life.



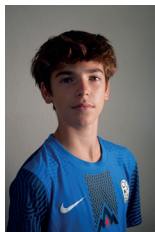
## **Evelyn Taraskiewicz (Gretl - Fri, Sat evening, Sun matinée)**

This is my first show with Pirates and I am super excited but a little bit nervous. I am 9 years old and in year 4 at ISML. My only other acting experience has been in performances put on by our afterschool program: playing Mr. Wormwood in *Matilda* and the Cheshire Cat in *Alice in Wonderland*. I love to sing and dance and have been, according to my mom, doing both since I was a baby. My favorite part of this experience has been making new friends and realizing that I truly love drama.



## **Ines Carcinero (Marta - Thu, Sat matinée)**

I'm 12 years old, and I've been singing since I was 6. My favorite song used to be "Castle on a Cloud" from *Les Misérables*, but now it's "Popular" from *Wicked*. I've been taking singing lessons with my teacher Tali since I was 6. When I got the role of Marta I was thrilled. I love rehearsing since everyone is very fun and friendly, and the songs are enjoyable to perform although evening rehearsals can run a little late. My favorite song in the show is "So Long, Farewell" because I love the dance and the context of the song.



### **Jakob Puc (Friedrich)**

I love to be active, be it in playing sports on the court or acting on the stage. I have done school theatre and have been doing dancing for number of years. Most recently, I had the opportunity to act in the Pirates production *THIRTEEN* and I fell in love with musicals! Especially because they are the perfect way to be able to act, dance and sing at the same time. It has been my dream to experience *The Sound of Music* on stage as one of the von Trapp kids!



### **José Maria Assunção (Kurt - Thu, Sat matinée)**

I'm Portuguese, I'm ten, and I have been doing theatre for ten months now. It's my first ever show and I'm very excited to be here. I attend the European school in Kirchberg. When I'm not in school or in Pirates, I love to read, watch TV, and draw. I'm surrounded by amazing actors, from whom I have learned a lot. When I get my first Tony, I'll probably spend the money on a Nintendo Switch2 (just kidding, but hoping). I've made lots of friends, and I hope that I am able to work with Pirates again in the near future.



### **Josie Hatch (Liesl)**

I am excited to be appearing in my first show with Pirates. I have previously performed in several musicals at the International School of Luxembourg, including *Into The Woods*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *West Side Story*, and *Les Misérables*. I also acted in the plays *Monsters* and *The IT*, and played the role of Sybil in the Berliner GrundTheater's (BGT) 2024 production of *Daisy Pulls it Off*. I have also been a stagehand and performed minor roles for their productions of *Di And Viv And Rose* and *The Good Guy?*.



### **Karolina Lazarus Yazbeck (Louisa - Fri, Sat evening, Sun matinée)**

This is my second show with Pirates, the first one being *THIRTEEN*. I have been involved in the theatre since 2022 when I started with the New World Theatre Club. That ignited a spark and passion for acting. The first time I watched *The Sound of Music* was in Salzburg, where the movie was filmed, and I instantly fell in love with the characters, plot, and songs. The younger version of myself would be thrilled to hear I'm playing one of the siblings of the von Trapp family. After spending many hours in rehearsals, I am eager to participate in this production.



### **Sophie Belisle (Brigitta - Thu, Sat matinée)**

At 12 years old, I'm thrilled to embrace the role of Brigitta. Fluent in French, English, German, and Luxembourgish, I've recently joined Lycée Michel Rodange in a music-focused class. My love for performing arts sees me taking acting lessons, while singing and dancing fuel my artistic passions. Creativity is my playground; I adore crafting, especially crochet and making bracelets. Sometimes, I even pen my own songs. And this year, Eurovision has become a new obsession—I dream of performing on such a grand stage one day!



### **Zoe Kiss (Marta - Fri, Sat evening, Sun matinée)**

I am 10 years old. When I was younger, I always wanted to play in a musical or a movie. Now it is a dream come true. In addition to acting, I like singing and dancing, and I further enjoy climbing, football and exercising. When I get older, I would like to be an actress. I am really excited for the show. It is my first show with Pirates and I am very much looking forward to it. I hope you enjoy it!



### **Zoi Ioannidi (Brigitta - Fri, Sat evening, Sun matinée)**

The first time I went on stage was four years ago during FEST 2022 performing *The Good, The Bad And The Ugly Sister* with my school, and I truly fell in love with performing. So I joined the New World Theatre club the year after and in 2024 I performed the lead role in *The IT*. I still go to my school's drama club and we participated in FEST 2024 performing *The Audition*. This is my first show with Pirates, and it has taught me so much. Combining two things I love, acting and singing, has been an exciting and new experience!





Schöfflenger Musek & Jugendmusek  
- Wanterconcert 2024 -



Innuendo before Christmas

7. Dezember um 19:30

an der Schöfflenger Kierch

as ALEXANDRA SLACK

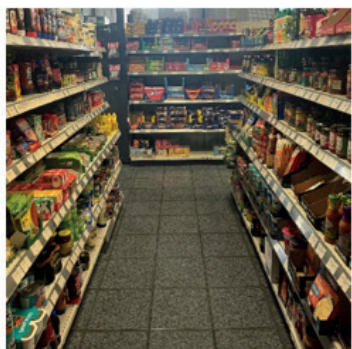
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# Ensemble including minor characters

(in alphabetical order of first name)



## Aifric Ní Fhloinn (Postulant)

This is my first production with Pirates, and I have had such fun familiarising myself with such an iconic musical! At home in Ireland, I participated in productions of *Oliver!* and *Legally Blonde*. After moving to Luxembourg, I was very excited to hear about Pirates and to get involved. I am a passionate fan of musicals, and though I normally enjoy them from the audience, it has been very interesting getting to see behind the scenes of this production.



## Alexandra Slack (Sister Berthe)

After a long break from the stage, I was challenged by a friend to audition for my first show with Pirates. As I'm often inviting my career coaching clients to be courageous, I decided I had to dive in despite the nerves! And what a delight it's been! I've been transported back to my youthful days in the UK performing with Leeds Youth Opera (Gounod's *Faust*, Sondheim's *Into The Woods*, Bernstein's *Candide*), and in various school productions. I just hope my children see a difference between my character - the strict Sister Berthe - and their mum!



## Ana Luisa Colaço (Nun, Maid)

Working in the judiciary all my life - which in itself has a bit of a ritualistic and acting side - the performing arts have always been my "alter ego", where I can freely express myself through music, singing, dancing and acting. Although I've been on stage before in Luxembourg, this is the first time I am working with Pirates and doing so in a play with a special personal meaning. In fact, for many years, the Portuguese television would broadcast *The Sound of Music* film every Christmas, so it remains a treasure in my childhood family memories.



## Aneta Schuetz (Nun)

To a former bank employee like me, joining a crew of Pirates was a completely new adventure. Although I have some background in classical singing and performing on stage, being involved in this great production is an entirely different experience. It is an exciting journey to be part of this show and work with such talented and passionate individuals in the world of theater. I must point out, however, that all those common stories about Pirates are misleading. During months of rehearsals, not once did we board a single ship, or even see a parrot for that matter.



## Anton Zerafa (Baron Elberfeld, Nazi soldier)

As a 9 year old school boy, I was lucky enough to take part in Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*. More than 25 years later, and here I am, taking part in my first show with Pirates. I was always inclined towards learning new skills, and with Pirates I'm doing just that while having fun. After watching *Oliver!* in 2016, and most of their subsequent productions, I decided the time had come for me to get out of my comfort zone and address my theatrical drought. And I dare ask: which better production to do so in other than a classic like *The Sound of Music*?



## Artemios Vogiatzis (Baron Elberfeld, Nazi soldier)

Being part of this timeless classic musical under the amazing guidance of our director, Victor Bonnanno, has been a very rewarding experience. I love all things theatre, from backstage and production to being on stage. I have been involved in theatre from early adulthood until today, and I enjoy every minute of it. During this show, be prepared for a strong emotional journey throughout both acts!



### **Caroline Klein (Sister Sophia)**

I have had a passion for musicals since childhood, and at the age of 10 I joined the Artistekëscht Kayl-Téiteng theatre company, of which I'm still a member. During my years at the Lycée de Garçons in Esch-sur-Alzette, I was a member of the Geoghelli theatre company, where I took part in productions such as *Spamalot*, *Cabaret*, *Curtains* and *9 to 5*. One of my favourite productions as a soloist was the open-air show *De Neie Mineur* as part of Esch 2022. Now I'm glad to be part of a new adventure with Pirates.



### **Clare Christensen (Baroness Elberfeld, Nun)**

This is my first show with Pirates and my first role on stage since playing a rat in *The Pied Piper* at junior school. I've long been a fan and follower of Pirate Productions and this year got the chance to be a part of this wonderful show – it's a good feeling! I've been singing in various projects over the years and more recently in two choirs but I think I've now caught the theatre bug and can't think why I didn't try this before!



### **Dorothee Waldeck (Nun)**

With many years singing in choirs, doing music (as of age 8), and dancing various styles in Germany, I am happy to have found Pirate Productions in Luxembourg and to now be joining them for my third show. Having worked in tourism and events as well as projects, I am very impressed with the talent and variety of backgrounds I meet here and it is always a wonderful atmosphere and experience to do the hard work in combination with such fun and lovely people. So much to learn and contributing to great projects is very inspiring for me.



### **Dustin Andersen (Party guest, Nazi soldier)**

My first show with Pirates was *Too Darn Hot!* in 2022, where I played the role of Gerald Murphy, though I have been involved in musical theater both on and off the stage since I was a teenager. I am excited to help bring the classic show *The Sound of Music* to life for the Luxembourgish public, and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with a great cast and crew. Please enjoy the show!



### **Elena Nogarole (Postulant)**

My first time on stage was when I was five years old. Since then, theatre has been a big part of my life. First at school, then with the theatre club of my hometown, and eventually during University. My passion for languages has led me to take part in French, Romanian, Italian and English plays. When I moved to Luxembourg, I joined an acting group and participated in auditions. This is my first show with Pirates and I am so excited to be in it that I convinced my parents to come all the way from Italy to see me!



### **Francesca Marzi (Frau Zeller, Nun)**

My love for theater and acting began more than 25 years ago (oops, I guess I just revealed my age!) during my university days in Venice, Italy, where I participated in Commedia dell'Arte and Goldoni-inspired theatrical pieces. My involvement with acting continued for several years in Milan, but paused for a while due to family and work commitments. Recently, I've rekindled my passion for acting, and I've also become intrigued by singing. This is my first show with Pirates, and I hope it won't be the last, as the flame is once again burning bright in my heart!





### **Julie Darné (Nun, Party guest)**

I've enjoyed singing all my life and have always dreamed of being part of a musical. What better musical to start with than *The Sound of Music*, a film I loved as a child and watched over and over again! This is my first show and musical ever, and I couldn't be happier to be part of such an amazing, hardworking cast and experience all the efforts of the people invested in Pirate Productions. I've learned so much and feel lucky to be surrounded by such talented people.



### **Julien Farlin (Herr Zeller)**

Over the years, I have played quite a few different characters on stage, but never someone as deeply evil as Herr Zeller. Finding within myself the buried forces necessary to play a combination of total fanaticism and utter contempt for human life and then summoning them at will has been a particularly rewarding experience and I hope the chilling effect I was looking for is effective.



### **Keira Bianchi (Postulant, Party guest)**

I've always loved music and theatre - since age 5 I've been singing and acting (and attempted dancing but very briefly). When I'm not procrastinating on homework, I'm playing piano, singing, wall climbing, and reading. This is my first show with Pirates and I'm thrilled. I've always wanted to play a nun! It's been a lovely experience, filled with unexpected lessons like the Ländler and the Viennese waltz (which is much harder than it looks!!). It's been a lot of fun preparing this show and I hope you'll experience some of it with us tonight.



### **Marina Tomasic (Nun, Party guest)**

This year it is 20 years since I first joined Pirate Productions. In that time, I have participated in some 15 shows, mostly as a part of the chorus and I have had a couple of choreographing stints for the smaller shows. I enjoy the whole process, from practicing songs and dances to performing on stage. This is my first appearance on the stage as a nun, or at least as a "real" nun. A couple of years ago, I was a nun in a dancing number, but that involved some very short skirts and high heels. I won't say more.... Enjoy the show!



### **Michael Watson (Party guest, Nazi soldier)**

This is my 7th show with Pirates and I'm thrilled to be making my first time debut as a dancer in this production of *The Sound Of Music*. As with previous shows such as *Young Frankenstein*, *Melusina* and *Showtime*, I'm excited to take on this new challenge and contribute to the magic of live theater. The unwavering support from my family and theater friends have provided me with the opportunity to embrace this special experience. I look forward to sharing the stage with such talented performers and hope the audience will enjoy this timeless story as much as I've enjoyed being a part of it.



### **Mihaela Schmiedel (Nun, Singing contestant)**

This is my first show with Pirates, though I am a passionate performer with a dynamic career in both theater and music. In 2012, I had the privilege to join the Romanian cast of *Avant-Scène*, and later, I took the bold step of singing solo in front of live audiences. My love for acting has also led me to appear in several Luxembourgish films, expanding my creative journey.





### **Monica Trantow (Nun, Party guest)**

I am excited to join Pirates' production of *The Sound of Music* as my first musical since moving to Luxembourg. Theatre and music has been a passion since my youth. Previous involvement includes Choeur de Chambre de Luxembourg, the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and performing the roles of Minnie Fay in *Hello, Dolly!*, Rose in *The Secret Garden*, Thomasina in *Arcadia*, and Jo in *Little Women*.



### **Paula Simpson (Sister Margaretta)**

It all started in Portugal. I was an avid listener of opera for as long as I can remember, and *The Sound of Music*, repeatedly broadcast on TV, gave me a taste for musicals. Little did I know, that after what seems like a lifetime later, I would be embarking on this exciting musical adventure! Professionally occupied as a translator for the European Commission, my musical training had to wait until my four children became independent. I first joined the University Choir, and subsequently pursued a formal education in the first artistic love of my life - singing.



### **Pavla Kolarova (Soloist, Nun)**

It is thanks to *The Sound of Music* that I finally made it into Pirates! I have been passionate about musicals ever since I can remember, and *The Sound of Music* was the first one I came across at a very young age. I even sang Maria's 'Do-Re-Mi' with a children's choir while I was working in the Czech Republic. So auditioning for *The Sound of Music* was a logical step even if I can only sing and never really made it to acting. I am excited to be part of this adventure and I am enjoying every moment of it!



### **Petra Lahr (Nun, Singing contestant)**

As a kid I looooved musicals, so I joined the school choir, danced, wrote sketches, and did some choreography and decorating for high school festivals. In Paris, I took acting & singing classes in the 80's, but my first stage experience came in 2000 while working at Club Med Bahamas as a scuba instructor because animators get to be on stage every night. After *Melusina* (2019) and *We Need a Little Christmas* (2021), *The Sound of Music* is my 3rd show and I am very happy and grateful to be part of it with a great director, amazing cast, and incredible production team.



### **Pierre van Boxel (Admiral von Schreiber, Party guest)**

*The Sound of Music* marks not only my first production with Pirates but also my debut on the theatre stage. After a friend heard me sing at a charity concert, they encouraged me to audition, and I thought, "Why not take on a new adventure?" I'm so glad I did! While I've always been surrounded by musical theatre through friends involved in acting, music, and stage crew, and have enjoyed supporting various children's drama projects, this is my first time stepping into the spotlight. It's been an exciting and rewarding journey, and I'm thrilled to be part of this incredible production.



### **Samantha Huffman (Postulant, Party guest)**

Growing up, I had a love for singing and performance, which later grew into a love for theatre as well in my teenage years. Since moving to Luxembourg in 2021, I've had the pleasure of working with Pirate Productions in both on-stage roles such as Sarah Murphy in *Too Darn Hot!* and backstage as producer and props master of *THIRTEEN*. I am delighted to be part of an amazing chorus of ladies for *The Sound of Music*, and I hope you all enjoy it as much as I have.





### **Sheila Kucharczyk (Postulant)**

At the age of 9, I started singing at school, tried acting, and performed in concerts, but this is my first opportunity to be part of a show like this one. The results are a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved. Playing in a musical this year is something that makes me proud because the actors involved are both friendly and skilled at acting.



### **Swagat Sinha (Party guest, Priest, Nazi soldier)**

It might come as a surprise, but despite being an Indian, this is my first ever musical. Having done theatre in India before, I was in my first show in Luxembourg last year as part of NWTC's show *Immaculate*, and I had a blast on stage and felt like I found a place I could call my own. When I'm not hamming around on stage, I can be found being dramatic with my 2 toddlers or pretending to be a project specialist at work. If you can't spot me, I'll be the one on stage dancing with 2 left feet!



### **Tanja Duhr (Party guest, Festival assistant)**

A passionate dancer, I've been in many dance shows, but also acted in theatre pieces (I played a lighthouse owner in my first play) and performed in musicals at school and later with Pirates (*The Jazz Club*, *Lost In The Stars*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Melusina*, etc). This musical is so iconic and I feel very honoured to be a part of it. These days it is important to show how fast things can go wrong when bad people get into positions of power. Victor does an amazing job as the director and having Dom as the choreographer is always great fun!



### **Tom Mortimer (Party guest, Nazi soldier)**

Working with Pirates once again, on one of their hit productions, I am glad to be back on stage. I must have done something right with my German accent in *Melusina*, as they want me to play someone who speaks German again! I have always enjoyed taking part in the Pirates show, whether it was helping behind the bar, or mugging someone on stage, they are always a fantastic crew. I just hope the directors all have their methods of recovering after this. With the amount of work they have put in, they will definitely need a well deserved rest!



### **Valerie Scott (Nun, Singing contestant)**

I joined Pirates by accident almost 30 years ago, and was given the part of the wicked witch in a pantomime which was a delicious role! Since then I have been a duchess, a doctor, a tap-dancer, and a mad woman among many others. This is the first time I've been a nun so I'm obviously going up in the world! It's been great fun to be involved with *The Sound of Music* as it is such a well known show and also Victor's first production as director. I hope you enjoy it as much as we've enjoyed rehearsing it.



### **Victoria Carande Herrero (Nun, Singing contestant)**

I started to sing just 15 years ago, when I was already living in Luxemburg. I have since tried all musical experiences within my reach: the venerable Chorale Saint-Michel, the refreshing Luxembourg Jazz Voices, the sultry Sultry, open mic sessions at pubs, a cappella projects in churches... Then I heard about this gorgeous opportunity to sing "at the top of my voice"! I just could not miss it. This is a show about the power of our voices to live, love, rejoice and fight for freedom. Exactly my favourite things.





## WORD SEARCH

Can you find the places, songs, characters and composers in the grid below?

R	O	A	G	A	I	R	T	S	U	A	X	I	V	O	L
B	D	T	C	G	N	R	E	A	S	L	S	E	I	L	V
S	A	T	L	O	U	I	S	A	U	L	S	F	E	C	O
S	U	I	I	K	N	C	O	M	P	T	I	W	A	I	N
G	R	G	M	L	Y	V	T	P	E	E	E	E	R	S	T
N	E	I	B	B	Q	A	E	R	R	R	W	D	O	U	R
I	B	R	E	G	R	E	U	N	A	G	L	D	F	M	A
H	M	B	V	W	O	I	V	F	T	M	E	I	A	F	P
T	O	E	E	V	E	N	G	E	B	A	D	N	V	O	P
E	T	F	R	O	R	N	O	I	R	T	E	G	W	D	S
T	H	I	Y	O	O	Y	V	E	T	C	Y	O	F	N	O
I	E	U	M	L	D	R	E	D	F	T	V	T	R	U	U
R	U	M	O	T	H	E	R	S	U	P	E	R	I	O	R
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O	U	N	N	O	I	H	E	S	K	K	S	Y	D	E	D
V	E	V	T	R	O	Y	S	G	O	O	C	E	R	H	G
A	T	R	A	M	N	E	S	N	U	S	A	N	I	T	E
F	U	M	I	G	N	C	N	I	A	T	P	A	C	I	R
Y	I	A	N	O	R	D	G	E	R	A	T	U	H	A	S
M	E	H	R	V	E	M	W	S	O	L	W	O	A	X	S
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S	B	S	O	M	E	T	H	I	N	G	G	O	O	D	E

AUSTRIA

BARONESS

BRIGITTA

CAPTAIN

CLIMB EVERY  
MOUNTAIN

CONVENT

DO RE MI

EDELWEISS

FRIEDRICH

GOVERNESS

GRETLE

HAMMERSTEIN

KURT

LIESL

LOUISA

MARIA

MARTA

MAX

MOTHER  
SUPERIOR

MY FAVOURITE  
THINGS

NUN

RODGERS

SO LONG  
FAREWELL

SOMETHING  
GOOD

THE SOUND OF  
MUSIC

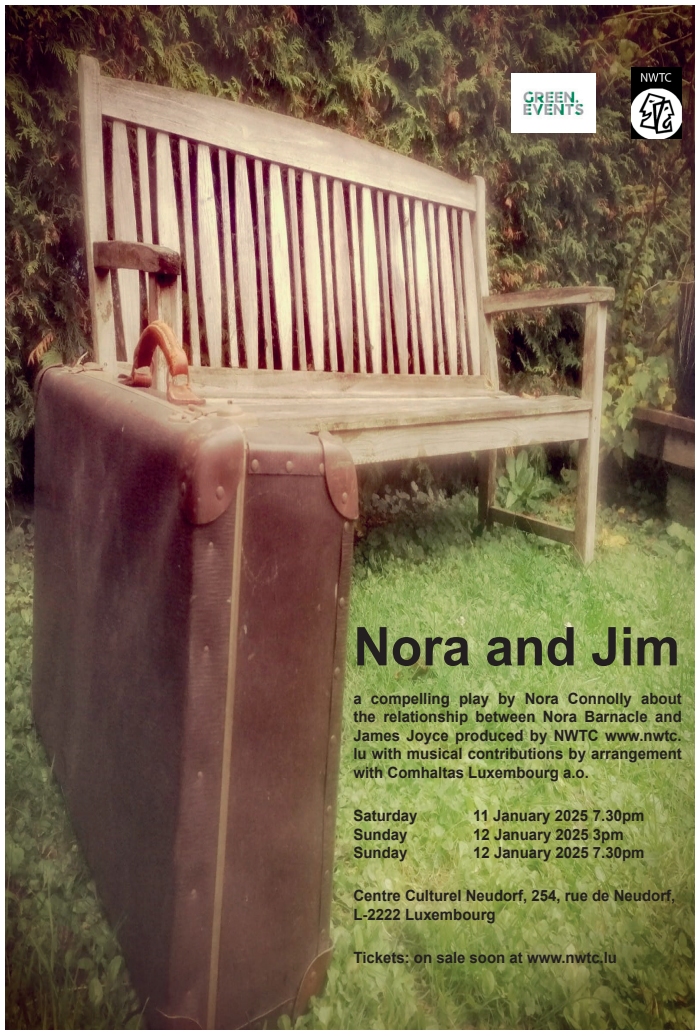
VON TRAPPS

WEDDING

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Victor Bonanno
Musical Director	Eric Gherardi
Choreographer	Dominique Vitali
Producer	Valerie Scott
Stage Manager	Ann Bonnici
Set – Lead	Philip Dutton (Design & Construction)
Set - Support	Zoe Comberleran
Props	Dustin Andersen & Samantha Huffman
Costumes	Hilary Brown, Ciara Barker, Silvia Antichi, Chris Wilson Moira Hogg, Debbie Lloyd, Chantelle Bonnici, Fiona Turner
Hair	Tekla Skowronski
Make-up	Carrie Milne & Chantelle Bonnici
Lighting	Ant Mc Carthy & Alessio Puglisi (Kinneksbond)
Sound Effects	Victor Bonanno & Philip Dutton
Sound Effects Operator	Alex Teligadas
Sound	Sam Weisenfeld (Kinneksbond)
Microphones	Vicki Ball, Sephora Francalanza & Anne Louise Littlejohn
Backstage Crew	Andrew Stewart, Claire Haigh, Eva Sorrentino, Jan Thoemel, Jean Gové, Jennifer Lucarelli, Maria Willms Mercado, Philip Dutton, Steven Planata, Vital Pourprix
Follow Spot Operators	Raphael Neumann & Gabriela Zuntova
Young Principals Supervisor	Natasha Laiti-Jones
Video recording & Editing	Mike Lochtchinine
Box Office	Pam Carlisle
Front of House Manager	Maiken Thamdrup
Bar Managers	Beverley Atkinson & Simon Critchlow
Programme	Phil Taylor, Valerie Scott & Samantha Huffman
Poster Design	Simon Taylor-Kielty
Publicity	Samantha Huffman, Dustin Andersen & Valerie Scott
Cast Party / Gifts	Valerie Scott

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# Production Team



**Valerie Scott (Producer)**

As producer, I look after things that don't go on stage. You'd be surprised how varied this can be from looking after the budget, doing publicity to putting the programme together. Fortunately, I have a lot of very capable people to help me for which I am very grateful. I have also been quite involved in a number of backstage areas which is all part of the fun and working together as a team.



**Ann Bonnici (Stage Manager)**

I love theatre and all performing arts. With a background in stage management in Malta, this is my debut behind the scenes since I moved to Luxembourg. I was thrilled to join *The Sound of Music* team since this has always been one of my favourite musicals. I have worked in several theatres in Malta and managed several challenging scenes like abseiling on stage and a lively dog during Shakespeare's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

## Moments behind the scenes





### **Philip Dutton (Set design and construction)**

Two years ago Victor asked if I could build a set with a mezzanine floor, arches and a moveable staircase which was the basis of his concept for the show. Obviously, I said yes. I spent some time making detailed design plans and then, after I began construction, I found that I had to adjust things as I went along because things just don't always work out in practice! That's show business!



### **Dustin Andersen & Samantha Huffman (Props masters)**

We are a wife and husband duo who share a love for musical theater, and have previously worked together as co-props masters on the Pirates recent production, *THIRTEEN*. For that spooky show we brought together effects both ordinary and extraordinary. It has been a great joy to work together with Victor on his first production as director, as well as the rest of the production team. We hope you enjoy the show!



### **Hilary Brown (Costumes)**

I was involved with Pirates making costumes during the 1990's and after a few years away I returned to the club. For *The Sound of Music* we have hired most of the costumes so it's more a logistical task. Having decided once again to help I have been grateful to our producer, Valerie, who has been marvellous! If you fancy joining us on the back stage team do speak to someone.



### **Ant Mc Carthy (Lighting)**

I have been the lighting guy for a great many Pirates Production shows since 1998 and have enjoyed every minute of every show. I have had way too much fun creating spaces for characters to inhabit; a surreal bedroom or a 1930's Jazz Club, an imagined beach or a London Underground train. I hope you will enjoy *The Sound of Music* as much as I have. You don't have to be on-stage to get that showbiz buzz!



### **Tekla Skowronski (Hair)**

I joined Pirates on my arrival in Luxembourg some 35 years ago and my first musical was *Oedipus Tyrannus* (1992). I am a hair stylist by trade but consider myself to be a creative entrepreneur! I started helping backstage with doing hair for the *Mikado* (1996) and now it's *The Sound of Music*. It's fun and challenging to do hair for Pirates as there is such a variety of coifs to produce.



### **Maiken Thamdrup (Front of House Manager)**

I have been a member of Pirates since 2003 but this year is my debut as Front of House manager. It has been a thrilling experience and my hope is that the people behind the bar will be tapping on the way to get your drinks and that checking your coats will be a rhythmic experience. Only that way can we solve the problem of Maria!

Pirate Productions would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors who have helped with this production

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