

Production History of *Angels in the Snow!*

Overview: *Angels in the Snow* was developed at the Playwrights Workshops of the Universities of Iowa, Yale and Oxford, in the Prairie Playwright and Bards on the Bay Workshops, and in years of dramaturgy including time at the American Repertory Theatre of Harvard University. The musical play was performed at the Dag Hammarskjöld Theatre at the United Nations in New York City and at an International Theatre Festival on the RiverWalk in San Antonio, TX; and played to rave reviews at the Kyberneticheskij Theatre in Kirovohrad, Ukraine; at universities, colleges and schools in the Caribbean, Wisconsin, Iowa and South Dakota, (winning “Best Play” in the South Dakota State Festival); and at community theatres in Ohio, Texas and Iowa.

Production History: *Angels in the Snow: The Berlin Wall Musical Drama* was first produced at an International Perestroika Festival at Grand View College in Des Moines, Iowa, 1990, to celebrate the first anniversary of the fall of The Wall. After extensive rewrites, it was remounted at Christmas of the same year at the Dag Hammarskjöld Theatre of the United Nations in New York City as the guest of the German Ambassador. *Angels* was developed over the next seven years at the Playwrights Workshops of the University of Iowa, Yale University, Oxford University and in extensive dramaturgical-musical collaborations. New arranger-orchestrators joined the original creative team, and the new work was performed by Carousel Theatre of Indianola, Iowa, in 1997, then in 1999 by Stage Theatre of Texas at the International Theatre Festival on the RiverWalk in San Antonio in 1999. In 2000, a concert version of *Angels!* opened the new Iowa Public Theatre in Des Moines Iowa. Additional dramaturgy and a new song, “I Wish



“I Would Have Known You,” marked the 2001 performance at Theatre on the Bay of the University of Wisconsin Marinette.

In 2002, a revival was staged in Fargo, North Dakota to honor of the retirement of the director of the earlier award-winning performance first presented at the State Theatre Festival. In 2003 and 2004, new colleagues joined the creative team to create a new vocal score and to notate and amplify the orchestral arrangements, and the work was staged at the Kyberneticheskij Theatre in Kirovohrad, Ukraine, by actors and technicians of the Kropivnitsy professional acting troupe and the Fine Arts Academy and Ballet and the Kirovohrad State Pedagogical University. In 2006 it was staged by Archbold Theatre of Ohio. New dramaturgy and composition continued in preparation for the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, and the screenplay was written from 2007-2009. When co-composer Jason Larche died in 2009, virtually all work on *Angels* ceased. In 2016 the musical was revived in a wondrous multi-cultural production at the University of the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. In 2017, in preparation for this national effort a new song, “My Name is Wolf” was written and recorded in Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

Recordings for the original productions were produced at South River Recording of Indianola, Iowa. Music for *Angels in the Snow!* was produced at Great Plains Recording Co. of Clive, Iowa. *I Wish I Would Have Known You* was written by Jason Larche for the 2001 production at Theatre on the Bay, then it was re-recorded in Minneapolis in 2005, Green Bay in 2007 and Ankeny, Iowa in 2009. “My Name is Wolf” was produced at Euphonic Studio in Mt. Vernon, Iowa.



On-stage Replica of Berlin Wall
with removable sections:
Charles Chapman/Doug Larche
Design; Chad Cable/Grant Dyer
Scenic Artists