Safe Hands

a new folk rock musical that takes an honest look
at life before Roe v Wade

“Gorgeous, powerfully original work that doesn’t let you go”

Written by
Alara Magritte & Daniel Rosen

About

In 1956 New Jersey, five women are bound by the secret of "Frankie's House"... a covert abortion clinic on the edge of town...

On the outskirts of a quiet New Jersey town lies an unassuming clinic run by a hardened homeowner and a seasoned nurse… But time is running out. When newlywed and new to the neighborhood Lydia discovers that her bubbly neighbor Bunnie had a procedure at Frankie's House, she is drawn into a secret that threatens to shatter her carefully crafted life. As Lydia and four other woman become inextricably entangled with the clinic and each other, each must navigate a world of hidden risks and unspoken rules to confront the question: *How far will you go to help a stranger?*

Safe Hands was not originally intended as a political parable, but stems from a commitment to tell untold stories that highlight the hidden struggles of the iconic 1950s American housewife. By situating the narrative before Roe v. Wade, the writers aimed to distance the work from the intense politicization surrounding the issue. However, as our country grapples with its history, the political relevance of ***Safe Hands*** has grown increasingly urgent, reflecting ongoing debates about reproductive rights and the challenges women continue to face.

It's a story that needs to be told. Now. Loudly.

- ***NAMT Festival of New Musicals Finalist & Recommended Musical (2022, 2023)***
- ***New Works, New Voices Finalist (2022)***
- ***Monumental Theatre Co. New Works Series Finalist (2021)***

As Seen With…

2024- Seattle Public Theater
Distillery Festival

2024 - Phoenix Theatre Company
Festival of New American Theatre

2023 -Musical Theatre Factory

2022- SheNYC Arts
Winner- BEST SCORE

2022 - Rogue Theater Festival

2021- Lime Arts'
Twenty By Twenty Fringe

2019 - Vassar College

Audience Feedback

"It's refreshing to see musical theatre tackle taboo themes with such grace. As a woman, I **feel seen by musical theatre in a way I never have before** ."

"**Simply superb.** Breathtaking raw storytelling and a score you won't forget"

"Characters were great. Story was very meaningful and poignant. **Truly amazing work from start to finish!"**

"[Magritte and Rosen have a] gift for scoring harmony and **pushing the boundaries of subject matter in musical theater** "

- American Songbook Association

Creative Team

BOOK / MUSIC / LYRICS

Alara Magritte (she/her) is a songwriter, playwright, art director, and producer whose work finds itself enamored with the spectacle of the mundane and situated in the space between the grotesque and the gorgeous. She is a 2015 California Playwrights' Project winner for her piece "The Tangible Tollbooth." She has worked with many theatre organizations including Playwrights Foundation, the New York Musical Festival, Playdate Theatre, and Tony Award-winning TheatreWorks: Silicon Valley, as well as had her work featured across the country at venues including La Jolla Playhouse, The Connelly Theatre, and seaside caves. She is a graduate from the Beth Morrison Productions' Producer's Academy and holds a BA in playwriting from Purchase College. Alongside frequent collaborator Daniel Rosen, Alara co-produces the benefit concert series "My Body, My Voice," which unites singer-songwriters and musical theatre artists in support of equitable access to abortion care.

BOOK / MUSIC / LYRICS

Daniel Rosen (he/him) is a writer, arranger, and performer originally from the San Francisco Bay Area. He made his first foray into playwriting in 2014 when his one-act "Good Buddy" was selected for TheatreWorks Young Playwrights Project. In 2018, he produced the Vassar Devils' music video "Out of the Dark" and contributed arrangements and co-produced the Devils' 2020 studio album, *Words Unsaid,* a multiple-nominee at the Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards. In 2021, he worked with Boomerang Theater Company to produce a TikTok musical *Work from Home* to raise awareness for the Performing Artists That Help community relief fund. Alongside Alara Magritte, he co-wrote and produced the original festive holiday collection *This Year*, and the spine-tingling Halloween album, *Magritte and Rosen's House of Haunts*.

Specs

Cast:
5 Female Identifying Actors
4 Male Identifying Actors*
2 Female Swing
1 Male Swing

*The roles of Roy and Dr. Koch may be doubled

Music:
20 Original Songs
6 piece band (piano, cello, violin, guitar, bass, percussion)
Optional Additional Vocal Ensemble

Other:
Approx 2 Hour Run Time
2 Acts, 1 Intermission

Links:
Music Selections
magritteandrosen.com

IG: @safehandsthemusical
IG: @magritteandrosen

Contact:
magritteandrosen@gmail.com

Characters

LYDIA. Early twenties. Floyd's wife. Dry humored, altruistic, a little cynical despite best efforts. Soprano.

BUNNIE. Mid-twenties. Housewife. Roy's wife, Craigy's mother. Charismatic, bubbly, funny. Mezzo-soprano.

MARY. Twenty. Latina. Nursing student. Shy, ambitious, bold. Mezzo-soprano.

DOLLY. Fifties. Widow. Pragmatic, closed-off, wounded, stern. Alto.

IDA. Late forties. Nurse. Warm, practical, seasoned. Mezzo-soprano.

FLOYD. Late twenties. Salesman. Lydia's husband. Sweet, dorky, unassertive. Tenor.

ROY. Mid-thirties. Police officer. Bunnie's husband. Moody, insecure. Baritenor.

MATEO. Early twenties. Latino. Auto mechanic. Easygoing, goofy, confident. Baritenor with strong falsetto.

DR. KOCH. Mid-thirties, intimidating. White. Also plays the Teller.

*the roles of Dr. Koch and Roy may be doubled.
**unless noted, all characters are open ethnicity
***optional ensemble can be easily incorporated into production.

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