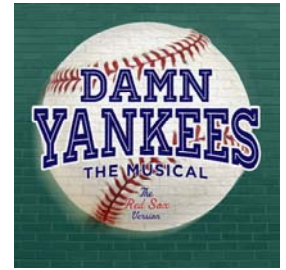


Director's Vision

Daniel Goldstein



What is your vision for *Damn Yankees*? Tell us about your inspirations.

In 1986, my father came into my room to wake me up. I was 11 years old. He was so excited that, on a school night, he was going to wake me up to see History being made. My brother and I gathered on my parents' bed and watched the extra innings. Now, to be clear, it was a confusing year—having been born in Flushing, but having half-grown up in Western Massachusetts. But it was impossible not to be rooting for The Sox. And then it happened. You all know what I'm talking about. B*** B*****. Ground ball right through the legs. And before I ever dated a single girl, I knew what true heartbreak was.

Damn Yankees is a show about the American Dream. It is a show about the uniquely American ability to keep fighting for what you desire, even when you're down and out. Baseball is the only sport where you can be down 27 to 1 and, if you keep swinging, you have a chance to come back and win. Baseball is unique. From 1918 until 2004 (Thanks a LOT, Buckner!), the Red Sox kept swinging, never bringing home the trophy, while those DAMN YANKEES brought home the World Series 26 times. Joe DiPietro's wise and witty revision of the script keeps those Yankees and pits them against Joe Hardy and the indefatigable Red Sox. It takes a show that was already terrific and makes it sparkle anew with the energy and spirit of the BoSox.

And for all you Yankees fans out there—and I know there are a lot of you—DON'T PANIC! The title of the show hasn't changed. Joe Hardy and his team still play the Yankees, and the ending is still the same. We haven't changed history! So there really is something here for everyone.

What makes Goodspeed the perfect fit for this production? Tell us about the challenges of staging in this unique venue.

We aim to recreate the feeling of Fenway Park on the tiny Goodspeed stage. We want to put you in the middle of the action and take you back to 1952, with the patina that time can put on all of our memories. We aim to create that world with a minimum of scenery, so that you can put your own memories (for I know that you all have them) of Fenway Park and those Yankees/Red Sox games that you finagled tickets for and had your hearts broken over as the Red Sox lost one more to the Men in Pinstripes.



Director Daniel Goldstein

Tell us what the audience can expect to see.

You are going to see a brand new version of a show you thought you knew—but have never seen quite like this. The Boston Red Sox sing "Heart" and take on those damn Yankees just like always. It's going to be a wonderful show, with choreography that will knock your socks off and a cast that will exceed the Goodspeed expectations.