DIRECTOR: SID POLEZCEK
Maverick Theatre Company Ensemble Member
Study Focus: Bachelor of Fine Arts, Musical Theatre
Interviewed by Savannah Bohi, Maverick Theatre Company Student Dramaturg

INTERVIEWER: What drew you to directing SONGS OF A NEW WORLD?

SID POLEZCEK: I began directing the project as Assistant Director and to have been able to accept the opportunity to serve the cast as Director has been both an honor and a challenge. This production is timely, conscious, and relevant to many of the issues we are facing as a society today: fear surrounding this pandemic, the importance of civic duty, the fight for racial equality, income inequality, and many other themes present themselves in this powerful work. “It’s about one moment” that each and every audience member will find to relate to. If only for one moment this production makes you stop and consider your life, we will have done our job in telling Jason Robert Brown’s story.

INTERVIEWER: What have been some of the struggles staging a production during a pandemic?

SID POLEZCEK: Safety was our top priority in this production. As such, all unmasked performers had to be 18 feet away from each other and any production crew. Our second priority was telling a captivating story in a performative way that did not feel like a concert. For most of the process, these two priorities were in conflict with each other—which made staging and engaging with scene partners extremely challenging.

INTERVIEWER: What has been your favorite or most memorable part of this experience?

SID POLEZCEK: The adaptability, versatility, and collaboration that was employed throughout this production, and especially during the filming process, was extremely inspiring. I enjoyed working with our talented videographers to create exciting, varied atmospheres for every number. Having attentive and adaptable actors who were able to change their blocking to accommodate for a camera or lighting issue made the filming go so smoothly. It was a learning experience for everyone involved, but because of the dedication and communication abilities of the team, it was an extremely positive and rewarding production.

SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD
will be presented for our audiences to access as a filmed and streamed production of the Maverick Theatre Company.
For full information, please visit the streaming site at https://theatre.uta.edu/boxoffice/