

# SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL



A story about the **worst** best friends,  
told through the music of Samuel Barber's  
*Overture to the School for Scandal*.

## Distributor Contact

Schirmer Theatrical, LLC  
alyssa.foster@musicsales.com  
www.musicsalesclassical.com

## Production Details

Total Running Time: 10:18  
Completion Date: January 2016  
Country: USA

# SYNOPSIS

*SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* uses visual storytelling to open up the world of classical music to newer, younger, and more diverse audiences.



*SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* is about two close friends and roommates, Sam and Barb, and is set to Samuel Barber's Overture to the School for Scandal.



On the night of a big party, Sam and Barb engage in constant one-upmanship in a game of wits, only to realize they might be in love with one another. But because they're both terrified to admit it, they continue to make each other jealous and escalate a cycle of more and more harmful behavior, until someone gets hurt.

# DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

*SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* attempts to dissolve stereotypes about the target audience for classical music. The film is the culmination of years of experiments with visualizing hidden stories within masterpieces of classical music and linking the universal sounds with the modern experiences of new audiences.

*SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* uses the international language of music to take the traditional place of dialogue. But in this story, there is no “missing” dialogue, no miming, and no intertitles. Instead, we unify the story by using themes and dramatic beats present in the music.

In the context of our story, the themes and beats take on meanings that universalize the music for a young and modern audience. The characters and settings have musical counterparts that create associations more familiar to a 21st century audience.



Through a story about friendship, love, and the blurry boundaries between them, *SAM AND BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* exposes the foolish risks we take when we're afraid to take those that really matter. It reveals what's at stake when we lie to the people we love—and to ourselves. It is about the shenanigans our egos pull when we try to avoid our hearts.

Just as Samuel Barber's two contrasting themes push and pull at each other, expand, contract, and swell to a resounding and gutsy conclusion, the film's protagonists pluck and jab at one another's heartstrings to keep from hearing the very real and vulnerable music of their own. But while beating hearts may have many qualities, keeping silent is not one of them.



# PRODUCTION STORY

From the very beginning, a spirit of collaboration and passion for music and visual storytelling characterized the entire production process of *SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL*. It was this enthusiasm for bringing great works of music to life that brought together the teams at Filmelodic and Schirmer Theatrical.



One of the biggest challenges was organically melding the characters' actions and motivations with the subtleties of Barber's music. With diligence, the actors became intensely familiar with the music, internalizing the various instrumental cues that signaled the emotional nuances their characters would show.





# ABOUT THE CREW

## **WRITER/DIRECTOR    Erin E. McGuff**

Erin E. McGuff is a writer, director, performer, and teacher. A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Erin trained first as an actor, studying at the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute, and at the International Theatre Workshop in Amsterdam. Recently Erin relocated to Houston, Texas, to work on her writing and serve in the Teach for America Houston Corps. This is her third collaboration with Filmelodic.

## **WRITER/DIRECTOR    Adam Grannick**

Adam Grannick is a New York City-based filmmaker. His work ranges from short form documentary production to experimental film. In addition, Adam is a classically trained violinist and strives to combine the craft of filmmaking with his passion for music.

## **DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY    Mickey Lewitter**

With a background in still photography, Mickey Lewitter made his debut as a DP with Filmelodic's award-winning first film *LAST NIGHT'S SYMPHONIE*. His work on Filmelodic's *RUNAWAY OVERTURE* premiered at the 2015 Bayreuth Wagner Festival.

# ABOUT THE CAST

## **SAM    Dylan Lamb**

Dylan is a Minneapolis-born playwright and actor. He is a recipient of the Chair's Award of Excellence in Dramatic Writing at New York University, and is a Playwright-in-Residence with Squeaky Bicycle Productions. Select acting credits: *In Rooms Such As These* (Signature Theater), *Flamingo* (Sanguine Theatre Company), and *Scottish Sperm* (Montreal Zoofest & Edinburgh Fringe).



## **BARB    Kate Garfield**

Kate Garfield is a New York based actress. She makes a mean omelet. Loves: Film and Theatre, Pilates, Podcasts, School (University of Michigan & British American Dramatic Academy), Stable Cable Lab Co, her kick ass sister, Highland Dance, and most importantly: coffee, Hates: Seafood.



# SAM & BARB'S SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL



  
**FILMELODIC**  
 **PRODUCE**

**executive producer** ROBERT THOMPSON

associate producer JOSEPH GIAMMALVO

 **director of PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Mickey Lewitter

**DIRECTED**  
BY ERIN E. MCGUFF & ADAM GRANNICK

 **Written by** adam grannick  
erin e. mcguff  
 **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** Lenana fox

 **Key makeup artist**  
JODY FORMICA

**Hair Stylist**  
For Ricki  
ADRIANA SPENCER

 **COSTUME DESIGNER**  
Ellpetha Tsivicos

**Set designer**  
+ decorator  
TOMMY JANULIS

**CAST**

SAM DYLAN LAMB  
BARB KATE GARFIELD  
Ricki ADRIANA SPENCER  
Dag ALEX EAST

**PRODUCED BY**  
ADAM GRANNICK  
MULTIMEDIA, LLC

Copyright 2016 by  
Schirmer Theatrical, LLC  
ALL RIGHTS  
RESERVED THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD

ALL CHARACTERS APPEARING  
IN THIS WORK ARE FICTIONS.  
ANY RESEMBLANCE TO REAL  
PERSONS, LIVING OR DEAD  
IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL.

**PARTY GUESTS**

ALMA Birdy Sahagian  
AMY DIANE CHEN  
BEATRIZ Marie Eife  
CECILIA RACHEL DRAYKE

"Overture to the  
SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL"  
Music by  
SAMUEL BARBER

COPYRIGHT © G. SCHIRMER, INC. (ASCAP)  
Performed by the  
ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA  
COURTESY OF NAXOS of AMERICA  
under license from MUSIC SALES  
CORPORATION

NICK  
NADIA  
MARIA  
Liz  
Lili  
Leo  
Francesca  
GRANT  
Tessa  
Samantha Lassiter  
Tessa JONES  
Alexandra Myers  
Jordan Braun  
Pablo  
Scott  
NATHANIEL  
BASCH-GOULD

CLARA Lauren Swan-Potter  
DIANA CATHERINE ESPINAL  
EDDO DONNOVAN Pyce  
FRANCESCA KEATON MORRIS-  
GRANT STAN

LEGAL for  
Schirmer Theatrical, LLC

COREY FIELD, esq.

LEGAL for Adam Grannick  
Multimedia, LLC

ROBERT D.  
GIAMMATASIO, esq.

CARLY SCHULMAN MALYA SCHULMAN  
Joshua Friedman Cara Abrams-Simonton  
Nic ADAMS **Thank you!** Nathaniel  
Basch-Gould  
Sam Corbin Adriana Spencer Robert &  
MAX REUBEN Carol Grannick