

The stadium is filled. The athletes are in place. All their preparation, experience, and hard work has come down to this very moment in time, this race, this game. Players become champions when they win, but it's not always about the prize or that gold medal or reaching that final peak, but the winning is in the going, in the climbing, in the pursuit of the goal and in the not giving up. This summer as we cheer on our favorite football team or the Olympic champions from our home country, we are reminded about the virtue and power of perseverance. "Perseverance." It's a big word with a lot of meaning. It comes with a lot of challenges and with the potential for inspiration just like any summer arts experience here at TESIS. Our students this summer have persevered through challenging classes, absorbing and mastering new skills they never thought possible. They've shown perseverance through long rehearsals to get that dance move down a little better each time, to memorize that monologue, or learn a new instrument. Perseverance shows dedication, courage, and strength, all qualities we see every day in our students. Whether it's on the stage creating original characters in our original musicals, or in the theater booth designing lights that capture the moment perfectly, or even writing personal lyrics. Our students have persevered, prepping all session long for that special race of a performance or production.

This summer has already given so many examples of our students setting and exceeding personal goals in the arts. As art teachers, we have the everyday joy to witness growth in so many beautiful and inspiring ways. Our students continue to surprise us and themselves with the skills they've found this summer here at TESIS.

As guests to this summer's Art Festival, you will get to share in the artistic success of so many young performers, experiencing first-hand these brilliant productions and beauty-filled displays of true artistry. We believe firmly at TESIS that every student is capable of creating something inspiring, and as we sing in the Minnows, "It's never too late to start something great, so what are you waiting for? It's time to try!" So thank you to the students this summer who are continually trying, who continue to persevere through challenging situations, who have reached goals they never knew possible just a few weeks ago. We couldn't be more proud of you all. Keep running after your goals. When you're unsure of where to go next or what to do, "just keep swimming" and keep your eye on the trail ahead of you, for it will take you anywhere you want to go. Even when you finally reach that peak, remember that there are always more views to seek.

It's been my pleasure to watch you all grow. I hope you leave this summer with new joys, new skills, and new experiences and that the rest of your year is full of magical surprises.

In bocca al lupo,

Mr. Mikey
Michael Rosenbaum
Summer Director of the Performing Arts, TESIS

"He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life."
– Muhammad Ali

SPECIAL THANKS TO

**Marc-Pierre Jansen,
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TESIS Communications Department**



Visit tasis.ch/summerartsfestival to see photos and video recordings after the festival.



TESIS SUMMER PROGRAMS PRESENT

The MSP Musical Theater Course

in

FALDUM



PALMER CULTURAL CENTER

AUGUST 9, 2024

TASIS SUMMER PROGRAMS PRESENT

FALDUM

Adapted from Herman Hesse's short story *Faldum*
by Mark T Evans and Jami Reimer

Music by Mark T Evans and Jami Reimer
Lyrics by Jami Reimer

SYNOPSIS

In the mountain town of Faldum, the annual fair is everything! All the Faldies, from dancers and vendors to a violinist and a grumpy poet, are busy preparing for the festivities. When a mysterious seller named Spiegel arrives with wish-granting mirrors, things start to get out of hand—and even hillier. Could Spiegel's mirrors unlock the Faldies' deepest desires? Or is being the best and doing the most not worth the cost of losing connection to the place and the people you call home?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Just a few steps up the road from us on this beautiful Collina d'Oro ("hill of gold") once lived the internationally renowned author Herman Hesse (1877–1962). Hesse's vivid stories draw us deeply into landscapes, reminding us to stop, to look around us, and to find wisdom that comes from sustained and contemplative observation and appreciation for the power of the natural world. I like to imagine that as Hesse wrote the surrealist fairy tale *Faldum*, he was looking to the very hills that surround us here at TASIS. Together in MSP Musical, we've been looking to these mountains too, thinking about how our own talents can take inspiration from the ecologies around us, and reflecting on what motivates our deepest wishes and defines our sense of who we are and how we care for each other. What a joy as your teachers to see you take on new challenges, grow as artists, and make this story your own! Congratulations on your hard work—we've loved creating *Faldum* with you!

– Jami Reimer, August 2024

CAST

HERMAN	Zein El Nazer (Egypt)
HANA	Habiba El Nazer (Egypt)
SPIEGEL	Veronika Davydova (Russia)
CHIARA	Sofia Ginevra Elli (Italy)
EMMA	Kaia Marshall-Green (United States)
REMIX FAL-DJ	Michelle Peremen (United States/Russia)
DISCO FAL-DJ	Vera Chistyakova-Ionova (Russia)
ADELHEID	Klara Kamenski (Croatia)
BAKER FALDIE	Antonia Sanzone (United States)
BUTCHER FALDIE	Svetlana Astashkevich (Switzerland)
FARMER FALDIE	Olivia Mancebo (United Kingdom)
CHEESIE FALDIE	Alexen Rzasa (Mauritius)
COBBLER FALDIE	Daria Astashkevich (Switzerland)
FLOWER FALDIE	Kamilla Dzhililova (Azerbaijan)
BOOKSELLER FALDIE	Xingyi Wang (China)
HATSELLER FALDIE	Aleksandra Konova (Russia)
NONNA	Madison Lermsider (United States)
VALENTINA	Rihan Abdelkader (Egypt)
FRANÇOISE/DANCER FALDIE	Arina Voznesenskaia (Russia)
ALESSIA/DANCER FALDIE	Renata Buttice (Argentina)
GIULIA/ DANCER FALDIE	Dahlia Alipour Fetрати (Iran)
GIOVANNA/ DANCER FALDIE	Marisol Balmelli (Italy)

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Jami Reimer
Assistant Director & Choreographer	Thalia Ranjbar
Music Director	Mark T Evans
Accompanist	Mark T Evans
Percussion	Ajay Raghuraman
Set Design and Construction	Alexandra Caprara
Costume Designers	Alexandra Caprara, Jami Reimer, Stagecraft Discovery Hour
Lighting Designer	Alexandra Caprara
Props Designer	Alexandra Caprara, Jami Reimer, Stagecraft Discovery Hour
Sound Designer	Jami Reimer
Stagecraft Discovery Hour	Catalina Hernandez-Criado and Dominik Kamenski
Musical Coordinator	Sandra Preciado
Director of the Performing Arts	Mikey Rosenbaum
Photography	Josh Williams
Videography	Graham Pearsall
Program Design	Jacopo Riva