

FEW THINGS TO KNOW
BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS

THE REGENT'S PARK OPEN AIR THEATRE PRODUCTION

J E S U S C H R I S T

SUPERSTAR

LYRICS BY **TIM RICE** MUSIC BY **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER**

A PRODUCTION BREAKDOWN & CHARACTER GUIDE

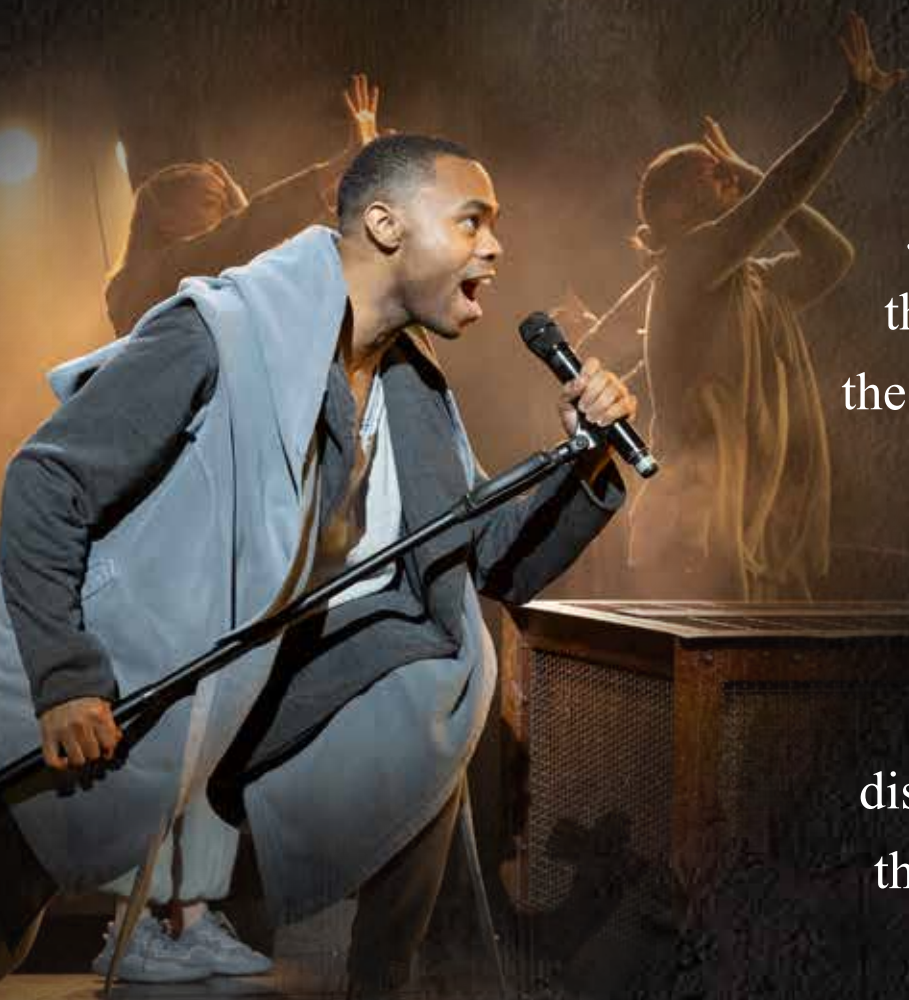
ACT 1

Judas expresses growing concern over Jesus's massive fanatical following, fearing that the movement has lost its spiritual focus and will provoke a deadly Roman crack down.

Meanwhile, Mary Magdalene tries to soothe an exhausted Jesus, which draws harsh criticism from Judas regarding public perception and optics. Sensing Jesus's threat to the religious status quo, the High Priest Caiaphas and the Pharisees plot to eliminate him before Rome intervenes.



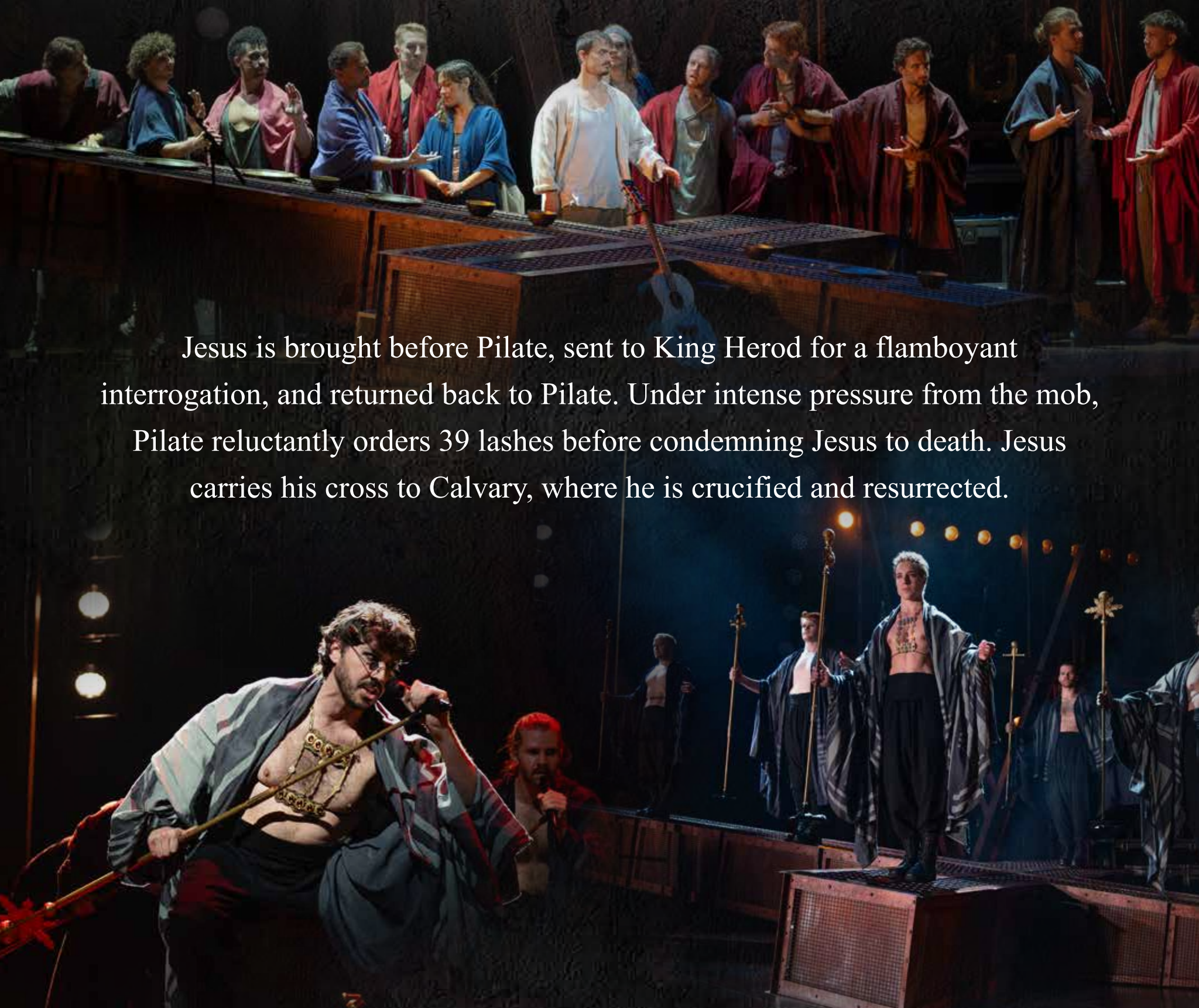
Jesus enters Jerusalem to intense adulation, but the overwhelming demands of his followers and the chaos of the temple marketplace push him to a breaking point. Troubled by a haunting dream predicting his involvement in Jesus's death, Pontius Pilate anticipates their fateful meeting. Desperate to stop what he views as impending disaster, Judas agrees to betray Jesus's location to the priests in exchange for thirty pieces of silver.



ACT 2

At the Last Supper, tensions boil over as Jesus predicts his own betrayal and denial, prompting a furious Judas to storm off into the night. Jesus retreats to Gethsemane, wrestling in solitude with his fear and accepting his inevitable fate. Judas leads the temple guards to arrest Jesus, subsequently succumbing to immense guilt and hanging himself after realizing he cannot undo his betrayal.

Jesus is brought before Pilate, sent to King Herod for a flamboyant interrogation, and returned back to Pilate. Under intense pressure from the mob, Pilate reluctantly orders 39 lashes before condemning Jesus to death. Jesus carries his cross to Calvary, where he is crucified and resurrected.



CHARACTERS



JESUS

A charismatic, weary rock-star figure who finds himself overwhelmed by his followers' messianic expectations and his impending destiny. He struggles with human fear and resignation as he ultimately accepts his trial and execution.



JUDAS

The pragmatic and conflicted disciple who fears Jesus's rising celebrity status will trigger a brutal Roman crack down. Driven by panic rather than malice, his attempt to save the movement leads to tragic betrayal and despair.



MARY MAGDALENE

A devoted follower who offers Jesus comfort and refuge amidst the chaotic demands of his growing ministry. She grapples with her unselfish, deep love for him while navigating the jealousy of the other disciples.



PILATE

The Roman Governor of Judea who is deeply troubled by a premonitory dream warning him about Jesus's fate. He tries repeatedly to avoid executing Jesus, ultimately caving to political pressure from the angry mob.

CHARACTERS



CAIAPHAS

The cold, calculating High Priest of Jerusalem who perceives Jesus's popularity as a direct threat to peace and religious authority. He strategically orchestrates Jesus's arrest and execution to preserve order under Roman rule.



ANNAS

The cunning and opportunistic priest who serves as Caiaphas's right-hand advisor throughout the plot against Jesus. He actively prompts the religious council to pay Judas and hand Jesus over to Rome.



KING HEROD

The eccentric and flamboyant ruler who views Jesus purely as a sensational novelty act for his own entertainment. He mocks Jesus's silence, demanding he perform miracles before dismissing him as a fraud.



SIMON

An energetic and radical follower who urges Jesus to harness his followers' fanatical devotion into an armed rebellion against Rome. He fails to understand Jesus's non-violent spiritual mission, viewing him strictly as a political leader.



PETER

One of Jesus's most loyal disciples who fiercely promises to stand by him during his hour of need. Overcome by fear after Jesus's arrest, he fulfills the prophecy by denying his association with Jesus three times.