

XEROX PARC - Draft scenes for musical

Cast (in order of appearance):

Jack (Goldman) – VP Research, Xerox Corporation, Tenor

Peter (McCoullough) – President Xerox Corporation, Tenor (doubles as Steve Jobs)

George (Pake)/ Director, Xerox PARC, Baritone

Gloria (Warner)/ George's secretary, Mezzo (triples as Diana Merry and Jack's wife Judy)

Bob (Taylor) – Associate Manager, Computer Science Lab, Baritone

Adele (Goldberg) – Learning Research Group, Mezzo

Alan (Kay) – Learning Research Group, Tenor

Butler (Lampson) – Computer Science Lab, Tenor

Chuck (Thacker) – Computer Science Lab, Bass/Baritone

Ensemble – 3 or more PARC scientists (male)

XEROX PARC SCENES - ACT I

Scene 1 – Instrumental Jack looks out window of new office in Rochester NY, ponders miserable weather, and wonders if he made right move, accepting new job with Xerox. Enter Peter who tells him to take heart – there are changes afoot, but he is not at liberty to say what they are. They share thoughts about new research lab – Architecture of Information. Curtain closes.

Scene 2 - In front of curtain. Jack visits George at Washington University, St. Louis, to recruit him as director of lab. They talk about logistics of lab, and plans to attract best and brightest minds from around the country – Creating the Space. Halfway into song, curtain opens, revealing lab with ensemble who join in song (production number). Lights go black.

Scene 3 – Sound of typing with spot on Gloria typing on new IBM Selectric. She is joined by several secretaries, to whom she shows off new typewriter. Bob Taylor walks in, dismisses typewriter as relic of the past and launches into song describing vision for networked computer of the future Intergalactic Computer Network (in the style of Hank Williams). When he leaves, secretaries ask who he is, and Gloria fills them in.

Scene 4 – Lights go up, with musical interlude (? Happy Hacker by Chris Jeffers), as members of Learning Research Group (LRG) bring bean bag chairs onto stage. They sit and talk about Rolling Stone article, featuring their unit at XeroxPARC. Alan enters with Adele, whom he introduces to everyone there. They talk about Dynabook, musical instrument, outings, and fun work culture at PARC. – Shape of Learning. All leave except Adele and Diana who share thoughts on being women in computer lab environment (including trailblazers in programming) – The Women Who Came Before. Lights go down.

Scene 5 – Spot on Butler and Chuck, stage left, who discuss management rejection of Alan’s Dynabook proposal. They talk about “Mother of all Demos” – Douglas C. Engelbart, and contacting Alan Kay to help them build Alto/Interim Dynabook . They walk down the hall to Alan’s office, converse, and exit, while instrumental plays (Architecture of Information).

Scene 6 – Alan launches into happy dance and sings first verse of song – It’s Gonna Happen . Scientist #1 enters, and Alan tells him about conversation - they are going to build interim “Dynabook”. They sing duet and dance. Lights go up, as they are joined by other scientists (in jubilant production number/Final scene; Act I).

XEROX PARC: Scenes (cont'd)

ACT II (Four Years Later)

Scene 7 – At home in Connecticut - Jack and his wife Judy pack for 'Futures Day', Xerox event in Boca Raton, where there will be demonstration of new PARC technology, including Alto. Jack shares frustration about new upper management and their inability to see the importance of PARC inventions, and upcoming demo. Judy encourages him to be diplomatic in his endeavors, not wanting to jeopardize his job. – How to get what you want.

Scene 8 – XEROX PARC after Futures Day – Bob Taylor and scientists talk about Alto Demo and failure of management to see the potential of PARC technology - Short Term Bottom Line / Moore's Law (in style of Hank Williams).

Scene 9 – Steve Jobs visits PARC and requests a demo of Alto with Graphical User Interface. Adele demurs, until she is told that Steve has indeed been given permission by management. Steve and Adele sing, Unbelievable.

Scene 10 – Going away party for one of PARC scientists. While many will move on to various companies and opportunities, they will always remember their time at Xerox with great fondness. They take turns toasting each other, their time at XeroxPARC, and their many influences – “Standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before – It Takes a Village” (big production number).

Scene 11 – Jack is leaving Xerox, and says goodbye to George. They sing Moving On , and are joined by rest of cast, in moving Finale.