the Playwrights Union FIRST PEEK

Saturday, June 8, 2024

5:00 PM SELF-LOVE by Brianna Barrett Directed by Lindsey Neville

A college freshman tries to figure out love, friendship, and what the heck gender is while being haunted by the ghost of her future self.

Cast: JANE - Ruby Arreguin; ECHO - Avi Rogue; OTP - Gabe Worstel; MELODY - Georgia Warner; PIPER - Allegra Greenawalt; CAROLINE - Sophia Roth; ROCCO - James Donovan; STAGE DIRECTIONS - Ana-Marija Stojic

Special Thanks to Ana Liza Muravina, Emmett Preciado, Victoria Moroles, Public Assembly, Allison Youngberg and Naked Angels LA

8:00 PM WOUND CARE by Jennie Webb Directed by Jen Bloom

After meeting her troubled, recently deceased mother—who gave her up for adoption as an infant—Terra is presented with the choice to take part in a government reparations program and finds herself facing more of life's surreal hurdles. Wound Care is a play about searching for what will make things right and uncovering what has value.

Cast: TERRA - Erin Ruth Walker; THE WOMEN - Susan Angelo; STAGE DIRECTIONS - GeorgeAnne Carden

Special Thanks to Jim Kleinmann and PlayGround 2023-24 writers-in-residence; Hannah Hakari Miller; Matylda Kerry; Claire Peters; Mary Alice Kier; Cece, Deb, the amazing Wound Care artists and the Playwrights Union writers

Sunday, June 9, 2024

2:00 PM ATWATER by Matt Schatz Directed by Matt Schatz

Two couples are trapped together in a small house on LA's East Side during an apocalyptic rain storm.

There's also a talking bird.

Cast: NOAH - Mark Jude Sullivan; POLLY - Elizabeth Schmidt; GRACE - Susan-Kate Heaney; A.B. - A.J. Mendoza; LYDIA - Deb Hiett; STAGE DIRECTIONS - Ashley Calza

5:00 PM PROVENANCE by Jennifer Maisel Directed by Emily Chase

Canvas. Pencil. Paint. How can one piece of art tear at the hearts of generations?

Cast: ANNA / ELOISE / MIRANDA / YVETTE - Deb Hiett; LEON / HEINRICH / SAM / BENJI - JD Cullum; BEATRICE / AMELIA / CHARLOTTE - Mara Klein; FREDERICH / JONAH / WALTER - Phinneas Kiyomura; STAGE DIRECTIONS - Emily Chase

Special Thanks to Cece Tio, The Playwrights Union Playwrights

Friday, June 14, 2024

8:00 PM COMPOST by Matt Hoverman Directed by Neel Keller

Just another darkly comic fable about a boy, his bloody axe and his magical compost pile.

Consider yourself trigger-warned.

Cast: COLE - Brent Hinkley; BOY - Clay Hollander; PENELOPE - Jennifer Cheung; BETTY - Suzanne Cryer; DEAN - Harvey Ryan; GUS - Phil Abrams; STAGE DIRECTIONS - David LM McIntyre

Special Thanks to Katie Atcheson, Second Draft Cold Reading Series, Mark Bly, The Playwrights Union, Wendy Douglas and the Honorable Mark Murphy

Saturday, June 15, 2024

5:00 PM DIWALI PARTY by Priya Mohanty Directed by Priya Mohanty

Shreya Das, the torchbearer of Indian tradition in Long Island, finds her legacy threatened by the arrival of Brooklyn Dane, a fervent newcomer eager to embrace Indian culture. Amidst a clash of generations and values, Shreya grapples with her identity, ultimately embarking on a journey of reconciliation and rediscovery.

Cast: SHREYA DAS HARRIS - Anu Bhatt; TIM HARRIS - Eric Pargac; BROOKLYN DANE - Katherine Bourne Taylor; NIYATI MADHAVAN - Shavya Samala; RAGINI GODBOLE / SOUMYA BEHERA - Aishveryaa Nidhi; PRITAM MADHAVKAR - Behzad Dabu; STAGE DIRECTIONS - Tanya Thomas

8:00 PM - THIS IS CRAZY by Deb Hiett directed by Deb Hiett

Sometimes life throws you a curveball, or, in Laila and Jackson's case, a giant, pointy, mysterious (and possibly intergalactic) Thing. Will they be able to hold on to their understanding of how the world works, achieve their hard-earned dreams, and still look their oddball neighbors in the eye again? Life is full of surprises, but this is crazy.

Cast: LAILA - Emily Goss; JACKSON - Edward Rosini; CHRIS MENDAX / AGENT BOUNCE / ORSON PLEATS - Ravi Kapoor; SERENITY POTTS / OFFICER CLOT / AGENT SPANK - Kwana Martinez; VOICES of CLOWN / FEMALE PHYSICIST / STAGE DIRECTIONS - Julia Manis

Special Thanks to Cece Tio, Jennie Webb, Playwrights Union, and Matthew Valenti

Sunday, June 16, 2024

2:00 PM VALENTINES by Vasanti Saxena directed by Laura Stribling

Mia and Beth have a beautiful life in a beautiful home in beautiful Los Angeles. When an attractive young visitor stops by, will their beautiful bubble burst?

Cast: MIA - Tania Verafield; BETH - Elaine Kao; KYLIE - Jenapher Zheng; JAMES - Brian Graves

Special thanks to Cece, Deb, Jennie, Marlow, Tara, Lorelle, and Alice

5:00 PM it's forever in there, or FUCK AROUND AND FIND OUT by Ashley Rose Wellman Directed by Shaina Rosenthal

Two amateur conflict journalists who were kidnapped for ransom during an ill-advised trip to an active war zone are released after years of captivity. They struggle to adjust to "normal life" while navigating their complex feelings for each other, the enormous debts they owe their loved ones, and the horrific ramifications of what happens after you fuck around and find out.

Cast: Emily Goss, Stephen Tyler Howell, Victoria Villarreal, Dylan Saunders, Shannon Holt, Lucy McNulty, Amanda Fein

Festival Producer: Cece Tio | Festival Technical Director: Charles Duncombe

Thank You to Frédérique Michel, Charles Duncombe, and City Garage Theatre, Jennie Webb, Deb Hiett, Tira Palmquist, and Playwrights Union Founder Jennifer Haley

the Playwrights Union

an inclusive group of writers working in theater, film and television that actively fosters growth for L.A.-based playwrights and provides a supportive artistic community

PLAYWRIGHTS

Brianna Barrett Jennifer Berry Jami Brandli Wayne T. Carr Bernardo Cubría Kevin Douglas Ieanette D. Farr Minita Gandhi Alex Goldberg Lisa Kenner Grissom Christina Ham Deb Hiett Matt Hoverman Levi Jelks Julianne Jigour David Johann Kim Carolyn Kras Victor Lesniewski **Iennifer Maisel** Priya Mohanty David Myers Tira Palmquist Eric Rudnick Bianca Sams Vasanti Saxena Juan Francisco Villa Jennie Webb Wendy Weiner Ashlev Rose Wellman Khari Wyatt Marlow Wyatt

PRODUCER

Cece Tio

ALUMNI

Sean Abley Eva Anderson Terence Anthony Carrie Barrett Mickey Birnbaum Deron Bos Jonathan Ceniceroz Inda Craig-Galván Jihan Crowther Padraic Duffy Ellen Fairey Larissa FastHorse Abbey Fenbert Dorothy Fortenberry Marek Glinski Chanel Glover Gina Gold Paul Grellong Jason Grote Jennifer Haley Aaron Henne Cory Hinkle SJ Hodges David Holstein Rolin Jones Lila Rose Kaplan Ion Kern Aurorae Khoo **Josh Levine** Eric Reves Loo Ruth McKee Wesley Middleton Meg Miroshnik Megan Mostyn-Brown Will Nedved Brett Neveu Dominic Orlando Brian James Polak Larry Pontius Kirsa Rein Bianca Sams Matt Schatz Steve Serpas Jeremy Soule Dan Steele Deborah Stein Victoria Stewart Iulie Tosh Stephanie Alison Walker Lolly Ward Steve Yockey