

the Playwrights Union

FIRST PEEK

Friday, June 13, 2025

8:00 PM – WOMEN, BIRDS, STARS by Jennie Webb
Directed by Marya Mazor

Women, Birds, Stars is the story of four women of a certain age who take refuge together when their habitat is threatened. Rocked by uncertainty in an increasingly surreal world, they find themselves weighing their losses and options for survival. But there's always ice cream.

CAST: KAT - Jayne Taini; ROBIN - Camillia Monet; SHELL - Shirley Jordan; ASTER - Angela Bullock;
DOROTHY - Melody Butiu

*Special Thanks to the incredible artists above; Playwrights Union 2025 New Play Challenge writers;
Deb Hiatt, Priya Mohanty, Tira Palmquist & Cece Tio*

Saturday, June 14, 2025

5:00 PM – BIGGEST MAN ON CAMPUS by Eric Rudnick
Directed by Deb Hiatt

When an NYU Improv Troupe loses a member, they hold tryouts open to the entire student body, but are thrown into the unknown when an MBA candidate from the Stern School of Business shows up to audition, a curious young man named Barron Trump.

Cast: AMANDA - Tamika Katon-Donegal; TOM | BWT - Ryan Dietz; DIANE - Kavi Ladnier; FREDDIE - Anthony Adu;
DANNY - Trevor Vanauken; GARY - Peter James Smith; SAMANTHA | BELINDA | LEE - Berly Ellis-Wedding;
STAGE DIRECTIONS - Noah Waddell

Special thanks to Jennie Webb, Deb Hiatt, Jennifer Maisel, Cece Tio, Jennifer Haley

8:00 PM – THE ELEPHANTS by Jennifer Maisel
Directed by Emily Chase

Who is going to be there for you when nobody else is?

Five disparate women discover a tenuous connection binds them together for eternity. Meet THE ELEPHANTS.

Cast: THERESA - Jill Remez; GAYLE - Cyndy Fujikawa; HELEN - Susan Rudick; JOSS - Shannon Lee Clair;
BRITT - Noelle Dominique Rodriguez; STAGE DIRECTIONS - Emily Chase

Special Thanks to Cece Tio, Deb Hiatt, Tira Palmquist and The Playwrights Union

Sunday, June 15, 2025

2:00 PM – WE'RE TRYING TO HEAL!! by Ashley Rose Wellman
Directed by Rachel Berney Needleman

Four women use the settlement payout from a predatory university doctor to go on a spontaneous, chaotic vacation together. As the trip veers wildly between awkward intimacy, rage, and bad decisions, a sudden bombshell threatens to explode their fragile connections. A play about broken systems, price tags on pain, and how all of us are just TRYING TO HEAL!!

JOCELYN - Mia Topalian; QUINN - Samantha Dammeyer; CARMEN - Celeste Den; GRACIE - Natasha Schlaffer;
COLT - Peter Pasco

*Special Thanks to Sharon Wellman, Shaina Rosenthal, Hannah C. Langley, Reagan James, Playwrights Union,
PU First Peek Playwrights*

5:00 PM – WE WILL BE TAKING NO FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT CULT AUTEUR STANLEY KUBRICK
by Brianna Barrett
Directed by Alana Dietze

A film historian tasked with curating a major retrospective starts to unravel his lifelong obsession with the genius auteur, navigating a shifting cultural landscape, a contentious collaboration with the director's daughter, and a relationship with a radical performance artist who refuses to let him look away.

Cast: CELESTE - Xu Mason; DOC - Paul Eiding; MARIUS - Philip Smithey; AUDRA - Aisha Kumari; KIT - Ann Noble;
STAGE DIRECTIONS - Kiki Lee

Festival Producer: Cece Tio | Festival Stage Manager: Macedonia Bullington

Thank You to Timothy Wright and Atwater Village Theatre, Jennie Webb, Deb Hiatt, Tira Palmquist, Priya Mohanty, Dana Schwartz,
and Playwrights Union Founder Jennifer Haley

Find out more about us at playwrightsunion.com

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

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

PRODUCER

Cece Tio

ALUMNI

Eva Anderson
Terence Anthony
Carrie Barrett
Deron Bos
Jonathan Cenicerroz
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
Aurorae Khoo
Josh Levine
Eric Reyes Loo
Ruth McKee
Wesley Middleton
Meg Miroshnik
Megan Mostyn-Brown
David Myers
Will Nedved
Brett Neveu
Dominic Orlando
Brian James Polak
Larry Pontius
Kirsia Rein
Bianca Sams
Matt Schatz
Steve Serpas
Jeremy Soule
Dan Steele
Deborah Stein
Victoria Stewart
Julie Tosh
Stephanie Alison Walker
Lolly Ward
Steve Yockey