

New Works Festival

Three New Plays - Three New Films

Three New Plays

Three new plays written and produced by faculty-mentored students premiere in the **Helms Theatre April 26-28 at 8pm.**

At the heart of our Festival are three new plays by student playwrights: *The Lookout* by Olivia Comm, *Viewing Pleasure* by Nancy-Wren Bradshaw, and *Wake Up Music* by Micah Ariel Watson. Faculty mentor, Doug Grissom explained, “As writers, playwrights are unique in that, unlike prose writers, their work is not really ‘on the page.’ The playwright’s text is the ground plan; the actual play doesn’t exist until realized in production, and the only way young playwrights can grow and develop is to collaboratively work with directors, actors, designers and technicians, and to actually see their work come alive onstage. To that end, we have created this festival, which is not only a showcase for emerging playwrights, but also the other student artists – the aforementioned directors, actors, designers and technicians – whose talents are on display in the festival.”

“These plays were written and developed in Playwriting classes last fall; at the end of the semester the three plays that you’ll see tonight were chosen. Each is unique in terms of subject matter, tone and style, but all display not only talent but fresh and individual voices,” said faculty mentor Dave Dalton. The UVA Department of Drama is proud to present these plays by talented artists at the dawn of their careers.

Tickets are free and available through the UVA Arts Box Office.

Three New Films

Three original short films premiere **Saturday, April 29 at 7pm in the Ruth Caplin Theatre.**

Rose - directed by Geneviève Agar and Doreen Devasia

Rose centers on the experience of a young Indian-American woman navigating cultural intersections and pitfalls in her daily life. On her quest to find herself, she also finds a best friend. Rose aspires to generate dialogue concerning what it means to be a womxn of color, a womxn of awkwardness, and being a second-generation American.

The Obsessor - directed by Lavell Nero

Danica finds herself constantly harassed and surveilled by a pervasive stalker who makes it impossible for her to forget her own insecurities. She realizes, however, that the only way for her to move on with her life is to confront this stalker, which means confronting her own dark thoughts about herself.

Blank Window: Part Three - directed by Arrietta van der Voort
Stakes have reached a new level and changed irreversibly as “Through Every Open Window” sees the aftermath of Nathan Taylor’s death. But the search for Cassie’s assailant continues, as friends from the periphery emerge to show their strengths and do her justice, in a way that Taylor never could. Now, the threads are closing in on the same name on everyone’s lips: Clint Reardon.

The New Works Festival is co-sponsored by the Department of Drama and by an Arts Enhancement Grant from the Office of the Provost and Vice Provost of the Arts.