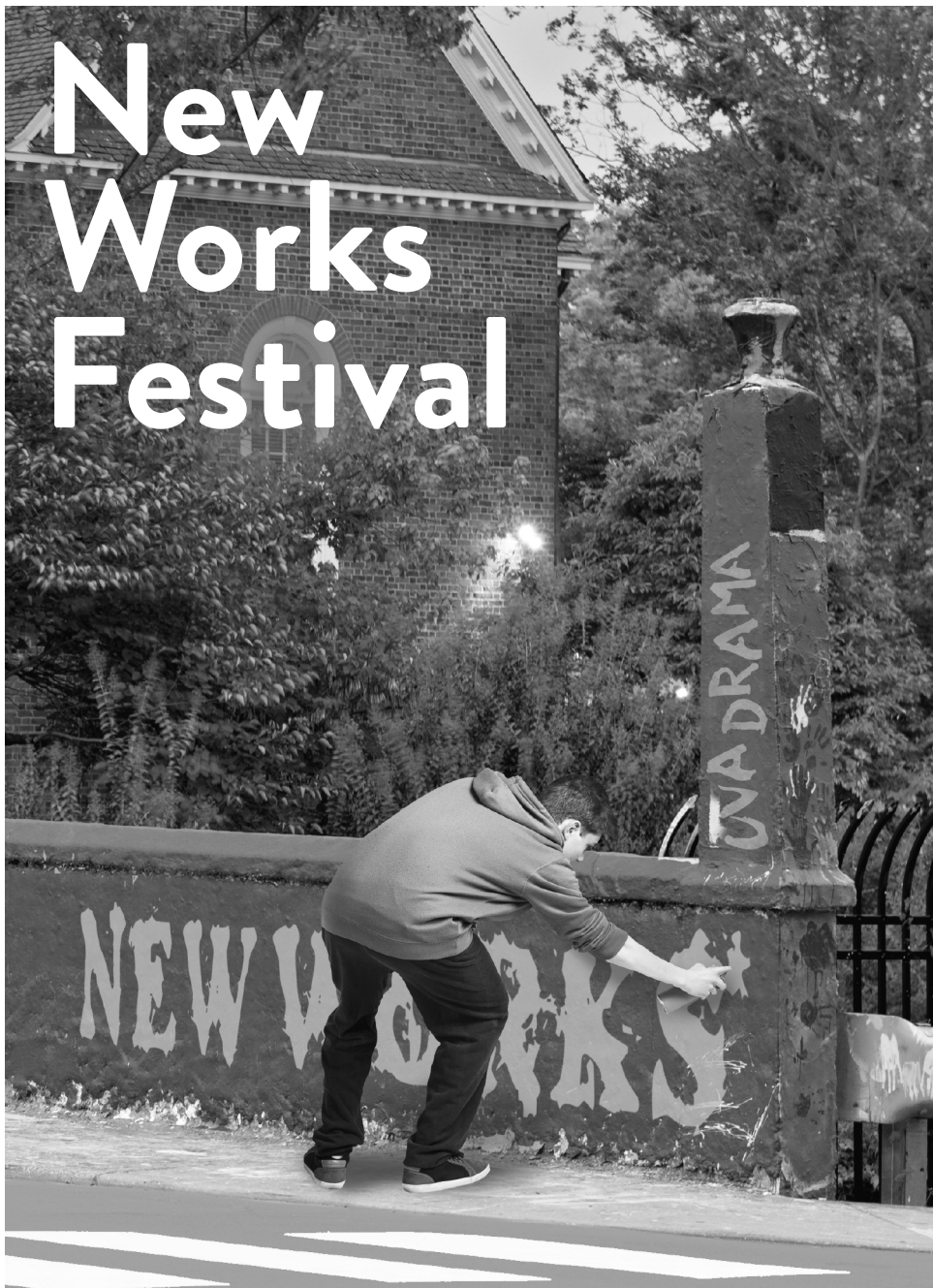


# New Works Festival



April 26 – 28 @ 8pm  
Helms Theatre

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA  
**DRAMA**

DEPARTMENT OF  
**DRAMA**

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

## **New Works Festival**

Produced by **Dave Dalton and Doug Grissom**  
Production Stage Management by **Mariana Gonzalez-Leal**  
Lighting Design by **Steven Johnson**  
Costume Direction by **Mfon-Abasi Obong**  
Technical Direction by **Steven Warner**

### **A NOTE FROM THE PRODUCERS**

Welcome to the first of, we hope, many installments of the New Works Festival; at the heart of our Festival are three new plays by student playwrights. 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 tonight.

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. The UVA Department of Drama is proud to present these plays by talented artists at the dawn of their careers.

–Dave Dalton and Doug Grissom

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 the Vice Provost of the Arts.

### **ORDER OF PERFORMANCE**

*The Lookout* by Olivia Comm  
*Viewing Pleasure* by Nancy-Wren Bradshaw

15-minute intermission

*Wake Up Music* by Micah Watson

# *The Lookout*

By **Olivia Comm**

Directed by **Christine McLennan**

Costume Design by **Alexandra Pitman**

Scenic Design by **Carey Alcott**

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Tom ..... Ron Berube  
Vincent ..... Michael Miranda  
James ..... Shayaan Rasul  
Diane ..... Savannah Edwards

## WHO'S WHO IN *THE LOOKOUT*

**Carey Alcott** (3rd Year M.Arch).

**Ron Berube** (UVA Alumnus) *Steambath* (UVA Drama), *The Language Archive*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Someplace Nice* (Live Arts)

**Olivia Comm** is a third year Media Studies major and Drama minor. She has always enjoyed creative writing, and a drama class in the fall sparked her new passion for playwriting. She is a lighting designer for First Year Players, a UVA Arts Grounds Guide, and works in the UVA Department of Drama as a Lighting Workshop Assistant. This is her first play.

**Savannah Edwards** (1st Year Drama) *Mr. Burns- a post-electric play* (UVA Drama), *Voices of the Class* (Spectrum)

**Christine McLennan** (3rd Year Drama and English).

**Michael Miranda** (1st Year M.F.A. Acting) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama), *The Comedy of Errors* (Las Vegas Shakespeare Co.), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Theatricum Botanicum, Los Angeles), *Epic Proportions* (Los Angeles), *This Land* (UK).

**Alexandra Pitman** (3rd Year Drama and Studio Art).

**Shayaan Rasul** (3rd Year Drama and French): *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* (UVA Drama)

# *Viewing Pleasure*

By **Nancy-Wren Bradshaw**

Directed by **Wesley Diener**

Costume Design by **Maelisa Singer**

Scenic Design by **Grace Kim**

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Florence Stone.....Alisa Ledyard\*  
Cathy Williams.....Elizabeth Steimel  
Robert Stone .....Shawn Michanco

## **WHO'S WHO IN VIEWING PLEASURE**

**Nancy-Wren Bradshaw** is a fourth year and is a double major in Drama and Foreign Affairs. Nancy-Wren started writing one-act plays for her high school drama department in 2010 and here she is seven years later, writing one-act plays for her university drama department. She has never written a second act and swears she never will. When she is not writing plays, she is writing and performing sketches with Hot Kids Comedy, UVA's video and sketch comedy group. She also performs improvisational comedy with The Whethermen and writes for the Cavalier Daily Humor section.

**Wesley Diener** (3rd Year Music, Drama Minor) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama)

### **Grace Kim**

**Alisa Ledyard\*** (1st Year M.F.A. Acting) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama), *Merchant of Venice*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Henry V*, *Christmas Carol* (American Shakespeare Center), *Oliver* (Heritage).

**Shawn Michanco** (2nd Year Economics, Math Minor).

**Maelisa Singer** (2nd Year Drama) *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment: The Amazing Adventures of Louis de Rougement (As Told By Himself)* (UVA Drama), *Identity: A Musical Cabaret* (Virginia Players).

**Elizabeth Steimel** (2nd Year Media Studies) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama), *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Cabaret* (FYP), *Aida* (Spectrum).

\*Appears Courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

# *Wake Up Music!*

By **Micah Ariel Watson**

Directed by **Kevin Minor**

Costume Design by **Jessica Utz**

Scenic Design by **Jennifer Hsiaw**

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Amil.....	Jordan Maia
Griot.....	Edward Alexander
Aida.....	Tiara Sparrow
Ialu.....	Roberto Thomas
Purcell.....	Luke Williams
Libby.....	Taylor Lamb
Lawrence.....	D.J. Cunningham
Bridges.....	Veronica Sirotic
DJ.....	Shaunn Warmuth

## WHO'S WHO IN WAKE UP MUSIC!

**Edward Alexander** (4th Year English) *The Black Monologues 2016* (UVA Drama).

**D.J. Cunningham** (CLAS '15, GSAS '16) *The Ifs Within Us* (UVA Drama and TedXCharlottesville).

**Jennifer Hsiaw** (3rd Year, M.Arch).

**Taylor Lamb** (3rd Year English, Drama Minor) *The Black Monologues 2015* (UVA Drama), *Vagina Monologues/Two Lips, Grounds for Discussion*.

**Jordan Maia** (3rd Year Drama) *The Black Monologues 2015, Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama).

**Kevin Minor** (1st Year M.F.A. Acting).

**Tiara Sparrow** (2nd Year Drama and Studio Art) *The Black Monologues 2015, The Black Monologues 2016* (UVA Drama).

**Roberto Thomas** (3rd Year Foreign Affairs) *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, The Black Monologues 2016* (UVA Drama), *The Pride* (Virginia Players), *Welcome to Thebes* (Spectrum).

**Jessica Utz** (3rd Year Drama) *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball, Mr. Burns- a post-electric play, Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama), *Closer, Welcome to Thebes* (Spectrum), *Home Free!, What Every Girl Should Know* (Virginia Players).

**Shaunn Warmuth** (3rd Year Anthropology) *The Black Monologues 2015* (UVA Drama).

**Micah Ariel Watson** (3rd Year African-American and African Studies and Drama) is the two-time director and producer of *The Black Monologues*. Although always active in the arts, her playwriting journey began in

her sophomore year of high school during a 24-Hour Play festival. She is interested in the ways that Black art, history, and literature can intersect with and inspire her own work. In addition to being a playwright and filmmaker, she is working towards a career as a screenwriter.

**Luke Williams** (3rd Year Political and Social Thought, History Minor) *The Black Monologues 2015, The Black Monologues 2016* (UVA Drama), *Community Theatre Project*.

### WHO'S WHO IN THE NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

**Dave Dalton** teaches Acting and Directing for the Department of Drama. Directing credits in New York include *The Ring Cycle* (Incubator Arts), *Dog in the Manger* (Vortex Theater), *Laika Dog in Space* (Incubator Arts) and *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Vortex Theater, Drama Desk nominee). He directed *Blood Wedding* and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* in the Department of Drama. SDC.

**Doug Grissom** is an Associate Professor of the Department of Drama and the head of the playwriting program. His plays have been produced at many venues around the country, and *Deep Down* and *Elvis People* were produced Off-Broadway and subsequently performed at various regional theatres. His educational theatre piece on acquaintance rape, *But I Said No* (co-written with Margaret Baldwin), has toured extensively on college campuses around the country. Recent directing credits at UVA include *The Arctic Circle (with a recipe for Swedish Pancakes)*, *The Rimers of Eldritch* and *Museum*.

**Mariana Gonzalez-Leal** (3rd Year Drama, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Minor)

**Steven Johnson** (3rd Year Drama) *The Triumph of Love, Mr. Burns, a post-electric play, Shipwrecked! An Entertainment – The Amazing Adventures of Louis de Rougemont (As Told By Himself)* (UVA Drama).

**Mfon-Abasi Obong** (3rd Year M.F.A. Costume Design and Technology): *9 Parts of Desire, Our Town, and Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*.

**Steven Warner** teaches Technical Production for the Department of Drama. Previously, he worked for the internationally-renowned entertainment company Cirque du Soleil as assistant technical director for “O” at The Bellagio Hotel and Casino, Project Supervisor for Cirque du Soleil’s Resident Shows Division, and Assistant Head of Props for KA at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino. Past circus and theatre credits include several years with Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus as the Blue Unit operations manager; assistant technical director, Utah Shakespeare Festival; and technical director, Texas Shakespeare Festival. Steven graduated from the Professional Theater Training Program at the University of Delaware with an M.F.A. in Theater Production.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

### Stage Management and Rehearsal Staff

Production Coordinator & Stage Management

Faculty Advisor ..... Caitlin McLeod  
Run Crew ..... Lydia Flock, Katharine Leggett, Kylan Luna

### Scenic

Assistant Technical Directors ..... Tim Nielsen and J.D. Stallings  
Scene Shop Foreman ..... Chris Rybitski  
Master Carpenter ..... Casey Horton  
Scenic Design Faculty Advisor ..... Tom Bloom  
Technical Direction Faculty Advisor ..... Steven Warner  
Scene Shop Assistants ..... Brittany Bolick, Casey Horton,  
Emilio Martinez, Mikaela Ruiz-Ramon, Danton Wein,  
Students of Drama 2230

### Paint

Scenic Charge ..... Batul Rizvi  
Scenic Artists/Painters ..... Students of DRAM 2230

### Properties

Prop Master ..... Matthew Kornegay  
Assistant Prop Master ..... Aspen Miller  
Prop Artisan ..... Roberto Thomas  
Prop Carpenter ..... Reilly Walker

### Costumes

Costume Design Faculty Advisor ..... Gweneth West  
Costume Technology Faculty Advisor ..... Marcy Linton  
Costume Shop Manager ..... Dorothy Smith  
Shop Assistants ..... Katherine Rogers, Hayley Tynes, Maria Wittman  
Stitchers ..... Students of DRAM 2310  
Wardrobe Crew ..... Pepper Nagle

### Lighting

Electricians ..... Students of DRAM 2130  
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor ..... Lee Kennedy

### Sound

Sound Design Faculty Advisor ..... Michael Rasbury  
Sound Engineer ..... Wren Curtis

### Administration

Drama Department Chair ..... Colleen Kelly  
Dept. Technical Director/Op's Manager ..... Steven Warner  
Business Manager ..... James Scales

Assistant Business Manager..... Judy McPeak  
Drama Administrative Staff.....Barbara Koonin and Theresa Lamb  
Publicity Manager.....Micah Watson

**Box Office**

UVA Arts Box Office Manager..... Andrew Burnett  
Arts Box Office Staff.....Renat Abazov, Gaby Boissoneau,  
Michaela Campbell, Luc Cianfarani, Claire Corkish, Mariana Forero,  
Megan Gallagher, Julia Holland, Kate Miller, Emily Sakowitz

**Front of House**

House Managers ..... Victoria Giron, Brian Murray, Zoe Rosenbaum



*Upcoming!*

**Lab Shorts**

Helms Theatre

Saturday, April 29 at 7pm – free admission

Part of the New Works Festival, these short films were produced with support from the Department of Drama and by an Arts Enhancement Grant from the Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.



Drama Department

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