

New Works Festival



January 31-February 2, 2019 at 8pm
February 2, 2019 at 2pm

Helms Theatre



New Works Festival

Produced by **Dave Dalton and Doug Grissom**

Lighting Design by **Julie Briski**

Sound Design by **Kylan Luna**

Technical Direction and Scenic Design by **Jackson Key**

A NOTE FROM THE PRODUCERS

Welcome to our third annual New Works Festival, featuring original works written and directed by Department of Drama students. For a playwright, the opportunity to work collaboratively with directors, actors, designers, and crew to bring one of their works to life is often a transformative experience. The playwright's initial work is done in solitude; but this work remains by definition unfinished. As a playwright friend once told me: the playwright doesn't write text; the playwright writes behavior for actors and environment for designers. So without the work of directors, actors, designers, stage managers, and technicians the playwright's work doesn't really exist.

Working with a playwright is an important skill for a director to develop, and this festival provides the opportunity for two directors to get valuable feedback on how their choices are measuring up to the playwright's expectations.

In addition, Jessica Harris has created a devised piece where she's essentially combined the work of a playwright and director. Devising can describe a number of approaches to creating new work in which the director has direct input on the creation of the play itself. This festival thus provided student directors with the opportunity for three different approaches to the creation of new works including improvisation and experimentation with both form and content.

For the playwrights, directors, actors, designers, and crew the final component in the creation of their new work is **you**. Thank you for joining us and playing the essential role of the audience for the New Works Festival. Your presence here is a valuable part of the artistic process, and we thank you for it.

Doug Grissom and Dave Dalton, co-producers

**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 for the Arts.**

ORDER OF PERFORMANCE

Play It Cool by Ibrahim Muhammad
I'm Game devised by Jessica Harris

15-minute Intermission

They're Still Friends by Savannah Hard

Play It Cool

By **Ibrahim Muhammad**

Directed by **Tori Meyer**

Production Stage Management by **Halle Clemens**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Mom.....Hannah Maupin
Dad..... Ryder Sadler
Dan.....Isaac Tolliver
Taylor..... Casey Breneman
Mike Charles Hurt
Marissa.....Tiara Sparrow
Two Shot..... Timothy Read
Pizza Guy..... Nathan Berelovich

WHO'S WHO IN *Play It Cool*

Nathan Berelovich (4th Year Computer Science/Cognitive Science)

Casey Breneman (3rd Year English & Spanish) Play-in-a-Day (Virginia Players); *The Addams Family*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (First Year Players); *Memories of an Owl*, *How to Build a Fish Tank*, *The Final Night* (Film Makers Society)

Halle Clemens (3rd Year Drama)

Charles Hurt (2nd Year Undeclared) Night of Short Works (UVA Drama)

Hannah Maupin (1st Year Biology/Pre-med)

Tori Meyer (4th year Drama), New Works Festival 2018, *Old Flame* (UVA Drama)

Ibrahim Muhammad is a third year Drama and African-American studies Major. He was an actor in the New Works Festival 2018. He's always been fond of creative writing and, interestingly enough, it was a screenwriting class that awoke his passion for playwriting. This is his first play.

Timothy Read (J.D., M.Div.) *The Cocoanuts, Company* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *Romeo & Juliet* (Wolfbane Productions); *The Comedy of Errors* (Hamner Theatre); *Ragtime, A Delicate Balance, To Kill a Mockingbird, 24/7, Xanadu, Fight Night, Doubt: A Parable* (Live Arts); and twice in UVA's VFF Adrenaline Film Project

Ryder Sadler (2nd Year Mechanical Engineering)

Tiara Sparrow (4th Year Drama & Studio Arts with focus in cinematography) New Works Festival 2017 *Wake Up Music*, New Works Festival 2018 *I.D., P3M5 The Plurality of Privacy Project* in 5-Minute Plays *Will Be Live* (UVA Drama); *The Black Monologues 2015-2017* (UVA Drama in association with Paul Robeson Players); *An Evening Of Short Plays Modern Romance* (in partnership with UVA Drama and Music Library); *24 Hour Play Project* (Paul Robeson Players); *Molasses* by Micah Ariel Watson (Poe Film Festival 2018); *Trial Run 2017* (VA Film Festival Adrenaline Film Project)

Isaac Tolliver (1st Year Associate of Arts, Music)

Special Thanks to Sam Reeder for assisting *Play It Cool* actors with fight choreography.

I'm Game

Devised & Directed by **Jessica Harris**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Will.....	Joseph French
Ethan	Robby Hoffman
K.C.	Fiona O'Reilly-Sanchez
Lily.....	Avery Erskine
Max	Kyara Mahlen
Monica.....	May Gong

WHO'S WHO IN *I'm Game*

Avery Erskine (1st Year Undeclared) *Romeo and Juliet* (SotL)

Joseph French (4th Year Classics & English) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama), *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare on the Lawn), *The Electric Baby* (Live Arts)

Jessica Harris is a third year pursuing an Echols Interdisciplinary Degree in Drama, Arts Administration, and Youth and Social Innovation. The Drama Representative for Miller Arts Scholars, Jessica most recently assistant directed Shakespeare on the Lawn's *Romeo and Juliet*, and directed *The Black Monologues*. When not directing or playwrighting, Jessica runs a local youth theater organization Empowered Players, is an Arts Grounds Guide, and is on

the executive board for Kids Acting Out. This is Jessica's second devised play performed at the University, with her piece *Locked/Loaded* performed in last year's Festival. She is thrilled and grateful to be working with such a fantastic group of artists!

Robby Hoffman (4th Year Commerce) *Love's a Bitch*; New Works 2018 (UVA Drama)

May Gong (1st Year Undeclared)

Kyara Mahlen (1st Year Undeclared): *Romeo and Juliet: An Story of Interracial Love* (SotL)

Fiona O'Reilly-Sanchez (2nd Year History & Drama, Jewish Studies minor) *WE ARE PUSSY RIOT OR EVERYTHING IS P.R.* (UVA Drama); *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (SotL)

They're Still Friends

By **Savannah Hard**

Directed by **Savannah Maive**

Production Stage Management by **Yvonne Nguyen**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Rebecca.....Jane Purnell
Jordan Cameron Veach
Young Rebecca Elizabeth Steimel
Young Jordan Jess Miller

WHO'S WHO IN *They're Still Friends*

Savannah Maive (3rd Year Drama) *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* (Assistant Director, Live Arts)

Savannah Hard is a fourth year drama major at the University of Virginia. She enjoys playwriting, performing, and impromptu dance parties. Savannah is fortunate enough that one of her one-act plays, *White Zinfandel*, was performed last year at the New Works Festival 2018. She discovered her love for playwriting in her second year in Doug Grissom's class. He first encouraged her to develop her short piece *Eggs* which was performed in the music library exposition. On top of playwriting, she has focused on singing and acting, performing in *Company* as Joanne (Spectrum Theatre) and #46 in *The Wolves* (UVA Drama). She has also served backstage as an assistant stage manager in *Urinetown* and sound designer for *Tartuffe*. Lastly, she has loved her time with Virginia Players, the student wing of the department. She hopes to pursue playwriting and theatre education post graduation.

Jess Miller (3rd Year English and Media Studies) *Eve* (New Works Festival 2018 UVA Drama); *A View from the Bridge* (Spectrum); *Julius Caesar*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (SotL)

Yvonne Nguyen (3rd Year Drama and English) *Company* (Spectrum), *The Addams Family* (FYP)

Jane Purnell (4th Year Drama) *Blood Wedding* (UVA Drama); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Antony and Cleopatra* (SotL)

Elizabeth Steimel (4th Year Media Studies, Drama Minor) *Blood Wedding*, *Viewing Pleasure* (UVA Drama); *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Cabaret* (FYP); *Aida*, *Company*, *A View From The Bridge* (Spectrum Theatre); *Middletown* (Heritage Theatre Festival)

Cameron Veach (2nd Year Undeclared)

WHO'S WHO IN THE NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

Julie Briski (2nd year M.F.A. Lighting Design) *The Wolves*, *Canaan*, New Works Festival 2018, Fall Dance 2017, Spring Dance 2018 (UVA Drama)

Dave Dalton (Assistant Professor, Acting & Directing): Dave is a director and adaptor of classic texts. His pro-wrestling-inspired adaptation of Wagner's *Ring Cycle* operas was selected a New York Times Critics' Pick, and his playful adaptation of Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore* was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revival of a Musical. His work has been seen in New York at The Bushwick Starr, Incubator Arts Project, PS 122, and The Duke on 42nd Street. He has also directed productions at universities throughout the northeast including University of Connecticut, Brooklyn College, Barnard College, and Johns Hopkins University. Dave recently directed *Blood Wedding* and the emo rock musical *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* at UVA Drama. He has a M.F.A. in Directing from Columbia University and is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

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 New Works Festival* (2017), *The Arctic Circle (with a recipe for Swedish Pancakes)*, *The Rimers of Eldritch* and *Museum*.

Jackson Key (1st Year Architecture)

Kylan Luna (4th Year Drama)

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Management and Rehearsal Staff

Stage Management Faculty AdvisorCaitlin McLeod

Scenic

Scenic Design Faculty Advisor Tom Bloom

Technical Direction Faculty Advisor Steven Warner

Properties

Prop Master Sam Flippo

Costumes

Costume Design & Technology Faculty Advisor Marcy Linton

Costume Shop Manager.....Sarah Bryan

Lighting

Lighting Design Faculty Advisor.....R. Lee Kennedy

Sound

Sound Design Faculty Advisor..... Michael Rasbury

Sound Engineer Wren Curtis

Administration

Drama Department Chair Richard Will

Department Artistic Director.....Colleen Kelly

Department Technical Director Christopher Rybitski

Department Operations & Production Manager..... Tracy Francis

Business Manager James Scales

Assistant Business Manager..... Judy McPeak

Drama Administrative Staff..... Theresa Lamb

Publicity Managers Jakob Cansler, Ryleigh Tatum

Box Office

UVA Arts Box Office Manager Andrew Burnett

Arts Box Office Staff..... Renat Abazov, Christen Bolton,

Elizabeth Chung, Spencer Harrell, Lorena Vera, George Villacis, Morgan
Waddy, Jessika Washington, Clay Werenskjold

Front of House

House ManagersTatenda Mabikacheche, Caitland Winsett

THE KENNEDY CENTER

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival 51[®], part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; and Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



Drama Department

drama.virginia.edu



Drama Department
Twitter

twitter.com/uvadrama



Drama Department
Facebook

facebook.com/uvadrama