


Paul Truitt (2nd Year Drama)

**PRODUCTION STAFF FOR LANGUAGE OF ANGELS**

Assistant Director ...................................... Will Rucker
Assistant Stage Managers ................................ Claire Hart, Ana Losada
Assistant Technical Director .......................... Justin Smith
Department Technical Director .......................... Steve Warner
Scenic Shop Manager .................................... David Hale
Scenic Design Faculty Advisor .......................... Tom Bloom
Master Carpenters ...................................... Richard Block, Rachel Lau
Carpenters ................................................. Miguel Algarin, Jason Benn, Tom Christensen, Chris Dickens, Students of DRAM 2210
Paint Shop Charge ........................................ Jeffrey Kmiec
Paint Shop Staff .......................................... Virginia Berg, Jacob Bloom, Mary Butcher, Mel Erenoglu, Garrett Madjic, Isabella “Izzy” Sazak
Props Mistress ............................................. Jessica Cloutier
Assistant Props Mistress .................................. Kristen Freshwater
Scene Shop Assistants ................................... Students of DRAM 2230
Props Shop Staff .......................................... Hitesh Ajmera, Karen Bozicevich, Lauren Chilton, Jyna Maeng, Angela Pirko, Olga Zeveleva
Costume Design Faculty Advisor .......................... Gweneth West
Costume Shop Manager .................................. Joshua Bond
Assistant Costume Designer ............................. Brendan Tufts
Cutter, Draper ............................................. Brigid Prescott
Costume Shop Staff ....................................... Diana Dzikiewicz, Sachi Edson, Amara Shaker-Brown
Lighting Design Faculty Advisor ........................ R. Lee Kennedy
Master Electrician ........................................ Ryan Logue
Sound Design Faculty Advisor .......................... Michael Rasbury
Sound Crew ................................................... Brendt Harris, Sean McCoy, James Parker, Paul Truitt
Business Manager ......................................... James Scales
Assistant Business Manager ............................. Jenny Mays
Arts Box Office Manager .................................. Andrew Burnett
Arts Box Office Staff ..................................... Ally Boate, Sarah Edwards, Betsy Graves, Russ Hicks, Hunter Link, Danny Navarro, Leigh Spoden, Ashleigh White
House Manager ............................................. Portia Henry
Concessions Manager ..................................... Vashthi Harrison
Front of House Staff ..................................... Jarred Boone, Bergen Nelson, Maurice Patterson
Publicity Assistant ........................................ Richard Block
Production Manager ...................................... Caitlin McLeod
Language of Angels

by Naomi Iizuka

Directed by Doreen Bechtol
Vocal Direction by Kate Burke
Scenic Design by Benoit Beauchamp
Costume Design by Christina Leinicke
Lighting Design by Justin Freshwater
Sound Design by Max Krembs
Technical Direction by Alan Perez
Production Stage Management by Justin Paxton

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.
www.playscripts.com

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Seth .......................................... Richie MacLeod
Celie ......................................... Julia Addis-Lieser
Kendra, Voice #2 .......................... Tashi Thomas
JB ............................................. Napoleon Tavale
Michael ...................................... Paul Truitt
Allison ........................................ Nina Shamloo
Danielle ..................................... Laura Rikard
Billy .......................................... Sam Rabinovitz

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

Naomi Iizuka is a puzzle. Born in Tokyo to a Latina American mother and a Japanese father, she lived in Japan, Indonesia, Holland and the United States. These vastly different pieces of history and culture collide within The Language of Angels, resulting in a play with as many facets as Iizuka herself. She pairs the familiar with the unknown – ancient and modern, East and West, love and loss – and the resulting tensions pervade the play and engage its audience.

This play is not easy. Throughout several weeks of rehearsal we could practically hear the light bulbs pop on – “Oh, now I get it, I think…” Iizuka herself states, “My work is not safe writing. Sometimes it’s difficult, disturbing, scary.” We agree and are thrilled by the challenge. Iizuka sets the structure of Japanese Noh drama, with its ghostly presences and shifting time, against the rural landscape of North Carolina, drawing tension between the mode of storytelling and those telling the story. What surfaces is a beautifully poetic Appalachian voice – a familiar voice of hardship, despair, and grief elegantly spun into a centuries-old dramatic structure.

Each of the play’s three parts, separated by interludes – or “betweens”, as Iizuka calls them – relates to the tragic disappearance of a young girl named Celie. In the first part we learn of the circumstances surrounding her mysterious vanishing from those who were with her on the fateful night. Part two introduces more of Celie’s closest friends years after the event, while part three focuses on “the last two standing.” This single event rips through the lives of Celie’s friends, and like a stone cast in a stream, the ripples continue to affect them throughout time.

We invite you into the world of Naomi Iizuka. As a witness to this play you are indeed the final piece to the puzzle.

Doreen Bechtol, Director

WHO’S WHO IN LANGUAGE OF ANGELS

Julia Addis-Lieser (2nd Year Drama, History): Footloose (FYP)
Benoit Beauchamp (Lecturer, Dance Production Manager)
Doreen Bechtol (Guest Director)
Kate Burke (Associate Professor, Voice and Speech)
Justin Freshwater (4th Year Drama): Some Girl(s), Spring Dance Concert 2008 (U.Va. Drama); Don Giovanni (Opera Viva); I Love You Because (Spectrum).
Max Krembs (2nd Year Drama): The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer (U.Va. Drama); Sweeney Todd (FYP).
Christina Leinicke (2nd year MFA, Costume Design): The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Oklahoma! (U.Va. Drama); On Golden Pond, Moonlight & Magnolias (HTT).
Richie MacLeod (2nd Year Drama): Sweeney Todd, Footloose (FYP).