

A full-page image of an astronaut in a white spacesuit floating in space. The astronaut is holding a large, orange, spherical planet (resembling Mars) in front of their chest. The astronaut's helmet visor reflects a three-masted sailing ship on a sea under a cloudy sky. In the background, there is a dark starry space with a few small rocks and a larger reddish planet in the upper left.

# How to Live on EARTH

by MJ Kaufman

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA  
**DRAMA**

**How To Live On Earth**  
by MJ Kaufman  
Directed by Matt Radford Davies

February 24-26, 2022 at 8pm  
March 1-3 at 8pm  
Ruth Caplin Theatre

 UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA  
**DRAMA**

presents

*How To Live On Earth*

By MJ Kaufman

Directed by **Matt Radford Davies**

Scenic Design by **Batul Rizvi**

Costume Design by **Caroline Cook**

Lighting Design by **Justin Poruban**

Media Design by **Eamonn Farrell**

Sound Design by **Paul Curreri**

Technical Direction by **James Nicholas**

Production Stage Management by **Mj Smith**

*How To Live On Earth* will be presented  
without an intermission.

Originally produced by Colt Coeur, New York, NY

**Setting:**

Earth

**CAST**

Omar .....	James Stringer, Jr.
Robert.....	Brian Willis
Aggie.....	Christine Jacobs
Eleanor.....	Cameron Chavers
Russ .....	Jack Clifford
Bill .....	Jack Clifford
Carol.....	Deandra McDonald
Don .....	James Stringer, Jr.
Rick .....	Brian Willis

## WHO'S WHO IN *How To Live On Earth*

**Cameron Chavers** (3rd Year Politics Honors Program): *New Works Festival 2021, Black Monologues 2021, Spring Dance Concert 2021* (UVA Drama); *The Whethermen*.

**Jack Clifford** (2nd Year MFA Acting): *When the Rain Stops Falling, Death of the Author, A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UVA Drama); *Chaste (an Awful Comedy), The Good Person of Setzuan, Lysistrata* (Saint Mary's College); *American Night, Of Mice and Men, The Three R's* (The Western Stage).

**Caroline Cook** has worked as a costume designer and technician since 2006. She has held positions at The Opera Theatre of St. Louis and The Santa Fe Opera as a costume crafts artisan. She has an MFA in Costume Design and Technology from UVA Drama and BA in Sociology from Ithaca College. She credits her success to hard work and the support of her beautiful wife and family.

**Paul Curerri** (BA, Rhode Island School of Design) is so very pleased to have been invited out of his basement music studio to make his theatrical sound-design debut.

**Matt Radford Davies** is an Associate Professor in the Shakespeare and Performance graduate program at Mary Baldwin University in partnership with the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, Virginia. Local directing credits include *Tuna Does Vegas* (Heritage Theatre Festival), *Love's Labour's Lost* (ASC), *Romeo and Juliet* (Starling Shakespeare), *Three Sisters* (MBU), *Twelfth Night* (Radford U). He has directed twenty Shakespeare productions for S&P, and will direct *Henry IV, Part 1* for Prague Shakespeare this summer. Professional regional acting credits include *Othello* and *Twelfth Night* (ASC), *Shakespeare in Love* and *Curious Incident* (Virginia Rep); *Merchant of Venice* and *King Lear* (Quill, Richmond); *Antony and Cleopatra* and *All's Well* (Virginia Shakespeare Festival); *Antony and Cleopatra* (Chesapeake Shakespeare); and *The Tempest* (JMU). He has performed the "Stanislavsky roles" in all Chekhov's major plays. Matt has won awards in both the US and UK, including Best Actor, *Merchant of Venice*, Richmond Critics Circle; Best Ensemble, *Rose Rage* (B. Iden Payne, Austin); Outstanding Lead Actor, *Much Ado* (BIP); Best Supporting Actor, *Richard III* (Austin Critics Circle); Best Actor, *Misconceptions* (Manchester Evening News); and Best Ensemble, *Our Boys* (London Time Out Awards). He has a Ph.D in English from The University of Texas at Austin.

**Eamonn Farrell** is a Virginia-based theater maker and video designer. With his Brooklyn-based theater company, Anonymous Ensemble, he has created dozens of original, media-infused shows, installations, and live webcasts in New York City and around the world. Eamonn also works frequently with Mabou Mines, Sarah Michelson, and Paul Lazar. Other design credits include: TFANA, B3 Dance (Bessie Nomination), LA Dance, The LA Phil,

Parsons Dance, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Portland Center Stage. Eamonn has taught projections design at Princeton, City College of New York, JMU and UVA. [www.eamonnsgarden.com](http://www.eamonnsgarden.com)

**Christine Jacobs** (2nd Year MFA Acting) *When the Rain Stops Falling, God of Carnage* (UVA Drama); *Pride and Prejudice, Winnie the Pooh* (Maryland Ensemble Theatre); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Annapolis Shakespeare Company); *Surfacing* (ExPats Theatre); *The Suffrage Plays* (Venus Theatre).

**MJ Kaufman** is a playwright and screenwriter from Portland, OR. Their plays include: *Masculinity Max* (Public Theater Studio production, Pride Plays '20 reading); *Galatea* (WP Theatre Pipeline Festival); *A Walrus in the Body of a Crocodile* (Clubbed Thumb, Williamstown Theater Festival) *Whisper's Gone* (Theatre Exile); *Double Atlas* (workshop at Playwrights Realm); *Sensitive Guys* (InterAct Theater and numerous theaters and schools around the country and Australia) and *How to Live on Earth* (Colt Coeur). MJ has held residencies at the MacDowell Colony, New Museum and SPACE on Ryder Farm and is currently a resident playwright at New Dramatists and a member of Colt Coeur. Along with Kit Yan and Cece Suazo-Harris, MJ founded the Trans Lab Fellowship, a program to support emerging transgender theater artists. They have worked as a writer for two seasons for Netflix. Since the COVID19 pandemic began, MJ has written zoom plays for New Dramatists and Play at Home, adapted their play *Sensitive Guys* for the internet and worked on an audio piece for New Dramatists Active Listening Podcast. An alum of Wesleyan University and Yale School of Drama. <http://mjkaufman.com/>

**Deandra McDonald** *Woody Guthrie's American Song* (Heritage Theatre Festival); *Ragtime, Dreamgirls, The Mountaintop* (Live Arts); *No Wake* (The Bridge PAI).

**James Nicholas** (3rd Year MFA Technical Direction): *She Kills Monsters* (UVA Drama); 2020-21 Season (Baxter Perkinson Center for the Arts and Education).

**Justin Poruban** (MFA University of Virginia): *Once Upon a Mattress, Lungs, Dissonance, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Urinetown, the Musical, Seven Guitars*, Fall Dance Concerts 2017, 2018, 2021, Spring Dance Concert 2019 (UVA Drama).

**Batul Rizvi** (BFA University of North Carolina School of the Arts, MFA University of Virginia): *Million Dollar Quartet, Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* (Heritage Theatre Festival), *Little Shop of Horrors, Dreamgirls* (Chattanooga Theatre Company), *American Idiot* (James Madison University), *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment – The Amazing Adventures of Louis De Rougemont (As Told By Himself), Diversity Awareness Picnic, Urinetown, the Musical, Mr. Burns, a post-electric play.* (UVA Drama). [batulrizvidesign.com](http://batulrizvidesign.com)

**Mj Smith** (4th Year Drama Major, ASL & Deaf Culture Studies Minor): *Fall 2021 Dance Concert* (UVA Drama).

**James Stringer, Jr.** (2nd Year MFA Acting) *Death of the Author* (UVA Drama); *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley, A Christmas Carol* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); *Julius Caesar, Richard II, Much Ado About Nothing* (Kentucky Shakespeare); *Fences, Baltimore, King Lear* (University of Louisville).

**Brian Willis** (2nd Year MFA Acting) *When the Rain Stops Falling, Death of the Author* (UVA Drama); *Hamlet, The Tempest, The Winter's Tale, Macbeth, King Lear, Cymbeline, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Comedy of Errors, Titus Andronicus, Romeo and Juliet* (Richmond Shakespeare Festival); *Twelfth Night* (Earlham College).

## PRODUCTION STAFF

### **Stage Management and Rehearsal Staff**

Assistant Stage Manager.....Julia Nelson  
Stage Management Faculty Advisor .....Caitlin McLeod  
Movement Coach.....Marianne Kubik

### **Scenic**

Assistant Technical Director ..... Casey Horton  
Technical Direction Faculty Advisor ..... Steven Warner  
Scene Shop Assistants ..... Asta Jorgensen, Cecilia Huang,  
Daphenie Joseph, Charles Mooz, Margaret O'Hare  
Scene Shop Crew ..... Students of DRAM 2230  
Run Crew ..... Ami Kano

### **Paint**

Scenic Charge ..... Brian Smallwood

### **Properties**

Prop Shop Supervisor ..... Sam Flippo

### **Costumes**

Costume Shop Manager.....Sarah Bryan  
Cutter/Draper .....Caroline Cook  
Costume Shop Assistants ..... Evelyn Garey, Elizabeth Hinton  
Wardrobe Head.....Ally Karaca  
Dresser .....Caroline Weston

### **Lighting**

Lighting Supervisor..... Justin Poruban  
Electricians..... John Fitzgerald, Kyndal Harrison, Silas Hayes,  
Jackson Key and students of DRAM 2130  
Light Board Operator..... Robert Smalls

**Sound & Digital Media**

Sound Design Faculty Advisor ..... Michael Rasbury  
Theatre Audio/Video/Lighting Specialist ..... Wren Curtis  
Sound Board Operator ..... Kayleigh Hoang  
Digital Media Faculty Advisor ..... Mona Kasra  
Projection Operators ..... Hyebin Lee, Eli James McLaughlin

**Drama Department Administration**

Interim Chair ..... Doug Grissom  
Artistic Director ..... Marianne Kubik  
Production Coordinator ..... Caitlin McLeod  
Technical Director ..... Chris Rybitski  
Operations & Production Manager ..... Michael Giovinco  
Business Manager ..... James Scales  
Assistant Business Manager ..... Judy McPeak  
Administrative Staff ..... Theresa Lamb

**UVA Arts Box Office**

UVA Arts Box Office Manager ..... Olivia Anderson  
UVA Arts Box Office Assistant Manager ..... Kayla Eanes  
UVA Arts Box Office Staff: ..... Greta Erickson, Destiny Hutchinson,  
Bannon Luckert, Lydia Newman, Claire Sharpe,  
Angel Soliz, Tasia Tazewell

**Front of House**

House Manager ..... Noelle Wobig

## *Coming in Spring*

### *16 Winters, or the Bear's Tale*

by Mary Elizabeth Hamilton

Directed by Kate Eastwood Norris

Culbreth Theatre

April 21-23 and 28-30

at 8pm

### *Spring Dance Concert*

Kim Brooks Mata, Producer & Artistic Director

Ruth Caplin Theatre

April 28-30

at 7:30pm

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