



the  
**new works**  
festival

Photo By Michael Bailey

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA  
**DRAMA**

**The New Works Festival**

Produced by Doug Grissom  
& Dave Dalton

March 25, 26 and 28, 2022 at 7pm

March 26 & 27 at 2pm

Helms Theatre

 UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA  
**DRAMA**

presents

## **The New Works Festival**

Produced by **Dave Dalton and Doug Grissom**

Lighting Design by **James Nicholas**

Digital Media Design by **Joe Remines**

Sound Design by **Javier Perez**

Technical Direction by **James Nicholas**

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

Welcome to our 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 said: the playwright doesn't write text; the playwright writes behavior for actors and environments for designers. So, without the work of directors, actors, designers, stage managers, and technicians the playwright's work doesn't really exist.

For a director, working with a playwright is a wonderful opportunity to support a new play as it develops. Directors have collaborated with the writers, actors, and designers to stage these plays, to find creativity within limitations, and to build very different worlds, including an isolated bunker, a hellish evening at home, a college dorm full of change, a restaurant, and a baking competition.

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.**

*Born Under a Single Light*  
By **Karen Zipor**  
Directed by **Max Tankersely**  
Original Music by **Josh Eiger**  
Choreography by **Caitlin Woodford**  
Production Stage Management by **Susana Kuhn**

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Krystina..... Christina Lee  
Henry ..... Jeffrey Mouritzen  
Perla..... Lela Trainer  
Rubee..... Jumi Hall

## WHO'S WHO IN *Born Under a Single Light*

### **Josh Eiger**

**Jumi Hall** (2nd Year Drama & Astronomy): *Believer: A Cult Musical* (Spectrum Theatre).

**Susana Kuhn** (3rd Year Drama & Global Development Studies).

**Christina Lee** (4th Year Media Studies, Drama Minor).

**Jeffrey Mouritzen** (3rd Year Computer Science, Drama minor): *Believer: A Cult Musical* (Spectrum Theatre); *Love's Labor's Lost*, *King Lear* (Shakespeare on the Lawn); *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Music Man* (First Year Players).

**Max Tankersely** (3rd Year Drama & Psychology, English Minor): *FUNeral* (UVA Drama); *Steps* (Common House); *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Julius Caesar* (Educational Theatre Company).

**Lela Trainer** (2nd Year Drama & French).

**Caitlin Woodford** (4th Year English – Area Program in Literary Prose, Russian minor): *The Music Man*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Curtains* (FYP).

**Karen Zipor** (playwright) is a fourth-year double-majoring in Drama and Computer Science. She is also a Miller Arts Scholar in Drama. Karen has performed in many shows (UVA Drama; FYP) but didn't take up playwriting until a pandemic caused her to funnel her creative energy into writing. Her first play, *Half-Hour Ride North*, was one of the audio-dramas in last year's New Works Festival and winner of The Delauney Award. She's excited for this year's festival, as it's the first time a play she wrote will be performed live on-stage.

## *Dinner with the Devil*

Written and Directed by **Laurel Voss**

Production Stage Management by **Rainah Gregory**

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

The Devil.....	Greta Erickson
Judith.....	Megan Kuo
Charlie.....	Cecilia Huang

### WHO'S WHO IN *Dinner with the Devil*

**Greta Erickson** (2nd Year Undeclared).

**Rainah Gregory** (see *Bake for Life* Who's Who).

**Cecilia Huang** (2nd Year Drama).

**Megan Kuo** (2nd Year Biology & Computer Science).

**Laurel Voss** (playwright) is a fourth-year Media Studies major who has been writing plays and screenplays since 2019. Last year, she directed the audio play *Boys: The Musical*. She's grateful to have the opportunity this year to work in person with the cast and crew. Laurel is also the writer-director of two short films produced at UVA this year.

## *Welcome to Clifton*

By **Avery Erskine**

Directed by **Emilia Couture**

Production Stage Management by **Lydia Newman**

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

Leah.....	Pelin Marie Yirmibeşoğlu
Dolly.....	Alice Cormier
Renee.....	Hannah Han
Corin.....	Niya Venkatraman

### WHO'S WHO IN *Welcome to Clifton*

**Alice Cormier** (2nd Year Undeclared).

**Emilia Couture** (3rd Year Psychology & Women, Gender, and Sexuality):  
*Peace by Piece* (Virginia Players); *Who are You?* (Spectrum Theatre).

**Avery Erskine** (playwright) is a fourth-year English major and Drama minor. She got her start in UVA Drama as an actor in the 2019 New Works Festival production *I'm Game*, but over the course of her four years at UVA, she discovered a love for writing and directing as well. Her first play, *Strategy*, was

produced in the 2021 New Works Festival and was considered at the national level for the KCACTF John Cauble Outstanding Short Play Award. *Welcome to Clifton* is Avery's second play.

**Hannah Han** (4th Year Computer Science, Drama minor): *Love and Information*, *She Kills Monsters* (UVA Drama); *Maryland Tonight: Episode 3*, *DC Sketch & Improv Show* (Rails Comedy).

**Lydia Newman** (3rd Year Drama & Media Studies): *Love and Information*, *Boys: The Musical* (UVA Drama); *Peace by Piece* (Virginia Players), *The Music Man* (FYP).

**Niya Venkatraman** (4th Year Computer Science, Drama minor): *Love and Information*, (UVA Drama); *Twist and Bend* (Overcranked 2021).

**Pelin Marie Yirmibeşoğlu** (4th Year Environmental Science): *In an East German Living Room* (UVA Drama); *Global Warming.ppt* (Virginia Players).

### ***This is Not a Date***

By **Tanaka Maria**

Directed by **Charlie Mooz**

Production Stage Management by **Rainah Gregory**

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Alicia.....Angel Lin  
Vic ..... Alexa Moore

### **WHO'S WHO IN *This is Not a Date***

**Rainah Gregory** (see *Bake for Life* Who's Who).

**Angel Lin** (2nd Year English).

**Tanaka Maria** (playwright) is a fourth-year English major and is excited to be a part of New Works for a second time. She is the Co-President of Paul Robeson Artists and has written and acted in *Black Monologues*. When they're not acting or writing, they're taking Cinematography classes with the Studio Art Department.

**Charlie Mooz** (3rd Year Drama & Biology): *Measure for Measure* (Shakespeare on the Lawn).

**Alexa Moore** (4th Year Drama & Foreign Affairs): *In an East German Living Room* (UVA Drama); *Play in a Day 2019*, *Lighting the Way* (Virginia Players); *JAB* (Adrenaline Film Festival 2021).

## *Bake for Life*

By **Rainah Gregory**

Co-directed by **Lexi Christie and Rainah Gregory**

Production Stage Management by **Brody McDevitt**

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

Kara .....	Evelyn Garey
Bateman.....	Jeffrey Mouritzen
Silas.....	Mark Armstrong
Flo.....	Chloe Rogers
Jan .....	Mylène Freeman

### WHO'S WHO IN *Bake for Life*

**Mark Armstrong** (1st Year Undeclared): *Diversity Awareness Picnic* (UVA Drama); *Curtains* (FYP); *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Frozen, Jr.*, *Annie* (Pied Piper Theatre); *26 Pebbles* (Independent).

**Lexi Christie** (4th Year Media Studies, Drama minor).

**Mylène Freeman** (Ph.D. candidate Politics).

**Evelyn Garey** (3rd Year Drama & History): *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *Love & Information*; *Boys! The Musical* (UVA Drama).

**Rainah Gregory** (she/her) (playwright) is a fourth-year Drama major, American Sign Language & Deaf Studies minor and President of Miller Arts Scholars. She is a playwright, director, and stage manager for this season's New Works Festival. Before attending UVA she completed the Integrated Program at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA) in New York ('17). She was named the national SDC Directing Fellow during the national Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) in Spring '21. She was later accepted into and completed a two-week directing intensive through Yale during the summer of '21. She is a proud associate member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers (SDC). *Bake for Life* was selected for the regional festival of KCACTF this year. Writing credits include: *FUNeral* (UVA Drama), and *So I Guess We're Doing This* (UVA Overcranked Short Film). Directing credits include: *Watch Me* by Caky Winsett (Virginia Players Lab Series '20), *So I Guess We're Doing This*, and *Peace by Piece* (Virginia Players Lab Series '21). This is her first time stage managing.

**Brody McDevitt** (4th Year Commerce & Drama).

**Jeffrey Mouritzen** (see *Born Under a Single Light* Who's Who).

**Chloe Rogers** (3rd Year Drama): *Boys: The Musical* (UVA Drama), *She Echoes on the Vine* (Jefferson Heritage Center), *In the Heights* (Live Arts).

## WHO'S WHO IN THE NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

**Dave Dalton** (Associate 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 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. For the Department of Drama his recent productions include *Love and Information*, *Lungs*, *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Love's a Bitch*, and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. Dave has a MFA in Directing from Columbia University and is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

**Doug Grissom** teaches playwriting and screenwriting in the department and is currently the interim chair. His plays have been widely produced at many venues around the country and in Britain, and *Deep Down* and *Elvis People* were mounted in Off-Broadway productions and subsequently produced at regional theatres across the country. *Elvis People* and several other plays of his have been published by Dramatic Publishing Company and Playscripts, Inc. He's written two educational theatre pieces on sexual assault and harassment, *But I Said No* and *I Never Saw It Coming*, which have been performed in numerous colleges and high schools around the country. He congratulates the fine young playwrights produced in this year's New Works Festival.

**James Nicholas** (3rd Year MFA Technical Direction): Lighting Design: *Fall Dance Concert 2021* (UVA Drama); Technical Direction: *She Kills Monsters* (UVA Drama); 2020-21 Season (Baxter Perkinson Center for the Arts and Education).

**Javier Perez** (3rd Year Drama & Spanish).

**Joe Remines** (4th Year Computer Science).

## PRODUCTION STAFF

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

Stage Management Faculty Advisor ..... Caitlin McLeod

### **Scenic & Technical Direction**

Technical Direction Faculty Advisor ..... Steven Warner

Run Crew ..... Susana Kuhn

### **Properties**

Prop Master ..... Sam Flippo

### **Costumes**

Costume Shop Manager..... Sarah Bryan

### **Lighting**

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

Lighting Supervisor..... Justin Poruban

Light Board Op..... Lily Franks

### **Sound & Digital Media**

Sound Design Faculty Advisor ..... Michael Rasbury

Sound Board Operator..... Javier Perez

Digital Media Faculty Advisor ..... Mona Kasra

### **Administration**

Interim Drama Department Chair..... Doug Grissom

Artistic Director..... Marianne Kubik

Production Coordinator..... Caitlin McLeod

Technical Director ..... Christopher Rybitski

Operations & Production Manager..... Michael Giovinco

Business Manager ..... James Scales

Assistant Business Manager..... Judy McPeak

Administrative Staff ..... Theresa Lamb

### **UVA Arts Box Office**

Box Office Manager ..... Olivia Anderson

Assistant Box Office Manager ..... Kayla Eanes

Arts Box Office Staff..... Greta Erickson, Destiny Hutchinson,

Bannon Luckert, Lydia Newman, Claire Sharpe, Angel Soliz, Tasia Tazewell

### **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 28-20 at 7:30pm

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