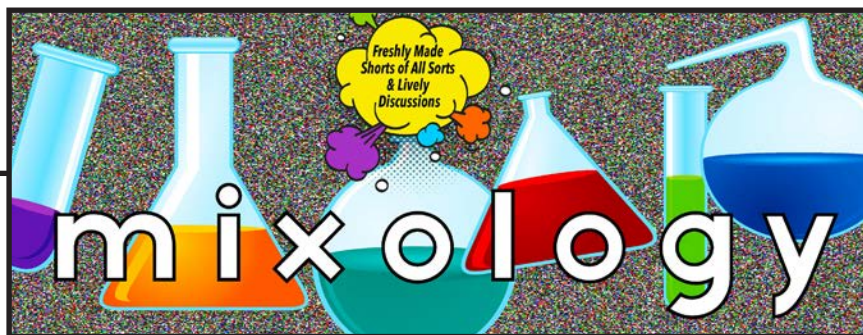


Sunday, December 13, 2020: Online!



a new series from



COMMUNITY & ARTIST ENGAGEMENT

At Undiscovered Works, we believe that stories impact change, that we better our world by coming together to learn about our shared and unique experiences. Our programming is dedicated to supporting artists as they develop plays, music, monologues, comedy, and film. Our ensemble-based Off and Off-Off Broadway productions bring to light the social issues of our times, all the while entertaining and inspiring dialogue.

ABOUT MIXOLOGY

Mixology is a new series from Undiscovered Works that explores the creative possibilities of presenting theatrical, cinematic, and performance pieces in virtual space. This month's event features six new Shorts of All Sorts!

"We started off doing some exploring with Zoom as part of the Undiscovered Works monthly storytelling event. After discussions with other creators we know we decided to do some further experimentation with a spin-off on Sunday afternoon. In an attempt to push the boundaries of the online world we wanted to incorporate filmed content and live elements. Of course in experiments sometimes things explode... but there are a few sure fire elements that will keep things on track!"

- Jennifer Dean and Eric Rice



OUR PROGRAM

KURTIS ON ZOOM: EPISODE 5

(Live)

written by Julie Hays

performed by Mike Roche & Jennifer Dean

DUSTY LIVE FROM THE CLOSET: EPISODE 2

(Live)

written by Leah Abrams

voiced by Patricia Black

accompanying video by Jennifer Dean

& live musical accompaniment by Paul Mendoza

FLEETWOOD: PART 5

(Live)

written & performed by Robert Pagnani

video collage by Jennifer Dean

KOKO'S LOVE: EPISODE 3, PART 2

created, produced & performed by Yoshie Sakai

KURTIS ON ZOOM: THE FINALE

(Live)

written by Julie Hays

performed by Mike Roche, Vivienne Leheny, Marcia Haufrecht,

Eric Rice & Bonnie Rose

"NEW YORK CITY"

(Live)

written & performed by Tom Ashton

** Q&A with presenting artists follows our presentation. **

SPECIAL THANKS

to Vincent Gagliostro for designing the Mixology logo and banner.

Vincent Gagliostro is an artist, filmmaker, activist and an original member of the political AIDS activist group ACT UP. Gagliostro is preparing to direct his second feature film, *Lumberville*, which he has written in collaboration with Avram Finkelstein. In 2016 Gagliostro made his feature film writing and directing debut with *After Louie*, starring Alan Cumming, Zachary Booth and Sarita Choudhury. He was a contributing cinematographer for the Oscar nominated documentary, *How To Survive a Plague*. His graphic and fine art work is in the permanent collections of The Whitney, The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan, and Cooper-Hewitt. His art direction on three of Prince's music videos — *Cream, Diamonds and Pearls*, and *Kiss* — prompted his move into video art and film. He has lectured at Yale on the subject of Art and Activism. On the web at gagliostro.com.

OUR PRESENTING ARTISTS

Leah S. Abrams (*Dusty Live From the Closet*) is grateful to have finally found a voice to express her disdain with her own species, to the creative suggestion that inspired this little series of monologues that have allowed her to find humor in difficult times, and to Jennifer, Patricia, and Paul for bringing it all to life. And, of course, she is immensely grateful to Dusty for the last 16 1/2 years of love. Leah typically writes essays that you can sometimes find on Undiscovered Works' community blog. She is founder and executive director of Undiscovered Works, a non-profit theatre production company.

Tom Ashton ("New York City") Singer-songwriter Tom Ashton founded the NYC-based garage rock/power pop band Early Edison. His song "Demographically Pleasing" was named Pop Song of the Year by *Newsday* and featured on their self-titled album, co-produced by Tony Maimone (Pere Ubu, They Might Be Giants, Bob Mould) and mixed by Joel Hamilton (Highly Suspect, Blakroc, Tom Waits). Their subsequent album *Better Late Than Never* featured production contributions by Patrick Dillett (They Might Be Giants, David Byrne). Several of his songs have been featured in TV/films including: *My Boss's Daughter*, *A View From The Top*, *Dickie Roberts*, *Tru Calling* and *Roswell*. Tom has written music for several films, including *Full Moon and High Tide in the Ladies Room*, *Enchantments*, and *Saturnalia*. His latest singles "Sidewalk Saints" and "I Never Knew You" were mastered by Fred Kevorkian (The National, Iggy Pop, The White Stripes) and released earlier in 2020.

Patricia Black (*Dusty Live From the Closet*) New York Theater: *And the Swan* (TheaterLab), *Hamlet*, *The Tempest*, *Julius Caesar* (Gallery Players), *Romeo & Juliet* (Flamboyán Theater), *Coriolanus* (Italy Time Theatre), *Guilt By Association* (Manhattan Rep). Resident Bat - The Flea Theater Company. Artistic Advisory Board member - The COOP Theatre. TV: Ryan Murphy's *Pose* on FX. Upcoming: Film: *Ballad of a Hustler*.

Jennifer Dean (*Kurtis on Zoom*; *Dusty Live From the Closet*; *Fleetwood*) currently works as an editor and has worked as an actor, director, and producer in theatre and film - and wrote a thesis on women making movies in America, interviewing a ton of incredible people (the2ndSexandthe7thArt.com). She is always happy telling stories in whatever way she can. jenniferdean.biz

Marcia Haufrecht (*Kurtis on Zoom*) graduated from Performing Arts High School as a dancer and got her first job on Broadway in *Plain and Fancy*, followed by a national tour with *Can Can*. As an actress she has appeared on Broadway, off, and off-off Broadway, as well as on television and film, in roles ranging from Tondeleyo in *White Cargo*, to Queen Elizabeth opposite

Al Pacino in *Richard III*. She has performed with Center Stage in Baltimore, The Boston Theater Company, Lincoln Center, The Public Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre, and La Mama. Some of her film appearances have been in *Dog Day Afternoon*, *Prince Of The City*, *Daytrippers*, and on TV in *The Sopranos*, *As The World Turns* and *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU*, and *Law & Order: CI*. She has more recently been seen in the films *Win Win* as Paul Giametti's mother, Gina, *The Night Listener* with Robin Williams, and *The Producers: The Musical* (film version). Additional recent films include *The Perfect Witness* and *Anamorph* starring Willem Defoe. More information: marciahaufrecht.com.

Julie Hays (*Kurtis on Zoom*) grew up and lives in New York City. Her play *Home Therapy Kit* was produced at the Atlantic Theater and a finalist for the HBO Comedy festival. *Carli Anne Songbyrd Baker* was part of The Midtown International Theater Festival and nominated for best playwriting and directing. *Years May Go By* premiered at the Planet Connections Festival nominated for Best One Act Play and also produced in Westport CT. by Play With Your Food. *Sort Of Like Julie... Only Worse* premiered at the Midtown International Theater Festival nominated for best supporting actor. Her new play *The Blockers* was part of The Emerging Artists New Work Series. Julie was selected as a participating artist in the New Group Theater's Writing Workshop. Julie is creating and writing for Zoom, but hopeful live performance will return. She is also an actress. JulieHays.com

Vivienne Leheny (*Kurtis on Zoom*) When not hiding out in her COVID-bunker, Vivienne works as an actor and audiobook narrator. Her most recent appearance on the big screen was as the "Snarky Wedding Guest" in *After the Wedding*, when she had the audacity to mock Julianne Moore. (Let it be said, Ms. Moore was exceedingly gracious.) In addition to Snarky Wedding Guests, Vivienne has portrayed romantic hero alien gladiators/warriors/cyborgs as well as elves, orcs and dragons in her audiobook narrations. But playing Marta to the delightful Mike Roche's inestimable Kurtis has been one of her great joys. And playtime with the fabulous director Jennifer Dean as we perform the glittering writing by the brilliant and generous Julie Hays, is why Viv's able to crawl out of her bunker-based bed in the morning. For more non-essential nonsense: VivienneLeheny.com.

Paul Mendoza (*Dusty Live From the Closet*) was born and raised in Southern California. He lived in San Francisco where he was a published poet and started a theater company called Bare Bones Theater. Between 1998 and 2002 Bare Bones Theater produced 18 productions including Mendoza's own full-length plays: *Fools* (1998), *Time Against Us* (1999) and *Watching Porn* (2001). He moved to New York City in 2002 and has turned his energies to writing and directing short films including *After Time* (2003), *Touches* (2007) and most recently *Last To Fall* (2017) in which he also has a supporting role and composed the original music.

Robert Pagnani (*Fleetwood*) is a classical singer, writer, teacher, philosopher and storyteller. He lives in New York City with his wife Mary and their two cats, Jersey and Marina. A philosopher by nature, he is always seeking the unique and often overlooked slant in any situation, and often finds thought provoking, fascinating and even humorous results. He is an avid traveler and enjoys visits throughout North America, Europe and any other location he is lucky enough to visit, and relishes the opportunity to share stories of his travels. <https://robshigmouth.wordpress.com/>

Eric Rice (*Kurtis on Zoom*) NY credits include: *Mother Night* (dir. Brian Katz, 59E59); *Incendiary Agents* (dir. Peter Jensen, New Ohio Theatre); *Sort of Like Julie... Only Worse* (dir. Kelly Hutchinson, Abingdon Theatre); *Orson's Shadow* (dir. Lauren Reinhard, Theatre Row); *Riverside Symphony* (dir. Hondo Weiss-Richmond, Robert Moss Theatre); *Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2* (dir. Elyzabeth Gorman) and *Henry V* (dir. Melisa Annis) - RST/Prospect Park Alliance. Film: *In-Between* (dir. Kanchalee Wijakpaisarn); *Stanley's Thanksgiving* (dir. Micah Paisner); *To Live Forever* and *Fear of Heights* (dir. Jennifer Dean); *Just Love* (dir. Charles Peirce); *Peeling Apples on Your Own* (dir. Nisan Dağ); *Game Night* (dir. David Ketterer). BA, Applied Arts & Sciences, Drama, Emphasis in Acting, SDSU (US Army GI Bill). AEA, SAG-AFTRA. Social: @riceunderwater. More info: www.riceunderwater.com.

Mike Roche (*Kurtis on Zoom*) *Kurtis* (by Julie Hays, dir. Jennifer Dean), *Night Over Taos* (INTAR/dir. Estelle Parsons), *Doubt* (T. Schreiber Theatre/Peter Jensen), *The Father* (reading w/ Al Pacino), *Room Service* (Actors Studio/Arthur Storch), *A Clockwork Orange* (59E59, EST, Edinburgh Festival/Joë Tantalò), *cul-de-sac* (Unquowa Rep/John Cariani), *Billy the Kid* (Flea Theatre/Jim Simpson), *Psycho* (dir. Thomas G. Waites), *Salome* (Two River Theatre), *Johnny Johnson Dream Show* (dir. John Strasberg), *Salome* (PA: Barrymore Theatre/Broadway dir. Estelle Parsons). Member: Godlight Theatre Company (2010 Drama Desk Award), SAG-AFTRA, AEA. Special Thanks: Julie, Jennifer, Vivienne, Eric, Leah and Holly O'Brien. www.mikeroche.net

Bonnie Rose (*Kurtis on Zoom*) is a native New Yorker. She is a veteran actress of Film & TV. Her career got started when the iconic director Sidney Lumet cherry-picked her for the film *Night Falls on Manhattan*, she continued to work with Mr. Lumet on many other films and had a recurring role on the TV show *100 Centre St*. She has worked with the Coen Brothers, Rami Malek in *Mr. Robot*, and recently on *Blue Bloods*. Bonnie is thrilled to be working again with Julie Hays (writer) in *Kurtis* and alongside these incredible actors in this online event for Mixology. She is also a member of UAC and is on the advisory board for Festival of Cinema NYC. IMDB.me/BonnieRose

Yoshie Sakai (*KOKO's Love*) is a multidisciplinary artist, working in video, installation, performance, and sculpture. She received her BFA

from California State University Long Beach and her MFA from Claremont Graduate University. Recent solo exhibitions include California State University Dominguez Hills in Carson as the 2018-2019 PRAXIS Artist in Residence (2019), Verge Center for the Arts in Sacramento (2018), Groundspace Project in Los Angeles (2017), and Antenna in New Orleans (2016). She attended the Vermont Studio Center Residency (2019), the ACRE Residency Program (2016), the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2014), and received the 2012 California Community Foundation for Visual Artists Emerging Artist Fellowship. Her work has been shown throughout the United States in film festivals and art exhibitions from Los Angeles to Miami, as well as internationally in Cambodia, Canada, Germany, and Japan. Her practice originates from her interest and understanding of the quotidian and the narrative. The soap opera fascinates her, not only for its outrageous characters and scenarios, but also for how it touches upon the most fundamental emotions and at times spews familiar life lessons and moral clichés that are highly accessible, or as her 86-year-old, first generation Japanese mother would say it is “what she lives for.” Her past and present work has always dealt with perceptions and the inability to fulfill others’ expectations whether it be the mass media or those of her Japanese American family. www.yoshiesakai.com

THE WORKS



KURTIS ON ZOOM: EPISODE 5 (Live)

written by Julie Hays

performed by Mike Roche, Vivienne Leheny, Marcia Haufrecht, Eric Rice & Bonnie Rose

Julie Hays first wrote *KURTIS* as a one-act play which was then turned into a short film (watch here to learn

more about him) - and now Kurtis is getting his therapy on Zoom! We have followed Kurtis every month on Mixology. In this the fifth episode, Kurtis (Mike Roche) has a heart-to-heart on Zoom with his ex-wife Kendra (Jennifer Dean).



DUSTY LIVE FROM THE CLOSET: EPISODE 2 (Live)

written by Leah Abrams

*voiced by Patricia Black
accompanying video by Jennifer Dean
& live musical accompaniment by Paul Mendoza*

Enjoy the musings of Dusty the Cat (voiced by Patricia Black) as she ponders her existence and that of the woman who feeds her.



FLEETWOOD: PART 5 (Live)

written & performed

by Robert Pagnani

video collage by Jennifer Dean

As a 16-year-old community college student, Robert Pagnani went in search of part-time work... which wasn't as easy as he had hoped.

Robert reads the fifth part of his adventures as a goat-herder with some accompanying visuals inspired by the piece!



KOKO'S LOVE: EPISODE 3, PART 2

created, produced & performed

by Yoshie Sakai

2018 | USA | 9 min, 50 sec

An original East Asian/Asian American hybrid soap opera that re-imagines the melodramatic tropes of TV dramas to challenge the myth of the

“model minority” and reveal the guise of superficial “perfection” of being both Asian-American and a woman. It is about a Japanese-American family, whose patriarch, Hiroshi, is a liquor store owner in South Los Angeles that annoyingly insists on the importance of having a male inherit the family business and not a female, his only child, a daughter named Yuki. Loosely autobiographical, Sakai felt it was important to write, produce, direct, and act out all the characters of this dark dramedy. *KOKO'S Love* is a stage for the everyday doubts, anxieties, hopes, and daydreams that come from living while challenging the notion of fictitious and non-fictitious storytelling. She uses greenscreen technology to act out all of the characters in this dark dramedy. During our monthly Mixology we have seen Yuki kidnapped and finding herself in a New Orleans reverie. Yuki's Mom misses her terribly but her father Hiroshi has adopted the son he always dreamed of having in hopes of filling the void. What will happen this week?



KURTIS ON ZOOM: THE FINALE

(Live)

written by Julie Hays

performed by Mike Roche, Vivienne

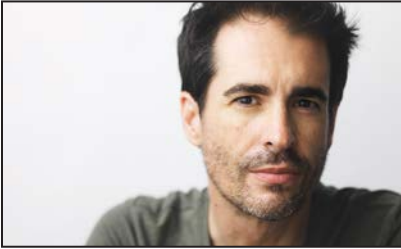
Leheny, Marcia Haufrecht, Eric Rice &

Bonnie Rose

Julie Hays first wrote *KURTIS* as a one-act play which was then turned into a

short film (watch here to learn more about him) – and now Kurtis is getting his therapy on Zoom! The final episode rounds out our Mixology series where the full cast joins in on the fun – actor Mike Roche (as Kurtis), Vivienne Leheny (as Marta), Eric Rice (as “Marvin Marvel”), Marcia Haufrecht (as

Judy) and Bonnie Rose (as Mildred Smith).



“NEW YORK CITY” (Live)
written & performed by Tom Ashton
Songwriter/Composer/Performer
Tom Ashton (and creator of the *KURTIS* theme!) joins us to play a song to say goodbye to 2020 and “Welcome 2021!”

ENJOYING THE WORK? FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



undiscoveredworks.org



facebook.com/undiscoveredworks



@undiscoveredworksny

UNDISCOVERED WORKS NEEDS YOUR STORIES!

Are you a creative artist looking for an opportunity to share new work? We'd love to consider including you in our monthly series! Please contact us at leaha@undiscoveredworks.org.

Our Next **MONTHLY STORYTELLING EVENT**

TOMORROW!

Monday, December 14, 2020
@ 7:30 PM EDT

Undiscovered Works is thrilled to partner with Clark University's theatre department - a virtual reading of student writer Brett Iarrobino's play, *Poor Connection*, featuring the original production cast. A two-act comedy-drama concerned with love, companionship, and our fear of loneliness amid a world that boasts connectivity.

Be sure to follow us on social media and sign our mailing list at www.undiscoveredworks.org to get all the updates!



Our Next **MIXOLOGY**
MARCH 2021 on ZOOM!