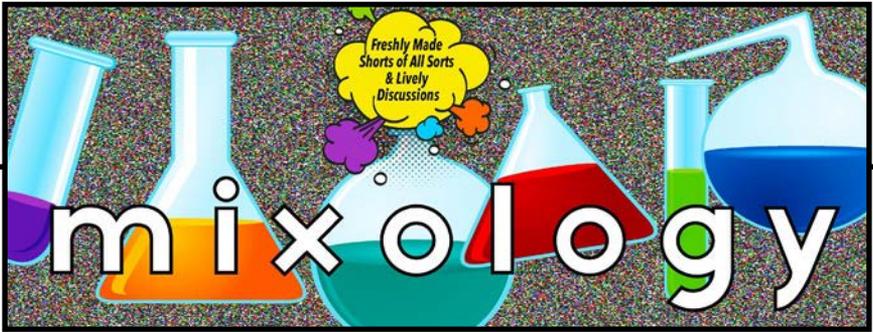


Sunday, September 26, 2021: *Online!*



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 five 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 1

(recorded)

written and directed by Julie Hays

cast: Mike Roche, Vivienne Leheny & Jennifer Dean

CODE RUTH

(film)

an animated documentary by Caroline Voagen Nelson

I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU

(live)

written by Irene Meltzer Richard

directed by Jennifer Dean

cast: Persia Anderson & Sherill Turner

MY IMMIGRANT STORY

(film)

a documentary directed by Yuriko Gamo Romer

KURTIS ON ZOOM: EPISODE 2

(recorded)

written and directed by Julie Hays

*cast: Mike Roche, Marcia Haufrecht,
Eric Rice & Bonnie Rose*

Q&A with available 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

Persia Anderson (Melissa, *I Only Have Eyes For You*) is a Southern California native and current NYC transplant. Actor and freelance commercial producer.

Tom Ashton (Composer/Musician, *Kurtis on Zoom*) is a New York-based actor/musician. TV: *The Blacklist* (NBC); *God Friended Me* (CBS); *A Crime to Remember*; FILM: *Such A Funny Life*, *Saturnalia* (also wrote/performed songs); *Full Moon and High Tide in the Ladies Room* (also composed score); NYC THEATER: *Everything Dark in This World*; *Butterfly Hour*; *Yellowface*; *Who'll Save The Plowboy*. TV/FILM MUSIC: *Enchantments*; *Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star*; *View From The Top*; *My Boss's Daughter*; *Tru Calling*; *Roswell*. RECORDING ARTIST/PRODUCER: singer-songwriter (Plan Hatcher Music); *Early Edison* (Sony Music). AWARD: Winner, Best Supporting Actor (Seoul Webfest): *Tech Bettys*.

Jennifer Dean (Co-curator; Director, *I Only Have Eyes For You*; Producer, Editor, Kendra, *Kurtis on Zoom*) 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. More info: jenniferdean.biz.

Marcia Haufrecht (Judy, *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*, *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and ABC's *For Life*. She has more recently been seen in the films *Win Win* as Paul Giamatti's mother, Gina; *The Night Listener* with Robin Williams; and *The Producers: The Musical* (film version). Additional recent films include *The Perfect Witness* and *Diane*. More information: www.marciahaufrecht.com.

Julie Hays (Writer, Director, *Kurtis on Zoom*) is an actor, writer, and voice over artist who grew up in and lives in New York City. Her first life was as a dancer in the New York City Ballet, performing at Lincoln Center and across Europe, before she transitioned into acting and writing. She has been in many, many plays, and is particularly proud of the roles she has originated. You can see her on the big and small screen, most recently in *New Amsterdam*, *The Blacklist*, *Motherless Brooklyn*, *Little Boxes* and *Gotham*. Julie's writing life includes the play *Home Therapy Kit* (which she also acted in), produced at the Atlantic Theater and a finalist for the HBO Comedy Festival; *Carli Anne Songbyrd Baker*, part of The Midtown International Theater Festival and nominated for Best Playwriting and Directing; *Years May Go*, produced in Westport CT; and *Sort of Like Julie... Only Worse*, which premiered at the Midtown International Theater Festival. Julie was selected as a participating artist in the New Group Theater's Writing Workshop. Her recent play, *Everything Dark in This World*, had a live Zoom reading at Theater for the New City's *On Air* series and during the

pandemic she wrote the comedy webseries *Kurtis on Zoom*. Follow Julie on Instagram ([@the_real_jumeha](#)) and Twitter ([@jumeha](#)). Her IMDb link: [imdb.me/juliehays](#).

Vivienne Leheny (Marta, *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 producer 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](#).

Caroline Voagen Nelson (Director, *Code Ruth*) is a New York-based artist and filmmaker working in mixed media, animation, and installation. Nelson’s practice has evolved from deconstructing environments and history in photomontage to creating narratives in animation. She researches historical archives to create landscapes inspired by the past and spaces in transition. She received her undergraduate degree at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and her MFA in animation at Pratt Institute. She recently was awarded the 2021 NYFA Fellowship for Film/Video to fund her upcoming projects. More information: [cvoagen.com](#).

Eric Rice (Co-curator, Program Design; “Marvin Marvel”, *Kurtis on Zoom*) NY credits include: the NY Premiere of *Kurt Vonnegut’s 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); *Fear of Heights, To Live Forever and Still Life* (dir. Jennifer Dean); *Just Love* (dir. Charles Peirce); *Peeling Apples on Your Own* (dir. Nisan Dağ); *Game Night* (dir. David Ketterer). Web series: *Awkwardly* (prod. Nikki Coble). BA, Applied Arts & Sciences, Drama, Emphasis in Acting, SDSU (US Army GI Bill). AEA, SAG-AFTRA. Social: [@riceunderwater](#). More info: [riceunderwater.com](#) and [imdb.me/ericrice](#). (he/him)

Irene Meltzer Richard (Writer, *I Only Have Eyes For You*) When she’s not making stuff and spouting off on social media, Irene is a freelance consultant in the areas of audience engagement, event management, and partnership development. She has collaborated on campaigns for film and multi-cultural projects at a wide-range of profit and non-profit companies. Irene was born in the Bronx and has always called NYC home even when she’s residing somewhere else. She believes in epistemological modesty and living by the 5W1H: “Who, what, and where, by what helpe, and by whose ~ Why, how, and when, doe many things disclose.” — Thomas Wilson, *The Arte of Rhetorique*, 1560. Facebook: [@irene.richard.77](#) - Instagram: [@irene_ruthless](#) - Twitter: [@petitesoeur](#)

Mike Roche (Kurtis, *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/Joe 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. More information: mikerocche.net.

Yuriko Gamo Romer (Director, *My Immigrant Story*) Just 13 years after Japan's surrender of WWII, San Francisco-based independent documentary filmmaker Yuriko Gamo Romer and her family packed up everything and moved to the U.S. in response to Russia's launch of Sputnik. With immigration such a hot button issue over the years, Romer reflects on her own path to American citizenship in her film, *My Immigrant Story*. Romer also created *Mrs. Judo*, the only biographical documentary about Keiko Fukuda (1913-2013), the first woman to attain the tenth-degree black belt in judo. *Mrs. Judo* has traveled to more than 25 film festivals internationally, was broadcast on PBS nationally, and was awarded the Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary at the 2013 International Festival of Sport Films in Moscow. Currently, Romer is in production with *Diamond Diplomacy*, about the 145-year history of U.S. Japan relations through a shared love of baseball. Additionally, her film *Occidental Encounters* has won numerous awards, among them a Student Academy Award – Gold Medal and Heartland Film Festival's Jimmy Stewart Memorial Crystal Heart Award. Romer was born in Japan and raised in the United States, and is bilingual. She holds a Master's degree in documentary filmmaking from Stanford University, where she was a National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Scholar and an American Association of Japanese University Women Scholar; and she holds a BFA from UCLA. For more of Romer's films: www.flyingcarp.net / www.diamonddiplomacy.com

Bonnie Rose (Mildred Smith, *Kurtis on Zoom*) is a native New Yorker. She is a veteran actress of film and TV. Her career got started when the iconic director, the late Sidney Lumet, cherry-picked her for the film *Night Falls on Manhattan* where she played opposite Andy Garcia. Bonnie continued to work with Mr. Lumet on many other films and had a recurring role as a lawyer on the TV show *100 Centre Street*, playing many scenes opposite Alan Arkin. She worked with the Coen Brothers on *Inside Llewyn Davis*, opposite Oscar Issac. She has done the trifecta of all the *Law & Order* series (Thank you, Dick Wolf productions). Most recently, Bonnie appeared on *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Broad City*, and *Blue Bloods*. A favorite role of hers was a loving nurse opposite Rami Malek on *Mr. Robot*, written and directed by Sam Esmail. Recently, she was a co-host on the interview show *Tawkin' with the Roses*. She is thrilled to be working again with Julie Hays in *Kurtis on Zoom* and alongside these incredible actors for Mixology. Bonnie has a BFA and is a graduate of Syracuse University and studied with Arthur Storch. For the past five years, she has been serving on the advisory board for Festival of Cinema NYC where she also moderates. She also moderates at The Chelsea Film Festival. Bonnie is an ordained minister and most recently was pictured in *The New York Times* performing a ceremony. She is a member of UAC. She is repped by TKO and Stewart Talent. More information: IMDB.me/BonnieRose.

Sherill Turner (Mary Shelley, *I Only Have Eyes For You*) is currently prepping for the role of 'adult'. It's going to be a long rehearsal.

THE WORKS



KURTIS ON ZOOM: EPISODE 1

Julie Hays first wrote *Kurtis* as a one-act play which was then turned into a short film – and now Kurtis is getting his therapy on Zoom! Last year during Mixology we watched Kurtis navigate lockdown live. Now Kurtis is being filmed on Zoom with all new episodes.

Introducing the first two episodes as works in progress - *Episode 1* starring Mike Roche (as Kurtis), Vivienne Leheny (as Marta), and Jennifer Dean (as Kendra).



CODE RUTH

This animated documentary by Caroline Voagen Nelson is a true love story about a Morse code instructor finding her path during WWII. The short film blends stop motion techniques, digital collage, and archival materials to share a multi-generational family's history of connecting through technology.



I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU

Across time and space Mary Shelley corresponds with Melissa, a young woman living in the City of Angels whose life seems to have taken a supernatural turn. With Sherill Turner as Mary Shelley, the English author of the 1818 novel *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus*,

and Persia Anderson as Melissa, a fictional character who appeared in “I Fall to Pieces,” the fourth episode in the first season of the TV show *Angel*. Directed by Jennifer Dean, it is a staged reading of an epistolary piece written by Irene Meltzer Richard that was originally published in 2019 as one of the critical essays in the ATB anthology *Outside In Gains A Soul*.



MY IMMIGRANT STORY

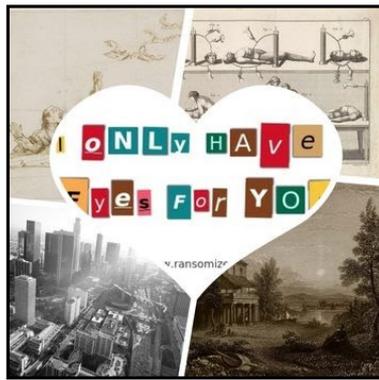
With immigration in flux and this time of global uncertainty, Yuriko Romer was reminded of her own story. Inspired by a treasure trove of her father's 8mm home movies and a little known story, she edited together this short film. Just thirteen years after Japan's surrender of

WWII, her family moved to the U.S. She was only a year old, not old enough to understand, when her father was recruited as a research scientist and set her life path to become an American citizen.



KURTIS ON ZOOM: EPISODE 2

And we end this Mixology event where we began with *Episode 2* of *Kurtis on Zoom!* With Mike Roche (as Kurtis), Marcia Haufrecht (as Judy), Eric Rice (as “Marvin Marvel”), and Bonnie Rose (as Mildred Smith).



I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU

“The beginning is always today.” —*Mary Wollstonecraft*

“Mary’s letters to Melissa are written in a style meant to emulate Mary Shelley’s writing voice. Before I started composing the piece, I read Shelley’s correspondence, diaries, (published) travel journals as well as, of course, *Frankenstein*. In addition to including actual details from her travel journal and diaries, I pilfered words and phrases from those sources including a portion of the preface she wrote for *Frankenstein*. For Melissa’s letters to Mary, I modeled Melissa’s writing style on her dialogue in the *Angel* episode. There is even a small bite of actual dialogue from that episode in Melissa’s last letter to Mary. Our imagination, it seems, can be a magical device that allows us to travel back and forth across time and space. In one fictional direction, Melissa’s #MeToo experience with a psychic surgeon influences Mary Shelley’s creation of Frankenstein’s Monster. In another, Melissa’s Angel is a fictional descendent of Shelley’s Monster — her fabulous creation who has so utterly permeated our collective cultural consciousness it’s as if rather than ‘borne away by the waves and lost in darkness and distance’ to die the Creature is alive, forevermore!” —*Irene Meltzer Richard*

SOURCES

I Fall to Pieces

Doyle has a vision of a woman, Melissa, in danger and Angel discovers she is being stalked by a neurosurgeon who can detach and then reattach parts of his body at will as part of “psychic surgery,” such as detaching his eyeball and using it to spy on her.

[Episode 4](#) in Season 1 of [Angel](#)

Story by: Joss Whedon & David Greenwalt

Teleplay by: David Greenwalt

Directed by: Vern Gillum

First Broadcast: October 26, 1999

Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus

Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus is a novel written by English author Mary Shelley. It relates, in a series of nested accounts by various narrators, the story of Victor Frankenstein, a young scientist who creates a sapient creature in an unorthodox scientific experiment.

In the summer of 1816 at Lake Geneva in Switzerland, galvanism and occult ideas were topics of conversation among Mary Shelley, her lover/soon-to-be husband Percy Bysshe Shelley, (Lord) George Gordon Byron, and Byron’s personal physician John William Polidori, as well as Mary’s stepsister, Claire Clairmont, with whom Byron had had an affair in London. The weather was unseasonably cold and stormy, so much so that 1816 is referred to as the [Year Without a Summer](#). When the rain kept them indoors at the Villa Diodati over three days in June, the five turned to reading fantastical stories, including [Fantasmagoriana](#), and then, as suggested by Byron, having a competition to devise their own tales. Mary Shelley composed “a short tale” which she developed into the full-fledged novel *Frankenstein, or The Modern Prometheus*. It is probably her most famous novel and, as she is considered to be the first writer to combine science and the supernatural, it is regarded as the springboard for the science fiction genre.

The [first edition](#) was published anonymously in London on 1 January 1818, when Mary Shelley was 20. Her name first appeared in the second edition, which was published in Paris in 1821. In 1831 a [third edition](#) was published for which Shelley wrote a new Introduction and also considerably revised the story. Since the publication of the novel, the family name “Frankenstein” has often been used to erroneously refer to the monster, rather than his creator/father.

ATB Publishing

[ATB](#) is a small press publishing company that launched in 2012 with the first of its [Outside In](#) series of critical review essay collections. The slate of titles has expanded to include books covering a number of TV, film, and comic book universes. It is dedicated to publishing thoughtful non-fiction books that explore the history of pop culture with insightful and entertaining commentary. [Avert](#), a UK-based HIV/AIDS charity, receives as a donation 5% of the full retail price of all sales of all *Outside In* volumes.

Our Next
MONTHLY STORYTELLING EVENT

Monday, October 11, 2021

@ 7:30 PM EDT *on ZOOM!*

Featuring poetry-inspired music by Luke Anthony Rivera and a screen-play-in-progress by Anthony Richardson. Be sure to follow us on social media and sign our mailing list at undiscoveredworks.org to get all the updates!



Our Next
MIXOLOGY
December 2021
on ZOOM!

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.

Undiscovered Works is dedicated to supporting artists as they develop plays, music, monologues, comedy, and film. Our monthly storytelling series presents work in all stages of development, bringing together voices from across our community. 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.

ENJOYING THE WORK? FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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