



*In Memoriam: Deborah Napier*



## 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.

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## ABOUT MIXOLOGY

Mixology is a series from Undiscovered Works that explores the creative possibilities of presenting theatrical, cinematic, and performance pieces in virtual space.

"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

### FROST/NIXON

*written by Peter Morgan*

*scene directed for Zoom by Linda Osborn*

performed by Terry Gibson, Michael A. Tyrell & Andrew T. Warner

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### DEATH OF THE MONARCH

*created by Monae Sims*

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### MY MOTHER'S FATHER'S SONG

*written and created by Ana Bayat*

*motion graphics by Céline Moteau*

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### DEBORAH NAPIER: IN MEMORIAM

*three short films:*

CATNIP

STATEN ISLAND MEDIUM

OUT OF THE BLUE

*- Q&A follows our presentations. -*

## 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](http://gagliostro.com).

## OUR ARTISTS

**Ana Bayat** (Creator, *My Mother's Father's Song*) is a polyglot actor passionate about using her languages and world experience in the characters she creates and the classes she teaches. She grew up amongst natural-born storytellers who painted scenes as they recounted anecdotes, recreated voices and became the characters they described. She thinks it was inevitable that she, too, would become a storyteller – a multilingual one. Following in her father's footsteps, she trained in the Stanislavski system with direct students of the master himself. Also, she completed a post-graduate conservatory training program at Birmingham School of Speech and Dramatic Arts in the UK. She has traveled extensively and lived in Barcelona, Tehran and London before settling down in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to UK and US English, she is fluent in Spanish, Persian and French and proficient in German, Italian and Catalan. Recent work includes her one-woman show, *Mimi's Suitcase*, an autobiographical journey through identity, immigration, women's rights and involuntary displacement, based on her family's experience returning to Iran, post-revolution, in the 1980s. However, above all, it is a universal story of adolescence, displacement, adaptability, resilience and, ultimately, of hope. More information: [anabayat.com](http://anabayat.com).

**Rachel Crow** (Editor, *Staten Island Medium*) has been working in post-production for broadcast and documentary since transitioning from a theatre background by way of training at Manhattan Edit Workshop here in New York in recent years. When editing, she especially enjoys finding moments of levity in an overall somber story and serious moments in an overall humorous story.

**Terry Gibson** (Richard Nixon, *Frost/Nixon*) attended Northwestern University (BA. Communications) and New York University (MA, US History). He is also a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York (Associates). He is the recipient of a Tennessee Williams Scholarship in Playwriting to the Sewanee Writers' Conference for *Cowboys and Indians*, where he studied playwriting at the conference and acted in original plays with Romulus Linney. Terry's other plays include *Illinois*, *tarantula*, *The Audition* and *Euthymia*. *Illinois* appears in Blackbird: an Online Journal of Literature and the Arts, and was staged at HB Studio as part of the First Floor Studio Residency Project. An essay by Terry on his playwriting process also appears in Blackbird's "I Have No Explanation for the Horse." From 2013 to 2015 he served as Theater Critic and columnist for the The Colorado Springs Independent, receiving a national award from The Association of Alternative News Media for "Taxi Driver," and First Place from the Society of Professional Journalists, Colorado Chapter. He also appeared as a featured radio guest on Denver's KOA-AM radio. He has acted in or directed plays in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and New York (AEA, SAG-AFTRA). He most recently appeared on the New York stage at the Hudson Guild Theater in Eddie Fee's *Molotov Cocktail* and in the short film *The Bird Watcher*, both directed by Burak Tatar. He has studied at HB Studios with Vincent Pastore, Austin Pendleton, Christopher Martin, Ilse Pfeiffer, and Pat Golden. Terry is a Writing Tutor in the Program for Literacy, Culture, and Professional Advancement at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

**Paul Mendoza** (Composer, *Out of the Blue*) 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.

**Deborah Napier** (Creator, *Catnip*, *Out of the Blue*, *Staten Island Medium*) was an actor/writer living in New York for 14 years and loved calling it her home. You can see her in *Difficult People* and *High Maintenance* - and see more of her work on her YouTube channel -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqDwpOXQp3EvChYdQQjO2Iq>

You can also get some of her published monologues on *monologuestogo.com*. She was a valuable part of the theatre, film and Mixology community and is greatly missed.

**Linda Osborn** (Director, *Frost/Nixon*) is a pianist who has performed extensively across the United States and in Europe as both a chamber musician and vocal accompanist. Her partnership has been recognized as "thoroughly satisfying, colorful and supportive" by the *Los Angeles Times*, with "an impressive ability to speak powerfully in both the softest and the loudest extremes of the piano's dynamic spectrum" by the *Washington Post*. She has performed in many internationally-recognized venues including Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Salle Garnier in Monte Carlo, the American Repertory Theatre, Chicago Opera Theatre, the Rose Studio at Lincoln Center, St. John's College in Cambridge, England, the Grand' Place in Ath and the Stadsschouwburg a Brugges in Belgium. Ms. Osborn serves as Director of Artistic Operations for Odyssey Opera and as Principal Pianist for the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, named Musical America's Ensemble of the Year for 2016. Recordings include multiple CDs with BMOP/sound, including "Fantastic Mr. Fox", winner of the 2020 Grammy award for Best Opera Recording, and the critically acclaimed release of the complete songs of Virgil Thomson with the Florestan Recital Project on New World Records. More recently, Linda has pursued acting and directing. She has taken classes at HB Studio in New York with Pat Golden, Magaly Colimon and most recently Austin Pendleton. For HB, she directed scenes from *Frost/Nixon* (Peter Morgan), *RED* (John Logan) and *Grief Containers* (Robin Berl) for the 6/12 Reading Series. She has also been featured in several productions at the Palm Beach Institute for the Entertainment Arts.

**Monae Sims** (Creator, *Death of the Monarch*) is a newly emerging creative, focusing on an introspective style of multimedia filmmaking and cinematography. Having the opportunity to screen films at a variety of local establishments, such as BlueStar, the UTSA graduate is hunting for the next opportunity for connection and improvement. She recently moved to Syracuse University and is completing her MFA studies in Film and Media Arts. More information: <https://mksims.wixsite.com/monaesims>.

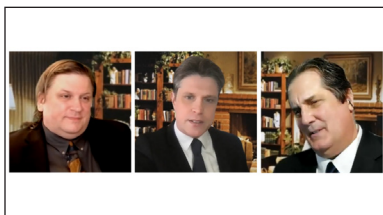
**Michael A. Tyrell** (Jack Brennan, *Frost/Nixon*) A writing teacher at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, he studied acting and English at NYU. After graduating from the Iowa Writer's Workshop, where he received a master's degree in creative writing (poetry), he began working at the *New Yorker* magazine and later, Scholastic. Michael has acted on television, in short films, and onstage, including the New York Fringe Festival. He is the author of two poetry collections and has published his work in magazines such as the *Paris Review* and anthologies like *The Best American Poetry*. He has studied acting most recently with Austin Pendleton at HB Studio.

**Andrew T. Warner** (David Frost, *Frost/Nixon*) is an actor, comedian, and podcaster based out of New York City. He received his BA in Art History and Archeology from Washington University in St. Louis before moving to New York to study acting and comedy. He has worked at Edge Studio Voice Over as both the Director of Education and the Managing Director for the better part of the past decade. Andrew has acted in commercials and short films, and onstage at countless venues across New York City and beyond. He had trained extensively at the Upright Citizens Brigade theatre under instructors such as Zach Woods and Jordan Klepper and performed in several of their mainstage productions on both coasts. More recently, he has trained in acting at HB Studio under the tutelage of Mercedes Ruehl and Jonathan Lynn.

**Jennifer Dean** (Co-curator) 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](http://the2ndSexandthe7thArt.com)). She is always happy telling stories in whatever way she can. More info: [jenniferdean.biz](http://jenniferdean.biz).

**Eric Rice** (Co-curator, Program Design) 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](http://riceunderwater.com) and [imdb.me/ericrice](http://imdb.me/ericrice). (he/him)

## THE WORKS



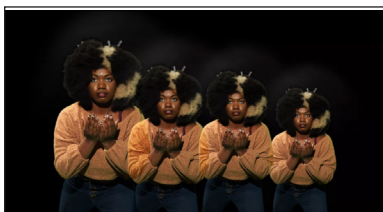
### FROST/NIXON (scene)

written by Peter Morgan

directed for Zoom by Linda Osborn

performed by Terry Gibson, Michael A. Tyrell & Andrew T. Warner.

David Frost confronts Richard Nixon about his actions while Nixon grapples with his legacy.



### DEATH OF THE MONARCH

created by Monae Sims

A documentary short on the stages of grief after the loss of the family matriarch. Through African American dance and cinema, the artist explores healing as nonlinear.





## MY MOTHER'S FATHER'S SONG

written and created by Ana Bayat  
motion graphics by Céline Moteau

Music arranged by Ron Davis.

Performed by Ron Davis (piano),  
Mike Downes (bass), Ted Warren (drums).

Courtesy of Ron Davis [rondavismusic.com](http://rondavismusic.com).

This animated short produced as a conceptual piece for Bayat's play tells the story of Alice Davis, displaced from her native Warsaw at the onset of World War II. Once in Canada with the husband she met at a relocation camp, Alice relays memories of her father's famous tavern in the Jewish quarter of 1930s Warsaw and its association with the famous Polish ballad *Bal u Starego Joska*.



## DEBORAH NAPIER: IN MEMORIAM

*Selected works by Deborah Napier:*

A Mixology participant who engaged so much with the theatre community in New York City and shared her humor and kindness with so many – Deb left this world July 25, 2022 and we honor her by sharing a few of her works – *Catnip*, *Staten Island Medium*, and *Out of the Blue*. Close friend and editor of Staten Island Medium Rachel Crow will join us in the Q&A to talk a little about working with Deb as an artist. Her memory lives on through those who knew her and the work she created.



## CATNIP

written & directed by Deb  
shot & edited by Jennifer Dean  
cast: Deborah Napier, Brett  
Vanderbrook & Thomas the Cat



## STATEN ISLAND MEDIUM

written by Deborah with Adrian  
Davidson  
edited by Rachel Crow  
cast: Deborah Napier & Brett  
Vanderbrook



## OUT OF THE BLUE

created by Deborah Napier  
original score by Paul Mendoza  
edited by Jennifer Dean

## ***A few words about Deb...***

I first met Deborah Napier (Deb to her friends) in the catering world and like so many in that world she was talented and creative. She was a wonderful, loyal friend and a hilarious co-worker.

I was lucky enough to get to work with her creatively. Our first film together was a super short little piece she conceived, *Catnip*. She had mentioned it to me during a catering event - and I offered up shooting and editing it. Despite my being new to film school at the time and not really knowing what I was doing she took me up on it. I am not quite sure if the other elements also came together at various events (her friend Rachel suggested the location, her friend Brett acted in it) - but she made it all work in a super short amount of time. My friend Daniel from film school joined us to help out and we shot the bulk of it in an afternoon. Her idea was to have a horde of cats chasing her at the end. Well that was WELL beyond my VFX skill set... but she was gracious enough to work with me to come up with something simpler - using my favorite neighbor cat Thomas and the pig outside Rudy's...

Well here's the thing - we didn't know anyone at Rudy's and didn't have permission to shoot there. I figured we could just quickly get the shots on my small DSLR camera without anyone noticing... I was not at all experienced and things didn't go as smoothly as planned. So, of course, we got caught by the bouncer - who it turns out was an actor who had been on *Orange is the New Black*. Deb being Deb, she ended up chatting with him and charming him so not only did we get to finish shooting but he offered to help us and bought us both a drink when we were done.

Deb joined us on our first ever Mixology with a commercial she had created for the ad campaign competition the state of New York developed to get people to wear masks. Then she started talking to me about photographs she was taking of New York City and how she wanted to develop a piece that expressed how the world had stopped so unexpectedly. I asked her if she would be willing to create and share the piece for Mixology and introduced her to my friend Paul Mendoza to compose the music. We all worked together to bring her vision to life - *Out of the Blue*. I will forever be grateful for that last opportunity to work with her again.

Deb was a creative force in so many ways. She supported so many in their work as well as exploring different forms of expression herself. She will be missed - and remembered. One of my favorite lines in literature is at the end of a chapter in *Madame Bovary* - "*elle n'existe plus...*" which literally translates to "she no longer exists." When I first read it I thought to myself, ah yes, but this is far from the end of the book, we have at least another chapter and the titular character is no longer... She doesn't cease to exist because there's more to the book. She lives on in the memories and thoughts of all those she affected in her life. Which is definitely true of Deb.

I am so pleased to present some of her work here at Mixology to share those memories with all of you here today!

- Jennifer Dean



**Our Next**  
**MONTHLY STORYTELLING EVENT**  
**in November *on ZOOM!***

Storytelling Returns This Fall! November will feature a reading of *Troglobites*, a full-length play by *Hooded* cast member, Zachary Desmond, that we'll then revisit in 2023 with a live / hybrid reading! Visit our [Monthly Storytelling](#) page for all our upcoming event details. Also, be sure to follow us on social media and sign our mailing list at [undiscoveredworks.org](https://undiscoveredworks.org) to get all the updates!



**Our Next**  
**MIXOLOGY**  
**back in 2023**  
***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 or community blog - we take all kinds of writing, visual arts, and even video! Please contact us at [leaha@undiscoveredworks.org](mailto: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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