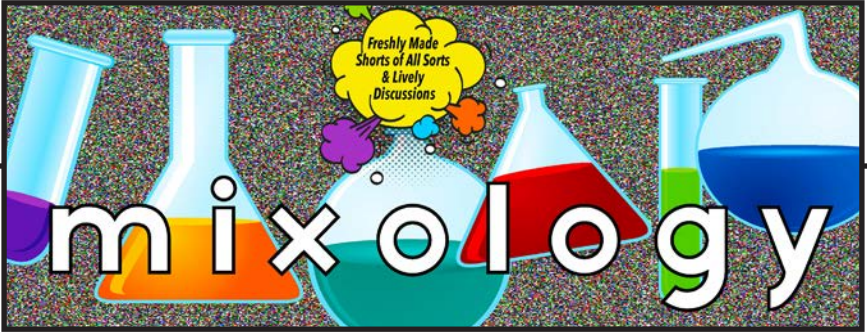


Sunday, March 5, 2023 | ONLINE



## 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

**MIMI'S SUITCASE** (*excerpt*)  
*created by Ana Bayat*

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**FOR WHILE**  
*an animated film by Jess Irish*

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**RED** (*scene*)(*live*)  
*written by John Logan*  
*directed for Zoom by Linda Osborn*  
performed by George Pappas and Michael A. Tyrell

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**SNOOKIE**  
*a short live-action film written & directed by James Parris*

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**TURN OF THE CENTURY MADNESS**  
*an abridgement of H.P. Lovecraft's Dagon*  
narrated by Eric Rice  
abridgement and visual & sound design by Jennifer Dean  
creative consulting by Irene Meltzer Richard

*- A Q&A follows each of 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](http://gagliostro.com).

## OUR ARTISTS

**Ana Bayat** (Creator, *Mimi's Suitcase*) 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).

**Jess Irish** (Writer, Director, *For While*) is an award-winning artist, designer and writer who makes lyrical nonfiction films and cross-genre media. Her recent films include [\*This Mortal Plastik, For While\*](#), and [\*The Phantasmagoria of Offense: the male version\*](#). Her collaborative design practice focuses on environmental justice and empowering forms of new media. She is the principal designer for [\*Visualizing Pipeline Impacts\*](#), which creates media and analyses on shale gas infrastructure. Her films have been received honors such as "Best Environmental Film", "Best Hybrid Film", "Best Experimental Documentary", "Best Video Art" and "Best Editing." Her films have screened in festivals both nationally and internationally. Her art works have been featured in media such as Art Forum, METROPOLIS, RES, and Artweek magazines. She has received project funding by the [\*Creative Capital Foundation\*](#) and was one of four artists to be supported by California Arts Council in its first round of individual grants for digital media. Former collaborative design includes open source software projects [\*DataMyne\*](#), [\*Urban Research Toolkit\*](#). She was the founding co-director of [\*OnRamp Arts\*](#), an award-winning non-profit in central LA. More information: [jessicairish.com](http://jessicairish.com).

**Linda Osborn** (Director, *Red*) 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.

**George Pappas's** (Mark Rothko, *Red*) Zoom theatre experiences include appearing in the original play *Ella The Ungovernable* and directing a production of *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. Recent regional stage appearances include playing Otto in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and the title role in *The Giver*. TV appearances include *The Deuce*, *Alternatino* and *Mrs. America*. George also recently shot a role in the upcoming feature film *Here's... Yianni!* He has contributed to countless readings for NY theatre groups and especially enjoys teaching (via Zoom) for Peak Acting Studios. More information: [www.george-pappas-actor.com](http://www.george-pappas-actor.com).

**James Parris** (Writer, Director, *Snookie*) is a multilingual visionary whose work on page and screen spans animation and live-action, feature and series, kids and adult entertainment. His credits range from the Disney animation renaissance of the 90s, through the millennial rise of Superhero blockbuster features, to recent hit animated series on Netflix and Apple TV+. As a live-action writer-director, James oversees several projects in development at Paper Tiger Films, in addition to award-winning shorts, including *Pink & Blue*, a hybrid animation/live-action piece challenging gender bias in the world of children's toys. A New York-Los Angeles transplant, James remains a community-minded activist, as well as a regular guest speaker at animation festivals, universities and TedX - a recipient of an honorary doctorate from Digital Media Arts College in Boca Raton, FL.

**Irene Meltzer Richard** (Creative Consultant, *Turn of the Century Madness*) 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 help, and by whose ~ Why, how, and when, doe many things disclose."

— Thomas Wilson, *The Arte of Rhetorique*, 1560.

Facebook: [@irene.richard.77](https://www.facebook.com/irene.richard.77) - Instagram: [@irene\\_ruthless](https://www.instagram.com/irene_ruthless) - Twitter: [@petitesoeur](https://twitter.com/petitesoeur).

**Michael A. Tyrell** (Ken, *Red*) was born in Brooklyn, New York. 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 *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.

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**Jennifer Dean** (Visual & Audio Design, Abridgement, *Turn of the Century Madness*; 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** (Unnamed Narrator, *Turn of the Century Madness*; Co-curator, Program Design) Zoom credits include: *A Moon for the Misbegotten* (dir. George Pappas) and Mark Eisman's new play, *Sleeping Within and Without* (dir. Leah S. Abrams). 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. Regional credits include: *Fat Pig* (dir. Tom Gough; City Lights Theater [CA Premiere]); *Long Day's Journey into Night* (dir. Jeanie Forte; Pear Ave. Theatre, CA, with participation by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation - 50th Anniv. Prod.). Film credits include: *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



### **MIMI'S SUITCASE** (*excerpt*) *created by Ana Bayat*

In this true untold story of the Iranian revolution, Mimi's involuntary return to a war-torn Iran after a happy childhood in Barcelona awakens questions of the true meaning of identity, homeland and the aftermaths of displacement. *Mimi's Suitcase* is an autobiographical journey

through identity, immigration, women's rights, and involuntary displacement - with nothing but the titular suitcase, a trench coat, and a scarf, Mimi shares this universal coming-of-age story of resilience and humanity. Ana returns to Mixology with new excerpts and to talk about her work in light of recent protests in Iran.



## FOR WHILE

*an animated film by Jess Irish*

Inspired by Emma Lazarus's famed poem welcoming immigrants to the United States, this experimental video short captures small moments of humanity within the quotidian carriage of the NYC subway. Titled in reference to a computational "for" loop, the video

poem speaks to the holding pattern we occupy and take passage through—equal in our anonymity, hurriedness and small sufferings. Amid this current era of nationalist scapegoating, we persist in the quiet ethos of multiplicity. We (us) are greater than US in the lived experience of equality and freedom.



## RED (scene)

*written by John Logan*

*directed for Zoom by Linda Osborn*

*performed by George Pappas and Michael A. Tyrell*

Artist Mark Rothko and his assistant Ken discuss art, philosophy and the meaning of life in a scene from the Tony Award-winning play.



## SNOOKIE

*a short live-action film written and directed by James Parris*

Eve Gardner does her best to manage Adam's mid-life crisis, but when he threatens to leave, her only recourse is an emergency software update.



## TURN OF THE CENTURY MADNESS

*an abridgement of H.P. Lovecraft's Dagon narrated by Eric Rice*

*visual and sound design, as well as abridgement of the original text,*

*by Jennifer Dean*

*creative consulting*

*by Irene Meltzer Richard*

In this brief tale of cosmic horror beware of what lurks beneath - you may find it is not for the faint of heart...

(DAGON image credit: Title page, *Weird Tales*, Oct. 1923, Illustration by William Heitman.)

**Our Next**  
**MONTHLY STORYTELLING EVENT**  
***A little later this Spring!***

Spring programming is underway - visit our [Monthly Storytelling](#) page for details and ticket link coming soon. Be sure to follow us on social media and sign our mailing list at [undiscoveredworks.org](http://undiscoveredworks.org) to get all the updates!

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**Our Next**  
**MIXOLOGY**  
**This Summer**  
**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](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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