

59E59 THEATERS

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PRESENTS

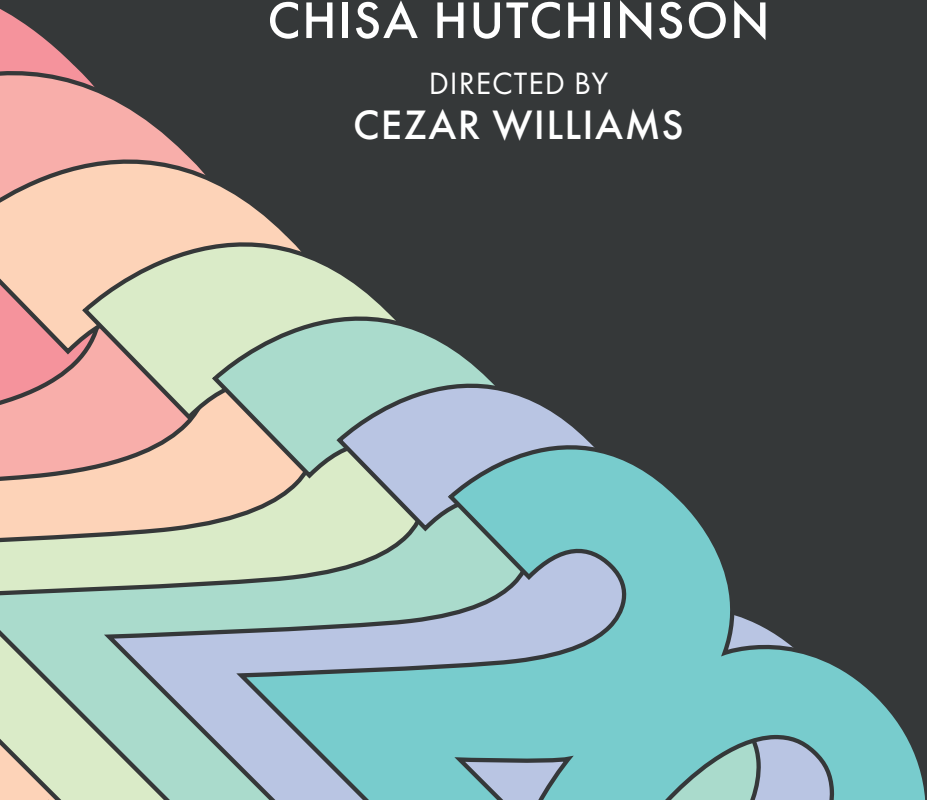
THE
BLEEDING
CLASS

BY

CHISA HUTCHINSON

DIRECTED BY

CEZAR WILLIAMS



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PART OF
AMPLIFY

UNDISCOVERED
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THE
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UNDISCOVERED WORKS
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RUTH & WILLIAM ISENBERG AND LEAH S. ABRAMS
 PRESENTS

THE BLEEDING CLASS

BY **CHISA HUTCHINSON**
 DIRECTED BY **CEZAR WILLIAMS**

— CAST —

Adina "Sugar" Moreno..... **TAMAR LOPEZ**
 Wesley Pennington **REGINALD L. BARNES**
 Wyatt Kilgore/Thomas Farraday **JACKSON HAYES**
 Multiple Ensemble Roles **VINCENT SZUTENBACH**
 Understudy, "Sugar" **TATIYANA ALVAREZ**
 Understudy, Kilgore/Farraday/Ensemble **TXAI FROTA**
 Understudy, Pennington **JASON NADAL**

— CREATIVE TEAM —

Playwright..... **CHISA HUTCHINSON**
 Director..... **CEZAR WILLIAMS** §
 Assistant Director..... **SKYE HILL**
 Scenic Design..... **TARA HIGGINS**
 Props/Puppetry Design..... **JETT ADAMS**
 Projections Design..... **SCOTT FETTERMAN**
 Costume Design..... **STEPHANIE ECHEVARRIA**
 Lighting Design..... **MAXX KURZUNSKI**
 Sound Design..... **CAROLINE ENG**
 Fight Director **JACKSON HAYES**
 Production Stage Manager **TAHRA VEASLEY**
 Assistant Stage Manager..... **HANNAH CIESIL**
 Intimacy Consultant **LAUREN DeLEON**
 Photographer **JENNIFER DEAN**

— PRODUCTION TEAM —

Producer **LEAH S. ABRAMS**
 Associate Producer **AYLA ROSEN**
 Technical Director **TARA HIGGINS**
 Undiscovered Works Social Media Manager..... **JETT ADAMS**
 Undiscovered Works Producing Team Members..... **JENNIFER DEAN, ERIC RICE**

Run time: 95 minutes with no intermission



§ The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.



AMPLIFY

A PLAYWRIGHT'S VOICE

CELEBRATING CHISA HUTCHINSON

CHISA HUTCHINSON

Playwright

Photo: Seth Freeman



Chisa Hutchinson is a New York-based playwright and screenwriter. Her first radio drama, *Proof of Love*, was presented by Audible and New York Theatre Workshop at the Minetta Lane Theater in NYC and can be found on Audible's digital platform (with a 4.6 rating and everything, too, so that's pretty cool) and her next radio play, *Redeemed*, was commissioned by Dorset Theatre and is available for listening wherever you get your podcasts (hint-hint). Chisa's happily presented her other, actually staged plays, which include *Dirt Rich*, *She Like Girls*, *This Is Not The Play*, *Sex On Sunday*, *Tunde's Trumpet*, *The Subject*, *Somebody's Daughter*, *Alondra Was Here*, *Surely Goodness And Mercy*, *From The Author Of*, *The Wedding Gift*, *Whitelisted*, *Amerikin* and *Dead & Breathing* at such venues as SummerStage, Atlantic Theater Company, Rattlestick Theater, the Contemporary American Theater Festival, the National Black Theatre, Delaware REP, Passage Theater, NJPAC, Writers Theater of New Jersey, Second Stage Theater, Keen Company, and Alley Theatre, Arch 468 in London.

She has been a Humanitas Fellow, a Dramatists Guild Fellow, a Lark Fellow, Resident at Second Stage Theater and New Dramatists, a New York NeoFuturist, and a staff writer for the Blue Man Group. Awards include: GLAAD, Lilly, New York Innovative Theatre Award, Paul Green, Helen Merrill, and Lanford Wilson. Currently, Chisa is excited about the premiere of a new TV series she helped write for Starz (*Three Women*) and is currently developing a pan-African heist movie. Her first original feature, *THE SUBJECT*, an indie about a white documentarian dealing with the moral fallout from exploiting the death of a black teen, is available on various VOD platforms after a successful film festival circuit during which it won over 30 prizes. Because she loves teaching and also because strikes happen, Chisa also teaches Creative Writing at the University of Delaware.

www.chisahutchinson.com

TAMAR LOPEZ

Adina "Sugar" Moreno



Tamar Lopez is making her Off Broadway debut in **The Bleeding Class**. Theater credits include **The Bleeding Class** (reading), **The Pain Business** (Compton Goethals), **The Sweetest Swing in Baseball** (Compton Goethals). Film/TV: *Mirror Mirror*, *P.T.S.D.* Tamar is a native New Yorker and a City College of New York graduate with degrees in theater and psychology. In her free time, she enjoys gaming and watching anime. She wants to thank her partner Peter, stepdaughter Melody, and her family and friends for all of their support.

REGINALD L. BARNES

Dr. Wesley Pennington



Reginald L. Barnes is a man on the move and most recently featured in the AUDELCO nominated **Mecca Is BURNING** (Negro Ensemble Company). Select stage: **Black Angels Over Tuskegee** (Actors Temple), **B-Boy Blues The Play** (47th Street Theatre), AUDELCO-nominated **Timeless: The Mystery of the Dark Water** (Black Spectrum), and New York Times Critic's Pick **The Transfiguration of Benjamin Banneker** (La Mama Theater). Select TV: *FBI: Most Wanted* and *Blue Bloods* (CBS), *Saturday Night Live* (NBC), *The Night Of* (HBO), and *Wu-Tang: An American Saga* (Hulu). Select film: *Make America Black Again* (2019 WMIFF Best Supporting Actor), *Chintu Ka Birthday* (India, 2020), Steven Spielberg's *West Side Story* (2021), *Vendetta Games* (2020), and *Little Ukraine* (2022). Reginald is eternally grateful and resides in Brooklyn. Love and light to you all.

@ReggieOnTheMove

JACKSON HAYES

Wyatt Kilgore / Thomas Faraday,
Fight Director



Jackson is a New York-based stage, film, and TV actor who has performed in regional theater, Off Broadway, national, and international touring theater productions. Recent appearances include *Where Love Lies* (Netflix), *A Wilderness of Errors* (FX), and several independent shorts and features. He has written, directed, and performed in Poland, Sweden, South Korea, 43 of the United States, and in the New York area at Dixon Place, 59E59, Vital Theatre, The Museum of Modern Art, Queens Museum, Panoply Performance Lab, Rikers Island Prison Complex, and Opera Theatre of Montclair. He has led classes and workshops in playwriting, physical theater, and devising at Princeton, NYU/Tisch, Portland State University, University of Oregon, Korea National University of the Arts, Folkkultur Centrum in Sweden, and Stacja Szamocin in Poland. Jackson holds an MA in performance studies from NYU/Tisch and a certificate in professional actor training from the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre.

VINCENT SZUTENBACH

Ensemble



Vincent is thrilled to be making his Off Broadway debut! Hailing from Houston, Texas, Vincent graduated from the BFA acting program at Purchase College. Other credits include: **Drawing Lessons** (Ma-Yi), **The Cure at Troy** (Questplayers), **Henry IV** (Purchase Repertory), **Sweat** (Purchase Repertory). Vincent would like to thank his parents for always helping him with his taxes.

www.vincentzutenbach.com

TATIYANA ALVAREZ

Understudy, Adina "Sugar" Moreno



Tatiyana Alvarez was born and raised in Washington, DC. She attended Duke Ellington School of the Arts as well as the SUNY Purchase BFA program. Her mission is to be a part of any creative process that she can. She is currently teaching Acting and Stage combat. Her plans are to own a black box theater so she can create an intimate atmosphere between the actor and audience. She has written and performed two of her own short plays and is currently writing her third. Her recent credits are the short films *Tabula Rosa*, *After Dark*, and *Memories of Mother*. She's eager to be a part of the process of this show and hopes everyone leaves with a question or reflection.

TXAI FROTA

Understudy, Wyatt, Faraday, Ensemble



Txai Frota is a New York based actor originally from the Boston area. He graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts NY where he was the recipient of the Charles Jehlinger award and workshopped plays with playwrights John Cariani, Daniel Goldfarb, and Keelay Gibson. He studies with Scott Freeman at The Freeman Studio, has taken Improv at UCB and is an alumni of INTAR's Unit 52, the LAByrinth Theater Company Spring Ensemble Workshop, and the 24 Hour Plays: Nationals. Credits include: *Richard III* (Soho Shakes), *The Time of Your Life* (Hunter College), *The Fire This Time Festival* (Kraine Theatre), and *Reasons to Be Pretty* (Secret Theatre).

JASON NADAL

Understudy, Pennington



Jason is an alumni of The American Academy Of Dramatic Arts. He started his acting journey after serving 8 years as a paratrooper in the US Army with two 13 month tours in Afghanistan. Nadal has appeared on the television series *FBI*, has done voice work for Rockstar Games, and has been in several national commercials in the last year. (ESPN BET, Olly Wellness, AD council).

 @jasonnadal80

CEZAR WILLIAMS

Director

Cezar Williams is an award-winning director. Recent credits include the Off Broadway premiere of *Dancing on Eggshells* (Billie Holiday Theatre), *Till: A Musical* (American Theater Group), *Mitchellville* (Lean Ensemble Theatre), *Sweat* (Purchase Repertory Theater), *Fucking A* (Purchase Repertory Theater), *The October Storm* (Hudson Stage Company), *Crowndation* (National Black Theatre and CTG Digital Stage), *The Hunting Season* (Planet Connections Festivity, Award for Best Direction), *You Wouldn't Expect* (American Bard Theater), *How To Be Safe* (The Dirty Blondes Theater), *Lunchtime in Heaven* (48 hours in Harlem); *Nightfall*, *Slow Gin Fits*, *Ain't No Mo'* (*The Fire This Time Festival* 2013, 2014, 2016, 2024). He is the artistic director of the Obie Award-winning *Fire This Time Festival*, a New York University graduate, and an adjunct professor of Acting at SUNY Purchase College. Cezar is a NYSCA Support for Artist Grant Recipient and a member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society.

SKYE HILL

Assistant Director

Skye Hill is a rising sophomore at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, majoring in drama in the Atlantic Studio. She has loved theater and acting her entire life, and is looking forward to her future theatrical adventures. Outside of theater, Skye enjoys singing, reading, and screenwriting. She's so excited to work with everyone on *The Bleeding Class*, and see the culmination of everyone's work!

TARA HIGGINS

Scenic Designer / Technical Director

Tara Higgins is a visual artist based in British Columbia, with a background in theater design, interior design, construction, furniture restoration, and painting which is her current primary medium. She has studied art in Oxford, Venice, Amsterdam, and in the US. After graduating from university with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Tara continued her study of painting under the mentorship of K.B. Hancock, a world-renowned landscape painter. She has also had the privilege of a mentorship with the reputed Canadian figurative artist Angela Morgan. Ms. Higgins' work has appeared internationally in magazines, newspapers, and television, and is hung in private and corporate collections around the globe. Her residential and commercial interior design include hotels and estates worldwide. She designed and served as technical director for Undiscovered Works 2022 production of *Hooded; Or Being Black For Dummies* and as technical director and artist on the Off Broadway premieres of *Kurt Vonnegut's Mother Night* and *Sam & Dede, or My Dinner with Andre the Giant*, produced at 59E59 Theaters by Undiscovered Works' founder/executive director for The Custom Made Theatre Company.

JETT ADAMS

Props & Puppetry Designer (they/them)

Jett Adams has been a props supervisor,

artisan, storyteller, and mask/puppet maker in NYC for over 10 years and has had the privilege of working on projects both on and off Broadway. Recent props supervisor credits include *Hooded; Or Being Black for Dummies* (Undiscovered Works, 59E59), *Dodi & Diana* (Colt Couer, HERE), and *Chronicle X* (Undiscovered Works, The SHED). Jett has also worked as an assistant/artisan with Propstar/Kathy Fabian and Faye Armon, including work on *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (Roundabout), *Othello* (NYTW), *Falsettos* (LCT/Walter Kerr), and *OSLO* (LCT, Newhouse). Recent mask and puppet designs include *The Violet Hour* (Caveat) and mask design for rapper Scribble Scoundrel. When not working in theater, Jett makes many rhinestoned props for their drag performer spouse and runs a lot of Dungeons & Dragons games as a professional Dungeon Master.

@Jetrpg

SCOTT FETTERMAN

Projections Designer

Scott Fetterman is a multimedia designer, video producer, technician, and performer. He currently holds the position of lead audio visual technician at BAM Fisher in Brooklyn, NY, and is a proud member of IATSE Local 4. A product of NYC's downtown experimental scene, Scott cut his teeth working with Temporary Distortion from 2011-2017 in several capacities, most notably as video designer, assistant installation designer, and musician for the 6 hour-long installation-based performance *My Voice Has An Echo In It*, which toured within the US and France. Other key collaborations include Oscar-nominated filmmaker Josh Fox (*The Truth Has Changed*, *Staying Home*, and *The Edge of Nature*), One Year Lease Theater Company (*Pool No Water* and *Skin Tight*), and director Andrew Block (too many to list).

STEPHANIE ECHEVARRIA

Costume Designer

Born and based in Brooklyn, New York, Stephanie is a costume, wig, and production

designer both on stage and behind the camera. She is currently the head of wardrobe for Ballet Hispanico's School of Dance. Recent works include: costume design: **Sesame Street! Say Hello, Ship Happens: A Cruisical** (Princeton), **As You Like It** (Smith Street Stage), **Urinetown** (Broadway Workshop), **Quarter Rican** (PRTT and MST). Asst. costume designer: **Cannibal Mukbang** (Melty Media feature film). Costume and wig designer of **Pipeline** and **Serving Elizabeth** (Peterborough Players), wig designer of **Cabaret** and **Beehive!** (Peterborough Players, BGSC). Production design: **Home** (The Each-Other Project), **I Need Space** (The New Group Off-Stage).

www.stephanieechevarria.com

CAROLINE ENG

Sound Designer

Recent: **Coriolanus** (Portland Center Stage, Oregon Shakespeare Festival), **Hurricane Diane** (People's Light), **Merry Me** (New York Theatre Workshop, co-design Kate Marvin), **Belfast Girls** (Irish Repertory Theatre), **Fences** (Shakespeare & Company), **The Overview Effect** (Contemporary American Theater Festival), **Little Women** (Theatreworks, UCCS), **What the Constitution Means to Me** (WAM Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Group).

www.carolineengdesign.com

MAXX KURZUNSKI

Lighting Designer (they/them)

Maxx Kurzunski is a lighting artist, producer, and all around designer/maker based in the SF Bay Area where they are the Production Manager for Oasis, SF's premiere drag nightclub. With Oasis Maxx has had the honor of stage managing SF Pride's Mainstage, and the Dolores stage at Outside Lands. In NY they have helped produce **Tinder Disrupt**, a powerpoint dating show at Brooklyn Art Haus, and designed lighting for Nation Queer Theatre's **Camp Mannuppia** and **Sam & Dede, Or My Dinner with Andre the Giant** at 59E59 Theaters. Maxx was previously the lighting director for Google's executive

events program, and was a founding member of FaultLine Theater, San Francisco's most successful new works theater company. Having recently turned more attention to event design, Maxx produces queer, poly events and techno parties. And, after many years in the Bay Area, has finally succumbed to the inevitable and will be the lighting designer for Burning Man's Center Camp this year.

www.maxxkurzunski.com

@kurzunski

TAHRA VEASLEY

Stage Manager

Tahra Veasley is excited to make her New York stage management debut! She is a University of Utah graduate & is currently based in Salt Lake City. She enjoys working on all aspects of live entertainment, but stage management by far is the most enjoyable. Favorite select stage management credits include **Bald Sisters**, **Can I Say Yes To That Dress?**, **Whitelisted**, **Sankofa This Journey** (Salt Lake Acting Company), Senior Stages Play Tour Series (Plan B Theatre Company), **In the Heights**, and **Noises Off** (The Grand Theatre). Select assistant stage management credits include **Once on This Island**, **Mamma Mia**, **Cagney**, and **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** (Pioneer Theatre Company), **Hairy & Sherry** (Salt Lake Acting Company), and **First Date** (The Grand Theatre).

HANNAH CIESIL

Assistant Stage Manager (she/her)

Hannah Ciesil is a graduate of AADA and CUNY Baruch College where she received her degree in Arts Administration. She is no stranger to theater, having acted since she was 9 years old at Jeff Awards-nominated Edge of the Wood Theatre in Chicago where she also found her passion for behind-the-scenes work. You can usually spot Hannah holding a production together, one organizational document at a time, as a stage manager. But she also loves to direct - most notably

the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Short Play and Monologue Festival-selected *Vive L'Abortion*.

LEAH S. ABRAMS

Executive Producer

Leah S. Abrams has been producing theater for nearly three decades, having co-founded and served as executive director of The Custom Made Theatre Company before forming Undiscovered Works. Select NYC producing credits include the world premiere of *Hooded: Or Being Black For Dummies*, *Dark Girl Chronicles: Chronicle X*, *Kurt Vonnegut's Mother Night*, and *Sam & Dede; or My Dinner with Andre the Giant* (also directed). Other NYC credits include general management for *Last Call for Babe Reilly*, *McGoldrick's Thread*, and *Hard Times: An American Musical*. Ms. Abrams is eternally grateful to the many people who support her theater addiction and would like to offer a special shout-out to her partner and cat who have to live with her throughout these projects.

AYLA ROSEN

Associate Producer (they/them)

Ayla has been producing both independently and collaboratively since 2019. Select theater credits include *Last Call for Babe Reilly*, *It's in the Play*, *Conversations*, and *The Insects*. Beyond their producer work, they were recently awarded the Bairbre Dowling Spirit of the Festival Award from Origin Theatre Company for their managerial and artistic efforts over the past several years.

THE BLEEDING CLASS PRODUCERS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Ruth & William Isenberg, Leah S. Abrams

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS

The Cowan Slavin Foundation, Sheri Abrams & Norman Berman, and Jay Yamada

SUPPORTERS

Rosemary Abbate, David Ampola, Chuck Bailey, Melinda Bailey, Bonnie Abrams

Biederman, Lewis Campbell, Deb Elitzur, Tjaša Ferme, Lisa Lewin, Scott Munson, Byron Ricketts, Rachel Savoie, and Daniel Zisson.

UNDISCOVERED WORKS

Undiscovered Works is dedicated to celebrating and building community through storytelling of all kinds, offering a voice to anyone with a story to tell and a launching pad for new and lesser-known talent bringing vital contributions to our audiences. Believing that storytelling inspires action and change in the world, our productions both entertain and inspire dialogue that engages meaningfully with the social issues of our times.

Join their mailing list at

www.undiscoveredworks.org

or email info@undiscoveredworks.org

A NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

I started this play in 2019, months before an actual pandemic hit. It was meant to be a commentary on capitalist greed and highlight folks who tend to get dehumanized by it.

THE BLEEDING CLASS

The Bleeding Class received a reading in the Alley Theatre's 2023 Alley All New Festival; Rob Melrose, Artistic Director and Dean R. Gladden, Managing Director. Undiscovered Works is honored to be a part of 59E59's Amplify Festival, showcasing the brilliant work of Chisa Hutchinson, with *The Bleeding Class*, made possible by the generosity of our donors, artists, friends, and 59E59 Theaters.

SPECIAL THANKS

All our producers and supporters, Anthony Richardson, Cas Liebman, Jason Abbate, Jeremy Sarna, Kevin & Gino at Clark University, Lauren Blacker & Emily Weinstein, Rona Siddiqui, Sheri Abrams & Norman Berman, The Talent Fund team, the cross-country Undiscovered Works crew, the entire amazing cast and design/production team, and Team 59E59 for absolutely everything that makes this all possible.

CURATOR'S NOTE

A warm welcome back to Undiscovered Works! This bold ensemble company was here 2 years ago with a sold-out hit *Hooded; Or Being Black for Dummies*. As their name suggests, Undiscovered Works promotes new voices to a wider audience, while approaching complex social issues with humor and courage. We applaud their mission of supporting artists and building community through storytelling.

This production is part of 59E59 Theaters AMPLIFY Festival, which celebrates three new plays by Chisa Hutchinson across our stages. *The Bleeding Class*, like all of Chisa's plays, is socially relevant, witty, and daring with razor-sharp turns that take your breath away and challenge your expectations.



Val

VAL DAY
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

59E59 THEATERS STAFF

Founding Artistic Director
ELYSABETH KLEINHANS

Artistic Director
VAL DAY

Managing Director
BRIAN BEIRNE

Finance Associate/Office Manager
AMANDA COOPER

Technical Director
MELISSA SHAWCROSS

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ERICA PIERRE

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Box Office Associates
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ALANIS MOLINA-GARNELO

Assistant House Managers
BIONDYS DURAN-MENDOZA
JOEY PITTORINO

Ushers
ANT PRIOLA
ALANIS MOLINA-GARNELO
ANNA BONGARDINO
ANNE RUTTER
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CHRISTIAN MIRANDA
ERIC BERKELEY
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ISRAEL ORENKO
ITAI ADAM VAGNER

JOSCA MOORE
KAIA PARNELL
MICIAH WALLACE
NIA BLIZZARD
OLIVE CHAMPAGNIE
SANTIAGO AGUILAR

Bartenders
JULIA MELLONI
KEVIN MOLICA
RYAN PANGRACS

Theater Technicians
KAITLYN CHEN
JOHN D. IVY
KAT KHELLBLAU
JAMIE JOHNSON

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ELYSABETH KLEINHANS

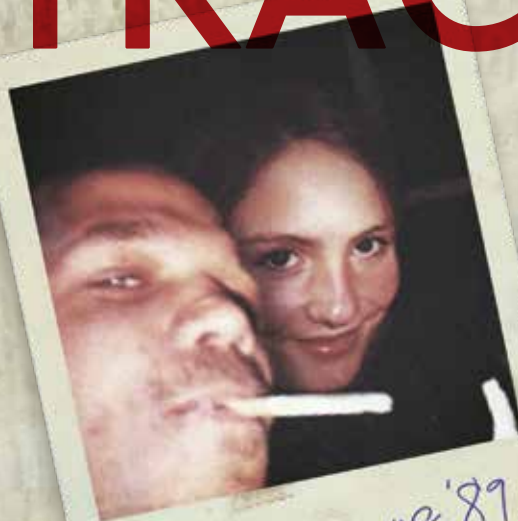
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NEW LIGHT THEATER PROJECT
AND PENDRAGON THEATRE PRESENT

TRACKS



BY **PAULA B STANIC**
CO-DIRECTED BY **TABATHA GAYLE**
AND **SARAH NORRIS**

OUR MISSION

59E59 Theaters was established by the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation in 2004 to grant professional space and expertise to non-profit theater companies premiering their work in New York City. Under the leadership of Val Day, Artistic Director, and Brian Beirne, Managing Director, 59E59 Theaters presents a year-round curated program of Off Broadway plays and musicals that are nurtured and supported by providing performance spaces and equipment as well as production, ticketing, FOH, marketing, and press support. These theater companies receive 80% or more of the ticket revenue and pay no weekly rent to 59E59.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenne-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenne-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

This presentation is not a production of the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation, Inc., which offers its facilities, when available, for productions by not-for-profit theater companies. For further information regarding licensing this theater or other theaters in this Theater Building, contact Brian Beirne, Managing Director. The use of cameras and other recording devices in the Theater is prohibited by law. There is no smoking in this Theater or any part of the Theater Building.